February 2010





## **Governor's Report**

#### Greetings

As you all know, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe is in the middle of a major budget crunch. We have had to cut budgets in almost all areas of our programs. Due to the heavy work load of the Executive Committee in trying to resolve these budget shortfalls, and my desire to present Tribal members with facts, and not conjecture, I am going to postpone addressing these many issues with you until the next news letter. I do want to assure you that we are working hard to resolve these issues.

Respectfully, George Blanchard Governor

## Secretary's Report

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

For more information or to get help, contact:

Sacred Circle at 605-341-2050 or visit: www.sacred-circle.com Clan Star, Inc. at 828497-5507 or visit: www.clanstar.org Mending the Sacred Hoop at 218-722-2781 or visit: www.msh-ta.org Walking the Healing Path at 505-409-6200 or visit: www.walkingthehealingpath.org The National Domestic Violence Hotline at: 1-800-799-SAFE or visit www.ndvh.org

The National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE or visit www.rainn.org

This is a major problem in Indian country and although much work still needs to be done to reduce violence against American Indian women. If you or someone you know needs help please don't hesitate to call one of the help lines listed above.

Thank you, Secretary Lopez

# <u>Treasurer's Report</u> January 2010

he Finance Department is in the process of closing out the 09 books so that we can get started on our 09 audit. I feel very good about the 09 audit and think it will be a clean audit just as 08 was. We still have a way to go in terms of bringing new capital into the Tribe which will take a combined effort from the EC and staff. The staff can contribute by continuing to write new grants and contracts with the appropriate indirect cost, like they have done so well this past year. Some of these grants were stimulus money and really helped the tribe. And the EC can work in finding other business ventures.

I hope as you look at the candidates that are running

for office (Lt. Governor, Treasurer and Representative) please consider some of these suggestions. Choose someone who has a reputation for having "integrity". Is this person true to his/her word? Do they have a good reputation for doing good and honest work? Do they know how to get along with other people? Can they take constructive criticism? Do they have an expertise in knowing how a self-governance Tribe operates? Can they communicate in a professional business like manner with all people? Can they write in a professional business like manner on issues? Are they willing to represent you the PEOPLE to their fullest capacity? You deserve this type of representation, a dedicated EC member who puts the people first. Don't settle for anything less. It is so crucial that the ASTribe selects the best leaders possible. Interview each candidate. Take a look at their resume. I think if vou get answers to some of the questions listed above you'll have a good indication of which person is the best for the various jobs. I plan to talk with all of them. That's my two cents!

I decided not to run again because I think it is time to retire, again. I have loved working for the Tribe and representing the AST people. I hope to continue to do so until my term concludes in June of 2010. We have additional reports from the Finance Department and the All Nations Bank. Please take the time to read those articles. Thank you.

#### FINANCE DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY 2010

The Finance Office continues to work positively with all departments and Tribal entities and continue to make progress with day to day activities flowing efficiently and effectively. In working together, we have found the most time effective and cost effective process for transacting business. Again, thanks to the Executive Committee and all the programs for their support and understanding of deadlines required by Federal Government for reporting purposes.

We have begun our audit process for year 2009. Auditors are expected to be on site February 15, 2010 and we hope to have the audit completed by April 2010 (ahead of our earlier expected completion date of May). The Finance department continues to work diligently in keeping accounting completed timely. Once the Audit is complete, we will begin work on the 2011 indirect cost proposal to be submitted by the required deadline of June 30, 2010.

We continue to work through problems created from previous turnover and have accomplished a multitude of corrections.

In the effort to cut costs, we are combing the Grants duties with the Assistant Controller duties and have hired a Staff Accountant II / Reconciliations - Journal Entries. We are proud to announce that we have hired a Tribal member for this position. We welcome Tribal member, Twyla Blanchard to the Finance staff; congratulations, Twyla.

Again, this department would like to extend a special thanks and note of appreciation to the Executive Committee for providing the tools, resources and support to enable the Finance staff to accomplish what has been accomplished. 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. Now that we are caught up, we are dedicated to continue our efforts in this direction.

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.

Thank you, Belinda Collins, Controller

### ALLNATIONS BANK REPORT FEBRUARY 2010

2009 was an interesting year to say the least. With interest rates at "rock bottom" all banks were challenged to adjust their balance sheets. The good news for AllNations Bank we were able to grow our loans over 100%, to nearly \$11,000,000. Many of those loans were reviewed by the Oklahoma State Bank Department during their recent examination of our bank and we passed with flying colors. Over-all the bank is very sound.

During 2009 we made several enhancements to our Information Technology Systems. We are well on the

way to modernizing our systems in preparation for the next big project, branching.

Yes, we have a goal to try and open a branch by midyear at the complex in SHAWNEE. We have a lot to do, and we will need state banking department approval, so hopefully, our goal of mid-year will stay on course.

In general, we are excited about moving forward in 2010 to serving the needs of the people in the Calumet and Shawnee trade areas.

## Bob Billy President

#### CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMMITTEE <u>UPDATE:</u>

The Constitution Revision Committee is still in the process of sending out the Questionnaires to the Tribal members. There is a link on the website <u>www.astribe.com</u> that will allow you to access the Questionnaire. Please review it and make any comments you would like. Those can be faxed or mailed back however you are able to return them. The mail outs will be the same Questionnaire document. We should have those mailed out to you by the end of the month. I apologize for the delay. If you would please return them as soon as possible then I will be able to compile all the results and comments and present them at the Special General Council Meeting in February.

The Special General Council Meeting will be held at the Little Axe Resource Center on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM - 12PM. We will discuss the changes that we have made and report any results we have from the Questionnaires that are resubmitted prior to that date. We will allow any comments to be given as well if you are not able to resubmit the Questionnaire. We hope this will be a very productive session so that we can continue in the revising of the Constitution.

We are almost to the halfway mark on revising the Constitution and it is important for us to get input from Tribal Members on the changes we have completed so far. We will continue to ask that Tribal Members give us input as we complete the revision. This Constitution Revision is for all Tribal Members and not just a few. Please let us know if you agree or disagree and any comments you would like to make.

We look forward to hearing what you have to say and any suggestions you may have.

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The next meeting is regular meeting is February 13, 2010 at 9:00 AM at the Little Axe Resource Center. And March 6 at 9:00 AM at the Little Axe Resource Center. If you have any questions or comments please fell free to contact me- Briana Ponkilla at <u>bponkilla@astribe.com</u>, Phone: (405)275-4030, Fax: (405)878-4542, Address: Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, Attn: Briana Ponkilla, 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801.

Thank you!

### CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE MEETING

## FEBRUARY 13, 2010 & MARCH 6, 2010

#### 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## LITTLE AXE RESOURCE CENTER

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: BRIANA PONKILLA (405) 275-4030 or <u>bponkil-</u> <u>la@astribe.com</u>

# **Representative's Report**

Dear Tribal Citizens,

In previous news articles, you may have seen me make mention of the desire to create a Division of Employment & Training and a Division of Human Services in order to streamline the like services that those programs offer. On a larger scale, the current Executive Committee has been collaborating to restructure the organizational chart of our tribe's administrative programs which will include further streamlining of other programs as well. I believe that this will only work to improve and strengthen our tribe.

In creating the Division of Employment & Training and Division of Human Services, it is my hopes that this tribe will then seek to become a Public Law 102-477 tribe otherwise known as simply "477". Public Law 102-477 is the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992. While there is no funding associated with PL 102-477 itself, this law allows tribes to combine federal funds which tribes receive under formula grant programs related to employment into on single plan, with a single budget and with a single reporting system. I should also add that a requirement in applying to become a PL 102-477 tribe, a tribe must be able to present at least three years of clean audits. As a result of our finance departments hard work in getting us caught up with our tribal audits, and through the leadership of Treasurer Anita Chisholm, we are now current and should be able to present these for PL 102-477 applications purposes.

There are currently 43 tribes and Alaskan native organizations that participate as 477. These tribes have experienced improved effectiveness and efficiency in their services.

Benefits include increases in the number of job placements, support for economic development and a significant reduction in the amount of federal paperwork allowing program directors to focus more on services and less on reporting as there is one single report required. This law also increases flexibility in delivering services to meet the tribal community's specific need as opposed to being limited to each individual funding source's constraints.

Tribal Community Assessment via the SBA Tribal Planning Tool

As with all organizations, the utilization of planning is essential for continued growth, direction and accountability. With this in mind, in 2009 I was fortunate to be able to attend the Small Business Administration's training session for the SBA tribal community assessment planning tool. This tool is an online tool that tribe's can use to adequately assess the needs of their respective communities.

I am working with the consultants who created this tool to tailor it with specific questions that will give our leadership an overview of our needs in terms or transportation, childcare, education levels, computer/ internet access, and housing needs, to name a few. In reviewing the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority's 2009 Housing Plan, I found that there were plans to construct new housing or renovation of existing housing in order to provide affordable housing opportunities for low-income Native American families, as well as plans to provide a form of student housing either through low-income rental homes or grants to assist in paying for housing expenses for students attending college.

With all due respect, my concern with this plan is that while ASHA had an independent survey performed by the Oklahoman's for Indian Opportunity, which combined questions and 1990 census information to create an overall summary of housing needs of Indian families in the AST service area, I am unaware of such a survey ever being taken specifically by AST tribal citizens.

In my opinion it would be prudent to our tribe to include questions regarding housing needs within our Tribal Community Assessment tool so that AST leadership know the specific needs of our people. I am aware that there are still multi AST families living in single family dwellings and in order to assist these families through planning, we need to have a clear picture of how and why these scenarios exist. I also feel it is crucial that, despite being state chartered, our housing authority collaborate with our tribe when planning new construction so that everyone involved is aware of where our tribe plans to develop.

When considering new housing sites, careful consideration should be given to developing within reasonable proximity of tribal child care, healthcare and tribally created jobs in order to strengthen our tribal economy and infrastructure. In terms of creating student housing, thought should be given to which educational institution our tribal students predominantly attend. Partnering with our tribal education department to gather such information would be instrumental in achieving this desired outcome.

As mentioned earlier, in relation to the creation of our Division of Education and Employment and Division of Human Services seeking to become a PL 102-477 tribe, the SBA tribal planning tool will be an important key in tailoring our programs to meet the explicit needs of our tribal community allowing us to strengthen our tribal workforce and ultimately, our families.

With regard to strengthening our tribal workforce, as leaders, we also must be conscientious of the necessity of protecting the employment rights of the employees

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of our administrative programs as well as our enterprises. Currently, tribes are exempt from EEOC federal employment laws; however, it is the intent of my office to bring the Tribal Workplace Protection Act to our tribe. I stated this before in previous submissions and want to touch upon it again for those who may not have accessed prior articles.

The Tribal Workplace Protection Act (TWPA) is a set of laws that provides the same protections as federal employment laws. This is a newly developed component of employment rights laws developed by the National Council for Tribal Employment Rights. Thus far, Crow Nation is the only tribe to have adopted such law. I am still in the process of bringing the law to our tribe to be adopted into our Code of Laws, and the training for such laws to our Executive Committee and to our employees.

These are some of the projects that I hope that our tribe continues to strive for. I will keep this news article submission limited but will continue to update you on these and other projects and issues in upcoming newsletters.

I would like to take a moment to congratulate Mr. Don Little on being the most recent recipient of the Marty Prairie Award from the National Native American AIDS Prevention Center. I am very proud of you Mr. Little and I fully support your effort as a warrior in the challenge of continuing advocacy for HIV/AIDS prevention in Indian Country.

I wish each of you wellness and safety.

Representative Onzahwah

# The following are Resolutions passed during the month of December 2009

# **EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:**

## E-AS-09-101 12/16/09

Authorizes the agreement between the Tribe and West Publishing Company for the online publication of tribal codes and court decisions. Vote: Lt. Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: No

# E-AS-09-102 12/16/09

Approves and accepts Mistie Leann Jacobs, Lucas Andrew Herrod, Devin Elijah Soap, and Jaeger Koen Hayes as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution. Vote: Lt. Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

# E-AS-09-103 12/16/09

Grants voluntary relinquishment of membership of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to Curtis Duane Beartusk, effective Immediately. Vote: Lt. Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

# **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS:**

# L-AS-09-24 12/16/09

Recommends adding to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Code of Laws, the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Elder's Protection Code as attached, effective immediately. Vote: Lt. Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

# WANT FREE TAX SERVICE? FREE E-FILING?



Of course you do. Volunteer attorneys, staff and law students will be available at the following times and places to professionally prepare your federal and state tax returns and e-file them, all at no cost to you.

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex Building 3 (Treasurer's Offices) 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Friday, January 15, 2010 Friday, January 22, 2010 Friday, March 5, 2010 Friday, February 12, 2010 Friday, February 19, 2010 Friday, February 26, 2010 Friday, February 5, 2010 Friday, March 19, 2010

Friday, January 29, 2010 Friday, March 12, 2010

Just bring to the site all your tax documents: W-2's, 1099's, childcare provider information, driver's license(s)/ photo id(s), social security cards (copies are acceptable), and any other documents you think may be necessary to prepare your taxes. Copies of your 2008 tax returns would be helpful, but not required. If you want refunds deposited in your checking or savings accounts, we need the bank routing and account numbers.

Sponsored by: Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc.

## ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA REALTY DEPARTMENT

Thursday, MARCH 11, 2010 ABSENTEE SHAWNEE RESOURCE CENTER Little Axe, Oklahoma 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



In a joint venture Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) and the Realty Department will conduct a free will clinic at the Absentee Shawnee Resource Building in Little Axe, OK. OILS will be available on-site to assist with questions and the preparations of a Last Will and Testament for Tribal members ONLY.

Appointments will be in 45 minute increments, sign in 15 minutes before scheduled time with the following items;

1.A drivers' license or state ID
2.A tribal ID card with enrollment number
3.Ownership information or quarterly statement from OST
4.Legal descriptions for each of your real property holdings
5.If you wish to specifically bequest personal property, please bring a good description of that personal property. (Jewelry, furniture, etc.)
6.Bring your existing will, if you have one or wish to revise your existing will
7.Date of birth for your children or devisees

Please call Norma Barnes at 943-6457 to schedule your appointment

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# THE STRENGTH OF OUR PEOPLE IS IN OUR VOICE.

The 2010 Census is here and by answering 10 simple questions we let others know our need for housing, schools, roads and hospitals.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

WE MOVE FORWARD WHEN WE PARTICIPATE | 2010CENSUS.GOV

# List Your Enrolled Tribe

The instruction is pretty simple. After checking the box to identify your race as American Indian or Alaska Native on your 2010 Census form, print the name of your "enrolled or principal tribe." There's a 19-space blank line for the answer.

That should be an easy matter for American Indian or Alaska Native people.

The basic federal law setting out US Indian policy<sup>1</sup> defines an Indian person as "a member of an Indian tribe." Historically, the government dealt with Indian people as part of a tribe or a band of a tribe. Treaties were made with tribes.

Membership in an Indian tribe is determined by a process called "enrollment." Each tribe uses an enrollment process, applying specific eligibility criteria to determine who belongs to that tribe. Tribal members are citizens of a tribal government, with voting rights and other privileges according to the tribe's constitution and/or ordinances. The situation of Alaska Natives is generally similar. Enrollment is a common practice among the 229 tribes in Alaska, based on the government-to-government relationship with the federal government.

The instructions on the 2010 Census form asks the person to list the name of his or her enrolled (or principal) tribe. It's important that the tribal name that's used be the proper name of the tribal government involved even if that takes up more than the space provided on the form. This is true with respect to tribal government names in Alaska as well as those in the "lower 48."

9.	What is Person 1's race? Mark X one or more boxes.
	American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe.

There may be other ways to identify a person's tribe -- by its general name, such as O'odham, Salish or Ojibwe or even by a specific band of the tribe, such as Miniconjou (Mnikoju) Sioux. However, when it comes time for the Census Bureau to tally persons by tribe, there will be no confusion if the person lists the proper name of the tribal government in which he or she is enrolled.

Many Indian people can claim descent from several tribes. Their parents or grandparents may have belonged to different tribes. However, most tribes currently do not permit "dual enrollment," membership in more than one tribe. The tribe in which the person is enrolled should be the tribe listed.

As far as the Census Bureau is concerned, the listing of a person's tribe is entirely a matter of what the person writes in the blank line provided on the Census form. No proof of the person's relationship to that tribe is required. It's all a matter of self-identification.

<sup>1</sup>The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. 25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.

NCAI Toolkit for Tribes and the 2010 Census - www.indiancountrycounts.org

What are the benefits of listing your tribe?

The Census Bureau uses the information that people provide on the Census form to tabulate statistics on how many people are associated with a tribe or a group of tribes sharing a similar language or other characteristics. This data can help to provide an idea of the number of persons associated with a tribe living in a particular city or other off-reservation area. Even on a reservation there may be a significant number of Indian people who are not enrolled in the tribe with jurisdiction over that reservation. These show up in the Census Bureau's numbers on the Indians on a reservation when tabulated by tribe. Tribes, planners, grant writers, and others can use this information to supplement enrollment data and other data sources.

At the same time, it is important to recognize that only a tribe's enrollment office -- not the Census Bureau -- has the official count of the number of members of that tribe. The right to determine who belongs to an Indian tribe is a fundamental aspect of tribal sovereignty and is held exclusively by each and every tribe.

For more information on how the Census Bureau tabulated data on persons by tribe from the 2000 Census, check out the links under the heading "Tribes" on the Census Web site at <u>http://factfinder.census.gov/home/aian/index.html</u>.

NCAI Toolkit for Tribes and the 2010 Census - www.indiancountrycounts.org

# CANDIDATES FILING FOR OFFICE IN:

# LT. GOVERNOR

# TREASURER

# **TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE**

# LT. GOVERNOR



# **G**reetings Tribal Citizens,

As you may already know, my name is Alecia Onzahwah. I would like to announce my candidacy for the office of Lt. Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma as I complete my term, having served you as Tribal Representative for the past year and a half.

During my term as Tribal Representative, these are some of the issues and improvements that I have worked on for our tribe:

**Tribal Water Rights Resolution:** Presented and sponsored resolution E-AS-09-100 to notify the Governor of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Water Resource Board of the intent of this tribe, to maintain and assert any water rights that we have as a sovereign nation. As pollution and climatic changes continue to affect the quality and quantity of water, more now than ever, tribes must be diligent in maintaining these rights. This is an issue that will not be going away.

In 2006, the Oklahoma state legislature provided the Oklahoma Water Resource Board (OWRB) with the task of updating the state comprehensive water plan. While the OWRB has continued to coordinate various meetings with the public to discuss the planning process and the strategies for managing the water resources in this state, it has yet to work in a government-to-government capacity with Oklahoma tribes. It is important that the inherent water rights of tribal nations be acknowledged and honored.

Equally important to asserting tribal water rights through official notification via a tribal resolution, it is urgent that future leadership continue to work on establishing a tribal land and water conservation district as I have mentioned in previous articles. The establishment of a tribal land and water conservation district would provide the outlet by which usage of tribal water can be strategically planned and managed. This includes all water bordering, flowing through and flowing under tribal land.

In the state of California, the availability of quality water has become a huge issue. Recently, there has been a tribe that purchased the right to purchase water (not the water itself, only the right to purchase water, more money will have to be paid for actual water) from a local water district for over \$70 million dollars. Proactive measures by Oklahoma tribes are critical in avoiding future situations such as those that tribes are facing in California.

**Elder Protection Code:** Presented and sponsored L-AS-2009-24 to create and include the first tribal Elder Protection Code to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Code of Laws in order that specific law be outlined and protocol set forth to protect some of our most precious resources, our tribal elders, from abuse or neglect.

**TERO (Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance):** Presented and sponsored L-AS- 09-05 which created and established the AST tribal employment rights law. This law provides for the creation of jobs within tribal construction projects. The TERO law mandates that contractors doing projects with tribal funds hire Native Americans and gives clear direction for the collection of a TERO fee from contractors equal to 2% of the total contract amount. The TERO fees, once collected, will then be used to provide additional assistance to those gaining new employment in the form or temporary fuel assistance and the purchase of work related items. Additionally these funds will allow us to improve our capacity to provide career development services to our citizens.

**Tribal Right to Work Law:** Presented and sponsored L-AS-09-07. For the past few years, the issue of unionization within tribal enterprises has become an increasing matter of concern. The reason why it is such a concern is that there has been an instance in which the National Labor Relations Board was allowed to rule in an issue involving the San Manuel Mission Band of Indians of California. What it comes down to is the ability of a tribe to exercise its tribal sovereignty by being able to regulate employment issues such as unionization within its own enterprises. Asserting our sovereignty, this tribe passed resolution L-AS-09-07 creating and adding the Tribal Right to Work Law into the AST Code of Laws.

**Denouncement of Fabricated Shawnee Tribes:** Presented and sponsored resolution E-AS-08-85 denouncing fabricated "Shawnee tribes". Currently there are approximately ten entities that claim to be a Shawnee "tribe"; however, none are acknowledged by either of the three federally recognized Shawnee tribes, nor do they have federal nor state recognition status. These sorts of organizations can be detrimental as they are often accepted by the region in which they are located and tend to be given the leeway to provide "educational" information about our people to the public which may not be accurate thereby misleading and difficult to alleviate.

**Declaration of Shawnee Language:** Presented and sponsored resolution E-AS-08-114 declaring the Shawnee language as the official language of our tribe. Last year, the Oklahoma legislature addressed an English only law. It is important that when considering such types of legislation, tribes proactively protect the ability to preserve our respective languages.

Throughout the introduction of the bill, copies of this tribal resolution along with a letter I drafted were sent to every single Oklahoma legislator reminding them that of the importance of making exception for the tribal languages in this state that refers to itself as "Native America". I pointed out to the Oklahoma legislators that Oklahoma tribe's have proven to be worthy partners by referring to the thousands of jobs that the tribes of this state provide which lessens the burden on this state's public assistance programs, not to mention the millions of tribal gaming dollars that have been contributed to the Oklahoma's education fund.

Through the efforts of the Absentee Shawnee tribe and other tribal leadership who understood the importance of voicing opposition to this law, the state then re-drafted the bill to provide an exception for Native American languages.

Along with the Declaration of the Shawnee Language resolution I also presented and sponsored **resolution E-AS-08-115** directing pertinent departments to begin to order and install traffic signs throughout our tribal campus and other tribal areas with traffic signs that reflect our language to emphasize to the public that we stand behind our declaration of our language. With the help of our current Governor, George Blanchard, these signs were translated and have been ordered and will soon be seen throughout our properties. These signs will include not only parking for the disabled but also parking specifically for tribal elders as well.

### Presented and sponsored NCAI resolution

On a national scale, in 2004, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) released a funding announcement that intended to provide a five year funding cycle for minority communities which reflected disparities in HIV/ AIDS statistics and HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives. These communities included the African American, Latino, Asian and Native American/Alaskan Communities. In 2009 the CDC released the same funding announcement; however, excluded Native American/ Alaskan Communities. This is unacceptable. Native Americans are less than 2% of the entire U.S. population and yet have the third highest mortality rate when diagnosed with HIV. Funds to provide education and prevention in our Native/Alaskan communities must continue.

In November 2009, I was asked by the National Native American Aids Prevention Center (NNAAPC) to sponsor and present a resolution to the National Congress of American Indians during the annual NCAI annual meeting to address the exclusion of Native American/Alaskan Communities from the CDC funding. Having lost a loved one to this merciless illness, I readily accepted NNAAPC's request and presented the resolution at NCAI. The resolution called for President Obama and the CDC to review and reconsider the elimination of funding for Native/Alaskan Communities.

The resolution passed and has been forwarded to President Obama and the CDC for review. I might also add that since presenting the NNAAPC resolution, I have completed an interview for BBC world news and for Minnesota radio station KFAI for the Native communities in that state to bring further attention to this issue.

Please see my February news article for a summary of items I am currently working on. I hope that I have proven myself worthy to you, the tribal citizen, as I now seek to serve you in the Office of Lt. Governor and I hope that you will consider supporting me this election season as I seek to continue to wholly commit myself to the betterment of our tribal nation as well committing myself to work with other tribal leadership to address issues that affect Native communities nationwide. I also ask that you take into consideration the importance of consistent leadership for consistent growth. Thank you.

Please visit www.myspace.com/onzahwah



I'm a candidate for re-election to the office of Lt. Governor. I'm 68 years young with vast amount of experience in government. I ask for your vote in our 2010 Tribal Elections.

Dan Little Axe Sr.

\*Graduate of Haskell, now called Haskell Indian Nations University.

\*Retired as a civil service employee from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

\*Elected, Served, and Performed as Chairman or Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe at various times, for a total of 18 years beginning in 1972.

\*Previously served as President of the United Tribes of Western Oklahoma and Kansas.

\*Previously served as President of the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma. (UINO)

\*Previously served as President of the Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area. (CTSA)

\*Previously served as Chairman of the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission.

\*Appointed by the Governor to the Oklahoma Industrial Development Team.

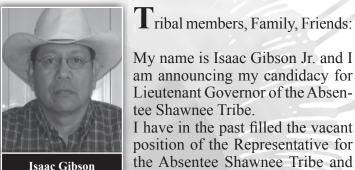
\*Appointed to the Cleveland County Economic Development Board.

\*Currently the Vice-President and Co-Owner of the Tribal Government Institute, Inc.

In 1990, TGI was awarded a Contract by the US Department of Defense. This Contract, at the option of the U.S. Department of Defense, is renewed through 2010, primarily due to high performance and excellent work. This 19 year business relationship is an example of what dedication and commitment can mean for any organization. This is what I bring to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. When I was first elected to the Business Committee in 1972, there was no tribal office, no staff, and monthly meetings were held in the BIA office which was located in the basement of the Post Office in Shawnee. During my term in office, we opened our first tribal office, acquired Federal grants to renovated and rent every building on the tribal complex. Our tribal office eventually acquired enough grants to hire a total of 130 employees. I was primarily responsible with building and leasing the current Shawnee Health Clinic to the Indian Health Service, moved the BIA agency to the tribal complex, and continued developing the tribes economy by building the Thunderbird Entertainment Center (Bingo) at no cost to our tribe. The resulting bingo operation generated

a cash flow in excess of a million dollars per month. Today, our tribes cash flow has dwindled to a little over \$200,000.00 per month. Past leadership in our tribe have done nothing to develop the tribes revenue stream. Instead, much of the tribes savings and investment dollars have been used in ways that do not provide a return on investment. Any government must have adequate income to pay for its administration and service to its people. I pledge my experience and commitment to work to stabilize and build our tribe's economy. Help me by electing people who also, have the experience and commitment work toward this end. Thank you

Dan Little Axe Sr.



# Tribal members, Family, Friends:

My name is Isaac Gibson Jr. and I am announcing my candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe

Isaac Gibson

ANOTHER.

position of the Representative for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and also was hired as the Maintenance

Director. While in these positions I have learned a lot about our tribe and the way it operates. I have also met and spoke with a lot of our elders and tribal members. and I have listened to some of their concerns.

My goals if elected are to bring economic development to the tribe, in the way of a casino in the Shawnee area. We also have business opportunity in the Little Axe area that needs to be developed.

I believe our elderly need our attention on a daily basis, not only financially, but with their health.

I believe we need to support the education of our youth as much as we can by way of clothing, school supplies and helping with their daily needs.

At the current time, I believe that our tribe is not on solid financial ground. But I do believe that we can get better, and we can grow. So that in the future our tribe can take care of all tribal members, not just the elderly and the youth.

I have sat and talked with both past and present elected officials who have advised me on the good and the bad of being an elected official. They all had a lot of knowledge, experience, and good advice to share. Most memorable advice is that "YOU CANT MAKE EVERYBODY HAPPY, BUT DO THE BEST YOU CAN ... " I BELIEVE AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER AS ONE ... NOT AS FIVE WHO WON'T AGREE AND WORK AGAINST ONE

# **FREASURER**



Hi gi ke ya fi ho wa se li si mi mo, My name is Scott Miller & I am running for the office of Tribal Treasurer. I reside in Shawnee with my wife Aly & our two wonderful boys. Many of you may not know that while in office during my last term –I earned my Associates Degree from Seminole State College

& I am a currently a business major at St. Gregory's University. I have been in the tribal arena for 8 years and have held a political office for the past 4 years and the experiences have been in valuable. I am ready to return to represent our tribe to the best of my abilities. I feel strongly I have proven my capabilities, while in office- projects that were started then- are projects that are still going today...

Since the last election, it has been roughly 6 or 7 months, a short time to be in office, but enough time to get something functional and notable accomplished & all we have seen to date is an organizational chart, reduction in budgets, and the laying off of tribal employees. Wow, that's disappointing. It is time we really open our eyes to the backgrounds of the people we elect to office-we have a couple of EC members who don't show up for work; in office to carry out person agendas; not looking out for the best interest of the tribe; and don't understand how the tribe functions in today's world. Tribal citizens should be very upset at the state of our tribe. We need to be logically thinking of EC members who will be effectively finding ways to progress the tribe. We can't afford to be a tribe that sits back waiting on opportunity to come to us. If things continue to go on as is, I would hate to see the state of the tribe in a year or two, not five years from now. We could see a major reduction of services with the exception of health. Too much time has gone by for ineffective, non- efficient know how, and indecisiveness

The office of the Treasurer is the only position that has a true synopsis of the state of our tribal government. What I intend to do for our tribe, just like a business and a well rounded executive, is to know every facet of the business inside and out. Fiscal responsibilities are a vital part of our government. Whether monies are coming in or going out or vying for new monies, a trust worthy person is a mandate.

There has been a common theme during the past 6 months and that is our tribe has taken steps backward -all tribal members seem to know or hear about are that the ASTs have:

- No budget surpluses
- No growing vibrant AST economy
- Spiraling budget cuts
- Layoffs

As government officials it is the official's responsibility to bring to the table viable and intelligent alternatives to the status quo-once in office. We need EC members who:

- Know how to exercise our sovereign rights
- Create more legitimate revenue opportunities
- Create jobs
- Go out to develop business relationships and partnership

It's time to take charge of our Tribal issues, elect individuals who are truly looking out for the best interest of the tribe, are responsible and will leave a strong and vibrant functioning economy for our children and grandchildren. I am the person who can get us back on the positive road. I appreciate your time.

Ne yi wa!



#### B K I A N A PONKILLA-TREASURER CANDIDATE

My name is Briana Ponkilla. I am running for the office

of Treasurer. My experience and knowledge regarding the current issues will help the Absentee Shawnee Tribe to continue to grow into a strong sovereign nation. With strong leadership and support, the Tribe can be a powerful voice on issues within the federal, state and Tribal community. I want you all to feel proud to be Absentee Shawnee and proud of the accomplishments that your Tribal leaders achieve. Every decision Tribal leaders make must be for the best interest of the entire Tribe past, present and Future. I will make this my main focus, if elected as Absentee Shawnee Treasurer

#### **Education**

During my early education, I attended several schools in various states, as well as Germany, due to my father's military career. Once we returned to Oklahoma, I attended Little Axe Schools where I graduated High School. After High School, I attended SWOSU and a few local colleges. I eventually relocated to Denton, TX where I attended the University of North Texas. I graduated from UNT with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. I value my varied educational experiences because I feel they afforded me the opportunity to meet and work with a diverse group of people.

## BRIANA Experience

After graduation, I returned to Oklahoma and found employment at the Kickapoo Casino as a Vault Clerk. While there I was given the opportunity to become an Internal Auditor for the Kickapoo Gaming Commission. I learned the various aspects of Internal Audit from a very knowledgeable individual and eventually worked my way up to Director of Internal Audit. The knowledge I gained about the regulatory aspect of casinos, as well as a little about the management side, helps me to this day on how businesses are operated. I have been, until very recently, employed as the Executive Assistant to the Treasurer. In this capacity I gained knowledge about how the AST government works and about the different issues and projects. I assisted the Treasurer with Budgets and financial reports, as well as any other reports she deemed necessary. I attended meetings regarding the AST Joint Venture, ASEDA and Finance. I have seen the way issues were handled and I applaud the previous and current Executive Committee on their ability to work together. This is the manner in which I would like to continue if elected Treasurer. My current position is Human Resources Specialist; I also assist the Treasurer as needed. With this new position I have the opportunity to learn the personnel aspect within the Tribe. I have a more extensive knowledge of the Administrative Manual and some of the things that need to be updated. As Treasurer, I will continue to ensure the Tribal organization functions to its fullest and most efficient capacity.

I currently serve on the following boards and committees for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

- Treasurer, Absentee Shawnee Training Institute (ASTI)
- Secretary, TEC, Inc. , Thunderbird Entertainment Center Board of Directors
- Board Member, AST Domestic Violence Advisory Committee
  - Member, AST Constitutional Revision Committee

#### **Objectives/Views**

My main objective in running for Treasurer is to continue the progress the Tribe has made and to move the Tribe even further. I feel the Tribe can be as prosperous as the larger Tribes, as long as we work together and allow ourselves to look beyond where we currently are and the way things have been done in the past. I know that change is not easy but the Tribe can accomplish a lot by forward thinking and not limiting ourselves. I have heard many times others say "We are not a big tribe" or "That would be ok if we were like the big Tribes"; I think we can be as "big" as we allow ourselves to be, not necessarily in size but in what we can accomplish.

I think the current financial situation is in dire need of more funding. I think we can only accomplish this by more business ventures and more funding opportunities. I understand the needs for budget cuts and more scrutinized spending in this economically challenging time but I think by diversifying our businesses we will be able to gain back our financial security. With more revenue we are able to fund more programs and ensure the well being of our people. I will continue to work on the progress of the Constitution Revision. This is a very important change for the Tribe so we can more businesslike, thus being more lucrative so that we may ensure the Tribal members receives services and opportunities as well.

I look to be a leader not only in the current environment but hopefully I can continue on in the future. I would like to be a role model for younger Tribal members to show them how to be an asset to the Tribe as I have been shown by the leaders I have worked with. My family has always been active in the Tribe and I want to continue the work they have done and still do to this day.

I value everyone's views and opinions and I will continue to work in that capacity. I encourage everyone to learn about the different candidates and vote for the one you feel would best represent the Tribe. Your vote counts as your voice on how you want the Tribe to be operated. Good luck to my fellow Treasurer candidates as well as the candidates for the other offices. I hope that you, members of the AST, will see what I have accomplished and can see my good intentions for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and vote for me as AST Treasurer. Ne-yi-wa,

Briana Ponkilla



Relatives and Friends

I'm a candidate for the Office of Treasurer.

My husband, Lloyd and I have five chil-

dren. We will be married 35 years this year. My parents are Kenneth Little Axe and Estelline Washington Little Axe Littlecreek. We have lived in Little Axe for about 14 years. I'm a member of the Cornerstone Indian Baptist Church, Little Axe.

I have an associates degree (AAS) in Secretarial Administration form Rose State in Midwest City, OK. I've attended Oklahoma Baptist University and St. Gregory's University through he Absentee Shawnee Tribal higher education program.

Have worked for the federal government 34 years which includes Tinker AFB and Indian Health Service. Worked at University of Oklahoma for four years, and AST Bandage Group/Shawnee Products for four years. Owned and operated my own businesses including: Tupperware, Home Interiors, Distribution of Area phone books, and Mary Kay. I'm presently serving as Treasurer of Cornerstone Indian Baptist Church going on 14 years and the Absentee Shawnee Elders Council for a year. I have served as Treasurer, Secretary, and I'm been elected as Vice-President this year for the Tinker Inter-Tribal Council on base. Also, served on numerous other committees throughout my life such as the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Youth and Election Commission, Litle Axe Schools Title VII

and Johnson O'Malley programs, sect.....

I'm proud to be an Absentee Shawnee and want to serve my relatives and friends to the best of my ability, knowledge, and experience. As an Executive Committee member, elected by tribal members, we need to have a vision, the foresight, and adaptability to take our tribe to the next level. We need to spend more time exploring business opportunities through economic development and diversification. Continually to improve our programs and search for ways to decrease spending. Our Tribe is facing numerous issues concerning finances, Shawnee allotments, tribal jurisdictions, Join Venture Project, ect. We have made tremendous progress over the years, but the economy is ever-changing, and to keep up; we need to recognize and pursue progressive goals. Our tribe was once known as one of the progressive leaders and I believe our tribe should be known again for progress, unity and honesty. To accomplish these goals, we need to plan ahead, set goals and objectives. Our job as elected officials, we are to represent and carry out the tribal members wishes. I realize, that we cannot realistically represent every member's wishes; but we can, at best, serve the majority. We, as the Exective Committee, need to support, communicate, and work together to generate funds for the future of our children and grandchildren. If elected as Treasurer, I pledge to promote unity, cooperation and positive leadership. Thank you, Kathy Deere

# **TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE**



**Roy Larney** 

would like to take this opportunity to announce my intention of running for Tribal Representative of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, and to request your support in this endeavor. I make no promises other than I will work for the good of the Tribe and its members.. I ask that you consider what has been accomplished

and what has been lift undone. I will serve with the highest level of integrity and compassion to meet the needs of our Tribe

I was taught a strong wok ethic and have learned the importance of working hard for everything you have in life. We have the opportunity to better our resources and provide more career opportunities to our tribal members. I believe all Absentee Shawnee people expect a government that is fair and I will strive to provide that fairness to ALL Absentee Shawnee people.

My experience with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe consists of my serving two different terms as a member of the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority Board of Commissioners; I served on the Gaming Commission at Thunder Bird: and I have also served a term as the Treasurer of the Tribe

Remember, the choices we make today will affect generations for years to come. I will work hand in hand with all tribal staff and members to see our Tribe move forward. The Executive Committee should be striving to work in unison toward a common goal...the best interest of the tribal people. With that I will do what I can to improve existing services and create new services when needed, in coordination with the Executive Committee as a whole. Again, I respectfully ask for your support and vote. Thank you, Roy Larney



### Hello **Absentee Shawnee Tribe!**

My name is Jeffrey Wayne Gibson. I'm a full blooded tribal member. My Mother's name is Elsie W. Patty and my father is the late John "Buck" Gibson Jr.

Jeff Gibson

I'm a traditional Shawnee and I belong to the South "Old" tribal grounds. I'm a firm believer in our traditional ways. I'm running for Representative for you and the Absentee Shawnee's. It would be an honor to represent you and be 1 of 5 voices in our Executive Committee.

Our economy in this world has everyone in turmoil and I believe our tribe should have already hit the Jackpot by way of this Tool called "Casinos". I'm ready to make that change so we as a Tribe can live without worry! We the Absentee Shawnee's once had one of the Biggest Casinos here in Oklahoma and was thriving to be the wealthiest, until other tribes built bigger and more Casinos.

If elected as your Representative, I will look to build more businesses and Casinos so we can live in a more prosperous future! There is going be a day when we will not be getting any help from the Government.

But I believe with the right people in Office we will be ready for that day! SO ON THAT SPECIAL DAY IN MARCH, VOTE "JEFFREY. W. GIBSON" to be your voice as Representative!



My name is Betty Lou Mahardy Watson, (Hiso-Wik-Kimse), and I am a candidate for Representative. I ran for Governor during the last election and my campaign platform has not changed. I have a wide range of experience and expertise and welcome the opportunity to meet with you and discuss my qualifications to

serve as your Representative. My telephone number is 405-821-6304. I have the experience working on the national level with sovereign nations and years of experience in economic development, financing, gaming, land and water rights, land into trust, public relations and negotiation various agreements with State and Federal governmental entities. My wisdom and years of experience in these critical areas, as well as owning my own businesses, gives me the ability to assist our Tribe in establishing sound business plans and making good decisions for economic growth.

One of the responsibilities of the office of Representative is Economic Development. I have plans that can start generating money for the Tribe. We must look for ways to generate income for our Tribe that is more stable than casino revenues. WE MUST MAKE SOUND BUSINESS DECISIONS, TAKE CON-TROL OF OUR TRIBAL ASSETS AND STOP WASTING TRIBAL FUNDS.

If you elect me to be your Representative:

- \* I will be <u>your</u> voice on Executive Committee.
- \* If you have **<u>question, I</u>** will get your **<u>answers!</u>**

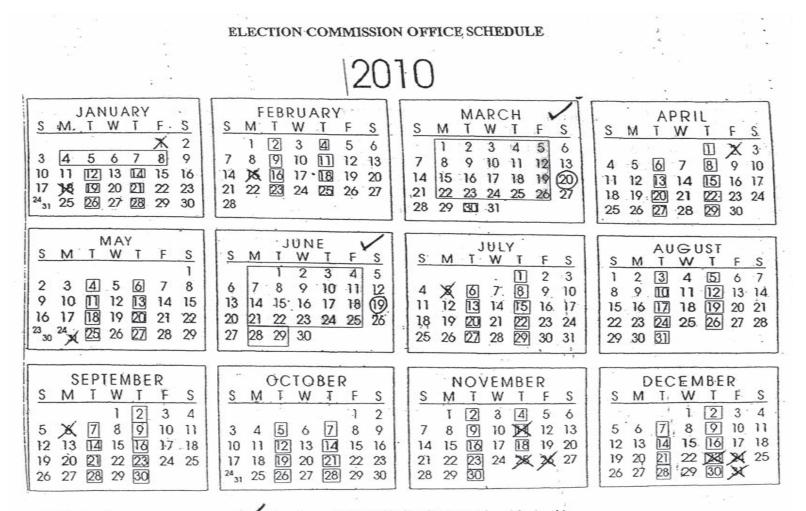
\* If you have <u>concerns and issues, I</u> will find out how we can <u>address and resolve your concern and</u> <u>issues.</u>

Above all, I will uphold the Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe and honor the wishes of the General Council. I want to restore your faith and trust in our tribal government and conduct the business of the tribe with accountability and openness.

Remember that elected tribal leaders, like all elected public officials, are in a special position of trust and owe a special duty of care and responsible to their constituents and you entrust them to follow the laws of the tribe and to serve with integrity. With that said, I would be honored to serve as your next Representative and ask for your support and vote on Saturday, March 20, 2010.

Thank you

TRIBAL MEMBERS the following calendar shows the office hours for the Election Commission for the year 2010. Please note that the office will be open on Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. The months of March and June will be the only time that the office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. The Election Commission office is closed for the holidays observed by the Tribe. If you have any questions please call (405) 275-4030 ext 150 and if no answer leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.



0 Election Day

X Tribal Holidays (office closed)

Office Open 8:00 -12:00 & 1:00 -5:00 (closed for lunch) Office Open 1:00 - 5:00 (Tuesday & Thursday)

# PLEASE fill out EACH BLANK completely and return by the Deadline.

# ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

I,	, hereby cert	ify that I am or will	be an Eligible Voter			
I,, hereby certify that I am or will be an Eligible Voter (Print Name) of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe on or before March 20, 2010. I cannot physically be present						
to cast my Vote at the <u>March 20, 2010 Primary Election</u> , therefore, I am requesting an						
Absentee Ballot be mailed to me at the following address.						
Name (please print): (first) (middle) (maiden) (last)						
(first)	(middle)	(maiden)	(last)			
Address:	City:	St:	Zip:			
CDIB#:		Date of Birth:				
Signature:		Date:				
All REOUESTS m	ust be returned to the Elect	ion Commission by t	he deadline of			
All <u>REQUESTS</u> III	February 28, 20	010	ne deddinie or			
	Return this For	m:	× 11			
By Mail to:	Absentee Shawnee Electio	n Commission				
	P.O. Box 74					
or	Tecumseh, OK	74873				
By Fax to:	Fax # (405) 2'	73-1337				
-,	Phone: (405) 275-					
or	Toll free number 1-800-25	56-3341 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						
	ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY					
Received:	Approved:	Disapproved	:			
If Disapproved (reason):						
Denial Letter Mailed:	H	Ballot Mailed:				
Domai Donor Manou.		a <del>rcale o</del>				
	Elec	ction Commission/Re	presentative			









# TAKING CARE OF YOUR HEART

February is National Heart month and the Absentee Shawnee Tribal REACH US and Title VI will be observing February 5<sup>th</sup> "Go Red for Women". Women across the nation will be observing this day to support the fight against heart disease in women. Until recently, studies were not directed toward heart disease and women. Heart disease has been found to be the number one cause of death for American Indian women and is not only a problem for women but men.

What can you do to protect to yourself?

- Change our eating habits
- Get regular exercise
- Choose not to smoke non-traditional tobacco
- Manage your cholesterol and blood pressure

The AST REACH US and Title VI program invite AST elders in Shawnee and surrounding areas on February 5, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Please join us on this day and wear your favorite red clothing item to show your support in the fight against heart disease in AST women.

# **February is National Heart Month**

Physical inactivity is a major risk factor for cardiovascular disease, and most Americans are not physically active enough to gain any health benefits. Swimming, cycling, jogging, skiing, aerobic dancing, walking or many other activities can help your heart. Whether it's included in a structured exercise program or part of your daily routine, all physical activity adds up to a healthier heart. Here are some ideas to help you get started.

### When you are at home:

- Go out for a short walk before breakfast, after dinner or both. Start with 5-10 minutes and work up to 30 minutes.
- Walk the dog.

### When you are at work:

- Come by the Wi Si Ka To Wi Wellness Center or the Little Axe Resource Center to exercise during a break.
- Walk down the hall (or to another building) to speak with someone rather than using the telephone.
- Walk around your building for a break during the work day or during lunch.

### For recreation:

- Make a date with a friend to enjoy your favorite physical activities. Do them regularly.
- Participate in or start a recreation league
- Participate in activities that increase your heart rate (brisk walking, jogging, sports)

(Information provided by the American Heart Association)

[www.americanheart.org]





Come learn the fundamentals of softball, meet new friends, and get a jump-start on the spring softball season in this tune-up skills camp for all player levels – from novice to experienced players.

Who:	Girls Ages 7 – 12 Limited to First 40 Campers		
When:	Sunday, March 7th, 2010 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm		
Where:	Little Axe Community Fields at 1000 168th Ave N.E., Norman		
(1 mile east of Thunderbird Casino)			
Cost:	Only \$22 (Optional Pitching/Catching \$8 5:45 – 6:15 pm)		

Learn softball fundamentals & practice the following skills in a fun environment:

- Throwing mechanics
- Catching fundaments
- Base running
- Optional Pitching/Catching Session
- Fielding techniques
- Hitting mechanics

Limited

Enrollment

- Position play
- Competition play

Walk-ins on day of camp will be accepted if space available. It is possible that the camp will fill before this date so sign up quickly to reserve your space. Learn from experienced players and community coaches for a fun filled day of softball. Information on softball sign-ups for summer leagues available to campers on the day of event. In the event of inclement weather on March 7th, camp will be re-scheduled to Sunday, March 14, 2010 at the same times and location.

On the second se				
	CAMP REG lake checks payable to: Teri Reed, M or contact Devon Frazier or Mya Mahs			
Camper Name		Parents Name		
Address		Email		
City/State		Parents Cell #	2	
Camper's Age		Other Phone #		
Main Camp Session \$22	All Skills Camp 2:00 – 5:30 pm	Optional Session \$8	Pitching/Catching 5:45-6:15 pm	
Release of Liability – I t activity at this softball can facility from all liability for	Release of Liability – I the undersigned parent or legal guardian authorize the participation of the camper named above in physica activity at this softball camp and I understand that I assume all risk of injury, holding harmless this softball camp and/or Little League facility from all liability for personal injury or damages. Parent to supply/bring protective gear (batting helmet, gloves, etc.) if available Parent or Legal Guardian Signature:			
			0	



A BIG Happy BIrthday to my grandson Justin Tyler, Spoon Love, Granny Low





JUSTIN . HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ON YOUR SPECIAL DAYS WE LOVE YOU VERY MUCH! LOVE AUNTBIAND WNOLGTROY

l also want to wish my two great granddaughters a BIG Happy Birthday

# Taylor Low Love, Grandma Low

Happy 9th Birthday to Paige Gibson, 49th Birthday to Marvin Smith, 30th Birthday to Bart Tahah,& 71st Birthday to "Grams" (Velma Blanchard)! Happy Birthday to all from Gary Gibson And Garret Gibson!

I want to wish my two granddaughters a BIG Happy Birthday......

Happy Birthday Jeff. Thank you for eve

February 19th

Happy Birthday Amy !!

We Love you !!!

HAPPY/BIRTHDAY ON FEB 1ST

BRENT WATSON HAVE A GREAT DAYLOVETHE KASECAS'AND

FOREMANS

Coondog & Hotdog Happy Birthday and Happy Valentine's Day Marv

We love you Sherry, Jake, & Bootsy

Happy Birthday & Happy Valentines Day

To the

Worlds Best MOM

(Velma Blanchard)

We love you very much!

Marvin & Sherry

Happy Birthday

JANICE LENA

From

Happy Birthday to our favorite Uncle Marvin Smith From your Heathens Sebastian & Christian

> HAPPY 2nd BIRTHDAY, **JOCELYN HAYES!!** Love, Mommy, Daddy, **Jaxson & Jaeger**

Happy Birthday Aunt Amy Happy Birthday Mom We Love You !!! Ben, Derek & Cameron (James Loves you too!!!)

I LOVE YA'LL BUNCHES AUNT RHONDA

Happy 9th Birthday Paige Gibson. We Love You Uncle Marvin & Mama Seal

**Happy Birthday** 

Bart

From Marvin & Sherry

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOMY DAWDAW/MARVIROM

RYDER

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY LAURA"

Happy Birthday Laura Lee Taryole

Love you,

From your family from Norman Oklahoma

The Battise Family HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY BEAUTIFUL NEICES CHELE WOMACK AND STEPHANIE GEISSLER I HOPE YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL DAY ON FEB 5TH AND 8TH

Illove You III

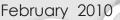
Tessa

Kara Lowe

and

Whitney Huckaby

Love, Grandma Lo



Congratulations

**C**ongratulations to Laurie Dawn Dreessen upon graduating magna cum laude, earning a bachelor's degree from the Southern Nazarene University, December 12, 2009. She was honored with a distinguished achievement award granted to students from each cohort in the School of Professional Studies. Selection is based on outstanding scholarship and exceptional leadership within the program and on recommendations by program directors, faculty, and classmates.



**T**ribal member Shoshanna Johnson was recently named to the All Tournament Team at the 44th Annual Edmond Freshman Basketball Tournament. Shoshanna is a Freshman at Norman North High

School and is the daughter of Steven Johnson and the granddaughter of Joann and Willard Walker Jr.

Your loving parents, Don and Esteline Schulenberg

Thank You

# In appreciation......

Thank you to all with the thoughts, prayers, kindness, and words of sympathy during our recent family loss. A special thanks to the Angelic Hospice Care, Shawnee Care Center, Cooper Funeral Home, American Legion Post #88 Chaplin, Don Hunter, Tribal Elder, Jerry Little Axe, Absentee Shawnee Tribe and services from the Community Health LPN, Tammy Simmons, Transportation provider, Geraldine Abrams and the Maintenance Dept. Your services are gratefully acknowledged from the family of Wendell "Pinekinaskika" Roger Sloan.

> Wendell "Pinekinaskika" Roger Sloan February 24, 1945 - December 16, 2009

he Johnson family would like to thank the Absentee Shawnee tribe for providing assistance and meal for MARY ANN SKINNER funeral services. Mary Ann is survived by her daughter Kristin Skinner, of Tulsa; her mother, FLorene Belden Kohn and Uncle Bill Johnson, Jr., both of Norman; and Aunt Jeanne Stephens of OKC, and several cousins in the Norman and Little Ax area. She will be areatly missed and leaves a void in all

Our lives....

# THE MEDIA DEPARTMENT'S NTERESTING FACT.

(CONTINUING THE TOPIC FROM LAST MONTH'S FACT) THE FIRST BOX OF CHOCOLATES SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR VALENTINE'S DAY WAS CREATED BY RICHARD CADBURY IN THE 1880S. HOWEVER, THROUGHOUT THE 19TH CENTURY, DOCTORS TOLD LOVESICK PATIENTS THAT THEY SHOULD EAT CHOCOLATE TO HELP MEND THEIR BROKEN HEARTS. RESEARCH HAS FOUND A REASON FOR THIS: CHOCOLATE CONTAINS A COMPOUND KNOWN AS PHENYLETHYLAMINE, THE SAME CHEMICAL THAT THE BRAIN PRODUCES WHEN YOU FALL IN LOVE. YOU'D NEED TO EAT MORE CHOCOLATE THAN ANYONE COULD POSSIBLY CONSUME TO GET THAT "IN LOVE" FEELING FROM IT, HOWEVER. WWW.INTERESTINGFACTS.ORG

(PROMISE.....WE'LL LAY OFF THE CHOCOLATE FACTS NEXT MONTH)



**Put your shoes on** ka p-fa-k-ho (p-fa-k-ho-lo)

Find your shirt ka-m-kí ke-pe-ta-ne-kí

Wear the black shirt he-ne m-ki-ta-wi-ke ka-pe-ta-ni

**Put a hat on** ka-pa-tí-k-ho

Wear the green hat he-ne s-ke-pi-ke-yi-ke ka-pa-ti-k-ho

ົດ

**Put your shoes on** p-fa-k-ho-lo Says fot the month

Get your gloves ni-ta-lo ke-hi-pe-la-ge-yi-wa-ni

It's cold outside wa-pe fi-ke-ge

It's snowing ho-wa ko-ne

**Dress warm** ka-ke-so-ho

Clean your shoes ho-fa-pe-lo-tí-no ke-mí-ke-fa-no

Stand by the fire, warm up mi-li-qi-ho\_ti-p-ki-la-ke\_ka-ne-pi-we, kake-so-wa-fe

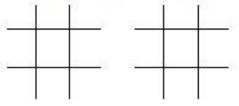


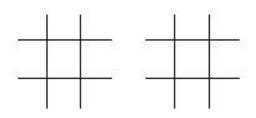


BY MEDIA DEPARTMENT

Decorate your heart!

TIC-TAC-TOE





WORD SEARCH

С	Α	G	s	D	Ν	E	1	R	F	
A	w	s	F	с	R	w	т	E	L	
N	Q	Е	G	н	А	L	K	D	J	
D	A	D	Z	0	v	R	в	м	P	
Y	w	G	N	с	Q	т	D	P	к	
R	S	U	R	0	J	W	A	S	Р	
Y	F	С	0	L	0	٧	Е	z	А	
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s	W	Е	E	т	н	Е	A	R	т	
E	J	D	S	E	М	G	Υ	Q	Y	

CARDS	PARTY
FRIENDS	SWEETHEART
CANDY	LOVE
CHOCOLATE	RED
FUN	ROSES

How many words can you make from

VALENTINES DAY

WWW.PRINTABLES4KIDS.COM



Happy Valentine's Day!



Come in February 8-12, 2010 and receive 15% off your purchase. (excluding consignment & Pendleton items)

# ST. GREGORY'S UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

SHAWNEE, Okla. (Jan. 19, 2010) – St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, Okla., has announced a new scholarship opportunity for Native Americans. SGU, Oklahoma's oldest institution for higher learning, is offering up to \$6,500 per year for qualifying Native American students through the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Tribal Scholarship. Applications for the new scholarship are available now, and funds will be awarded beginning in the fall semester.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for Native Americans in Oklahoma and beyond to take part in the quality educational experience that St. Gregory's provides," said SGU Provost Richard Ludwick, J.D., D.Ed. "This scholarship, in particular, holds special meaning because of the relationship SGU has had with the Native American community throughout its 135-year history."

St. Gregory's was established in 1875 when Benedictine monks came to Indian Territory at the request of Native Americans to minister and teach, as there was no resident clergy in the area. The institution continues to embrace its legacy of service to the Native American community. SGU students currently have the opportunity to participate in the university's Native American Study Group (NASG), which sponsors Native American speakers, annual flute circle events and other expressions of Native American culture and heritage. SGU also recently hosted summer educational programs for the Native American community.

This scholarship was named in honor of Kateri Tekakwitha, who was the first Native American to be declared "Blessed" by the Roman Catholic Church – a move toward sainthood. Kateri, known as the "Lily of the Mohawks," lived a life dedicated to prayer, penitential practices, and care for the sick and aged. The intercession to Kateri is responsible for establishing Native American ministries in Catholic Churches all over the United States and Canada.

SGU, a Catholic university in the Benedictine tradition, was recently recognized by the Cardinal Newman Society as being among the top 10 percent of Catholic colleges in the U.S., and has been featured in such publications as Our Sunday Visitor, the National Catholic Register and the Catholic World Report.

SGU lives out its values through its programs. The university celebrates its innovative "Tradition & Conversation" seminar-style common core curriculum. Based on the Great Books format, the program allows students to wrestle with some of the most influential texts and ideas of the Western and Catholic intellectual traditions. SGU also takes pride in its one-to-one learning environment, boasting one of the region's top student-to-faculty ratios.

For more information about SGU's new scholarship opportunity for Native American students, contact its financial aid department at 1-888-784-7347. Information about SGU can also be found on the Web at **www.stgregorys.edu**.

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# **Education Department**

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

- Academic (K-12) Program: assists with academic related expenses, and a portion of funds can be used for schoolrelated 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:

#### All applications and guidelines are available at <u>www.astribe.com</u>. Click on Services and select Education.

There are no deadlines for the Job Training Adult Education Program, but you must submit your application documents at least three weeks prior to the beginning of the course to ensure funding is available and can be disbursed to the institution.

Deadline for submitting spring 2010 semester applications for the Education Incentive Award Program was December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. If you are still interested in taking courses for the spring 2010 semester please contact us immediately for more information.

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

# AST/EOC Tech contract courses still available:



The Absentee Shawnee Tribe has an agreement with Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center to offer courses for tribal

members and employees. More information is available on the tribe's website at <u>www.astribe.com</u>, click on the <u>Adult</u> <u>Career Development</u> link. No online courses are covered in the contract. All courses are campus-based courses only. The contract covers tuition and books, additional supplies required for the courses are the responsibility of the tribal member. Eligible courses are short-term courses, no full-time programs. This contract covers up to \$6,000.00 worth of tuition and books for tribal members, once this amount is depleted the agreement ends. A catalog of <u>fall/winter 2009</u> courses can be found at <u>www.eoctech.org</u>.

We have been into this agreement for a couple of years and we need to fulfill this agreement as soon as possible. For tribal members interested in taking a course, the application is available for download or a copy can be picked up at the Education Department. Tribal members need to make an appointment to meet with the Education Director, Tresha Spoon, to complete the application process. Please bring your completed application and a copy of your tribal enrollment card.

If you have any questions, please call Tresha Spoon at (405) 275-4030 ext. 121 or email to tresham@astribe.com.



## **CURRENT JOB POSTINGS AS OF JANUARY 24, 2010**

#### **GAMING COMMISSION**

-Surveillance Director

#### **COURT/LEGAL/POLICE**

-Supreme Court Tribal Judge

#### **BUILDING BLOCKS**

-(2)Food Service Preparation Specialist -(2)Teacher -Program Assistant -Master Teacher -Assistant Teacher ICW -Child Protection/Foster Care Worker

MIS -Programmer

**EDUCATION** - Coordinator Tribal Youth Program

#### **HEALTH**

-Floater

-Physicians Assistant -Dental Assistant -Registered Nurse-Diabetes -Patient Registration Clerk (LAC)

## IN HOUSE:

POLICE -Officer/Investigator

#### FAMILY SERVICES

-Transitional Housing Manager -Part-time Victim Advocate (2) -Sexual Assault Advocate

-Victim Resource Coordinator

Job descriptions will be available online: <u>http://www.astribe.com/Employment.html</u>

HEALTH -Community Outreach Assistant

If you have any questions about the job positions and their job descriptions you can also contact Briana in the Human Resources Department at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at: (405)275-4030 ext. 131.

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# AST Tribal Store

The AST Tribal Store on Hwy 9, 405-366-0668, is a convenience store as well as Deli and Smoke Shop all in one. We provide Home made chopped BBQ, Tasty Burgers, and other Deli treats. We will be upgrading and modernizing our facilities in the near future to enable our customers to use credit cards at the gas pumps 24 hours a day. Our Live bait will be brought back this spring and offering numerous choices of bait for our fishing customers.

The Environmental Protection Agency has nominated the AST Tribal Store on Hwy 9 for a nationally recognized award. We would be the second store on Tribal land in the nation to ever get this award. The Chickasaw Tribe received it last year. This is for taking preventative measures to detect a leak on a daily basis, and going beyond the EPA regulations.

AST Smoke Shop in Harrah Oklahoma (our 2nd Smoke Shop) 405-454-0055, offers a smoking lounge inside the store, Fountain Drinks, candy and smoking accessories for our customers. We do have a Drive thru at this location for your convenience.

AST County Kitchen...the new place in town to eat. AST Country Kitchen is located at 15704 E. Highway 9. Come in and enjoy good home style country cooking. We will be serving breakfast and lunch. Whether it is steak and eggs, sausage gravy and biscuits or hotcakes we will have what you want. For lunch try a burger, Reuben sandwich or perhaps you favor an open face sandwich with either turkey or roast beef. Either way you will walk away full. There will be a blue plate special each day. From meatloaf to beans, home fries and cornbread, even pork chops for those of you who have asked.

Our aim is to please each customer who comes through our doors. We will be opening Wednesday, January 20, 2010. Please come dine with us. Calls in orders are welcomed 405-366-7220



# ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL MEMBERS WE HAVE A PROMOTION JUST FOR YOU

# **EVERY WEEK RECEIVE \$10 FREE SLOT PLAY**

Just show your Absentee Shawnee Tribal CDIB Card, to take advantage of the offer.

See Player's Club Desk for complete details

Management reserves the right to change or alter any promotion.



# FOR SALE OR TRADE Ideal for a tribal owned bank or financial institution! Federal National Bank Building 24 E. Main Street, Shawnee, OK

- ★ Three properties for the price of one!
  - Bank Building at 24 E. Main
  - Two ATM Drive-through locations:
    - 1. Downtown Shawnee
    - 2. North Kickapoo near I40 close to Lowe's, Staples, and WalMart
- $\star$  Located in the area of five Indian Tribes with rich Native American heritage
- $\star$  Beautiful lobby and penthouse with apartment
- ★ Seven story building
- ★ Terrific tax advantages with former Indian Reservation Lands and Historic District
- ★ Priced @ \$55 per square foot well below replacement cost



SE HOME (NOW AT 169 OR DRIVER	NOT GOING TO BE HOME CALL & LET US KNOW AT 405-275-4030 X 169 OR NOTIFY YOUR DRIVER	A01 NO	rt Center	February 11 Affair of the Heart at Little Axe Resource Center 11am to 1pm	F Affai at Little A 11	28
27	26 Raisin Biscuit Egg Bacon	Enchilada <sup>25</sup> Casserole Mexi-corn Refried Beans Cinnamon Roll	Roast 24 Red Pot. Greenbeans Roll Cheesecake	23 Pizza Salad Pineapples	22 Frito Chili Pie Sliced Carrots Cake	21
20	19 Oatmeal Sausage Link Toast	18 Brown Beans Okra & Tom Fry Bread Cake	17 Beef Pot Pie Fried Mushrooms Cherry Crisp	16 Steakfingers Mashed Pot. Gravy Mixed Veggies Roll/Fruit Cocktail	15 AST Closed President's Day	14
13	12 Biscuit Bacon Gravy Mixed Fruit	Affair of the Heart <sup>11</sup> @ Little Axe Parmesan Chicken Frozen Yogurt Berries Salad	Chicken Fried <sup>10</sup> Steak Mashed Pot. w Gravy Corn/Roll/Pears	9 Beef Tips Noodles Okra/Roll Carrots Blackberry Cobbler	Chicken Salad Sandwich Celery & Carrots Sticks Apple Slices	7
6	5 Eggs Sausage Pattie Biscuit Hashbrown	4 Veggie Soup Grilled Chez Waffle Fries Choc. Pie	Chef Salad Eggs/Ham Crackers Cott.chez Peaches	Chicken Pilaf Rice Broc./Chez Roll/Jell-0	Salisbury Steak <sup>1</sup> Baked Pot. Greenbeans Roll Cinnamon Roll	Happy Dalentine's Day
Sat	Fri	Thu	Wed	Tue	Mon	Sun
menu subject to change	menu subje		February 2010		2% milk served daily	2% n



# February 2010

Title VI will be working with the Healthy Heart and Diabetes Department during this month.

5<sup>th</sup> is National Wear "Red" Day we will have a speaker at the Title VI Bldg. & a power point presentation will be provided.

Title VI will be sponsoring the Annual Affair of the Heart Luncheon at Little Axe Resource Center on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> will be observing President's Day and AST Complex will be closed, no meals will be served or delivered.

If you have any questions you can contact me at 275-4030 ext. 169.

Yvette Moore Title VI Coordinator



# NEED A CAR, TRUCK OR SUV AS LOW AS \$299.00 DOWN - WAC E-Z APPROVAL - LARGE SELECTION \*FREE LIMITED WARRANTY\* CALL EL DORADO MOTORS @ 405-526-4600 AND ASK FOR BIG LARRY OR LITTLE JOHN

# Foster Parents Needed!!!

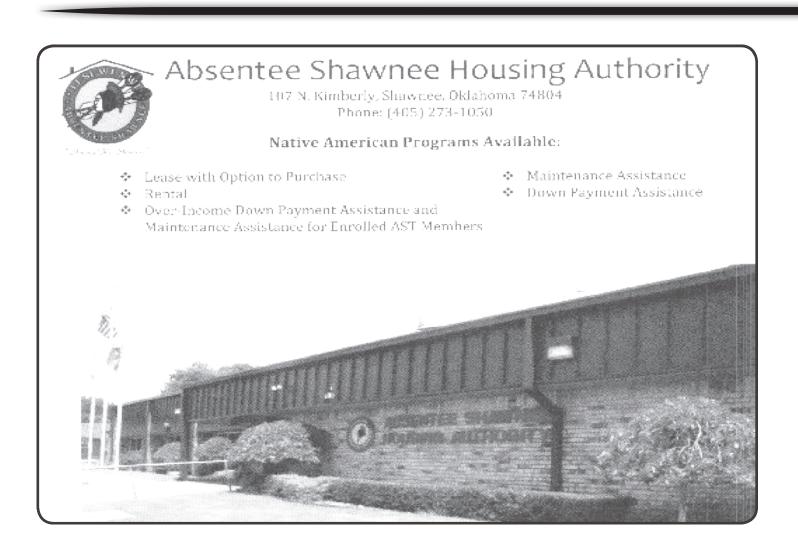
Can you open your home and heart for a foster child.? Foster parents provide a temporary, safe home for children in crisis. Foster parents are partners with child welfare workers, lawyers and judges. It is not for everyone but if you have it in your heart - we need you.

- · 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 Melissa Lopez 405-275-4030 ext. 166.



### PHARMACY NEWS Absentee shawnee tribal pharmacy shawnee, oklahoma

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Pharmacy (Shawnee Location) can fill prescriptions for enrolled tribal citizens only. The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Clinic Pharmacy in Little Axe can fill prescriptions for tribal citizens written by Physicians not located a Tribal Clinic under the following circumstances: 1. The prescription is for an Absentee Shawnee Tribal citizen who has an established chart at the Little Axe Clinic. 2. The prescription is on the formulary of approved medications and stocked in the pharmacy. The following are a few tips to help us deliver pharmacy services to you more efficiently: Present insurance cards each time you pick up or drop off a prescription. 1 Keep us informed of all 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.

✓ If you have any questions concerning your prescription please feel free to call and talk

to our Pharmacist. They are here to assist you with your pharmaceutical needs.

#### 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 Facililties Assistance Program

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

Applications are available online on the website: www.astribe.com. Submit completed application to:

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

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





# Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Little Axe Clinic • Little Axe Dental Clinic 15702 E. Hwy 9 Norman, Oklahoma 73026

Phone: (405) 447-0300 Fax: (405) 447-2250

Clinic Operating Hours Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Weekends/Federal Holidays Closed

\* Clinic and Pharmacy will be closed the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m



# Some services that are offered include:

Business Cards Invitations Announcements Calendars Calendars Logo Designs Graphics Brochures Envelope Designs Copies Banners



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee, OK 74801 PRSRT STANDARD MAIL U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 434 Shawnee, OK 74801

# 2010 TRIBAL PHONE NUMBERS

Tribal Complex or OEP Building Blocks Health Programs or Little Axe Clinic Shawnee Clinic Shawnee Pharmacy Behavioral Health LA Resource Center or LA Cultural Center AST Police or OEH AS Housing Authority Thunderbird Casino Or	(405) 275-4030 1-800 256-3341 (405) 273-9966 (405) 878-0633 (405) 878-4702 1-877-878-4702 (405) 447-0300 (405) 878-5850 (405) 878-5859 (405) 878-5859 (405) 364-7298 (405) 364-7298 (405) 364-7298 (405) 275-3200 (405) 275-3432 (405) 214-4235 (405) 273-1050 (405) 360-9270 1-800-259-LUCK
Thunderbird Casino	(405) 360-9270
AST Media Dept	(405) 598-1279
AST Media Dept Fai	x (405) 598-1294