



# The Absentee Shawnee News



FEBRUARY 2015 — VOLUME 27 No. 35

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## Court Rules in Favor of Governor & Representative's Declaratory Judgment Petition

Alternate Judge Matt Thomas ruled in the affirmative on January 26, 2015 on the December 8, 2014 petition filed by Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe and Representative Kenneth Blanchard. The petition requested the Court to: 1) Determine the effective date of the Salary Ordinance; 2. Determine if the actions of the Treasurer of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe are "unconstitutional"; 3. Determine whether that elected officials should pay back funds and set effective date.

Governor Butler-Wolfe spoke eloquently on the background of the salary ordinance issue bringing to light the referendum vote of the people and that 263 voted for this ordinance to go into place, the Executive Committee then passed the Salary Ordinance under E-AS-2013-39 with 4 voting 'Yes' and 0 'No'. She then went into the process of how the Human Resources (HR) Director was tasked with determining which Tier the elected body qualified for and how she and the other elected leaders had been questioned at the October General Council as to why the Salary Ordinance had not been put into place yet. The Governor learned this past week that Human Resources had a new system allowing it to insert salary rates. The Tier rates established by the former HR Director have been inserted into this new system. The Governor indicated her petition was before Judge Thomas asking that the Tier rates set by HR be kept into place and the Treasurer and Finance not be allowed to change them.

Representative Blanchard also gave testimony advising that he had oversight over the HR department and he briefly stated his distinguished history with the Tribe. He illustrated his point by stating that when the Election Commission

certified the election results on his own election that his term of Office began. The Executive Committee did not need to approve those election results. The Representative shared that in his opinion that after the Election Commission certified the vote of the people on the Salary Ordinance it was effective. The Representative indicated he agreed to the date, requested by the Governor, of August 20, 2014.

Meredith Wahpekeche, Election Secretary, was called upon by the Governor to offer insight on the role of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Election Commission certification process. Ms. Wahpekeche briefly instructed on the role of the Election Commission pertaining to certifying election results on candidates and issues. Treasurer Bates and her Finance staff did not make an appearance in the Court.

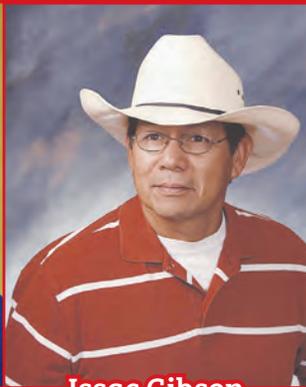
The Court ruled the effective date of the Salary Ordinance as 08-20-14; declared the issue of the constitutionality of the actions of the Treasurer moot, as it was presented to the court, as the Ordinance has now been enacted. This judgment is indicative that those elected leaders who have been paid in excess of the Tier established for them by HR should pay the tribe back. The time lines and payback process were not established by the Court system.

In a separate memorandum sent by Representative Blanchard on 12-03-14 to Treasurer Bates he charges her with the task to devise a payback schedule to recover the excess pay of each Executive Committee member and to provide that report to the Executive Committee. Governor Butler-Wolfe stated "this is a step in the right direction" and "we must do what our people have voted on".

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**Edwina Butler-Wolfe**  
Governor



**Issac Gibson**  
Lt. Governor



**Vera M. Dawsey**  
Secretary



**Leah Bates**  
Treasurer



**Kenneth Blanchard**  
Representative



## Governor's Report

Hello my Absentee Shawnee people!

On January 12, 2015 Mary Fallin took a second term of Office as Governor of the State of Oklahoma. Governor Fallin has her own 'unique' perspective about Native Americans and how she envisions their support of her administration and political aspirations. I attended this inauguration event along with approximately nine (9) other tribal leaders. I went because it is important, as a self-governance nation, we continue to be involved in state events regardless of our differences.

In 2014, we had multiple tribal wide closings due to weather, holidays, and special events. I am aware each time we close our doors for a day - services cease, potential revenue streams lie dormant, and it costs the Tribe, as we must pay our employees. This is a difficult choice and one I always ask the elected body to take part in as it is vital that although we have our 'differences' we continue to work for you, our people. It is unclear how many closures we may have in 2015 but it is my hope these are limited and we look at alternative ways to serve you if they become necessary.

Our Oklahoma weather continues to show its many personalities of warm, hot, and cold. I hope going into this cold season, each of you have solid, warm homes and warm coats and clothes. Also, I have been hearing the flu season is upon us and encourage each of you to get your flu shot. If you feel like you are catching the flu then please visit your physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant.



### Constitution of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

In 2013, when I originally ran for Office, I asked many questions throughout my campaign. I indicated, if elected, I would do what I could to make reforms within and to the health system; address concerns within ASEDA; I expressed the need of additional funds for our Education department, the need to review, prioritize and incentivize education; address our long term care and ancillary levels of care; ensure representation - attendance to local, state and national meetings for legislative and policy development; and revisit trust land needs and entering into a lawsuit to correct our land base issues. I initially made some progress on these items. Due to our current constitutional provisions of what a Governor may do, I have been limited in what changes I may do to advance our economic development, education, health, and land base.

Our constitution and by-laws, when initially created in 1938, were to protect our claims and rights or treaties and treaty agreements with the United States; to protect and maintain our reserved, allotted, and other lands; to manage our tribal land and property; to transact our tribal business and economic enterprises in domestic and foreign trade; and to negotiate with representatives of federal, state, local, and tribal governments. Our Constitution was amended in 1988 and in 2010. The changes that have previously been made to our Constitution do not include the growth we as a tribal government have seen, nor does it provide for our leadership needs to be fully realized in a way that clearly defines the differences between Executive and Legislative authority. Our Constitution gives me as your Governor limited abilities. In the **Constitution of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Article XIII. Duties of Officers, Section 1. The Governor** - I am given the ability to call and preside over all meetings of the General Council and the Executive Committee except as provided for in Article XVI or any other applicable provision of the Constitution or subsequent ordinances. I am accountable for the exercise of these duties specially assigned by the Constitution, and such additional authorities which may be delegated by either the General Council or the Executive Committee. I am responsible for executing policies established by the General Council. I am to make an oral report on all of my activities, meetings, and conferences at the monthly Executive Committee meetings. I am to file an agenda with the EC Secretary and I cannot vote unless there is a tie.

You, as my people, have expressed to me that you want me to correct what is going on within the Tribe. I would like nothing more than to correct these issues within our financial department and our elected body, as I want to see our Tribe make advancements. But

I am limited to those responsibilities set forth by our Constitution and the Code of Laws to which we adhere.

**Business of the Tribe**

In looking at our financial landscape based on what the Treasurer gave the elected body during, **not prior to**, the December 29, 2014 Special Executive Committee meeting I am projecting budgetary shortfalls. Those **General Fund** programs, within my oversight, were reduced by 5%. My program budgets are as follows:

Programs	Dept.	2014 Direct	2014 Budget Total	2015 Direct	2015 Indirect	2015 Budget Total
Afterschool Program (Carryover)						
Education	904	\$ 271,200	\$ 360,072	\$ 257,640	\$ 10,418*	\$ 268,058
Emergency Management	905	\$ 20,242	\$ 26,875	\$ 19,230	\$ 5,409*	\$ 24,639
Gaming Commission	920	\$1,216,768	\$1,599,446	\$1,155,930	\$ 284,855*	\$1,440,785
Governor	925	\$ 145,582	\$ 191,978	\$ 138,303	\$ 44,076*	\$ 182,379
Media	960	\$ 107,664	\$ 140,644	\$ 102,281	\$ 20,230*	\$ 122,511

\*Last year's Indirect Cost rate of 32.05% is being used as a provisional rate till such time as the new Indirect Cost rate has been forwarded to the Tribe by the National Business Center. Each department's pass through amount was considered and applied this year which is a change from last year.

Figuring out the current financial process is like trying to decipher a Rubik's Cube.

**Maintenance**

As-to-date I still have not seen any monthly project lists from the Lt. Governor and/or the Maintenance Director on what maintenance services have been completed in both the Shawnee and Little Axe areas. It is my hope the Lt. Governor will look to getting our Maintenance staff trained in specialties.

**Training and Travel**

Since I took Office I have done limited national travel as my attention was needed here. It is unclear how much training and travel one can do within a 19 month period of time and still hold Office. This is a topic best illustrated by the Secretary. My last count was over 20 trips.

In addition to the Secretary being on extensive travel, she and the Lt. Governor have missed a number of Executive Committee meetings (See Attachment A). It's unclear why our Tribe continues to pay elected leaders when they cannot keep regular office hours, are not accessible to tribal members, cannot pay their personal bills, drive tribal vehicles when their licenses have been suspended (or have staff pick them and their staff up – who have no licenses) and places the Tribe in a position of liability. It also appears that after 19 months in Office the Secretary still doesn't understand her constitutional duties. Her recent confusion is based on her refusal to do agenda(s) for the Executive Committee as she does not recognize the Attorney General's authority or their contract with the Tribe so she is refusing to create the Tribe's monthly agendas for Regular and Special Executive Committee meetings. The Attorney General's contract was legislated into place under E-AS-2013-74 on August 29, 2013 and is a legal and binding contract. By her unwillingness to do the agenda, this places her actions as being unconstitutional and in violation of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Code of Conduct and Ethics.

It is unclear to me how an individual who took an oath of Office refuses to uphold her Constitutional duties. This is an area best left to the Election Commission and the Tribe's Election Ordinance.

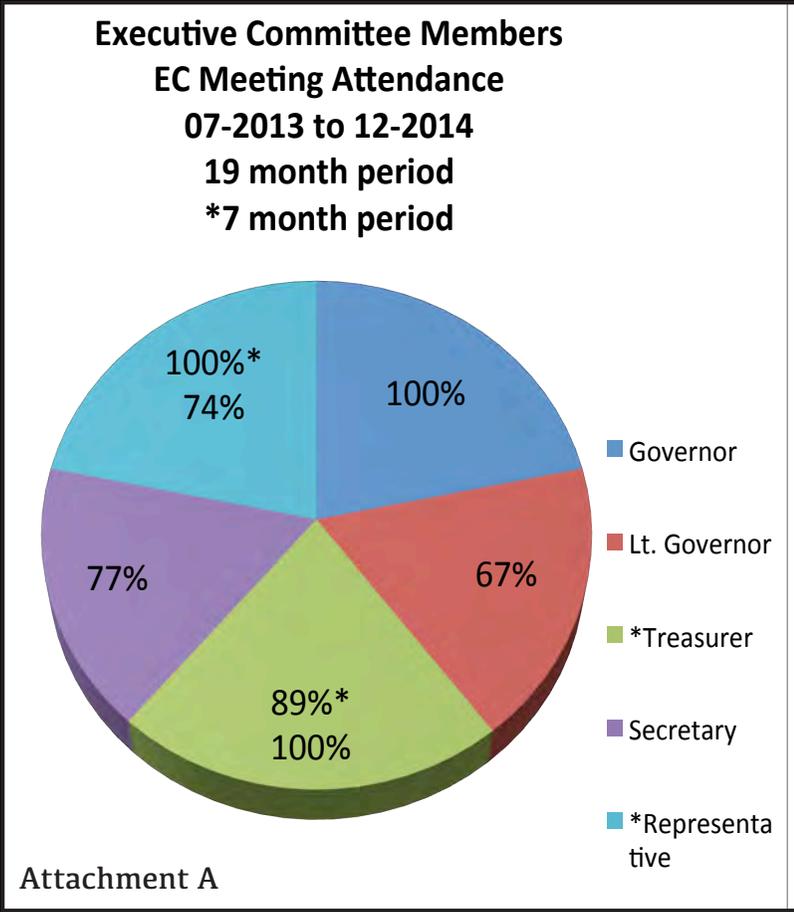
**Conclusion**

There is still so much more we need to do and I want to continue to work towards prioritizing items, as I have heard what you, my people, have said during our General Council meetings and when you have visited with me.

I have 4 months to go. My door is always open (unless I am in a meeting or at a meeting) and I welcome your visits. We have much to do to get our tribe back on track and I want to do the best I can for all of our tribal members.

**Help me to make a difference – stand beside me and Let's Build for the Future (BFF) - united and together!**

Thank you for your support.





## Treasurer's Report

WE begin a New Year with spoken and unspoken goals, loads of expectations, wondrous new ideas, and, sadly, continuing to try and resolve some of last year's issues which will undoubtedly affect this new year as we move forward. With all of that being said, I begin my article addressing:

### **2015 Budgets**

The Executive Committee met in December 2014, to discuss the proposed 2015 budgets which eventually passed after only two different meetings due to unprepared offices. The General Fund budget passed with a 5% budget cut on the general fund portion only, which resulted from years of neglect of department heads not monitoring their budgets. Configuration of projected budget was calculated by the Acting Controller, Genevieve Foster, CPA, based on coordination with Finely & Cook in prior years. Unfortunately, the 2015 budgets are hindered due to lack of generating revenue from a majority of our businesses.

With the passing of the 2015 approved budgets, it is imperative that I continue my research into (1) the ramifications associated to an Executive Committee member who exceeds their approved budget resulting in a negative balance per IRS rules, federal grant related guidelines, and governmental accounting standards, as well as how this type of budget monitoring can affect the Tribe, as a whole, in relation to continued funding; (2) how effective the budget medication process is in relation to each Executive Committee member understanding their approved budget through resolution; and (3) the analysis process on how an Executive Committee member receives additional money from the General Fund in order to eliminate a negative budget balance so the Tribe will not encounter any future unnecessary audits.

Unfortunately, there is limited data pertaining to these areas on a federal level, as a whole, so in my next recourse will be to research each specific area.

### **New Time Clock**

The Finance and Human Resource department have been working for the past 2 months on implementing a totally new time clock system where each employee will clock in and out for each day worked. Furthermore, this new system will alleviate any possible errors in accurately tracking sick and vacation time. It will provide efficient monitoring as time spent on processing payroll will cease to a minimum amount, as well as, holding employees accountable for time actually worked. This new system will provide employees with access to individual needs when it comes to paystubs, W-2, or leave, etc. The services the new time clock provides will help the Finance and Human Resource departments tremendously. We look forward to implementing this system within the next few months.

### **New Electronic Purchase Order system**

The Finance department, along with Procurement, has also been working on implementing a paperless purchase order system which will save the Tribe money and time due to not having to order the paper purchase orders anymore and the tracking down these purchase orders. Being able to complete

and submit the electronic purchase order will eliminate the need to continually find additional space to store the paper purchases order copies, as well as assist each Department Manager, Procurement, and the Finance department in tracking and streamlining the payment process since Finance will have knowledge of who initiated the electronic purchase order.

### **Health System**

The AST Health Systems continue to go unnoticed on their positive growth. This past year alone the AST Health Systems, on two (2) separate occasions, rose above the half million dollar mark; thereby, being determined to achieve the one million dollar (\$1,000,000) mark by the end of the year. Patient care is continually growing while the waiting list has nearly become non-existent since the new Medical Director arrived. New and innovative ways continue to modify our health system to accommodate every patient in which our Tribe should be publicly promoting. Future positive growth within this individual system is something every tribal member should be aware of and proud to have it as one of our vastly growing entities.

### **Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker, LLP**

During the holiday break, numerous tribal members asked me why we, as an Executive Committee, allowed Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker, LLP (AGs) to submit an article in the December 2014 newsletter. Unfortunately, my office was not aware that such an article was going to be published. The main question that was posed by tribal members centered around "Is the Tribe operated by the Constitution, 'best practices', or the advice of an attorney firm who has blatantly insinuated we, as tribal members, do not know how to manage a Tribe?". I, myself, cannot continually battle seven (7) attorneys, nor control the secrecy created within that circle.

Hopefully, within the near future, a better form of cohesive work ethics can be created.

### **Finance/Procurement**

The Finance and Procurement departments continue to strive in performing the job duties with the utmost professionalism despite their frustrations from political badgering. The belief that distorting the facts and the extorting of other Executive Committee members "faults" does not benefit them, nor encourage a healthy work environment. Both departments have shown the ability to adapt and overcome any obstacle in which provides a since of relief when it comes to accountability. Finance continues to monitor everyday budgets, enhance its procedures, and maintain sanity within the scope of work presented by the Tribe. Our mission is to provide guidance in properly documenting purchases/finances within guidelines set forth by federal agencies and accounting requirements.

### **Conclusion**

Do we have what it takes to stand the test of time? Would our ancestors, who gave so deeply of themselves including their lives, be pleased by what they see today within the Tribe? Our ancestors faced and endured sometimes unimaginable difficulties, and yet they found a way to work together and survive not only as individuals but also collectively as a group. Therefore, is it not only logical that a "whole" person/employee, who believes they matter, is going to be

more energetic and productive to ensure the group survives? So to satisfy those who are tired of seeing the belittling of our tribe and tribal members publicly, I leave you with positive thoughts.

Mr. Jack Welch, former CEO of GE, stated "It goes without saying that no company, small or large, can win over the long run without energized employees who believe in the mission and understand how to achieve it."

I believe in the Shawnee culture ... I have faith in our employees ... I have belief in our Constitution ... Neyiwa



*Representative's Report*

Greetings Fellow Tribal Members, Unofficially, I've been working on an operational phase of the Camp Nikoti campground project at Brendle Corner in Little Axe. We need to begin clearing sites for the housing units soon in order to keep on schedule. Soil testing and the feasibility tests for ground water have been completed.

I plan to notify and arrange for the full Executive Committee to come to the table for discussions on the Camp Nikoti project.

To contact me at the Tribal Complex, please write to:

Representative Ken Blanchard  
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive  
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

I can be reached by phone at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6287.

Respectfully,  
Ken Blanchard

**Monthly Executive Committee meetings can be watched online at [astribe.com](http://astribe.com)**

**JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER:**

FEMA Trailer payments are due on the 5<sup>TH</sup> of each month to the Finance Dept. Check, cashier's check or money orders are to be made out to Absentee Shawnee Tribe Finance Dept./FEMA payment As of February 1, 2015 if payments are more than 5 days late there will be a \$25.00 late fee.

Thank You.

**No reports submitted for Lt. Governor and Secretary**

FY-2014  
YTD TAX COLLECTIONS  
(thru 12/31/14)

RUN DATE:  
01/20/15

TAX CATEGORY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL	% OF TAXES COLLECTED
Sales (6%)	\$5,532.03	\$5,205.95	\$6,535.34	\$5,180.06	\$6,870.96	\$4,397.76	\$6,237.06	\$9,715.49	\$709.77	\$4,615.96	\$136.20	\$165.54	\$55,302.12	2.05%
Gaming % of free cash	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$2,250,000.00	83.57%
Employee (1%)	\$10,095.26	\$602.94	\$22,804.85	\$4,159.08	\$3,805.88	\$24,535.57	\$3,805.02	\$13,537.64	\$5,895.29	\$9,597.48	\$0.00	\$21,239.25	\$120,078.26	4.46%
Severance (8%)	\$8,940.31	\$7,025.79	\$6,689.81	\$7,561.69	\$8,985.65	\$10,246.81	\$8,556.30	\$6,767.94	\$4,582.79	\$8,244.28	\$4,025.85	\$11,243.59	\$92,870.81	3.45%
Motor Vehicle	\$13,670.11	\$11,971.21	\$14,216.75	\$11,780.39	\$9,804.65	\$15,890.15	\$17,011.63	\$14,773.49	\$12,928.61	\$18,007.43	\$11,904.84	\$9,543.03	\$161,502.29	6.00%
Tobacco Refund	\$9,303.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,303.52	0.35%
<b>TOTAL TAXES</b>	<b>\$297,541.23</b>	<b>\$274,805.89</b>	<b>\$300,246.75</b>	<b>\$178,681.22</b>	<b>\$329,467.14</b>	<b>\$105,070.29</b>	<b>\$135,610.01</b>	<b>\$294,794.56</b>	<b>\$224,116.46</b>	<b>\$190,465.15</b>	<b>\$266,066.89</b>	<b>\$92,191.41</b>	<b>\$2,689,057.00</b>	<b>\$2,689,057.00</b>
Miscellaneous	\$600.00	\$130.00	\$65.00	\$350.00	\$80.00	\$140.00	\$85.00	\$195.00	\$250.00	\$180.00	\$90.00	\$1,080.00	\$3,245.00	0.12%
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$298,141.23</b>	<b>\$274,935.89</b>	<b>\$300,311.75</b>	<b>\$179,031.22</b>	<b>\$329,547.14</b>	<b>\$105,210.29</b>	<b>\$135,695.01</b>	<b>\$294,989.56</b>	<b>\$224,366.46</b>	<b>\$190,645.15</b>	<b>\$266,156.89</b>	<b>\$93,271.41</b>	<b>\$2,692,302.00</b>	<b>100% \$2,692,302.00</b>

GOVERNOR'S SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

# Brandon Goodman



Brandon Goodman is a senior at the University of Oklahoma, majoring in Health and Exercise Science. He is an intern for the afterschool program at the Little Axe Resource Center. You may have spoken or visited with Brandon recently, as he has also assisted in the role of administrative assistant for the Education Department the past couple of months. Brandon began as a participant in the Camp Nikoti summer youth leadership camp and graduated to a summer camp worker over the past few years and now works with the youth as an afterschool intern during the school year. He is open to assisting whenever needed and is an asset to the youth programs.

**Let's Build For the Future (BFF)!**

GOVERNORS SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE

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

## AST ELDERS MEETING AND PIE/CAKE AUCTION

February 21, 2015

Resource Center, Little Axe, OK

10 AM - Elders Meeting

11:30 AM - Pie/Cake Auction

## AST Elders Bingo Saturday, March 7, 2015

**Brendle Corner - Located on Highway 9 & Harrah/Newalla Rd. Starts at 1 p.m. - Everyone Welcome Come support the AST Elders**



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL HEALTH SYSTEM IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE  
NATIVE AMERICAN U.S. DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PARTNERSHIP



# NOW ACCEPTING VETERANS HEALTH BENEFITS! Schedule Your Appointment Today!

- » **Basic Medical Eligibility**
- » **Behavioral Health Services**
- » **\*Service-Connected Disabilities**
- » **\*Dental Services**
- » **\*Vision Services**

**CDIB required**

**\*Veteran must be VA Service-Connected**

**Annual Required VA Hospital Visit must be current!**

**VA disability assessment and annual VA hospital visit must be scheduled at a VA facility**



**LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER**  
Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System  
15951 Little Axe Drive  
Norman, OK 73026  
405.447.0300



Caring for AMERICA'S HEROES  
[www.oklahoma.va.gov](http://www.oklahoma.va.gov)

[www.asthealth.org](http://www.asthealth.org)  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)



**SHAWNEE CLINIC**  
Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System  
2029 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
405.878.5850

# we Listen Ne-Hi-Ki-Wa-Sa-Pa

The AST Health System values ALL feedback.

We will listen....

**\*Patient Advocate Jim Robertson**  
405-447-0300

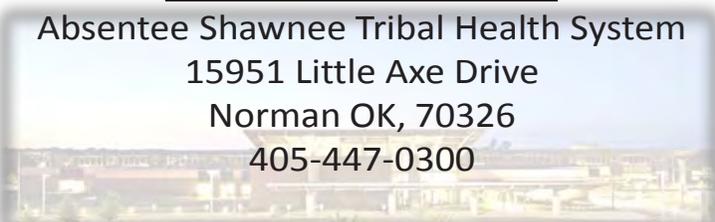
**\*Customer Service Line**  
405-701-7623

**\*Patient Questionnaire located in each of our  
clinics or on our website**  
**[WWW.ASTHEALTH.ORG](http://WWW.ASTHEALTH.ORG)**



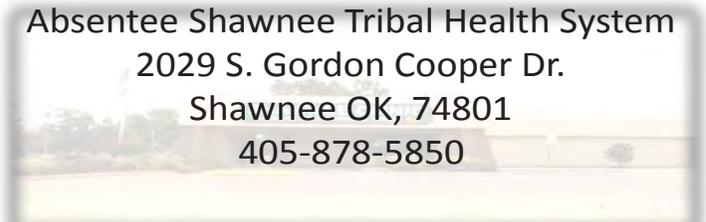
**Little Axe Health Center**

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System  
15951 Little Axe Drive  
Norman OK, 70326  
405-447-0300



**Shawnee Clinic**

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System  
2029 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.  
Shawnee OK, 74801  
405-878-5850





# February 2015

2% milk served daily

Menu subject to change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Chef Salad w/ turkey Chez, eggs Crackers/Fruit	3 Chili Chez, Onions Crackers Cake	4 Chicken Strips Mashed Pot/Gravy Green Beans Mixed Fruit	5 Vegetable Soup Cold cut Sandwich Lett, Tom Pears	6 English Muffin Sausage Patty Scrambled Eggs	7
8	9 Chicken Breast Wild Rice Tossed Salad* Applesauce	10 Meatloaf Mashed Pot/Gravy Veggies Pineapples	11 Smoked Sausage Cabbage Red Potato Pudding	12 BBQ Sandwich Pickles n Onions Chips Fluff	13 Pancakes Bacon Fruit	14 
15	16 AST Complex Closed 	17 Tuna Salad Sandwich Lett, Tom Chips/Mand. Oranges	18 Goulash Squash Bread Pears	19 Chicken Stir Fry Veggies Egg Roll Fortune Cookie	20 Biscuit Sausage Gravy Scrambled Eggs	21
22	23 Salisbury Steak Mashed Pot/Gravy Veggies Peaches	24 Beans Steak fries Cornbread Crisp	25 Chicken Patty Sandwich Mac. Salad Chips/Jell-O	26 Beef Tips & Noodles Veggies Cookie	27 Cereal Boiled Egg Sausage Patty	28

NOT GOING TO BE HOME!!!  
CALL AND LET US KNOW AT 405-275-4030 EXT 169  
OR NOTIFY YOUR DRIVER

LUNCH SERVED MONDAY-THURSDAY 11AM TO 1PM  
BREAKFAST SERVED FRIDAYS 9AM TO 11AM

Wow its February!!! We hope everyone is keeping warm and in good health during this winter season.



February 14,



February 16,



AST Complex will be closed. No meals will be served or delivered this day.

Please keep warm, hydrated and watch the news for closing of the complex due to weather:

**AST Weather Policy:**

- Prior to normal starting time it will be announced on one of the local television or radio channels that the Absentee Shawnee Tribe is open and/or closed based on weather severity. The Governor, and/or designee, will report to these channels: Channel 4, 5, 9, Fox 25; Radio-KTOK 1000; KOKC 1520AM. Formerly the policy has been that when schools in Little Axe and Shawnee are closed then employees would be allowed administrative leave. This policy seeks to clarify on procedures and gives the decision making process back to the Tribe.
- On days when weather conditions worsen as the day progresses, the Governor or another member of the Executive Committee may decide to close early. In such cases, a decision and an announcement will be made through email to all employees.

# Absentee Shawnee Housing



## Introduction

The information being provided is to help families understand what programs are offered through the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority and how to apply. Our programs target low income Native American families who need housing assistance. The programs currently being provided are Rental, Lease to Own and Down Payment Assistance.

## Application Process

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

The application will also require documents to be attached in order to complete the process; which are:

- ↳ Photo I.D.
- ↳ CDIB Card
- ↳ Social Security Card
- ↳ Birth Certificate
- ↳ Marriage License/Divorce Decree/Custody Decree (if applicable)
- ↳ Declaration of Section 214 (form is included with application)

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

## Waiting List

A letter will be mailed out once your application has been approved notifying you of the date your name was placed on the waiting list. It is very important to stay in contact and notify the Housing Authority anytime changes occur in income, household composition, or contact information. In the event that your name is next in being offered a home; you will be notified by letter or phone. Annual Updates required to remain on the waiting list.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Eligibility for each program has income requirements; please be sure and review the current income limits on your application. We will not be able to process your application if you do not meet the income criteria.



## Low Rent Housing

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

In the Shawnee area, the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority has two elderly/handicap communities. These areas have fully and partial handicap accessible units. A laundry facility is located in the community for tenant use only.

Tenants in our rental program are provided services through our Maintenance Department; if any maintenance issues should arise you would contact the Housing Authority and a crew member will come and do the repair.



## Lease to Own Program

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

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

## Down Payment Assistance Program

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

### Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant must be eighteen (18) years of age
- Must be Native American enrolled in a Federally Recognized Tribe, with priority given to enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma to apply
- Applicant must qualify as a low-income family, and must meet minimum income guidelines
- Applicant must be first-time homeowner
- Primary residences only
- Must be approved for home loan
- Dwelling Unit must pass environmental inspection

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

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



## NEW RENTAL HOMES AVAILABLE!

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



**Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority**  
107 North Kimberly  
P.O. Box 425  
Shawnee, OK 74802-0425  
Phone (405)-273-1050  
Fax (405)275-0678

## Down Payment Assistance Program for Over Income AST Tribal Members

This program is to provide Over-Income enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribal members only with affordable homeownership financing opportunities. The Over-Income Down Payment Assistance will include payment of reasonable closing cost associated with the first mortgage and the ASHA's second mortgage with the remainder of the money going toward the down payment. The maximum amount for each homeowner is \$5000.00.

### Eligibility

- Applicant must be eighteen (18) years of age
- Must be enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe with gross incomes over 100% of the median income adjusted for family size to apply
- Applicant must be first-time homeowner
- Primary residences only
- Property must be located within the state of Oklahoma
- Must be approved for home loan
- Dwelling Unit must pass all Housing Quality Standards inspection as well as Environmental Inspection

For more Program Information, please contact Kimberly Vermillion at Ext. 260.

**The Housing Authority of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe is seeking proposals for Architectural and Engineering services for the construction of twelve new homes in a Planned Unit Development in the City of Shawnee, Oklahoma. Indian Preference will be given according to NAHASDA regulations and 24 CFR 1000.52; but Proposals will be open to all vendors. Other preferences will be given to minority owned or woman owned businesses as well as services provided, length of time that the company has been in business, references, portfolios and if the company has worked with HUD funded projects or Native American entities. Proposals will be available on January 26, 2015 and will be due back in our office by February 27, 2015 at 3:00pm. Late submissions will not be considered unless an insufficient number of proposals are received.**

***If you are interested in submitting a proposal for this project, please contact Bob Sheppard, Development Manager, at (405) 273-1050, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.***

Dell recommends Windows.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe



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- Windows 8.1
- 4GB\* memory\* & 500GB\* hard drive
- 13.3" HD touch display included

Use \$50 off \$499.99 or more coupon\* code: **WVZLQ4D\$XG6QWL**

Offer valid until 1/30 at 7 a.m. EST



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Monumental savings just for you.

Members can save up to 32% during the Presidents Day Presale.

Mark your calendar: February 5, 2015 at 9 a.m. EST



Offers valid only in the US.

All are subject to approval acceptance by Dell. Offers subject to change, not combinable with all other offers. Taxes, shipping, handling and other fees apply. Valid for U.S. Dell Member Purchase Program/Dell University new purchases only. Dell reserves the right to cancel orders arising from pricing or other errors. \*Market Value is an estimate based on industry data such as published and as-sold prices for the same or comparable products in a survey of major online and/or offline retailers. \*System Memory and Graphics: GB means 1 billion bytes and TB equals 1 trillion bytes; significant system memory may be used to support graphics, depending on system memory size and other factors. \*Hard drives: GB means 1 billion bytes and TB means 1 trillion bytes; actual capacity varies with preloaded material and operating environment and will be less. \*Dell Coupon Offers: Offers valid 8/1/2014 7:00am - 1/30/15 7:00 a.m. EST until redeemed or while supplies last, whichever comes first. Coupons are good with select other offers, but not with other coupons. Coupons are valid on select order codes. Offers do not apply to, and are not available with, systems or items purchased through refurbished items or spare parts. Purchase limit of 3 items per order. Not valid for resellers and/or online auctions. \*Promotional eGift Card: Arrives separately from purchase, typically in 10-20 days from ship date via email; expires in 90 days (except where prohibited by law). Terms and conditions apply. See Dell.com/giftcard/promoterms. \*Rewards are provided in the form of a promotional code. 10% back in rewards valid only on purchases using Dell Preferred Account and Dell Advantage Loyalty Program. 5% back in rewards valid on all other Dell Advantage purchases. Bose products only eligible for 5% rewards with Dell Advantage. Rewards arrive separately from purchase, typically in 10-20 days from ship date via email; expires in 90 days (except where prohibited by law). Terms and conditions apply. Dell.com/rewardterms. \*Second Business Day Shipping: Not available on televisions 40" or larger. Trademarks: Inspiron is a trademark of Dell, Inc. 158148

<sup>Δ</sup>DELL PREFERRED ACCOUNT (DPA): Offered to U.S. residents by WebBank, who determines qualifications for and terms of credit. Promotion eligibility varies and is determined by WebBank. Taxes, shipping, and other charges are extra and vary. Payments equal 3% of your balance or \$20, whichever is greater. Minimum Interest Charge is \$2.00. Rates range from 19.99% - 29.99% variable APR, as of 11/30/2014, depending on creditworthiness.

# RESOLUTIONS

## EXECUTIVE

RESOLUTION NO. E-AS-2014-56

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

REGULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 17, 2014

A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA ESTABLISHING HOLIDAYS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015.

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to uphold its constitutional responsibility to the Tribe and its membership as the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, the authorities granted by this Resolution shall be continuing until and unless rescinded by separate action of this body; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to set policies for the day-to-day operations of the Tribal Government; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee formally approves the following list of holidays for calendar year 2015:

Resolution No. E-AS-2014-56  
December 17, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

### 2015 Holiday Schedule

DATE	HOLIDAY
Thursday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, January 19	Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.
Monday, February 16	Groundhog Day
Monday, April 6	Good Friday
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day
Friday, July 3	Independence Day
August, 2015 - TBD	Absentee Shawnee Day
Monday, September 7	Labor Day
Wednesday, November 11	Veteran's Day
Thursday & Friday November 26 & 27	Thanksgiving
Thursday & Friday December 24 & 25	Christmas

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby establishes Holidays for Calendar Year 2015 as set out herein.

### CERTIFICATION

We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No. E-AS-2014-56 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on December 17, 2014, there being a quorum present, by vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Yes, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe's vote, if required, N/A.

*Edwina Butler-Wolfe*  
EDWINA BUTLER-WOLFE, Governor

*Vera M. Dawsey*  
VERA M. DAWSEY, Secretary



A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AUTHORIZING THE ENACTMENT OF THE BUSINESS SITE LEASING ORDINANCE FOR FINAL APPROVAL.

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to uphold its constitutional responsibility to the Tribe and its membership as the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, the authorities granted by this Resolution shall be continuing until and unless rescinded by separate action of this body; and

WHEREAS, due to changes in federal law governing leases on tribal lands the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is diligently pursuing the United States Department of the Interior's approval of the Business Site Leasing Ordinance, as provided pursuant to the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Home Ownership Act of 2012 ("HEARTH Act") which authorizes federally recognized Indian tribes to

pass tribal leasing ordinance to approve the leasing of tribal lands provided those tribal ordinances are approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and WHEREAS, on July 28, 2014, at a duly called meeting, the Executive Committee passed Resolution No. E-AS-2014-37 approving and enacting an earlier version of the Business Site Leasing Ordinance for review by the Department of Interior; and WHEREAS, the Business Site Leasing Ordinance requires Executive Committee enactment and Secretarial approval to be effective; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution does not conflict with any Tribal or federal law or require approval of any other Tribal entity.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee has reviewed the Business Site Leasing Ordinance and hereby approves and enacts the Business Site Leasing Ordinance for final approval by the Secretary of the Interior. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Committee hereby authorizes Governor Butler-Wolfe to execute and deliver the Business Site Leasing Ordinance to the United States Department of the Interior for review and final approval pursuant to the HEARTH Act.

### CERTIFICATION

We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No. E-AS-2015-01 to be true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on January 21, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Absent, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe's vote, if required, N/A.

A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE CHANGE IN THE TRIBE'S INSURANCE PROVIDER FROM ALLSTATE INSURANCE, CO. TO AFLAC CONTINENTAL AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO COMPLETE THE GROUP MASTER APPLICATION (AS ATTACHED) AND TO TAKE ALL OTHER NECESSARY ACTIONS TO EFFECTUATE SUCH CHANGE.

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to uphold its constitutional responsibility to the Tribe and its membership as the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, the authorities granted by this Resolution shall be continuing until and unless rescinded by separate action of this body; and

WHEREAS, from time to time it is necessary to modify the policies and procedures that govern the Tribe and its employees; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee believes it in the best interest of the Tribe, as an employer, to change its current insurance provider from Allstate Insurance Co., to Aflac Continental American Insurance Company.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby authorizes and approves the change in the Tribe's Insurance Provider from Allstate Insurance Co. to Aflac Continental American Insurance Company, and further authorizes the Human Resources Department to complete the group Master Application (as attached) and to take all other necessary actions to effectuate such change.

### CERTIFICATION

We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No. E-AS-2015-02 to be true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on January 21, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Absent, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe's vote, if required, N/A.

A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA GRANTING VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS TO ARTHUR RALPH YONES.

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to uphold its constitutional responsibility to the Tribe and its membership as the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, provisions exist in the Enrollment Ordinance for relinquishment of membership with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2014 the above named individual submitted to the enrollment department a notarized voluntary relinquishment request in writing; and

### ENROLLED NAME

### DOB

Arthur Ralph Yones

07/23/1963

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby grants voluntary relinquishment of membership of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to Arthur Ralph Yones effective the date the relinquishment was received by the enrollment staff.

### CERTIFICATION

We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No. E-AS-2015-03 to be true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on January 21, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Absent, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe's vote, if required, N/A.

A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING AND ACCEPTING TITAN RUSSELL FENNER, MARCOS ANTONIO VELEZ JR, NORA JANE MORTON, ALEXANDER CHARLES MCLOVIN, KEELEY MARIE HALE, TALIAH MARIE HALE, MARC ANTHONY JOHNSON, ERIK AUSTIN WALLEY, DALLAS JEFFREY WALLEY, JAMIE CHERYL SHELTON, ELYSIA ROSE MASQUAS, JOSIAH NICHOLAS JACKSON, KELLY ANNE SUSKO, AND KEVIN CHARLES MEGYESI AS ENROLLED MEMBERS OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA.

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to uphold its constitutional responsibility to the Tribe and its membership as the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, the following fourteen individuals have applied for membership in the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the above named individuals have satisfactorily met the Constitutional enrollment requirements of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that, research has been conducted, and to the best of our knowledge, these individuals are not enrolled with another tribe; and

WHEREAS, the appropriate documentation required for this action is on file in the Enrollment section of the Absentee Shaw-nee Tribal Secretary's office.

### NAME OF ENROLLEE DOB DEGREE OF BLOOD

Titan Russell Fenner	05/21/2013	1/8
Marcos Antonio Velez, Jr.	11/13/2013	1/8
Nora Jane Morton	05/21/2014	1/8
Alexander Charles Melovin	03/04/2014	1/8
Keeley Marie Hale	03/23/2014	1/8
Taliyah Marie Hale	02/14/2013	1/8
Marc Anthony Johnson	02/17/1977	1/8
Erik Austin Walley	10/06/2000	1/8
Dallas Jeffrey Walley	12/10/2004	1/8
Jamie Cheryl Shelton	06/25/1974	1/4
Elysia Rose Masquas	02/05/2014	1/8
Josiah Nicholas Jackson	08/10/2014	23/128
Kelly Anne Susko	08/08/1980	1/8
Kevin Charles Megyesi	08/08/1980	1/8

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby approves and accepts Titan Russell Fenner, Marcos Antonio Velez Jr, Nora Jane Morton, Alexander Charles Mclovin, Keeley Marie Hale, Taliyah Marie Hale, Marc Anthony Johnson, Erik Austin Walley, Dallas Jeffrey Walley, Jamie Cheryl Shelton, Elysia Rose Masquas, Josiah Nicholas Jackson, Kelly Anne Susko, and Kevin Charles Megyesi as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

### CERTIFICATION

We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No. E-AS-2015-04 to be true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on January 21, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Absent, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe's vote, if required, N/A.

A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION OF THE MEMBERSHIP ROLL OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA AT 4105 MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014.

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to uphold its constitutional responsibility to the Tribe and its membership as the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma met in a Regular Meeting the 21st day of January 2015 there being a quorum present; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Secretary has reviewed the accuracy of the Tribal Membership roll as of December 31, 2014 which includes 23 Deceased, 2 Relinquished.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby authorizes and approves the certification of the Membership Roll of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as being accurate and correct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the membership roll contains only names of those persons who were determined to meet the requirements of enrollment and therefore, enrolled pursuant to the provisions of the Absentee Shawnee Constitution and By-laws.

### CERTIFICATION

We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No. E-AS-2015-05 to be true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on January 21, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Absent, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe's vote, if required, N/A.

# HEALTH SYSTEM UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2015

February is American Heart Month and to build healthier lives, learn about risks for heart disease and stroke and stay “heart healthy”. Work with your health care team. Get a checkup at least once each year, even if you feel healthy. A doctor, nurse, or other health care professional can check for conditions that put you at risk for cardiovascular disease, such as high blood pressure and diabetes—conditions that can go unnoticed for too long.

The Same Day Clinic in Public Health has been in operation a little over a month now and it has been busy seeing a significant patient load. The Health System is pleased to be able to provide this service and take care of your non-emergent illnesses or injury needs. Below is some additional Same Day Clinic information that may assist you if you shall need the service:

Location: Same Day Clinic/Public Health  
15951 Little Axe Drive Norman, OK 73026  
Days: Monday through Friday  
Hours: 8 pm to 5 pm  
Phone: (405) 447-0300  
Eligibility: Everyone who meets current eligibility criteria

In my last month’s article, I had made mention of an extended hour’s clinic at the old Little Axe Clinic building. I am proud to announce around early to mid-February, we will be opening an AST *PlusCare* Clinic! We will be having a ribbon cutting ceremony on February 17, 2015. Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday 5 PM to 9 PM and on Saturday and Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM. This after hour’s service will be for those who are AI/AN (Indian Health Service eligible) who have an acute illness and injury. If you shall need this service, please be sure to bring your identification card(s), CDIB and insurance coverage card(s). The healthcare team has been working diligently to open this site and I would like to thank each and every employee who has made this a possibility, along with the support of the AST Health Boards and the Executive Committee.

On another note, in the past year we’ve more than doubled our patient encounters while improving our patient satisfaction scores. Please take the time to fill out a Patient Satisfaction Survey and let us know what you like or what we need to change.

The December Health Employee of the Month was Ms. Janice Brown, MLT, Lab. The December Health Team Award was the Same Day Clinic staff: Ms. Carolyn Stacy, NP; Ms. Joyce Gelino, LPN; and Ms. Catherine Wright with Patient Registration. Our Special Leadership Recognition Award went to Mr. John Soap, Behavioral Health. Special recognition was provided to Mrs. Darlene Perryman, CHPS, HIM, as the Employee of the Year for Health System for 2014. We are extremely proud of our outstanding star performers and thank them all for their efforts in 2014. The health system, staff, and providers all look forward to serving the tribe into 2015 and the future!

A few other key bits of information for this month:

**AST/Serviced Health System Native American Veterans:** If you are currently receiving services with the area VA Medical Center, please contact us today to set up an appointment for getting your services here with the AST Health System. We have been approved to begin our program within the health system to bill the VA now for services you previously received, or currently receive, with the VA. Please contact a Patient Benefit Advisor (PBA) today to discuss at (405) 447-0300. Don’t miss our two upcoming Veterans’ enrollment events at Little Axe Clinic on Wednesday, April 22nd and at the Shawnee Clinic on Wednesday, May 20th to enroll and explore your VA benefits! VHA Health and VBA Benefit enrollment specialists will be available to see if you qualify for benefits or help you explore your current VA benefit offerings.

**If you need CPR training,** please contact the AST Health System’s Public Health Office at (405) 447-0300 for scheduling and training opportunities.

**The interactive phone menu for the Contract Health Services (CHS)** helps patients access the most appropriate service provider by calling (405) 701-7951. This feature will speed up access to the patients seeking services and follow-up to their care.

**The AST Health System continues to improve its Customer Service.** The Customer Service Line is (405) 701-7623. Please direct all complaints or compliments to this line for appropriate attention and/or response. Please be assured that this is the best way to have each situation addressed, with consistent updates from our Health Staff. After the investigations of all issues are complete, our Health Director or a Clinic Administrator will personally contact you with updates, decisions, or question pertaining to your case.

**The AST Anti-Bullying Prevention “HOTLINE”** is (405) 701-7987 during work hours 8-5, M-F, and for added confidentiality or after hours you may contact Mrs. Dara Thorpe at either (405) 701-7992 or via cell (405) 481-0815 to start intervention assistance for tribal youth. If it is an emergency or someone is at risk of harming themselves or others contact 911.

**The Affordable Care Act Decision Tool** continues to be a valuable tool with helping you decide what you need to do for compliance with the act. Please see the ACA tab at the ASTHA Health Program’s Website: <http://www.asthealth.org/aca> (Please visit our site today to find out what you need to do to protect yourself and your family)!

**IRS Releases Tax Form and Instructions for Tribal Exemption from Individual Shared Responsibility Payment:** Shortly after the New Year, the IRS finalized and released Health Coverage Exemptions 2014 Form 8965 and instructions for healthcare exemptions from the Individual Shared Responsibility Payment. Native Americans who only utilized Indian healthcare services in 2014 and who do not have their Native American Exemption Number at time of tax filing may self-attest through their tax preparer; or if you prepare your own tax return, you may self-attest on Part III of Form 8965. Visit <http://www.asthealth.org> to access the form and instructions or contact a Patient Benefit Advocate at Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic for more information.

**Pharmacy After Hours Process:** After hours and weekends/holidays, did you know you can go to Walgreens in either Shawnee or Norman, and have a five-day limited fill on prescriptions? All you have to do is submit your prescription, identify yourself with your AST CDIB Card and other appropriate ID, and then they will fill your prescription! Upon the first workday, you can have the remaining balance of your prescriptions transferred to your pharmacy in either Shawnee or LittleAxe, and they will fill your remaining balance. This is an emergency convenience for your benefit and to save the contract health dollars as well, so please be aware of this and other benefits your tribe provides you.

**Ebola Public Health Messages and Updates:** You can access this up to date information today on the AST Health System webpage: <http://www.asthealth.org>. Breaking news and information from the CDC and OSDH are located on our webpage along with other pertinent information for you to protect yourself and your loved ones.

- **Social Media:** You can follow the AST Health System on Facebook and receive the most current messages and announcements regarding your tribal health care.



February is American Heart Month and we should all take steps to ensure we know the health of our hearts. Some ways you can improve the health of your own heart are to control your weight, exercise, eat a heart healthy diet, quit using tobacco, get quality sleep, and see your healthcare provider for regular health screenings.

Excess weight can lead to conditions that increase your chances of heart disease such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and diabetes. Take steps to manage your weight such as - light exercise for at least 30 minutes a day. Walking is one of the easiest and cheapest ways (it does not cost anything to walk!) to increase exercise and manage weight. Reducing your weight by just 5 to 10 percent can help decrease your blood pressure, lower your blood cholesterol level, and reduce your risk of diabetes.

Eating a heart healthy diet will also lead to improved heart health. Make it a goal to eat the recommended serving of fruits and vegetables each day and also eat whole grains. You should also make sure to get enough quality sleep each night. Most adults need 7 to 9 hours of sleep each night. People who don't get enough sleep have a higher risk of obesity, high blood pressure, heart attack, diabetes, and depression. Visit your doctor for health screenings-knowing some important numbers such as blood pressure and cholesterol levels can give you and your doctor a picture of your heart health. A FREE Heart Health Summit, 2015 Go Red for Native Women, is being held in Norman, OK on Friday, February 20, 2015. There will be FREE heart health screenings, health presentations, FREE breakfast and lunch provided. To register for the summit call (405) 593-6931 and speak with Rachel Crawford.

Another great way to improve your heart health is to quit using tobacco. The Public Health Nursing Department will be starting a tobacco cessation program, Second Wind, in the near future. The program will consist of 6 classes held every 2 weeks. We are still in the planning stage but will start taking interested participant information. So, if you or anyone you know would like to participate in the program please call the Public Health Nurse at (405) 447-0300 to get signed up.

## Women's Health

**Little Axe Health Center**  
Women's Health Services  
Located in the Primary Health Care



### Providing & Promoting Preventative Health for All Women

**Services include:**

- Adult immunizations
- Breast & Pelvic Exams
- Mammogram Referral
- Bone Density Studies

**Information about:**

- Health Promotion
- Quitting Smoking
- Misuse of Alcohol and Drugs
- Nutrition
- Physical Fitness and Exercise
- Controlling Stress and Violence
- Prevention of Pregnancy
- AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Women's Health Services  
Little Axe Health Center  
15951 Little Axe Drive • Norman, OK 73026  
405.447.0300 • Fax 405.701.7605  
[www.asthealth.org](http://www.asthealth.org)



# FROM THE ELECTION COMMISSION:

## The filing period for Elective Offices in 2015.

A tribal member may file for office, January 1 to January 10 (excluding weekends and holidays.) Hours to file are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon) and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Potential candidates please consult the Election Ordinance for the procedures and qualifications when running for elective office.

## The following positions will be open for the Elections to be held in 2015.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Position	Filing Fees	Term
Governor	\$500.00	Two (2) Years
Tribal Secretary	\$500.00	Two (2) Years

### ELECTION COMMISSION

Position	Filing Fees	Term
Deputy Commissioner	\$125.00	Three (3) Years
Commission Member #1	\$125.00	Three (3) Years

## Tribal Members who filed for elective office:

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### GOVERNOR

Sabrina Little Axe  
 Jeff Gibson  
 B. Edwina Butler-Wolfe  
 Ricky Little Axe  
 Kathy Deere

#### SECRETARY

Sacha Almanza  
 Leonard Longhorn  
 John Raymond Johnson  
 Vera M. (Gibson) Dawsey  
 Twyla Parker  
 Paulette Blanchard

### ELECTION COMMISSION

#### DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Augustine Johnson

#### COMMISSION MEMBER #1

No One Filed

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  
(Print Name)

Voter of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe on or before March 21, 2015. I cannot physically be present to cast my Vote at the **March 21, 2015 Primary Election**, therefore, I am requesting an Absentee Ballot be mailed to me at the following address.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (middle) (maiden) (last)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

CDIB#: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

All **REQUESTS** must be returned to the Election Commission by the deadline of  
**March 1, 2015**

#### 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.  
 This form may be duplicated for your convenience.

### ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY

Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved: \_\_\_\_\_

If Disapproved (reason): \_\_\_\_\_

Denial Letter Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Ballot Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Election Commission/Representative

# FEBRUARY IS TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Every year nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner. And 1 in 3 adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner.

The following is a healthy relationship quiz. Answer the questions below to see if you are in a healthy relationship.

## The Person I'm With (Often, Sometimes or Never)

1. Is very supportive of things I do and encourages me to try new things.
2. Likes to listen when I have something on my mind.
3. Talks to me when they're unhappy with something in the relationship.
4. Is willing to compromise.
5. Understands we have separate interests and can spend time apart.
6. Is mean or rude to my friends.
7. Criticizes or distracts me when I'm doing things that don't involve them.
8. Gets extremely jealous or possessive.
9. Accuses me of flirting or cheating when I'm not.
10. Constantly checks up on me or makes me check in.
11. Breaks or throws things when we fight.
12. Threatens to destroy my things.
13. Tries to control what I do, who I see, what I wear, how I look or who I talk to.
14. Makes me feel nervous or like I'm "walking on eggshells."
15. Blames me for problems, puts me down, calls me names or criticizes me.
16. Makes me feel like no one else would want me.
17. Threatens to hurt themselves, me, my friends, pets, or family.
18. Grabs, pushes, shoves, chokes, punches, slaps, holds me down, throws things, or hurts me in some way.
19. Yells, screams, or humiliates me in front of other people.
20. Pressures, guilts, or forces me into having sex or going farther than I want to.

## Scoring

Questions 1-5: Often: -5, Sometimes: -3, Never: 5

Questions 6-10: Often: 5, Sometimes: 1, Never: 0

Questions 11-15: Often: 10, Sometimes: 5, Never: 0

Questions 16-20: Often: 50, Sometimes: 25, Never: 0

Now that you're finished and have your score, the next step is to find out what it means. Simply take your total score and see which of the categories below apply to you.

### Score: 0 or Less Points

You got a negative score or a zero? Don't worry -- it's a good thing! It sounds like your relationship is on a pretty healthy track. Maintaining healthy relationships takes some work -- keep it up! Remember, while you may have a healthy relationship, it's possible a friend of yours does not. If you know someone who is in an abusive relationship, find out how you can help them.

### Score: 1-5 Points

If you scored one to five points, you might be noticing a couple of things in your relationship that are unhealthy, but it doesn't necessarily mean they are warning signs. It's still a good idea to keep an eye out and make sure there isn't an unhealthy pattern developing.

The best thing to do is to talk to your partner and let them know what you like and don't like. Encourage them to do the same. Remember, communication is always important when building a healthy relationship. It's also good to be informed so you can recognize the different types of abuse.

### Score: 6-10 Points

If you scored six to ten points, it sounds like you may be seeing some warning signs and your relationship may be unhealthy. Don't ignore these red flags. Something that starts small can grow much worse over time. No relationship is perfect -- it takes work! But in a healthy relationship you won't find abusive behaviors.

### Score: 11-50 Points

If you scored eleven to fifty points, you are definitely seeing warning signs and may be in an abusive relationship. Remember, abuse is not just physical. Learn about the different types of abuse and how to spot the warning signs.

### Score: More than 50 Points

If you scored more than 50 points, it is important to consider taking steps to ensure your safety. A trained advocate is available to work with you to create a safety plan tailored to your situation, and focused on keeping you safe whether you choose to remain in the relationship or not.

You don't have to deal with this alone. We can help. Everyone deserves a healthy relationship.

For questions regarding Teen Dating Violence you may contact Melissa Lopez at 405-432-9657 or visit the following websites:

[www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org) [www.breakthecycle.org](http://www.breakthecycle.org)

## INDIAN CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT

### Thanksgiving Food Drive

The ICW Department was able to help over 25 families during our Thanksgiving Food Drive. ICW was able to provide donated turkeys and food baskets to three families who were being served by the AST Domestic Violence Department. ICW was also able to help some of our Tribal Elders during this Thanksgiving holiday by providing food boxes to them.

ICW would like to send a big thank you to:

- AST Casino and their employees
- AST employees at Little Axe Clinic and Shawnee Tribal Complex for all their hard work and dedication in helping families in need this Thanksgiving season by donating food items
- The Casino for their donation of turkeys
- John and Rhonda for all their help in separating and boxing food items for our food baskets

In a world that is facing the issues it is today, it is good to know as AST employees we are willing to do what we can do for others who may not be as fortunate as ourselves.

### Christmas Angel Tree for AST Foster Children

The ICW Department would like to send a big thank you to all employees who donated toys during Christmas to our department and helped us assist our foster care children and other children in need this Christmas season. The abundance of employee participation helped us to help 28 children this holiday season.

# AST Education Department: Big Jim Youth Awards

We will begin taking applications for 2014-15 Big Jim Youth Awards on January 1, 2015. High school seniors of both genders within the 50 United States are eligible to apply for these awards for the 2014-2015 school year. Applications will be accepted from **January 1 to March 31, 2015** by US mail or email, official transcripts must be mailed. The official application form will be available in January 2015 at [www.astribe.com](http://www.astribe.com) under the Education Department. The \$1,000.00 award is in the form of a scholarship to the college or university where the award recipient will attend for the fall 2015 semester. The scholarship must be used for the fall 2015 semester.

We will begin accepting applications for the following awards:

- **Big Jim Academic Achievement Award (Male and Female)**
- **Big Jim Athlete of the Year (Male and Female)**

Individuals are encouraged to nominate deserving high school seniors. You may nominate yourself. Please refer to the application for required documents. Eligible nominations will be judged by a panel of (non-AST) experts assembled specifically for this purpose. The intent is to bring together an unbiased group of experts to evaluate the applicants in an impartial and unbiased environment. Their decisions are final with respect to all matters concerning these awards. Awards will be announced in May 2015.

We encourage ALL Absentee Shawnee High School Seniors to apply.

Award recipients will be recognized as the 2014-2015 Big Jim Academic Achievement Award winner or the Big Jim Athlete of the Year. In addition to this recognition the award recipients will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship to be used towards their education and the advancement of their career.

Questions on these awards program should be addressed to:

Absentee Shawnee Tribe  
 Education Department  
 c/o Tresha Spoon  
 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive  
 Shawnee, OK 74801  
 405.275.4030 Ext 121  
[youthaward@astribe.com](mailto:youthaward@astribe.com)

## STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (LAST) (FIRST) (MI)

Enrollment #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (STREET) (CITY) (STATE) (ZIP)

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Guidance Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (FIRST) (LAST)

All Absentee Shawnee High School Seniors are eligible and encouraged to apply.

Documents to be included with application:

- Official High School Transcript
- Letter of Recommendation (Educator/Coach)
- Tribal Enrollment Card (copy)
- Resume of Accomplishments and Activities
- 500-word Essay: How do you feel your accomplishments (knowledge/training) will influence your future?
- Video (optional): no more than 10 minutes in length

# The Absentee Shawnee Health System is pleased to announce that plans are being made to open an Extended Hours Health Clinic in 2015.

Coming soon!  
2015

*The Extended Hours Health Clinic will be located in the "old" Little Axe Clinic in the Casino Parking lot  
15702 East HWY 9  
Norman, OK 73026*

Coming soon!  
2015

The Extended Hours Health Clinic will be similar to an "AM/PM" clinic for acute illness or injury needs. The clinic will be staffed with a Physician, Physician Assistant, or a Nurse Practitioner. This acute needs clinic is designed to allow increased access to care for our patients after the regular Primary Care clinic is closed and on weekends. If you have an emergent condition such as chest pain or suspected stroke, please call 911 or go to the nearest ER. \*The Extended Hours Health Clinic will not be equipped for emergent care.



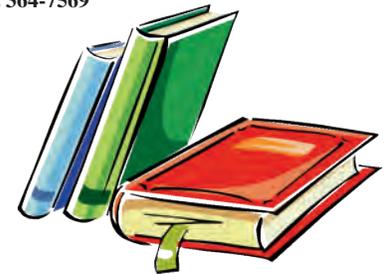
# Tribal Youth Council



**Location:** AST Complex, Building 1  
**Date/Time:** Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Meetings vary in length, but usually last at least an hour.  
**Participants /Ages:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The Youth Council is open to all students in these grades.  
**Transportation:** Parents will be responsible for bringing and picking up their child.  
**What is it? :** The Youth Council is a way for students from the surrounding AST communities to work together and bring to light things they need help with in their school. It is also a way for students to work and learn how they can create a difference for the Tribe and their own community. We explore different prevention topics, volunteer in the community, and also explore further educational options.



For any questions please contact:  
Tresha Spoon at 275-4030 Ext. 6242  
Blake Goodman at 364-7569



# After School Program 2014/2015

Come join us at the AST Resource Center!!!

- ✚ Free tutoring in all subjects!
- ✚ Games and activities!
- ✚ Delinquency prevention!
- ✚ Healthy lifestyles!



And much more!



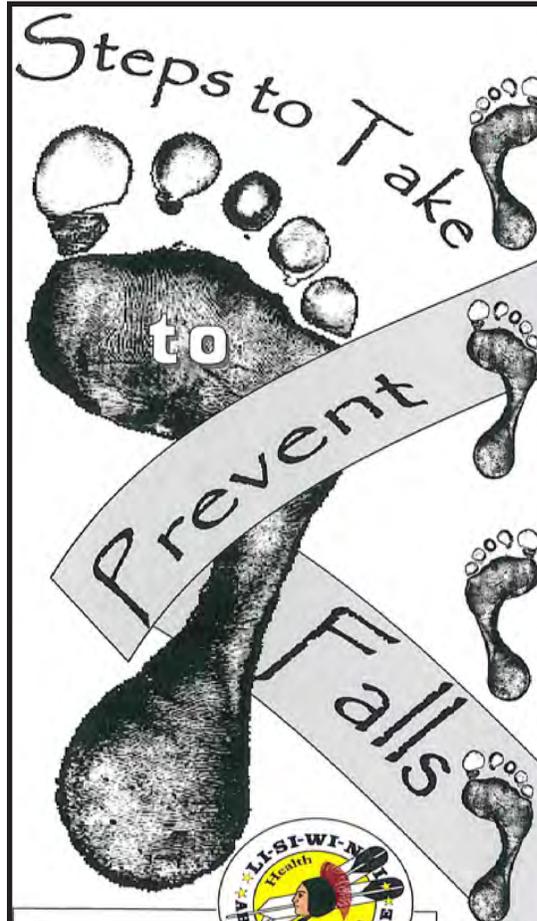
**OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

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

**Duration:** Starts September 2nd and will run through the school year.

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

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



**1st- Get Moving (Exercise!!)** By not exercising you weaken your muscles increasing the likelihood of a fall to occur. 30 minutes daily of a low impact exercise will help this.

**2nd- Medications (Check with your doctor!!)** Some medications or a combination of medications can cause dizziness increasing the chance of a fall.

**3rd- Vision (Keep your eyes healthy!!)** Poor vision makes it harder to get around safely. Keep your yearly vision checks and wear glasses or contacts to prevent falls.

**4th- Remove Home Hazards!!** Half of all falls happen at home. Remove clutter from walkways and identify other fall hazards like poor lighting to keep walking safely.

**5th- Have a home evaluation!!** Falling is not a normal part of aging! It is a combination of many factors, have your home professionally checked for potential problems.



**Rosie Tall Bear**  
Injury Prevention Coordinator

Contact me for more information or if you suspect you or a loved one is prone to falling.

rtallbear@astribe.com or 701-7601

# FEBRUARY 2015 BIRTHDAYS

Alford, Dianne Susan  
Alford, Laurie Leann  
Alford, Makenzie Raychel  
Alford, Paul Henry  
Almanza, Sacha Blue Renee  
Arellano, Jennifer Lynn  
Argueta, Oneonta Marie  
Armstrong, Dusty Ridge  
Asbridge, Sandra Lilrene  
Atwara, Honey Nicole  
Barnard, Kevin Michael  
Battiest, Phyllis Leeann  
Belden, Florene  
Belden, Lois Little Creek  
Bennett, Blaine Mattingly  
Bennett, Deeann Onahwag  
Berryhill, Valerie Lynn  
Bettelyoun, Amber Dawn  
Bettelyoun, Anthony Bryce  
Bettelyoun, Lea Dawn  
Bittle, Joshua Jacob  
Blanchard Craig, Carolyn Jean  
Blanchard Sr, Leland Dale  
Blanchard, Aaron Gabriel  
Blanchard, Cache Lewis  
Blanchard, Caden Briar  
Blanchard, Charles Eugene  
Blanchard, Joshua James  
Blanchard, Kellice Lee  
Blanchard, Rikki Rechele  
Blanchard, Sierrah Delyn  
Blanchard, Taylor Jordan  
Blanchard, Thurman Leon  
Blanchard, Velma Mae  
Bowles, Melissa Carole  
Boyd, Laura Lynn  
Bread, Charles Michael  
Bread, Dina Adele  
Breeding, Kinsley Reece  
Brokeshoulder, Tammy Lynn  
Brown III, Curtis Jermain  
Brown, Cody Wayne  
Brown, Lisa Renee  
Bryant, Isis Aponi  
Bullen, Myles Robert  
Campbell, Mikayla Jo  
Carlson, Scottina Dakota  
Carnes, Kylee Alea Lynn  
Carr, Adoree Celeste  
Checotah, Eric Wayne  
Cloud, Doris (Elephant)  
Coddington, William Michael

Cooper, Dade Luke Allen  
Copeland, Val Rochelle  
Cottrell, Ryan Thomas  
Cozad, Anastasia E-mah-doh  
Creek-Harjo, Josiah Sage  
Crider, Eric Russell  
Crocker, Dorothea Carolyn  
Csoma, Alexander Attila  
Daugherty, Kenneth  
Daugherty, Mikenna Hope  
Daugherty, Serena Mae  
Davis, Meghan Paige  
De Shazo, Heather Ann  
Deardorff, Cynthia Ann  
Deckard, Dakota Dale  
Deer, Kylee Taryn  
Deer, Michael Neil  
Deere, Adina Ann  
DeLodge, Lena Ruby Rhianna  
DeLodge, Ruby Leigh  
Digilio, Brandin Anthony  
Digilio, Bryon Andrew  
Downs, Camden Blake  
Downs, Cayden James  
Edwards, Kenneth Lee  
Ellis, Austin Chase  
Ellis, Jeremy Michael  
Ellis, Jessica Lyn  
Ellis, Leroy  
Emmons, Brian Ross  
Engledowl, Jasey Belle  
Fenner, Kayana Isabelle  
Ferrell, Ethan Shawn  
Fixico, Stephen Anthony  
Floyd, Jane Elizabeth  
Foreman, Joshua Daniel  
Foreman, Richard Eli  
Frazier, Devon Leanne  
Frazier, Shirley Fern  
Geissler, Stephanie Dayle  
Gibson Jr., Ronald Lewis  
Gibson, Kylakay Virginia  
Gibson, Paige Nycole  
Gibson, Paul Brian  
Gillihan, Deziree Kristyne  
Gilman, Juanita  
Gomez, Wilma Sue  
Goodman, Blake Samuel  
Granstrom, Gayla Sue  
Grass, Wayne  
Hall, Matteson Roi  
Ham, Jerred Mace

Ham, Rhonda Juliene  
Harder, Ruth Ellen  
Harjo, Benjamin Ray  
Harper, Pauline Aileen S.  
Hartfield, Jazlynn Shae  
Harvey, Hally Marie  
Hayes, Donna Kay Elkins  
Hayes, Jocelyn Cynthia Lorene  
Hernandez, Erica Ann  
Herrera, Robert Manuel  
Hibdon, Kendra Nicole  
Hilderbrand, Amy Beth  
Hill, Stephen Allen  
Hood III, Warren Weslyon  
Hood, Dakota Zane  
Hood, Moria Oloizia  
Huntington, Bradford Paul  
Hurst, Joseph Douglas Skinner  
Ibarra, Angel Antonio  
Irvin, Nathaniel Konrad  
Jimerson Jr., Robert  
Jobe, Alexa Lee  
Johnson Jr., Foster Calvin  
Johnson Jr., Mark Benjamin  
Johnson, Cleta Joyce Blanchard  
Johnson, Grayling Wade  
Johnson, Henry Kirby  
Johnson, Jacob Jordan  
Johnson, Mark Benjamin  
Johnson, Michael Jeremy  
Johnson, Pauline Virginia  
Johnson, Rahstin Allyn Sabbestiu  
Johnson, Sandra Kay  
Johnson, Tiffany Sheri  
Johnston, Diana Sue Alford  
Jones III, Timothy Dale  
Jones, Willie Lee  
Judkins, Ashley Ann  
Keith, Andy Ronin  
Kelly, Ryan Michael  
Kickapoo, Derek Anthony  
Kirby, Gage Robert  
Kitchen, Amber Elisabeth  
Knight, Natalie Jean  
Krackenberger, Sharon Lea  
Krejci, Ronald Dylan  
Kupczynski, Joseph Martin  
Lalehparvaran, Ali Jordan  
Laplant, Scotty Alan  
Lasarge, Amos Dewayne  
Lavell, Jade Daniel  
Leath, Mary Loyse  
Lehman, Joenita Leigh  
Lena-Tiger, Camille Dawn  
Lewis, Elain Kay  
Lewis, Pamela Lynn  
Limbaugh, Jodi Kathleen  
Little Axe Eckles, Debra Lynn  
Little Axe Sr., Danny  
Little Axe, Ronald Dean  
Little Charley Jr., Scott  
Little Creek, Larry Dwight  
Littlebear, Brooklyn Shay  
Littlebear, Grant Edwin  
Littlebear, Laura Jan  
Littlecreek, Cynthia Marie  
Littlehead, Gary Lynn  
Longhorn, Avis Elaine  
Longhorn, Lindsey Marie  
Longhorn, Nathan Neil  
Longman, Sasha Mae  
Lowe, Kara Michelle  
Lowe, Taylor Makayla  
Lumpmouth, Wynona Lee  
Maddux, Jonathan Webster Tiger  
Mahardy, Jeffery Andrew  
Mann, Colby Lee Richard  
Markwardt, Ethan Thomas  
Marshall, Denia Kay  
Martinez, Erica Inez  
Martinez, Hayden Loa  
Martinez, Jasmine Consuelo  
Martinez, Shawnee Danielle  
Masquas, Cora Irene  
Masquas, Joshiah Lee

May, Gina Lanette  
McDoulett, John William  
McDowell, Farrell Ramon  
McKane, Sidna Rae Lenec  
McKinney, Ellen Marie  
Medina, Elizabeth Ruth Ann  
Medina, Trinity Lynn Tiger  
Melton, Jaycie Taylor  
Miller, Cari Denise  
Miner, Veda Jorene  
Minesinger, Joshua Brooker  
Minesinger, Seth Wildcat  
Mitchel, Benito Miquel Travis  
Mohawk, Cherokee Cheyenne  
Molina Jr., Charles B.  
Moore, Alexia Saranda  
Moore, Thomas Joseph William Randall  
Morton, Joseph Ohland  
Mount, Glenda Dawn  
Murdock Jr., Steven Alan  
Murdock Sr., Steven Alan  
Musick, Michael Thomas  
Nail, Gregory Thomas  
Novick, River Elaine-Monique  
Odell, Ronnie Lynn  
Owens, Beau Wesley Laine  
Owings, Abigail Rose  
Panther, Lydia Denise  
Panther, Shawn Dell  
Panther-Davis, Tammie Rae  
Parker, John Wendall Gage  
Perez, Tesla Nichole  
Perkins, Miranda Deann  
Perry, Sierra Breanna  
Peter, Kalina Nicole  
Pine, Jeremiah Andrew  
Ponce, Aisaiah Anthony Oscar  
Pyrch, Jesse Kellen  
Quraishi, Ibraheem Bin Khalil  
Raisbeck Jr., David Nathaniel  
Raisbeck, Samantha Storm  
Raisbeck, Samuel Walter  
Ramirez III, Florentino  
Ramirez, Mariah Fay-Ann  
Ramirez, Matias Noah  
Reyes, Isabel Fe  
Richey, Kodi Rae Jolynn  
Ridenour, Sydney Bree  
Riley, Hulbutta Kotcha  
Robbins, Blake Anthony  
Robbins, Taylar Paige  
Robison, Ariana Michelle  
Rolette, Cheryl Lynn  
Rolette, Madison Fox Grant  
Rolette, Madison Joy  
Rowan, Damian Eugene  
Runsabove, Honor Mae  
Sams, Christine Lorraine  
Sanchez, Kianna Paola  
Seber, Peyton Eddie  
Serena, Laveda  
Shawnee, LaNayah JaN'ae  
Sheets, Angela Christy  
Simpson, Christian Jacob  
Simpson, Cody Lee  
Skelly, Shanna Lynn  
Slate, Patricia Ann  
Slayton, Brooke Danielle  
Sloat, Douglas James  
Sloat, Meika Ladon  
Sloat, Newton D  
Smith, Marvin  
Smith, Zackery James  
Snake, Alvin Matthew  
Snake, Kenneth Lee  
Snake, Lewis George  
Snake, Stewart Lancer  
Soap, Sally Clarice  
Solomon, Billie Jean Tiger  
Spoon, Edward Joe  
Spoon, Justin Tyler  
Spoon, Paisley Rennea  
Spybuck, Garland Charles  
Spybuck, Gavan Wayne  
Spybuck, Roberta Ann

Stevenson, Jodean Ann  
Stoudemire, Naviah DeAnne  
Strain, Gerald Tousley  
Stryker, Doyle Chad  
Stryker, Laurel Brad  
Sullivan, Aizah Vanesse  
Sullivan, Marcus Lee  
Sutton Jr., Jeremy Ray  
Switch, Sabrina Lee  
Switch, Sophia Michelle  
Tahah, Barton Dale  
Talton, Dacia Arie  
Talton, Kaydince James  
Taryole, Laura Lee  
Tascier, Sarah Isabelle  
Tello-Faz, Maria delaLuz  
Terrell, Xavier Thomas Jackson  
Thompson, Asher Bryce  
Thorpe IV, George Isaiah  
Thorpe Jr., Edwin James  
Thorpe Lena, Janice Gail  
Thorpe, Edwin James  
Tiger, Kevin Richard Dewayne  
Tiger, Soaryn Edward Matthew  
Tiger, Tammy Cindie Ladawn  
Tiger, Tyler Matthew  
Trussell, Sherry Lynn  
Uchida, Denise Louise  
Uchida, Kevin Micheal  
Valdivia Jr., Enrique  
Vaughn, Dylan Thomas  
Wade, Justin Lee  
Walker, Robert Stanley  
Warrior, Anthony Louis  
Warrior, Pamela Sue  
Washington, Olvie Winston  
Watkins, Destiney Shae  
Watkins, Jayana Laneis  
Watson, Adriana Renae  
Watson, Brent Grynnel  
Watson, Micah Lashaun D.  
Watson, Peyton Deshae  
Wheeler, Emily Anne  
Wheeler, Leah J.  
Whims, Madison Mackenzie  
White, Christopher Alan  
White Thunder, Shelby Lynn  
Whittaker, Caiden Skye  
Whittaker, Joshua Jay W.  
Wiley, Prince John Bowen  
Wilkinson, Kaelynn Rayann  
Williams, Brennan Marie  
Williams, Kaylee Nicole  
Williams, Kevin Bruce  
Williams, Paula Sue  
Williams, Phoenix Winter Ryne  
Wilson Harjo, Reta Marie  
Wilson, Adam Lee  
Wilson, Mariana Danyel  
Wilson, Melvin Wayne  
Wilson, Zelma Jo  
Womack, Che` le Caye  
Wood, Judith A.  
Wood, Ryan Ashley  
Wright, Cynthia Diane  
Yamutewa, Chebon Dale



# HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

To my beautiful daughter  
Barbara Jo Spoon  
I Love you, Mom

Aunt BJ



Your one awesome Aunt.

We couldn't have asked for a cooler one than you!!

Love your Niece & Nephews, Jiliyan & Joplin & Justin

# Justin Tyler



Justin  
Happy 28th Birthday to my eldest son! You're such an awesome guy to have in my life!! I love you more than you know!

Love Mom

JT,

Happy Birthday to our old man of a brother!! We love you to Mars and back!!

Love, lil sister Jiliyan & lil brother Joplin and your "son" Harold

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To my handsome Grandson, Justin Tyler Spoon  
I hope your day is happy I Love you the mostest, Granny

Justin Tyler,

Can't believe it's been 28 years since you came into our lives. I'm extremely proud of you and to call you my nephew also!! Happy Birthday hope its a great one!

Love, Aunt BJ & Chloe Belle

To Our Son Dade Cooper

Happy 15<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday  
to You



February 29th

We Love You!

Love, Mom & Dad



To my oldest,  
corneriest,  
sweetest  
Grandson,  
Robert Bruce  
Alford  
I Love you,  
G-Low



TO MY NEPHEW  
JIMMY DAVID MEEK  
I LOVE YOU,  
YOUR AUNT, SADIE

Sheldon White Thunder

Happy Be-lated Birthday...  
24<sup>th</sup>



From Daelan, Mom, Dad,  
Shelsie,  
Shelby, Justin, and Bryson

Happy 4<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday  
Madison Fox  
Grant Rolette!



With much love,  
Daddy and  
Mommy

And from all of us,  
Happy Birthday!

Happy 42nd Birthday  
- From Sis, Tom,  
Sheldon, Shelby,  
Shelsie, Justin, Daelan,  
& Bryson



Shelby Lynn White  
Thunder.

From - Mom, Dad,  
Sheldon, Shelsie, Daelan,  
Bryson & Justin.



From Sis,  
Tom, Sheldon,  
Shelby, Shelsie,  
Justin, Daelan  
& Bryson

Sister (Barb)



From the get go when we were little and fun, you've been my best friend, you are the ornery one. Now that your Birthday has come and went, I'm wishing you exactly what I've meant You haven't aged a single bit!!

Love Your "way younger" Sister,  
Sherrie D.



## Paulette Blanchard for Tribal Secretary

Greetings relatives, friends, and citizen Shawnees,

My name is **Paulette Blanchard**. Although I did not grow up here my entire youth I did go to school in Shawnee for part of my elementary years and spent summers and holidays with my relatives here.

My mother was Roberta Blanchard, grandfather was Lewis "Big Louie" Blanchard, and great-grandparents were Lee and Cecilia Blanchard. I am Shawnee, Kickapoo, and mixed white.

I would like you all to consider casting your vote for me for **Tribal Secretary** in the upcoming election. I offer to serve our tribe as a professional, educated and ethical Shawnee citizen, putting the tribe's needs ahead of my own. I believe I can offer our community unbiased, educated, and professional decisions that are in the best interest for the tribe both short term and long term. I am willing to work together with Tribal Executive Members and citizens equally with respect and humility.

If elected I hope to progress our tribe forward with sound business ideas and decisions. I have owned and operated as a partner in a business for several years and have ability to lead, or follow as part of a team. I would like to address unethical and illegal practices to protect our Tribe as a whole. I am against segregating our community into fractional groups that divide and makes us weak and vulnerable to our sovereignty being further eroded by outsiders and sometimes our own. By this I mean to explore what can be done to effectively and legally procure our sovereign rights to put land back into trust thus protecting our future as a tribe. I strongly feel that we cannot compete on a state or national level until we address the dysfunction within. We are currently unorganized and waste time and money on things that should never

have gotten this far and I would like the opportunity to remedy this with the input and support from the entire community. I think as a unified Executive Committee we can solve issues that plague our tribe short term and implement solutions that are long term.

I have an Associate in Social Science from Seminole State College, a Bachelors of Art in Indigenous and American Indian Studies from Haskell with focus on federal Indian Law and policy and Tribal government. I have a Masters degree from the University of Oklahoma in Geography and Environmental Sustainability, with focus on community resilience, disaster preparedness and climate variability and weather extremes.

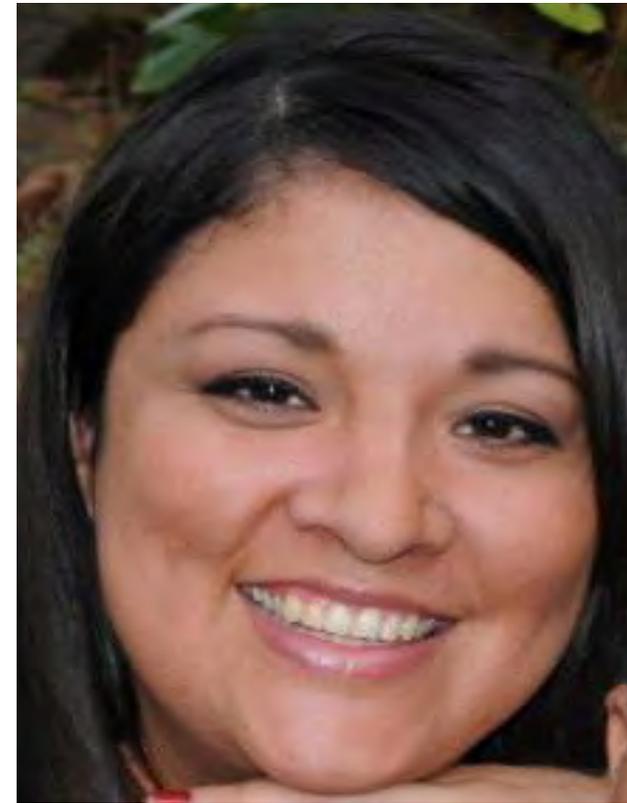
I choose to run for Secretary to give back to the People the knowledge and experience I have. My resume is full of experiences in many things all related to Indian country and the issues Indians deal with. I chaired committees on Indian education, was an officer for American Indian Higher Education Consortium, was Parliamentarian (Sargent at Arms) of Haskell senate. I participated in working groups internationally, nationally and regionally addressing problems in Indian Country ranging from Federal Indian law and policy to Indigenous social and environmental issues.

Through experience I believe in sending educated and qualified people for a job to enhance their professional skills and would encourage our department leaders to attend professional development opportunities for the betterment themselves and the tribe. I believe the office of Secretary would be better served in the office serving the needs of the tribe.

I offer this humbly as I have little to gain from service except the betterment of our community. Our Tribe needs structure, organization, professionalism, and economic growth beyond our casinos and few other activities. We really need internal cohesion and transparency of everything involving our Tribe. I will admit I am strong willed but not stubborn, I have conviction and stand firm by a moral and ethical code. I believe in putting the most educated and qualified person for the job in the job they are skilled at. I believe in listening to Peoples needs and collaborating with others for a solution to issues. I also believe the needs of the whole outweigh the need of the few. I believe in the future of the Shawnee and ask that you allow me the opportunity to serve our community as Secretary of the Tribe.

NiYaWay  
Paulette Blanchard

## Sacha (Mckane) Almanza for Tribal Secretary



Ho'! Nila, yokoma, nahawelamaki.  
Hello my relatives!

My name is **Sacha (Mckane) Almanza**. I was given a Shawnee name as an infant and I belong to the bird clan. My parents are Billy Mckane (Muskogee Creek) and Vera (Gibson) Dawsey. I have five sisters and one brother. My husband of 9 years, Luis Almanza, and I raise our children in the Little Axe community. It is with great honor and humility that I publicly announce my candidacy for Tribal Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

After years of service within our community and with the support of not only my family, but with the guidance of our Creator, I have decided to take a stand by offering my service to our people. I was born in Norman and lived in the area until age 12 when I moved out of state to live with my father. Prior to moving, I was fortunate enough to have been raised around my grandparents and our ceremonial way of life. The late John Mann and Cleona (Gibson) Mann were advent ceremonial people who helped our people in various capacities.

Some of my earliest memories include being around the dance grounds and/or sitting with my grandparents in the tipi during Native American church prayer services. I realized at a young age my Gibson family, as well as Mann family, were servants to not only the Creator, but to our people as well. With a ceremonial foundation set, I soon found myself in a military atmosphere while living with my father and step-mother, Terry Murphy. My father served in the Special Forces for 14 years and retired as a Master Sergeant with over 36 years of service in the Army and Army reserve. I was raised with immense structure, discipline and guidance. I was taught to have goals and objectives. I was

encouraged to constantly strive for self-improvement and awareness so that I would be prepared in the future when needed.

As a result of the teachings my parents and grandparents instilled in me, I managed to overcome many obstacles to achieve my goals. I was taught to remember our traditional teachings and to excel in my education. During my senior year in high school, I moved back to Oklahoma and graduated from Riverside Indian School. I continued my education right away and graduated from the American Indian Journalism Institute at the University of South Dakota. Upon learning how drastic the needs are in our community, I went back to school and earned my bachelors in American Social Interaction from the University of Oklahoma.

After completing my degree from OU, I began working for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe in 2010 and entered the field of Public Health/grant writing and management. Through that experience I saw the importance of our health and wellness as a people. I vowed to learn more so I could use the education available to help address the issues our people face. In 2013, I began working at the Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board. It allowed me to help Native People on a grander scale by focusing on health problems that plague tribes throughout Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas. While working full-time, taking care of my four children and husband, I decided to pursue my master's degree. In order to achieve this goal, I had to be disciplined and organized more than I ever had. I also had to rely more than ever on my family, the Creator, and the teachings He gave our people. I stayed close to the fireplace in the Native American church ceremonies and soon earned my Masters of Business in Healthcare Management from Western Governors University.

With my traditional and family teachings, work experience, and education, I am more than ready to serve our people as your **Secretary**. I strongly believe in the potential our Tribe possesses and for this reason it breaks my heart to see that potential be wasted or misused. We as leaders **MUST BE ACCOUNTABLE** for how our resources, employees, grants, tribal programs, and finances are being used in order to benefit **ALL** of our tribal members so that someday our children will have a governing tribe they can be proud to serve. Along with accountability, I firmly believe in the need to address the overall health and wellness of our people. We could have all the riches in the world, but without good health, it is meaningless.

As a young child, I have fond memories of our elders speaking, praying in the Shawnee language, hunters coming in the early morning before Bread Dance, and many other people making preparations for these ceremonies. It is these memories that established a foundation for me and provided a love for my people beyond measurement. I can say proudly I am also able to provide my own children with such a foundation. I see my children embracing our ceremonial ways and even hear my oldest son singing songs and reiterate teachings he has learned, to his younger siblings. It is an amazing sight to see. However, I fear for the future of our Tribe because I see so much potential for advancement being wasted or tossed to the side. It is with great confidence that I say, I am more than ready to bring unique expertise to the governing of our people. **SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, OUR GRANDPARENTS PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS.....IT IS NOW OUR DUTY TO DO THE SAME!** Again, I am humbled and honored to have this opportunity to serve you.

Nya weh! Shalanokii, noki, kanola!

# Elect Kathy Deere Governor

Experience,  
Integrity, &  
Principles

Primary  
Election,  
Saturday, March  
21, 2015

# RE-ELECT ME FOR GOVERNOR AND LET'S BUILD FOR THE FUTURE (BFF)!

## EDWINA BUTLER-WOLFE

Hello my Absentee Shawnee people!

It is that time of year when those of us who are interested in running for Office pay our respective fees; mine was \$500, to begin the campaign process. The next step in this process is the Election Commission will determine who meets the eligibility criteria as cited within our Election Ordinance. This list is reviewed by our Enrollment department who research our information to determine if we are dually enrolled or are enrolled only with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Then after all eligibility factors are determined to have been met, by our hard working Election Commission, then the list is posted and we, your candidates, begin our campaign journey letting you have a better understanding about who we are, what we want to do if we get elected, and about how we might go about making those changes. Let me give you a brief bio on 'Who' I am:

I am a proud citizen of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and was elected to serve as your Governor in July of 2013. My educational efforts began at Dale High School then I pursued course work at Seminole Jr. College, Rose State Jr. College, St. Gregory and Oklahoma Baptist Universities. Being one of seven sisters I knew being employed was not an option, but a way of life, and became employed in my early teens. I believe one's work can illustrate both commitment and pride when a job is done to the best of one's capability. My focal interest is on educational reform and curriculum advancement and I worked for over 15 years within local school systems. During my professional career I have created, implemented and managed programs, conducted event planning, and raised funds in addition to grant writing. For 26 years I have been fortunate to serve on multiple advisory, planning, and educational committees and boards. In the recreational area, I have actively participated in nationwide senior level basketball games and local softball tournaments. I take great pleasure in coaching youth basketball, softball, track and volleyball, and being a part of my grandchild's adventures. My husband, Leonard Wolfe, an Absentee Shawnee tribal member, is a long time Manager at the Walmart in Shawnee. I have one adult son, Joshua, who is also an Absentee Shawnee Tribal member and one grandson, Nicholas.

When I came into Office it was with a clear minded focus to listen to you, my people, and to make a difference. I have tried to do both. In my last campaign, I concentrated on health, health board by-laws, staffing, and access to health care for you; review and assist in prioritizing ASEDA and economic development projects; work on increasing opportunities in Education for our students; review long term care and ancillary levels of care; representation – take part in legislative reform and policy development and consider our land based needs and the current lease the Tribe has. Since I came into Office, new health board by-laws have been put into place for the ASTHA, our non-profit, tribally owned corporation; health board appointments/re-appointments have been done and key personnel has changed. Yes, there is still much to do in our health department(s), ASEDA program, Education department, on our long term care needs and to constructively represent the Tribe and advance our legal efforts on correcting our land base. The table below illustrates my former and upcoming actions.

### Economic Development

June 2013	June 2014	For June 2015
<b>ASEDA</b> -it's Board(s) and who makes the decisions for the Board.	<b>ASEDA</b> – Board composition has changed. This Board needs additional professional membership, investors, funding and autonomy with any agreements established not waiving the Tribe's sovereignty. The <b>AST Enterprise Board is still composed of 1 member – the Secretary</b> . This Board and its function need to be reviewed by the EC, possibly dissolved or at least re-structured.	<b>ASEDA</b> – Board reappointments and/or appointments need to occur. Prior year Board actions need reviewed. <b>Enterprise Board function needs to be removed from Secretary Dawsey due to business closures – kitchen in Little Axe; Smoke shops – not making a profit or generating taxes; Convenience Store – Little Axe – no profit or tax generation and we need financial reports.</b>
<b>Projects</b> – under ASEDA program – lose of funds occurred and constructive changes must be considered.	<b>Projects</b> – There has been a number of actions come up under ASEDA and they require funding and oversight.	<b>Projects</b> – Loans for those who are unable to meet certain loan guidelines; need a report on all current YTD actions and projections for CY2015.

### Health

June 2013	June 2014	For June 2015
<b>Staffing issues</b> – no medical or dental directors; retention of staff is a major issue.	<b>Staffing</b> – Medical and dental directors were part time and/or Contracted. Medical Director and Dental Directors were hired in/or around July 2014. Retention of staff – still fluctuating but improved.	<b>Staffing</b> – Medical and Dental Directors are hired. Average monthly patients being seen by medical director: Dr. Ahmad is 72 (21 ASTHA; 51 LSWN); Average monthly patients being seen by Dental Director is 122; Retention of staff – still fluctuating – being offered incentives; COLA's; bonuses; team awards; the Tribe needs to have more input and determine the direction for our people.
<b>Budget problems</b> – Tribe receives a lot of money – limited programming and staffing retention issues; Little Axe clinic loan- interest and principal should be made timely – third party revenue funds being generated are limited.	<b>Budget problems</b> – Tribe receives funds with Board operating clinic(s). Clinic principal and interest loan payments for LSWN appear to be made by revenues generated from ASTHA and Compact funds being 'transferred'. Need to re-visit loan agreement and revise sovereignty language and look at reducing loan cost to Tribe. Third party revenue being generated by clinic(s) need improved and should be much higher. It was anticipated by hiring a Medical Director and Dental Director it would improve revenue. Not so for the Medical Director – cost for Medical Director is higher than recovery of salary at this time – benefit to patient is unknown as there is no survey tool being used to measure this outcome.	<b>Budget problems</b> – Budget(s) by health system submitted late and without budget detail and/or justifications being reviewed. Board(s) did not review budgets, based on Board minutes, they were given totals. (See Health Budget totals.) Clinic principal and interest loan payments continue to be offset by ASTHA third party revenue and health Compact funds. LSWN continues to not be self-sustaining. This year health sought additional \$7 million to run LSWN. Loan process, investment fees, broker costs, and third party revenue changes need to be considered by Health Board and external auditing firm. Health seeking to give all employees 3% COLA; tenure bonuses (3 years or more); team incentives; employment contract with Executive Director of Health for 3 years. These actions need an objective review and evaluation.

<b>Program Administration</b> – personalities of key staff within health administration is a concern; large salaries are paid to health administrator and key staff managing programs with limited experience in working with or having experience in management.	<b>Program Administration</b> – personalities of key staff within health administration continue to be a concern; large salary is paid through employment contract to Executive Director of Health. Contract exceeds market place salary scale and is for 3 years with a 30 day pay out if removed; unclear if contractor’s employment and Indian preference were verified.	<b>Program Administration</b> – personalities of key staff within health administration continue to be a concern – job descriptions need to be reviewed and considered by SHAREHOLDERS during a called meeting. We need to ensure ALL employment contracts be made subject to employment verification, background check, drug testing, and Indian preference. All contracts, including Board Attorney, should be subject to Shareholders and/or EC approval during a duly called meeting. This process is NOT happening. Health is currently self-appointing to state committees – all appts. are subject to the Tribal appointment process; Full disclosure on budget practices must occur.
<b>Health Clinic Accreditation</b> – clinics should get accredited.	<b>Health Clinic Accreditation</b> – AAAHC is being worked towards by the health dept.; hiring professional staff will assist in accreditation efforts and forming required committees; training on AAAHC is occurring.	<b>Health Clinic Accreditation</b> – AAAHC committees have been established; professional staff has been hired; timelines for accreditation are being set.
<b>Programming</b> – Medicaid patient scheduling priorities are problematic.	<b>Programmatic</b> – Need more open access slots. Hiring of new staff should assist in offsetting some scheduling concerns – policy and procedures need enhanced.	<b>Programmatic</b> – Need more transparency in policy. Policy and procedure development is ongoing and will need to incorporate AAAHC requirements; Access issues still require work.
<b>Health Board(s)</b> – Boards are autonomous; information is needed from it with reports placed into the AST newsletter advising on major actions taken. Board composition needs to be looked at.	<b>Health Board(s)</b> – Boards remain autonomous. Revised ASTHA by-laws were put into place. No changes in by-laws for Li Si Wi Nwi have occurred. The Board(s) listen to the Tribe but DO NOT give full consideration to concerns and issues being offered to them. Board appointments need revisited and/or added to. Contract with Health Board(s) legal counsel should be terminated. Articles indicating changes approved by Health Board in health system should be monthly submitted to the Tribe by Board(s). Financials for the health system should be made available on the health system.	<b>Health Board(s)</b> – The need for the Li Si Wi Nwi Board as a tax shelter for the Joint Venture should conclude in March – this Board should be ‘sunsetting’ (ended). The ASTHA Board appointments need to be revisited when new leadership comes on in June; Health Board members need to represent the interests of the Tribe – current conflicts of interest appear to exist and arbitrary and/or invasiveness. The Health Board(s) continue to listen only to the Tribe’s concerns. Financials still need to be made available to Tribal members.

### Education

June 2013	June 2014	For June 2015
<b>Funding</b> – Education is underfunded and needs more staffing.	<b>Funding</b> – In 2013 through no fault of the Education dept. the TYP was not granted. Funds were requested during CY2014 of AST BIA to supplement need and were advised to wait till June. The department encountered a shortfall and staff shortage.	<b>Funding</b> – Funds were requested by program based on program need. Funding was reduced by 5%. Budget had prior shortfalls and is entering into FY2015 with an anticipated shortfall due to budgetary constraints on program, staffing shortage, and less services to be offered. This budget must be given priority for program to accomplish goals and objectives and to ensure the educational needs of our youth are met and done so timely.
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b> – needs reviewed and prioritized. Incentivizing our student to return to work for the Tribe	<b>Eligibility Criteria</b> – the Tribe’s Board of Education committee continues to review and prioritize eligibility criteria. Ways to incentivize students to return to the Tribe and work is still a work in progress.	<b>Eligibility Criteria</b> - the Tribe’s Board of Education committee will continue to review and prioritize eligibility criteria. Establish ways to incentivize students to return to the Tribe and work. A work in progress.
<b>Funding Sources</b> – looking at new funding sources.	<b>Funding Sources</b> – the Education program could work with grant writer and local resources to offset needs; project development is ongoing.	<b>Funding Sources</b> - the Education program works with the grant writer, a grant committee and local resources to offset needs; project development is ongoing.

### Other Issues

June 2013	June 2014	For June 2015
<b>Long Term Care and Ancillary Levels of Care</b> Review care levels being considered and provided by Tribe.	<b>Long Term Care and Ancillary Levels of Care</b> – an attempt was made to create a Planning department during 2013 & 2014. This department could plan for the short and long term needs of the Tribe. This effort was met with resistance from that entire elected body and the Controller. This department could conduct studies, discern level of need, and establish cost.	<b>Long Term Care and Ancillary Levels of Care</b> – the short and long term needs of our people must be considered and appropriately planned for. A Planning department needs to be considered to ensure the future of our people is appropriately planned for. In 2015, I will work to again advance the need of a Planning Department.
<b>Representation</b> – AST was formerly a forerunner in legislative and policy development. This is an unmet need.	<b>Representation</b> – My Office has been active in voicing the concerns of the Tribe at the federal, state, and municipal level on health disparities, budgetary needs, and self- governance issues. Staff have taken part in forums, committee’s, and written white papers and letters. We needed a committed legislative/ policy analyst to assist with this effort. If a Planning department goes into place in 2015 this function could be placed within it.	<b>Representation</b> – My Office needs to be in attendance at certain high level meetings. This will be done in 2015. The Tribe must be represented by professional level leaders who understand their programs and the need of the Tribe. A goal of my Office in 2015 is to ensure the Tribe gives informed input at state and national level meetings on Indian specific issues.

We need the right leaders in Office to make informed changes that are for the advancement of our people. I hope when you begin to consider who you want to place in Office you will consider some ‘who’s’: 1) Who do you see representing your interests as a Tribal member? 2) Who will commit to advancing the best interests of the Tribe forward for you? 3) Who can advance the Tribe in an honest and ethical way?

**Help me to make a difference – stand beside me and Let’s Build for the Future (BFF) - united and together!**

Thank you for your support.

# The Sabrina Little Axe for AST Governor in 2015 Campaign Team

(Marilyn Byers, Jeanette Glass, Sharon Hawkins, Karen Kaniatobe and Theresa Spoon) would like to invite you to a meet and greet with lunch provided for the first fifty people on February 28, 2015 at the Horse Shoe Bend Community Building, 46309 Garrett's Lake Road, Shawnee, Oklahoma, with activities starting at 11:00. (If invited, Sabrina will visit Tribal members who want to visit one on one. She is doing this because she understands how it feels to have people all of a sudden wanting to visit you when you hardly ever saw them prior to their running for office.)

The campaign team will talk about their involvement in the campaign. Sabrina will discuss Servant Leadership, her symbol for this type of leadership and her plan. She will also host a brief informal question and answer session about forms completed for disability.

If you cannot make it, please visit us on facebook or follow us at @Sabrina4ASTgov for updates. Tweet your support! (Sabrina's professional experience, leadership style, symbol and plan are all available in more detail on Facebook.)

Sabrina sent an email in June of 2014 to family, friends and tribal members asking for participation to form an official campaign team. At our first meeting, she advised us her campaign would be archived at the Sequoyah National Research Center at University of Arkansas Little Rock! After some discussion, she chose to formally announce her intention to run for AST Governor in November 2014.

Here are some highlights of Sabrina's professional career and accomplishments:

## EDUCATION:

Master of Library and information Studies with an emphasis in Academic Librarianship Master of Business Bachelor of Art in Public Affairs and Administration with an emphasis in Management, and Minor in Communication

## PROFESSIONAL:

### Disability Determination Specialist IV

Previous: Level I (2010), Level II (2012), Level III (2013), Level IV (2014)

As a Disability Determination Specialist, she reviews and analyzes evidence of illness, injury, disease or other medical conditions and vocational factors, which prevent an individual from working or gaining employment. She consults with internal and external professionals or contract providers, including physicians, psychologists and vocational experts to address highly complex issues.

Disability Examiners, 2014 to present

\*12/4/2014 Received SSA Associate Commissioner Citation for Superior Performance by a DDS Team. (One of 8 team members with Sabrina ranking #2 in top production among Oklahoma disability examiners.) Excerpts from Nomination:

"These examiners have the distinct and well-deserved reputation around the OK DDS office as being highly professional leaders and top performers. They exhibit competence in carrying out their assigned job duties by demonstrating self-motivation and consistency. They are willing to share knowledge and expertise to improve other examiner's effectiveness and service to the public. Their biggest contribution has been their combined service to the Citizens of the State of Oklahoma and Arizona by achieving the highest in office case production and the lowest in processing time."

### Absentee Shawnee Tribe Election Commission, 2005-2013 Election Commissioner, 2010 - 2013

### Librarian

2012 - Present

As a Librarian, Sabrina provides a variety of technical and professional librarian activities of moderate to complex difficulty including providing:

- information and assistance to customers of all ages
- information concerning content and location of collection
- performing reference and reader advisory services
- collection management

\*Oklahoma Library Association 2013 to present

\*International Honor Society for Library & Information Studies Beta Phi Mu Chapter April 2012 to present (Invited in 2011)

### Serials Supervisor for Library Acquisitions 2005 -2010

Sabrina supervised staff and students of the Serials Division in Acquisitions. Sabrina processed new serial orders using vendor online databases to verify availability, cost and payment for invoices and notified Collection Development of price increases. She interacted and corresponded with publishers and vendors. She assisted in resolving electronic access issues. Other positions with department: Library Technician I Nov 1993 - Jun 1994 and Aug 2000 - May 2001; Student Clerk Typist Oct 1991 - Oct 1993

\*University of Oklahoma, University Libraries, 2010-2012 Strategic Planning Committee

\*University of Oklahoma, Graduate

School of Library Studies Graduate Studies Committee 2008-2009,

\*University of Oklahoma, University Libraries, Integrated Library System Migration Acquisitions Serials Management/Module Evaluation Task Force 2007-2008.

### Oklahoma Emergency Management Contractor (Tribal Liaison) 2001-2004

Sabrina served as point of contact for FEMA, state and tribal entities to ensure all 38 federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma were provided prompt, courteous and knowledgeable emergency disaster assistance to include distribution of information through special meetings or presentations as required (or necessary) for both state and FEMA counterparts. She assisted with preliminary damage assessments in each of the Public Assistance and Individual Assistance components of FEMA programs. She assisted with ongoing grant management by generating obligations for fiscal dollars and processing closeouts for Oklahoma state and Tribal disaster applicants.

### Representative - Elected Position

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma  
1998 - 2000

We believe Sabrina's experience, self-motivation and teamwork speaks for itself. She makes a commitment and is a team player. In the Tribal environment, not all players work as a team. We as Tribal members, parents of Tribal members, spouses of tribal members and friends of Tribal members, must take responsibility and choose our leaders wisely now and in the future. We cannot elect one caliber of person and expect them to work miracles! If elected, Sabrina will use her leadership skills to encourage our leadership to work with General Council, together, on issues concerning our Tribe and its people. The foundation of her leadership model is to share power, to put the needs of the people first and to empower others to develop skills and strengths which will result in a stronger Tribal government and a stronger Tribal community.

Join us in electing a leader who has the knowledge, education and experience of working with multiple government entities, managing and leading others with a proven record of success and accomplishments. Most importantly, join us in electing a leader who is caring and committed to meeting the needs of ALL of our tribal community members. Thumbs up!

Ni Ya We,

(Message approved by Sabrina Little Axe and the Sabrina Little Axe for AST Governor in 2015 Campaign Team.)

\*National and Oklahoma Association of

# Congratulations

On December 4, 2014, Sabrina was presented by the Social Security Administration's Dallas Region VI Commissioner Sheila Everett, the "Social Security Administration Associate Commissioners Team Award for Oklahoma DDS Superior Performing Disability Examiners for Committed and Consistent Approaches in Service Delivery to the Citizens of Oklahoma and the Nation" for the fiscal year ending 2013. Sabrina was ranked number two in the Oklahoma Disability Determination Division for the number of disability cases processed in fiscal year 2013. Congratulations Sabrina Little Axe! Your campaign team continues to be proud of your accomplishments.

-Marilyn Byers, Jeanette Glass, Sharon Hawkins, Karen Kaniatobe, Theresa Spoon.

## 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 at the Education Department office or for download at [www.astribe.com](http://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 associate or bachelor 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 one graduate admissions test. This program has funding levels based upon full-time and part-time status.
- **Big Jim Youth Award Program:** annual incentive for High School Seniors for Academic Achievement and Athlete of the Year. Deadline for application submission is March 31st of each year.

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

All applications and guidelines are available at [www.astribe.com](http://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](mailto:tresham@astribe.com).

## DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS

Military service members can get their disability claims processed quickly by Social Security.

Benefits available through **Social Security** are different than those from the **Department of Veterans Affairs** and require a separate application.

The expedited process is used for military service members who become disabled while on active military service on or after **October 1, 2001**, regardless of where the disability occurs.



[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

or call toll-free, **1-800-772-1213**

(for the deaf or hard of hearing, call our TTY number, **1-800-325-0778**)

## 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](http://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

# FOSTER CARE

## WHAT IS A FOSTER CARE WORKER?

Foster care caseworker training involves completing a bachelor's degree program in social work through a college or university. Students take courses in psychology, abnormal psychology, sociology, economics, ethics, child welfare policies and complete a supervised internship.

The child's Foster Care Worker needs to be a partner with the foster parents to ensure that each child receives the full spectrum of services provided and/or arranged by the Department.

Some aspects of this relationship include the following:

- Sharing information on an ongoing basis regarding the child's individual needs, family situation and adjustment to the foster home
- Encouraging the foster parents to participate in the total service planning process
- Providing the foster parents the opportunity to discuss the child's progress and any unmet needs which they assess
- Providing the foster parent with information, support, guidance and referrals to other professionals on the child's behalf
- Helping the foster family, when necessary, to identify and obtain services for the foster child; e.g., medical, educational
- Ensuring that the foster family, on the child's behalf, has access to all financial resources available to the child while in foster care.

A Foster Care Worker works in conjunction with Tribal Courts, Tribal Law Enforcement, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other county services. Indian Child Welfare's goal is to ensure the safety of our tribal children when they are placed in foster care. The homes that our tribal children are placed in must complete Child Welfare Background Check, OSBI Background Check, Income Verification, Home Study, and a Physical. Our AST foster homes are licensed by our Foster Care Committee.

Foster Care Payments are as follows:

0-5 age \$14.73 day \$441.97 month

6-12 age \$17.12 day \$513.57 month

12 and over \$19.30 day \$579.13 month

**IN ORDER TO RECEIVE PAYMENT, ALL THE ABOVE MUST BE MET AND TURNED INTO THE STATE. ONCE PROCESSED STATE PAYMENT WILL BE ISSUED.**

This is just a little information on what type of work a foster care worker performs on a daily basis. If you are interested in becoming a foster home, please call 405-878-4030 ext. 133.

## Why do we need Indian Child Welfare?

## Why do we need Tribal Foster Homes?

## Foster-Care System Stretched Too Far

Recent news reports reported on July 2 that Sally Schofield, the foster mother of Logan Marr, was found guilty June 25 of wrapping the 5-year-old's body with 42 feet of duct tape during a "timeout," causing the little girl to suffocate.

Schofield could face up to 40 years in prison for the child's death.

"The child-welfare system failed Logan Marr in every possible way," said Richard Wexler, the executive director of the National Coalition for Child Protection Reform. "They failed her ... by ... ignoring her cries of abuse and they failed her by letting her die in that foster home."

Six weeks before she was killed, Logan was on a visit to her birth mother when, in the presence of a child-welfare worker hired to supervise the visit, she complained that her foster mother was hurting her. "She did this to me and I cried 'cause it hurts me," the child is heard saying on a videotape, although she isn't seen.

The truth is that we must protect our tribal children; we must protect them from a system that is overworked and in desperate need of an overhaul. We must have a voice in the child welfare system for our tribal children. As tribal child welfare workers there is not a day that goes by where we are not fighting for the rights of one of our tribal children and working to make sure that employees of the State are following OICWA and ICWA. Silence will not ensure the rights of this generation, or the next generation of Absentee Shawnee Children. The Absentee Shawnee Foster Care Program is in need of tribal foster care homes for AST children. A strong tribe must have a system in place to protect the youngest of its members when they need protection. If we do not have tribal foster homes, our Absentee Shawnee children go into State homes. We have not control over these homes; therefore, the children placed in these homes are more vulnerable. Some will say that no one can love their child as much as a parent, but when parents are unable to care for their children properly, we as a tribe need to be there for the children....We must love that child as their parent.

**We use a Native American tradition of the talking stick. You sit and pass it around and whoever has the stick has to talk. Some people just hold it. Others really share.**

Let us be a tribe that protects the youngest of our tribal members, let us just not say the words, but open our homes to those children who need us to protect them and offer them safety. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent please notify:

Julie Wilson  
AST/CPS/FOSTER CARE

405-878-4702

**The Child Welfare Department would like to welcome Glenna Jones and Dara Thorpe as new members of the Foster Care Committee. We appreciate their dedication and willingness to advocate for our children.**

Preservation of American Indian culture starts with protection of our most precious resources -- American Indian children and families. Only when our children and families are healthy and happy can there be harmony in our world.

Problems Facing American Indian Children and Families

Today, 5.2 million American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) live in the United States

- American Indian children have the third highest rate of victimization
- American Indian/Alaska Natives have the highest rate of poverty of any other racial group in the nation
- In 2006, suicide was the leading cause of death for AI/AN males ages 10-14.
- A 2006 study found that, compared to other groups, AI/AN youth have more serious problems with mental health disorders.
- Alcohol-use disorders were more likely among American Indian youths than other racial groups.
- The AI/AN youth population is more affected by gang involvement than any other racial population.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Children often get lost in a system that is supposed to protect them when their parents can't take care of them. They need someone who can provide a home that is safe. They need their emotional needs met by an adult who can act as if they are their parent. These children need love, shelter, safety, and a place that they can belong, they need a home. They need to know that they are not alone. If you are able to provide these things to one of our tribal children please contact: 405-878-4702 (ext. 133) Julie Wilson ICW/FC.

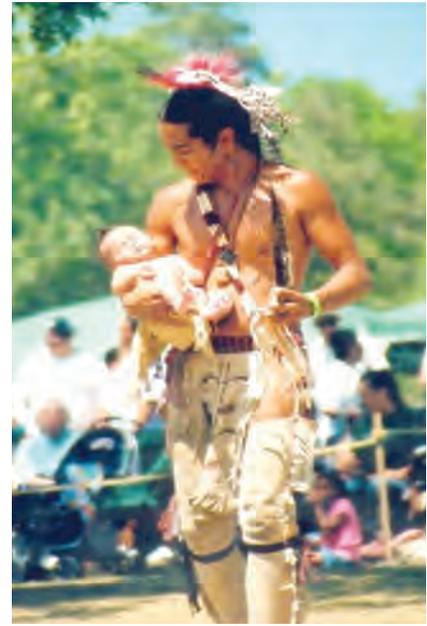
# FOSTER CARE

Racial disproportionality is defined as the over-or under-representation of certain groups (e.g. racial/ethnic, gender, age) relative to the group's proportion in the general population. Reports conducted in 2008 showed that, compared to other groups, Native American children were:

- 3 times more likely to be referred to CPS
- 1.6 times more likely to be removed from their biological homes
- Twice as likely to remain in foster care for over two years
- Less likely to be adopted and more likely to be in guardianships
- Less likely to be reunited with their biological parents

The sad reality is that there are not enough culturally appropriate homes for these children, resulting in the placement of Native American children in homes that do not share their cultural heritage or traditions. We want to place "our tribal" children in our own homes, to do this we need tribal members to open their homes and their hearts. Are you willing to open your heart? Are you willing to open your home?

If so, please contact Julie Wilson ICW/FC/CPS 878-4702 (ext. 133).



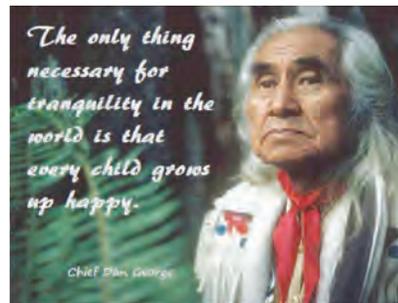
## GOT LOVE?



## FOSTER A CHILD

Native American youth have two distinct influences, that of their family of origin and that of their caregivers. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Foster Care is in need of homes for children that are in our child welfare system. Your participation in being a foster parent helps to ensure that these children have positive connections to their culture. This interaction helps these children nurture a positive sense of identification as a Native American. By being willing to do this, you can be a valuable part of the healing journey that will help strengthen this next generation of Absentee Shawnee children; in turn, helping those children become the parents that their children will need them to be. Our children are our future, what will we have our future be?

**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE CHILD WELFARE**  
**405-878-4702 (ext. 133)**



Native American youth are facing a crisis. These children are being removed from their homes and placed into the child welfare system at rates much higher than any other population. Native American children are often placed in homes outside of their families, tribes, and Native American culture and all this contributes to significant social

problems. The story of Native American people is a complicated one marked by significant trauma and atrocities. Often times this trauma consisted of the removal of abuse which happened to these young and vulnerable children in many of these schools resulted in overwhelming intergenerational trauma and unresolved grief. This trauma which interrupted the ability to parent has led directly to the most current social problems that plague Native American communities today including alcohol/drug abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, sexual abuse and parenting deficiencies. All of these problems have contributed to the break-down of the family unit, leading to the removal of large numbers of Native American youth from their families. The journey of healing and breaking the cycles which have been put in place by the historical trauma experienced by generations of Native Americans requires that the cultural identity for so long denied to these children be returned. Native American youth have two distinct influences, that of their family of origin and that of their caregivers. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Foster Care is in need of homes for children that are in our child welfare system. Your participation in being a foster parent helps to ensure that these children have positive connections to their culture which in helps nurture a positive sense of identification as a Native American. By being willing to do this, you can be a valuable part of the healing journey that will help strengthen this next generation of Absentee Shawnee children; in turn, helping those children become the parents that their children will need them to be. Our children are our future, what will we have our future be? Will you, as Absentee Shawnee member, do your part if you are able? If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact Juliann Wilson ICW/CPS/FOSTER CARE at 275-4030, ext. 133.

"I don't **want** a family. I **need** one."  
- Current Waiting Child

### <<<NOTICE>>>

Currently there are three (3) openings on the Foster Care Board. If you are interested in serving on the board, send your letter of interest to Secretary Dawsey at the Tribal Complex, 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 73801.

# HORSE SHOE BEND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Our Horse Shoe Bend after school program started back on January 6, 2015, this start date was due to most schools in this area not beginning their sessions until January 5, 2015.

We are fortunate to have three returning Oklahoma Baptist University students based on the OBU Spring schedule. Most OBU students do not return for what the University calls "J term" which is a 4 to 5 week session between fall and spring terms. I anticipate most, if not all, of our tutors will return later in the spring semester.

We have enrolled three more new HSB students since being back from the holiday break. I extend a warm welcome to our new HSB students coming into the after school program and welcome back those students returning to us. As we begin this second semester of school, rest assured, our staff and tutors will work hard with these young students to help them excel in their school work.

As an update, the after school program in Shawnee will be opening soon here on the Absentee Shawnee Complex. It looks like there is some work, finally, being done on the porches of the new portable buildings. We will be taking those after school students, who are interested, from the Building Blocks Child Development Center to the new portable buildings and utilizing our Oklahoma Baptist University tutors to assist with our young, school age, students. The OBU tutors will assist students with their homework and provide extra help with those learning needs they may have.

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

Thank you,

Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe



**BUILDING  
BLOCKS**

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

AN ABSENTEE SHAWNEE ENTERPRISE

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Building Blocks C.D.C.

2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.

Shawnee, OK 74801

P: (405)878-0633

F: (405)878-0156

## Building Blocks News...

Building Blocks had a lot of illnesses circulating through the center in December and January. We had several employees, children, and families with illnesses ranging from the flu, strep, bronchitis, mono, and the common cold. With the Governor's approval, we made the decision to close on January 15 - 16, 2015. We took this time to deep clean and sanitize the entire center as a way to help prevent the spread of any more illnesses. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may have caused any of the families, but we felt this step was necessary, as well as part of our responsibility in providing quality services. We most certainly appreciated everyone's patience and understanding during this time.

### Dates to remember:

**Monday, February 16th: Closed in observance of President's Day.**

Thank you,

Billie Thompson, Director



## AST PHARMACY NEWS



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

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

### Hours of Operation:

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

- Phone - (405) 292-9530

**Shawnee: 7am-5pm Monday-Friday**

- Phone - (405) 878-5859

***We are open through the lunch hour!!***

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

-Thank you,  
Pharmacy Staff

# Injury Prevention Program

The Mayo Clinic and the Center for Disease Control & Prevention say that if you're physically active it may help prevent you from falling. The following activities: Walking, chair exercises and Tai Chi, can improve your leg strength, balance, coordination and flexibility. Remember to check with your doctor before starting any of these activities!

Here are some tips on how to stay safe while getting back into the spring of things.

- Be sure to warm-up and cool down when appropriate.
- Wear protective gear - i.e. bike helmets, wrist & elbow guards, pads, etc.
- Rest, especially when your muscles are tired
- Prevent "overuse" injuries (i.e. stress fractures, tendonitis, or inflamed joints) by not overdoing exercise.
- Condition your body before jumping into new activities at full force.

For more information contact: Rosie Tall Bear at 405-701-7601  
Little Axe Health Center



## FITNESS CENTER HOURS

**Monday—Thursday  
6:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.**

**Friday  
6:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.**

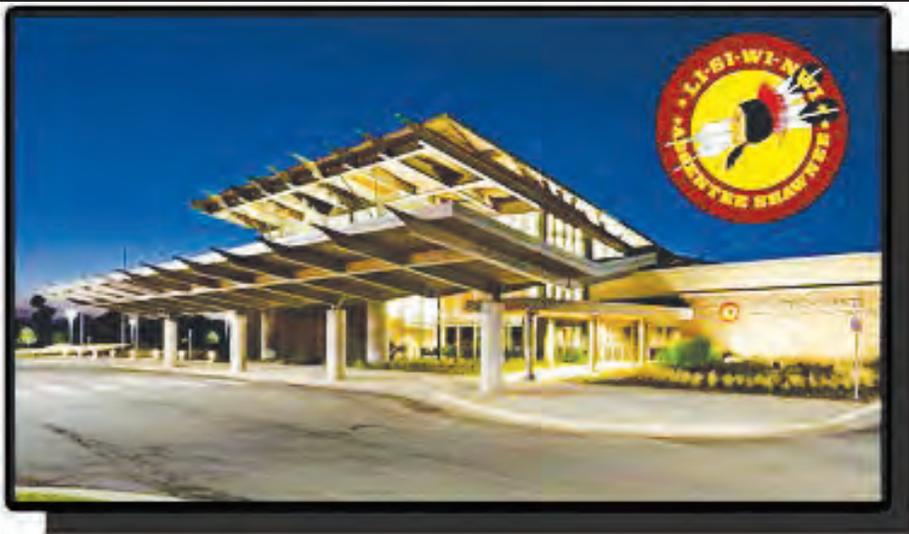
**Saturday/Sunday  
CLOSED**



The AST Diabetes and Wellness Fitness Center provides state of the art fitness equipment, including: treadmills, elliptical cross-trainers, recumbent bikes, free-weights, kettlebells, and isolation strength machines. The AST Fitness Center is available to all Native Americans and their household family members.



AST employees are also eligible for membership. The AST Diabetes and Wellness Fitness Center strives to deliver a well-trained staff that seeks to help clients reach their personal fitness and health goals. Our staff takes pride in providing appropriate and educational fitness training to all clients, providing guidance in developing a successful plan to help prevent or manage diabetes and/or other health conditions, and providing clients with a fun and positive experience working with our staff. Please take some time to come by and visit the AST Diabetes and Wellness Fitness Center today!



**Register Now!!!**  
[www.asthealth.org/patient-portal](http://www.asthealth.org/patient-portal)

## New Patient Portal

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System

Little Axe Health Center  
Shawnee Clinic



Visit your app store and install  
the Follow My Health app

- Improved access to your health information
- Communicate directly with your clinic
- Request an appointment
- ...and more!



for real-time access to your  
health information

For more information on how you can register for the new AST **“Follow My Health”** Patient Portal, contact Patient Registration at Little Axe Health Center - 405.447.0300 or Shawnee Clinic - 405.878.4702



### Personal Banking:

**AllNations Bank** offers a wide range of products and services to meet today’s consumer demand including our AllNations Bank Free Checking Account; Savings Account; Certificate of Deposit Accounts; Individual Retirement Accounts; Money Market; Now Accounts & Consumer Loans including Auto, Boat and more. AllNations Offers Free ATM/Debit Card with each personal account that can be used at our Shawnee OK Drive Up ATM. In addition, we offer a wide selection of Safe Deposit Boxes for rent at competitive prices.

**Contact Us for Details As Follows:**  
**Calumet Office - Gene Davis or Dixie Smith 405-893-2240;**  
114 E Main, Calumet, OK  
**Shawnee Office - Gene Davis or Eugene Stidham 405-273-0202;**  
2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK

### Business Banking:

In addition to our Commercial Checking account, AllNations Bank offers a wide range of products and services to meet today’s business needs including all types of Commercial and Small Business Loans; Merchant Services; Night Depository Drop & More.

**Contact Us for Details As Follows:**  
**Calumet Office - Gene Davis or Dixie Smith 405-893-2240;**  
114 E Main, Calumet, OK  
**Shawnee Office - Gene Davis or Eugene Stidham 405-273-0202;**  
2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK

### Banking Hours:

2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801  
Lobby Hours 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday  
Drive In Hours 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Monday - Friday  
Saturday: 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon

# **FYI: Contract Health Service News**

## **Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health**

*The AST Contract Health Services Team are here to assist you  
... follow the CHS Guidelines!  
Get a copy of the CHS Guidelines and update your information*

### **Contract Health Services for AST members *with* Insurance**

CHS for a currently enrolled AST member who resides in the defined catchment area who has insurance such as Medicare or Private Insurance:

1. Complete CHS Patient Update form and update all information every 6 months.
2. Notify CHS at least 48 hours prior to appointment date for a (COB) Coordination of Benefits to be sent to provider
3. Inform Provider/HealthFacility that AST CHS is secondary payer/payer of last resort.
4. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. *You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.*

### **Contract Health Services for AST members *without* Insurance**

CHS for a currently enrolled AST member who resides in the defined catchment area who does not have insurance:

1. You must apply for any alternate resources for which you may be eligible - Medicare, Medicaid, SoonerCare, insurance, etc.
2. Complete CHS Patient Update form and update all information every 6 months
3. You must utilize the services provided within the AST health clinics prior to being referred out.
4. Referrals for outside services must be sent to CHS. Services must be medically approved by an AST Health provider.
5. An appointment will be scheduled and a COB will be sent to the outside provider.
6. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. *You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.*

### **Emergency and Urgent Care Services**

CHS for a currently enrolled AST member who resides in the defined catchment area who needs emergent or urgent care:

1. Call the On-Call nurse at (405) 447-0300 option 9 for "triage".
2. Notify CHS on the next business day or within 72 hours after the ER visit. Notification does not assure authorization of payment. However if you do not notify CHS within 72 hours, your bills will not be paid.
3. For AST members with no insurance evidence must exist that the visit was medically necessary. Medical priorities have been established for determining which referrals can be authorized for payment.
4. For AST members *with* insurance, evidence must exist that a third party resource has made determination such services were "emergency care" or "urgent care" (such evidence may include payment from private insurance).
5. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. *You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.*

**Contract Health  
Direct Phone Line  
405.701.7951**



Debi Sloat



Glendine Blanchard



Flo Mann



Sharon Ponkilla



Darla Gatzman



Jayne Werst



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

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

Often people with type 2 diabetes have no symptoms.

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

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

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

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

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

Source: American Diabetes Association at www.diabetes.org

## "Building Economic Prosperity" 2015 ASED A Strategic Plan



Absentee Shawnee  
Economic Development  
Authority  
2025 South Gordon Cooper  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Phone: 405-275-4030

### ASEDA Jumps Starts Its 2015 Activities!

The Absentee Shawnee Economic Development Authority, Inc. (ASEDA) seeks to build the economic prosperity of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and its members. We identify and investigate opportunities to develop tribally-owned commercial businesses that can provide job opportunities for our tribal members.

In 2014, we completed a historical assessment of the economic development activities of ASEDA and related business enterprises. We used this information to guide our strategic planning efforts for the document: "Building Economic Prosperity" 2015 ASEDA Strategic Plan. At the end of 2014, ASEDA finalized business promotion materials to be used to market the tax and employment advantages for commercial firms when they form business partnerships with ASEDA.

To begin this year, we plan to meet with the Executive Committee to present the assessment and strategic plan and to develop a partnership with them for support of our 2015 economic development projects. After that, we will turn our attention to marketing and outreach by attending the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development "RES 2015 Conference" in March. This is the largest annual Indian Country economic summit bringing together thousands of Native American businesses and entrepreneurs.

If you know of business opportunities or have an idea for a tribally-owned business, please contact us so we can begin exploring the possibilities with you.

Wishing you and your family a year of good health, peace and prosperity, from the

ASEDA Board Members:

Mr. Dan Little Axe, President  
Mr. Adam Proctor, Vice-President  
Mr. Eddie Brokeshoulder, Secretary

## IF YOU'D LIKE TO SUBMIT AN AD OR ARTICLE:

Give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or (405) 481-0558  
or send us an e-mail to  
stiger@astribe.com

ALL ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE ARE

DUE BY THE 15<sup>th</sup> OF THE CURRENT MONTH

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

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL  
POLICE DEPARTMENT



## SORNA

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION ACT  
EMAIL: SORNA@ASTRIBE.COM  
TIPLINE 405-273-1249

# Recycling Containers Now Available

OEH now has recycling containers set up for public use. These recycle containers, which are cardboard only containers, are located on the south side of the Title VI building at the main complex and the other container is located at the northeast corner of the Little Axe Clinic.



We also have our mobile recycle container available behind the clinic here at the main complex. We are currently only accepting cardboard in this container as well.



## ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

### RECYCLING MATERIAL THAT WE ACCEPT.

ALL WHITE PAPER, ENVELOPES, COLORED PAPER, JUNK MAIL, FAX PAPER, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPER, CARDBOARD, AND ALUMINUM CANS.

### MATERIAL WE DO NOT ACCEPT.

TONER, CARBON PAPER, FOOD WASTE, AND PLASTIC.

### REMEMBER, WHEN IN DOUBT THROW IT OUT.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS.

2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR. SHAWNEE, OK 74801

PHONE: (405) 214-4235

FAX: (405) 878-4701

## Absentee Shawnee Tribe Recycling Program

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

The Office of Environmental Health and Environmental Program is proud to announce the start of a new recycling program for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The recycling center is located in the yellow metal building adjacent to the OEH Department. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe (AST) Recycling Program declares that waste reduction and recycling are the preferable to the

or processing of municipal waste, and that removing certain materials



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

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

## Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

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

Phone books, Magazines, Cardboard, Newspaper, and Aluminum cans. As the program and market develops, other recyclables will be sought.

There is a cost associated with recycling, **However**, economic, social, and environmental benefits exceed these cost.

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

**Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocacy**

The AST Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Programs are on-call 24 hours per day to provide emotional support, advocacy and crisis counseling to survivors at hospitals, police stations and throughout the legal system. The programs also serve as a resource center to the community by offering educational information and referrals.

**Transitional Housing**

The AST DV Transitional Housing Program serves victims of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault. Participants have up to six months to obtain education and job skills needed to begin a new life.

**Court Advocacy**

Assists survivors with domestic violence court related costs (when funding is available) and appearances as well as filing for emergency protective orders (EPO) or restraining orders.

**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.

**Housing and Utility Assistance**

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

**Referral Assistance**

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

**Community Outreach**

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

For any questions regarding any of the above services please contact the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence staff at (405) 273-2888.

**Little Axe  
After School Program 2014/2015**

**Come join us at the AST Resource Center!!!**



- ✚ Free Tutoring in all subjects!
- ✚ Games and activities!
- ✚ Delinquency Prevention!
- ✚ Healthy Lifestyles!



**Open to all Middle School and High School Students**

**Open to Absentee Shawnee Tribal Students K-5 with a C.D.I.B.**



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

**Duration: Starts September 2nd and will run through the school year.**

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

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



**NATIONAL  
SUICIDE  
PREVENTION  
LIFELINE**

**1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

**FOLLOW ME...  
AWAY FROM  
METH!**



**LITTLE AXE • SHAWNEE • HEALTH CLINIC**

**stellar**

# The Absentee Shawnee Diabetes & Wellness Fitness Center's Fitness Schedule



## ABSENTEE SHAWNEE FITNESS



### FITNESS CLASS SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Classes</b>	<b>Classes</b>	<b>Classes</b>	<b>Classes</b>	<b>Classes</b>
<u>Circuit Training</u> 6:10 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. Chrissy Wiens Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Zumba!</u> 6:10 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. Chrissy Wiens Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Circuit Training</u> 6:10 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. Chrissy Wiens Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Cardio Kickboxing</u> 6:10 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. Chrissy Wiens Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Circuit Training</u> 6:10 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. Chrissy Wiens Little Axe Resource Center
<u>Low Impact Chair Exercise</u> 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Buster Bread Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Tai Chi</u> 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Chrissy Wiens Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Low Impact Chair Exercise</u> 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Buster Bread Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Tai Chi</u> 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Chrissy Wiens Little Axe Resource Center	
<u>Circuit Training</u> 5:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Buster Bread Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Circuit Training</u> 5:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Buster Bread Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Circuit Training</u> 5:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Buster Bread Little Axe Resource Center	<u>Circuit Training</u> 5:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Buster Bread Little Axe Resource Center	
	<b>Chrissy Wiens</b> Diabetes and Wellness Physical Activities Specialist			<b>Buster Bread</b> Diabetes and Wellness Fitness Manager



Location: 1970 I56th Ave. N.E. Norman, O.K. 73071  
(405) 364-7298

For more information please visit our website at:  
<http://www.asthealth.org/tags/fitness>

Fitness Hours:

**Monday** 6:00 a.m.— 7:00 p.m.  
**Tuesday** 6:00 a.m.— 7:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday** 6:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.  
**Thursday** 6:00 a.m.— 7:00 p.m.  
**Friday** 6:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.  
**Saturday/Sunday** CLOSED

