

# The Absentee Shawnee News

March 2014 Vol. 27 No. 26



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## FROM THE ELECTION COMMISSION

### THE PRIMARY ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014

The Voting Polls will be located at the **Little Axe Resources Center** located on Peebly Rd. and in the **Police Department** building on the Tribal Complex in Shawnee, OK.

**The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at both locations.**

Sample ballot:

| BALLOT   |   |
|--|---|
| Tear Off ↗   |   |
| ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA<br>PRIMARY ELECTION<br>MARCH 15, 2014   |   |
| <b>VOTING INSTRUCTIONS:</b> Cast your vote by placing a [X] or [✓] mark in the box next to the candidate of your choice.   |   |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  | ELECTION COMMISSION   |
| <b>LT. GOVERNOR</b><br>John Al Little Axe <input type="checkbox"/><br>Isaac Gibson, Jr. <input type="checkbox"/><br>Isaac Bettelyoun <input type="checkbox"/><br>Diane Ponkillla <input type="checkbox"/><br>Wynona Coon <input type="checkbox"/><br>Betty Watson <input type="checkbox"/><br>Kathy Deere <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>ELECTION COMMISSIONER</b><br>Retha A. Wilson-Pearman <input type="checkbox"/><br>Briana Ponkillla <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>TREASURER</b><br>Ewell Longhorn <input type="checkbox"/><br>Sharon Ponkillla <input type="checkbox"/><br>Leah Bates <input type="checkbox"/>  | <b>COMMISSION MEMBER #2</b><br>Alicia "Aly" Edwards Miller <input type="checkbox"/><br>Mary Birdtail <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>REPRESENTATIVE</b><br>Jeff Gibson <input type="checkbox"/><br>Sherman Tiger <input type="checkbox"/><br>Dewayne Wilson <input type="checkbox"/><br>Kenneth Blanchard <input type="checkbox"/>   |   |

**GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 5, 2014  
10:00 AM  
AT  
THE TEC IN LITTLE AXE**

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**Edwina Butler-Wolfe**  
Governor



**Issac Gibson**  
Lt. Governor



**Vera M. Dawsey**  
Secretary



**Kathy Deere**  
Treasurer



**Jeffrey Gibson**  
Representative

## Governor's Report

Hello my Absentee Shawnee people!

The weather continues to change as does the political atmosphere here on the campus. This month we were forced to close the campus several days due to the bad weather conditions. This was and is a costly event when the Tribe closes even for a day as it impacts services and revenue generating. As for the political climate within the tribe - well, that is ever changing just like our Oklahoma weather. It takes a team effort to make positive changes and strategically approach short and long term issues and right now our elected body isn't acting as a team. I have and will continue to make concentrated efforts to work with my fellow officials to the best of my ability but they too must make that effort. In public forums and in our Regular Executive Meetings when these officials deem it a good day to make an appearance they state 'we need to work together'. But enough about internal tribal politics and the weather which are two of the most common themes talked about in Oklahoma and with our Tribal people. Only your prayers and your steadfast support can and will make a difference.

Let me explore another issue with you that you may have seen in the news recently. The City of Shawnee sent a letter to me and the three other Tribal leaders in the Shawnee service (Sac and Fox; Kickapoo and Citizen Potawatomi) area to 'instruct' us that we need to pay a 3% tax on any non-tribal person who shops in our tribal properties. Our Tribe currently doesn't have any businesses in the City of Shawnee that would potentially be impacted by this act. However, this is a major concern to us as a sovereign nation as it is an effort to exert local government authority over us. I work with many of the businesses in the downtown Shawnee area and serve on the Safe Events for Family Committee and discussions I have had with these individual business owners has led me to believe this is the Mayor and City Commissioners at work as they passed the action during one of their meetings. If you have communication with them I suggest you ask the following: Can you educate me on why you would want to support non-Indian, non-member (meaning other Tribal) people being taxed as these are your constituents (voters)? We, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, are a major employer as are the other three tribes in this area. In the Shawnee and Tecumseh area we employ over 433 people. Of these we have approximately 150 from our Tribal programs that reside in the Shawnee-Tecumseh area with approximately \$11.5 million in salaries being paid to Tribal employees. Last year our Tribe alone contributed \$5,000 to the municipal pool; \$16,039 to area public K-12 schools; paid \$10,987 to Shawnee utilities; \$114,875 to area colleges; and we do as much area purchasing as possible and utilize local businesses for these services. These contributions and/or expenditures I just mentioned don't include our corporations (casinos, clinics and housing). We provide sponsorships for baseball; basketball; football; volleyball, soccer and after school programs as funds allow. We take part in the Rotary Club, contribute to the Kiwanis Club and many other organizations locally. For the City of Shawnee to erroneously state that it has seen its 'sales tax revenues decrease significantly in recent years' and imply it was due to Tribal enterprises not taxing non-sales tax

revenues decrease significantly in recent years' and imply it was due to Tribal enterprises not taxing nonmembers and non-Indians -this is a major concern to us. This implies to me that over the years the City looks at the Tribes as being part of the issue instead of a valued resource who employs staff; purchases equipment and supplies locally; participates in economic development and contributes to the communities at large - we are, in my opinion, part of the solution, not a problem. Our Tribal staff already pay extra taxes as each non-contracted Tribal employee pays a Tribal tax then taxes are paid to both the state and to the federal government. The AST Tobacco Compact taxation helps the state offset state educational costs yet we receive no thanks or mention to the general public. Our AST Housing Authority pays PILOT (Payment In Lieu Of Taxes) each year to the City of Shawnee. When our Tribal members make purchases in local businesses they get taxed and we don't ask them to tax on our behalf. That approaches the issue of taxation as a discriminatory practice. We are a sovereign nation and should be treated as such. Not a local government, not a state government but at the same level as other nations so why does the City of Shawnee want to do this? Only they can truly answer that. Did we cause the City's revenues to decline? No.

The records we have seen shows no such decline in the City's taxes and we along with the other tribes in the area are now in the process of seeking further clarification. It would seem we need to work on leveraging our position in the City, County and State government by seeking to place in these elected positions those who understand and can aptly represent our Indian issues. There are over 640 eligible AST voters in the City of Shawnee. Your vote can make a difference - at the Tribe; in the City; in the County; State and in national elections.

We need to become pro-active to ensure our concerns are heard and our issues represented. Discussions will take place with City of Shawnee officials about the 3% sales tax on March 24, 2014, 10:00 a.m., at the Cultural Heritage Center of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. These discussions will be held with Tribal leaders and key staff from the Absentee Shawnee, Kickapoo Tribe, Sac and Fox Nation and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.



Treasurer Kathy Deere, Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe, & RADM, USPHS Area Director Kevin Meeks

On another note this month I met with Rear Admiral (RADM) Kevin Meeks, the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service Director, and it was an informative and productive meeting. We spoke of our concerns for the continuation of the funding for the Methamphetamine Suicide Prevention Initiative that is set to end in August and who and how those funds were being given and distributed; we spoke

*Continued on page 6*

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL  
POLICE DEPARTMENT



# SORNA

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION ACT

EMAIL: [SORNA@ASTRIBE.COM](mailto:SORNA@ASTRIBE.COM)

TIPLINE 405-273-1249

# Treasurer's Report

Dear Tribal Members,

Hope you had a good Valentine's Day and President's Day. AST Voting Day is Saturday, March 15, 2014. Please take time to vote for the best candidate for the positions of Lt. Governor, Treasurer, and Representative on the Executive Committee. This is your time as tribal members to exercise your right to support and elect the best candidate for these positions.

As always, our prayers and thoughts go out to our AST families, who have lost loved ones this past month!

- **ASTHA and LSWN Health Board Meeting.** The two health boards concurrently meet every third Tuesday of the month. They have newly appointed ASTHA board members: Melpherd Switch, Sandra Vaughn, Lancer Stevens, Lisa Johnson-Billy, and Dr. Surya Pierce. Mr. Mark Rogers, Health Programs Director, gave his monthly report updates on Affordable Care Act, Veteran's MOA, Customer Service Line, patient portal, AST Health programs website (<http://www.asthealth.org>) to educate tribal and community members on health insurance options. Reports on financials, business office-third party collections, credentialing and privileges, contracts, and other reports.
- **Financials for Health Monthly Mtgs.** Monthly tribal finance, business officer manager, health finance, Shawnee Clinic Administrator, and Health Programs Director meet to review monthly financials and collections of the health clinics in Little Axe and Shawnee.
- **Monthly Program/Departmental Directors meeting.** We had to postpone February meeting due to holiday (President's Day).
- **REGULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** meet every third Wednesday of the month to decide on executive and legislature resolutions for the advancement and betterment of the tribe.
- **Elders' Council Monthly meetings** are held every third Saturday, either at AST Resource Center, Thunderbird Casino, 10 am. If you are 55 years and older, please come join us for fellowship, food, and fun times together. Amendments to Bylaws were presented to the Elders Council for vote on February 15, 2014 and passed. Fund raisers, outings, and cultural activities are planned monthly. Activities and Events the Elders have hosted are: Veterans' Pow Wow in November, Inaugural Ball, attended various cultural events in Canada, Iowa, New Mexico, South Dakota, etc., in and around the state of Oklahoma. The NEW officers are Dan Little Axe, President, Wynona Coon, Vice-President, Mary Birdtail, Secretary, and Emily Longman, Treasurer. Next meeting is March 15, 2014. If you would like more information about the Absentee Shawnee Elders Council, please call Mary Birdtail, 405-386-7851.
- **Thunderbird Casino Monthly financial meeting** with General Manager, Dillon Byrd, Controller, myself, and/or other Executive Committee Member, who are available, to go over the monthly financials of both casinos in Little Axe and Shawnee.
- **Internal Revenue Service, AST VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance).** AST VITA is a service for free tax preparation for tribal members, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit components, targeted toward low-income families with children (Adjusted Gross Income Limit-AGI-\$52,000) and tax counseling for elders. This is our first year and we hope to be successfully and continue to have this service for our tribal members and eventually be community wide. Appointments started February 12- April 12, 2014 (Wed, Thurs, and Sat), 3-7pm and 9-2pm. Our first week, we had 12 appointments, with 3 no shows, total savings about \$2,430+ for AST tax payers and year to date refunds, \$12,400+. We have a total of 12 volunteers including tax preparers, quality reviewers, and greeters/scanners. Appointments only, please call 405-275-4030 x 241 to set up an appointment and forms will need to be filled so you will be asked to come at least 20-30 minutes early. If you have questions, please call Eddie Brokeshoulder, 405-275-4030 x148, or email [eddieb@astribe.com](mailto:eddieb@astribe.com)
- **CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution) Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA).** Board directors will be meeting in the near future to begin implementing bylaws, incorporation, 501(c) and our two products: credit building, and small business loans. We are need tribal members to serve on the AST CDFI Board of Directors. Near future we will be advertising for an executive director of AST CDFI. If any tribal member is interested in being on steering committee, board of directors, or loan committee, please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder, 275-4030, Ext. 148 or email [eddieb@astribe.com](mailto:eddieb@astribe.com)
- **Constitutional Revision Committee (CRC):** Next meeting for the CRC

was February 20, 2014, AST resource center, to discuss the last few Articles on the constitution. They appreciated all your inputs and commitment to update our constitution. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder, 405-275-4030 Ext. 148. Or contact Briana Ponkilla, her email address: [brianaponkilla@yahoo.com](mailto:brianaponkilla@yahoo.com)

## NEWS FLASH

**Cobell Update (<http://www.indiantrust.com>):** Have questions call the Info Center: 1-800-961-6109.

**TRUST ADMINISTRATION CLASS PAYMENTS EXPECTED IN 2014 Important Update:** Trust Administration Class payments are expected to be mailed in 2014.

The Settlement Agreement approved by Congress and the Courts requires identification of all Trust Administration Class Members and calculation of their respective pro rata shares before the Claims Administrator for the Cobell Settlement can mail Trust Administration Class payments. That work is ongoing and is nearly complete.

After the membership of the Trust Administration Class is finalized, it will take approximately a month to complete the calculations for the over 500,000 Trust Administration Class Members. Once the Claims Administrator receives those calculations and the Court approves the Second Stage Distribution, the Claims Administrator will quickly prepare and commence distribution within three weeks.

Please be assured that all parties are doing everything possible to issue the Trust Administration payments as soon as possible. Any questions can be directed to the below:

Indian Trust Settlement

P.O. Box 9577

Dublin, OH 43017-4877

By Phone: 800-961-6109

By Email: [Info@IndianTrust.com](mailto:Info@IndianTrust.com)

Reading to Succeed

By Janet Barresi, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014

As the third-grade reading law takes effect this school year, I have been contacted by a number of parents and teachers worried about the possibility that their child or pupil might be retained.

The question often posed to me is: How can we consider holding back a child from moving on to the next grade?

The question I pose to them is: How can we consider promoting a child who can't read?

We do no favors for students who are passed on to the next grade without their having this most fundamental skill. Reading isn't just a subject; it is a skill that is the foundation of all learning.

Education experts have noted that being unable to read at an appropriate grade level can lead to an array of other problems. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, 88 percent of 19-year-olds who dropped out of high school were unable to read proficiently by third grade. Seventy percent of U.S. prison inmates cannot read above a fourth-grade level.

But research has shown that with **enough time on task and the right intervention**, 95 percent of children can learn to read on grade level. We owe our students this chance to succeed.

It is important that I clearly communicate two important points. First, this is **not** one test on one day to determine if a child is promoted. Second, retention is a last resort.

I can't stress enough that retention, as a requirement of the state law, is absolutely a last resort. Retained students would be limited to only those students who score Unsatisfactory in the reading assessment of the third-grade Oklahoma Core Curriculum Test (OCCT) and who don't qualify for one of the state's six good-cause exemptions. If a child demonstrates what typically would be deemed a second-grade reading level or higher on this assessment, the child will be promoted.

A student who scores Unsatisfactory on the state assessment, however, will still have the opportunity to take alternate tests; a teacher can still show a portfolio of the child's work to demonstrate grade-level performance. There are other good-cause exemptions as well, for English Language Learners, for children on Individualized Education Plans who have been previously retained and others.

Some schools are considering transitional grades for retained students. There is nothing to stop a school from offering a transitional grade earlier than third grade.

In addition, no one, including the parent, should be surprised if a child scores Unsatisfactory. Under the law, schools are required to use benchmark assessments at the beginning of each year for students from kindergarten through third grade to identify children at risk of retention for reading. Schools must implement individualized reading plans for these children, and

parents must be notified in writing about the intensive intervention.

To help ensure success for the Reading Sufficiency Act, the Oklahoma State Department of Education is requesting an additional \$16 million in funding for the law.

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a **summer undergraduate internship opportunity in 2014 for students of underrepresented minorities** interested in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields (for example, agricultural science, economics, environmental engineering). **Interns will be involved in hands-on activities related to climate research** that will allow them to see the direct impacts of climate variability and change on forest ecosystems in Oklahoma, coastal areas in Louisiana, and the Texas Hill Country. **Internship participants will travel across the South Central United States** to visit university campuses and field locations and interact with faculty conducting cutting edge research.

The internship will take place from **Sunday, July 20, 2014 to Saturday, August 9, 2014**. Interns will spend one week with the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University, one week with Louisiana State University, and one week with Texas Tech University. All meals, lodging and travel will be provided during the three week period. In addition, interns will receive a \$200/week stipend for the duration of the program. The program will not cover local travel between the participant's home to their closest airport, personal equipment (clothing, cameras, etc.), or other personal expenses.

**The deadline to apply is 5:00 PM Central Time on Friday, March 14, 2014.** For eligibility requirements and to access the application form, please see: <http://goo.gl/ZXjkZL>

The South Central Climate Science Center is committed to encouraging diversity in the sciences. **Please encourage your scientifically minded students to apply for this unique opportunity to experience climate research hands-on.**

Established in 2012 by the Department of Interior, the South Central Climate Science Center provides decision makers with the science, tools, and information they need to address the impacts of climate variability and change on their areas of responsibility. The Center supports big thinking, including multi- institutional and stakeholder-driven approaches to climate variability, change, impacts, mitigation, and adaptation research. For more information:

Aparna Bamzai  
 Technical Coordinator  
 South Central Climate Science Center  
 Phone: 405-325-0539  
 Web: <http://southcentralclimate.org/>

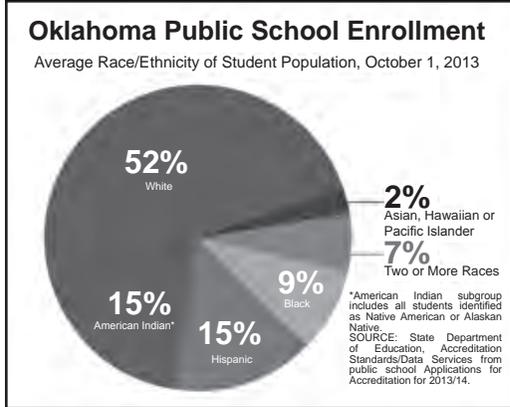
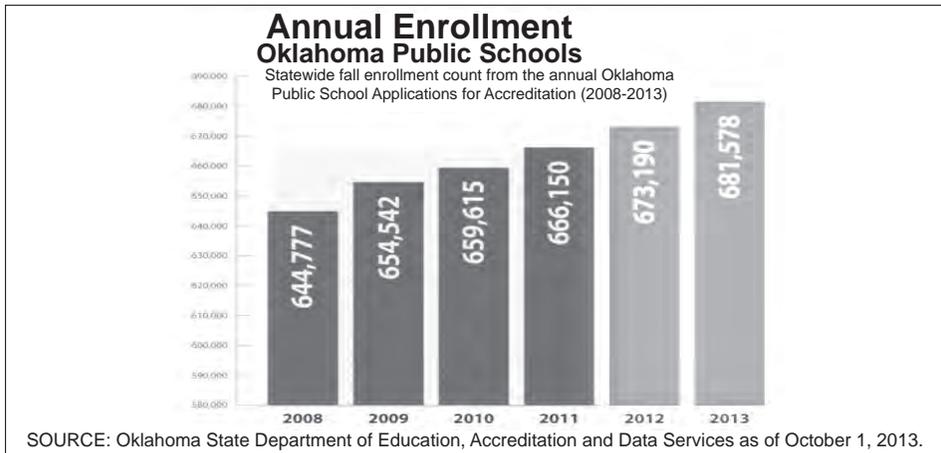
Editors, Reporters: This release contains a corrected chart of the 10 largest school districts. Enrollment figures for 2012 were incorrect for some districts on the original.

**Enrollment in Oklahoma schools increases sharply in past five years**

**OKLAHOMA CITY** (Feb. 14, 2014) — The number of students enrolled in Oklahoma public schools has increased for the 2013-14 school year. The total enrollment of students attending public schools in pre-kindergarten through grade 12 is 681,578. That is an increase of 8,388 students from 673,190 in 2012-13 enrollment and 27,036 more than in 2009, five years ago.

"Because of this sharp growth in enrollment over the past five years," said state Superintendent Janet Barresi, "I have asked for additional funding for schools from the state Legislature. I'm pleased that even in a tight revenue year, Gov. Fallin has proposed a significant increase for K-12 education.

"Additional funding certainly isn't the sole answer, but we are working to ensure that common education receives as much funding as possible given fiscal realities. I also continue to ask local school boards and administrators to do their best to get dollars to the classroom so our teachers are better equipped to teach this growing number of students."



Annual enrollment numbers come from the Oct. 1 enrollment count taken annually by every public school district and charter school site in the state as received by the State Department of Education's accreditation office. Results are then certified.

Oklahoma's student population is 52 percent white, 15 percent Hispanic, 15 percent American Indian or Alaskan Native, 9 percent black, 7 percent "two or more races" and 2 percent

Asian, Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, according to the 2013-14 data.

The three largest school districts in the state remain Oklahoma City Public Schools with 45,717 students, Tulsa with 41,115 and Edmond with 23,020. Moore, Putnam City, Broken Arrow, Norman, Union, Lawton and Midwest City-Del City round out the top 10. All 10 districts made up the same list last year, although some have changed ranking. See enrollment figures here:

<http://ok.gov/sde/documents/2014-02-13/state-student-public-enrollment-2013>

| District              | Grade Levels | Total Oct. 2012 | Total Oct. 2013 |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Oklahoma              | PK-12        | 44,720          | 45,717          |
| Tulsa                 | PK-12        | 41,076          | 41,115          |
| Edmond                | PK-12        | 22,489          | 23,020          |
| Moore                 | PK-12        | 23,173          | 23,019          |
| Putnam City           | PK-12        | 19,257          | 19,378          |
| Broken Arrow          | PK-12        | 17,207          | 17,947          |
| Norman                | PK-12        | 15,129          | 15,601          |
| Union                 | PK-12        | 15,298          | 15,526          |
| Lawton                | PK-12        | 15,684          | 15,463          |
| Midwest City-Del City | PK-12        | 14,680          | 14,586          |

The Finance Department employees, very much deserve special recognition as they daily continue the never ending processes for the financial side of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Without their tireless diligence, dedication, and commitment we could not keep the financial transactions processes flowing! Also, appreciation to the Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder, who continues to assist me with numerous projects, recommendations/suggestions, attendance at meetings where I cannot attend, and consulting decisions in the office of Treasurer! Very special thanks to Arlene Herrera who serves as Administrative Assistant in the office of treasurer and secretary.

We appreciate all your phone calls, emails, and visits. May God continue to bless you and yours! See below articles from Finance Department and Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder.

Respectfully,  
 Kathy Deere  
 Tribal Treasurer

"TO EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE, WE MUST REALIZE THAT WE ARE ALL DIFFERENT IN THE WAY WE PERCEIVE THE WORLD AND USE THIS UNDERSTANDING AS A GUIDE TO OUR COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS."

~ANTHONY ROBBINS

**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 20<sup>th</sup> OF THE CURRENT MONTH**

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

on our concerns on the Contract Support Cost claims and how they were being processed; we spoke about our own growing disease burden and health budget needs. We have forwarded a letter to address these concerns and look forward to continuing our dialogue with RADM Meeks and his staff on those issues and other related health initiatives.

We have been seeing and hearing many things about our Casino, its operations and staff. In my recent attempt to learn about the Thunderbird Entertainment Center I asked for specific information. As-to-date I have received limited information. It's not even clear to me who is on the Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. Board. It seems that the General Manager is one of the Board members and one of the other Board members is his employee. I'm sure there must be more members than that but without specific information I don't know the whole picture. Let me re-state what I have said before - We need to look at the composition of our Boards and Commissions and get Absentee Shawnee people on them that are part of our local communities, involved in industry, who understand the needs of our people and are willing to assist the Tribe to make progress. It appears we have an array of internal operational problems and the issues instead of being resolved are growing. This statement is based on Gaming Commission reports whom are tasked to report concerns to the Casino who in turn is expected to resolve them so that our Casino's aren't shut down or penalized by the National Indian Gaming Regulatory Authority (NIGRA).

We have had a busy month in my programs and I would like to share with you what they have advised they are doing within them: Emergency Management This month our Emergency Manager did the following:

1. Attended emergency manager orientation given by the Oklahoma Emergency Management and took a tour of the Emergency Operations Center.
2. Met with Red Cross to discuss establishing MOU for assistance during disasters. These documents will be reviewed by legal and Governor and submitted to EC for consideration.
3. Attended National Summit in OKC to network with reconstruction experts, viewed the latest safe rooms and heard from national weather experts on updated data about recent tornado events. This was found to be informative with good resource materials.
4. Attended Intertribal Emergency Coalition hosted by the Iowa Tribe. FEMA reviewed comments from Tribes acquired during the tribal consultation policy comment period and discussed disaster related permanent work projects.
5. Attended Preliminary Damage Assessment Training hosted by Cherokee Tribal Emergency Management. Linda Day is the Emergency Manager and is located at the new police substation in Little Axe. Ms. Day is the contact for this program and may be reached at 405-275-3432. If she is unable to resolve your concerns please communicate with my office.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

During the month of January the Police Department responded to 99 calls for service and hosted the COPS Native American Training Series IV from the 28 Department responded to 99 calls for service and hosted the COPS Native American Training Series IV from the 28th to the 30th. The training series addressed community issue topics such as underage drinking, disorderly youth in the community and Domestic violence just to name a few. The training series also covered school violence/shootings, bullying and a variety of school safety issues. In addition to the previously mentioned topics the training series provided instruction and material to prepare tribal police leaders to address today's law enforcement challenges in Indian Country. This training series made presentation and educational materials available to both the Governor's Office and the Police Department that may be used for community awareness.

The point of contact for this program is Police Chief, Brad Jackson, and he may be reached at 405-275-3200. If he is unable to resolve your concern communicate with my office.

**BUILDING BLOCKS & CCDF**  
**CCDF**

The CCDF Subsidy program held a meeting for parents on January 30th to discuss the BBII rate changes and the provider reimbursement changes. These rate changes became effective February 1. Currently we have 25 children who receive child care assistance through the subsidy portion of the CCDF grant.

The AST CCDF Coordinator and BBII Director have been working with the Governor's Office on implementing an afterschool program on the AST

Complex campus. We are working on the guidelines and policies that could work best to meet the needs of the Tribe and community. We will inform the public as soon as our plans are finalized.

By the end of February we will have job postings for the new BBIII in Little Axe. We are still accepting applications for the waiting list for our new BBIII facility in Little Axe. We will update you on any new developments to the new center as they happen. We look forward to all the developments and strides we are making at Building Blocks II and III.

**BUILDING BLOCKS**

This month has been quite challenging with regards to weather. Because of this, Building Blocks was closed for 4 days in the first week of February. We understand that this can create somewhat of a hardship on working parents. In an effort to listen to the concerns of parents, but still consider the safety of the children and staff, we reviewed our inclement weather closing policy with Governor Butler-Wolfe and decided to update it. Our former policy stated that Building Blocks would close 'if Shawnee Public Schools close OR the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex closes.' Our new policy states that 'Building Blocks will ONLY close when Shawnee Public Schools close.' We hope that this will alleviate any more confusion about when we close and decrease future hardships on parents.

Our Valentine's class parties were a huge success! The children had such a wonderful time sharing treats with others and eating all of the yummy snacks. Thank you to all of the parents who contributed snacks and/or attended. Also, thank you to the teachers for putting together such wonderful parties for the children.

We have been working on increasing our enrollment. We currently have 63 children enrolled. Eight of those are new children. Currently, there are two (2) immediate openings in our toddler room and one (1) immediate opening in the two-year-old room. If you are interested, please contact us at (405) 878-0633. All other age groups have a waiting list. However, we accept applications for our waiting list at any time. Building Blocks Child Development Center now has a Facebook page!! Please look us up and LIKE us!! This is where we will post events, closings, child development topics, and any other relevant information. This is a great way for us to reach our parents and the community. Building Blocks is a wonderful center and we want to share all of the great things that we are doing here!!

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**



**March 3:**

**We will celebrate  
Dr. Seuss's Birthday  
with green eggs &  
ham and birthday  
cake!**



The point of contact for the Building Blocks program in Shawnee is Billie Thompson at 405-878-0633. The contact for the Little Axe Building Block's program and/or CCDF is Brianna Ponkilla also at 405-878-0633. If they are unable to assist you with your questions contact my office.

### EDUCATION

The Education Department is accepting applications for the Big Jim Youth Award Program 2014. Please nominate Absentee Shawnee High School Seniors. We are still accepting applications for the spring 2014 term for tribal members interested in educational assistance. Tresha Spoon, Director, attended a Budget and Finance Committee meeting for the Oklahoma Council on Economic Education on February 12th and a Board meeting on February 19th.

The Camp Nikoti-After School Program at the Little Axe Resource Center continues to serve Tribal members Kindergarten through 12th grade. The point of contact for this program is Tresha Spoon, Education Director, 405-275-4030, Ext. 121. Please feel free to communicate with her and if she is unable to assist you then contact my office. 405-275-4030, Ext. 121. Please feel free to communicate with her and if she is unable to assist you then contact my office.

### HEALTH

This month Mr. Mark Roger, Health Director, worked on the Veterans Administration Agreement. He indicates it will be completed soon, and we will be able to begin seeing our AST Veterans in both the Shawnee and LittleAxe locations and bill the VA for these services. An open house enrollment and seminar will be held jointly with the VA just prior to the official roll out to educate all of our tribal veterans and serviced VA patients from other tribes receiving services at our area clinics.

The AST Health System has implemented its new Customer Service Line. Please direct all complaints or compliments to (405)-701-7623. Please be assured that this is the best way to have each situation addressed, with consistent updates from our Health Staff. After the investigation of all issues is complete, our Health Director or a Clinic Administrator will personally contact you with updates, decisions, or question pertaining to your case. 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. See the website for health at: [www.asthealth.org](http://www.asthealth.org) including actions for your compliance with the ACA using the decision support tool.

If you have questions for the Health area, please contact Mark Rogers, Health Director, at 405-447-0300 (Little Axe) or 405-878-5850 (Shawnee). If you are unable to get a response on your issue please contact my Office.

### MEDIA

If you should have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Sherman Tiger, Media Director, at 405-598-1279. If you continue to have questions and/or concerns contact my Office at 405-275-4030, Ext. 188.

### CONCLUSION

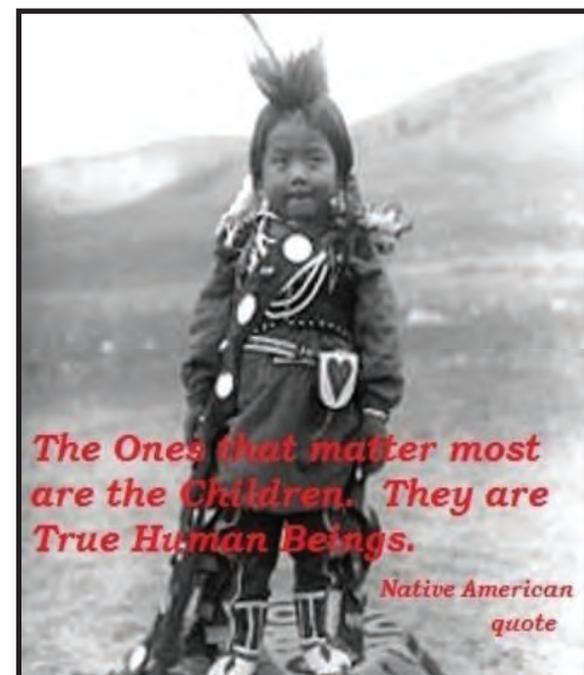
In conclusion - I have 16 months to go and we have many unmet needs that I hope that we can address in the near future.

Some of my top priorities over the next few months will be looking to educate the Health Board(s) on our concerns. This month the Health Board placed the former law firm we have been working so hard as a Tribe to remove from our system back in for another year. This Board and its members have the same mentality as the Bureau of Indian Affairs - 'big brother knows best what you need' attitude. I am very disappointed and frustrated with both Board(s) actions. If they truly want to help the Absentee Shawnee people then they need to LISTEN to us. I now believe in order to resolve the issues with the Board(s) that we must look at placement of individuals on the Board(s) that will hear our concerns and act accordingly. This Board's actions are an affront to the Tribe.

Another priority is to assist the Treasurer as she and her MIS department endeavor to complete a Communications Policy. This will assist in safe communications being provided by AST and make it available to users for the purposes of the business functions of the tribe. In looking to future I believe there are opportunities and challenges ahead of us as a Tribe and we need to move forward together as a Tribe to ensure they happen. I believe I can make a difference for all of our people with your help.

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

Thank you again for your support.



# SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

## Sherman Tiger

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



This month my Spotlight features Mr. Sherman Tiger, Media Director, as the employee of the month. Sherman is an enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribal member who does a great job on keeping within his limited budget, getting projects done, utilizing local resources to promote programming and creatively reaching goals that are established with and for him. Mr. Tiger came on board in 2011 as the Tribe's Media Director and since then work products have been enhanced and creative projects have come from his department. Formerly, Mr. Tiger, worked in the Cultural Preservation Department, has served on the Election Commission and is active in local events, fundraisings and Stomp Dances.

We appreciate all of the services that you bring to the Tribe.

Thank you, Sherman.

### 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.

# FOCUS GROUP!

## FREE GIFT CARD & GOODY BAG

We are looking for participants to join us in a discussion over our community's prescription drug use and underage drinking issues. We are looking for adult community members as well as youth community members ages 15-19. There will be 3 sessions, one for adults, one for male youth and another for female youth. Each participant will receive a free gift card and goody bag! To sign up to join in on this community discussion send me your contact information and add your name to our list! This is first come first serve!

Limit 10 per group.

Kasey Dean - LA Behavioral Health Department 405.701.7993  
Kdean@astribe.com

## After School Program 2013/2014

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

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

And Much More!



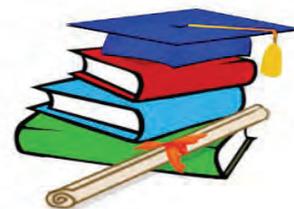
**OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

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

**Duration: Starts October 7th 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**



# Finance Department

March 2014

(Article Written 2/13/2014)

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

The Tribe's 2010, 2011, and 2012 Audits are "unmodified" opinion; which when compared to an educational grading scale is an A. The 2014 Indirect Cost Proposal has been submitted to the Interior Business Center (IBC) and I was notified on September 17, 2013 that it is ready to be assigned to a negotiator. The proposal has been assigned to a negotiator and I have answered the questions posed. Our rate is up from 1774% for 2010 to 2198% for 2011 to 22.35% for 2012 and 2739% for 2013; with 2014 being undetermined until negotiations during 2014.

We are preparing for the 2013 Audit which will begin early 2014 for all of the Tribe's entities [Casinos; Store; Restaurant; Smoke Shops; ASEDA, Inc.; ASEDA, Enterprises; ASTHA & LSWN which makes up Absentee Health Systems; and the Tribal Government.] All of the tribe's entities must be audited first and then they are combined with the Tribe's Governmental Audit.

The finance department is completing accounting by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Financial reporting for the Tribe, Health Authority and Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Inc. boards and the Executive Committee for Absentee Health Systems, Shawnee and Little Axe (LSWN) continues monthly. The Finance staff has completed the January reconciliations and financials. It is imperative the accounting staff continue to stay ahead of all of the accounting so that audits go smoothly, and Indirect Cost rates stay up to date. Indirect cost proposals cannot be submitted without completed audits as the audit is used to calculate the proposal. There are many processes in place in your Tribe's accounting department that ensure we keep accurate records of transactions. The Tribe's accounting processes must be in compliance with GAAP; (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) and these rules are updated annually.

The Tribe currently has compact funds of BIA, I H S, and approximately 51 Grants. In addition, the Tribe operates a General Fund and an Indirect Cost Fund. The new clinic building payments are current and have not been late and projections are that they will continue to be current going forward.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Finance Department has very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them, the Treasurer's office and at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The Finance Department employs 14: with 6 (43%) being AST Tribal Members, 2 (14%) non-AST tribal members, 6 (43%) being non-natives.

This department would like to extend a special thanks and note of appreciation to the Executive Committee for providing the tools, resources, and support to enable the finance staff to reach its accomplished goals and to continue with this effort. A special thanks and note of appreciation to Program Managers and Employees of the Tribe for their assistance and dedication in our continued group effort toward accomplishing our goal.

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

Respectfully,  
Belinda Collins  
Controller.

## Financial Consultant's Report

Greetings Tribal Members,

Hope you are surviving the March winds, keeping your hair and bonnets in place! As the third quarter of 2014 comes to an end, my how the quarters fly. The office of Treasurer continues to be a good steward of the financial resources, ensuring stringent internal controls, sound financial management, accountability and transparency.

**Its election time again, get out and VOTE for the most qualified candidate.**

**The following activities I have been involved and participated:**

**Absentee Shawnee Economic Development Authority, Inc. (ASEDA):** ASEDA continues to hold monthly meeting regarding economic development efforts for the Tribe. At our recent board meeting the following companies gave a presentation:

- **Marathon Builders** who have experience in the construction business such as, Devon Boathouse in Oklahoma City, and over the last 50 years have built in 49 states, Canada and Mexico.

• **Brothers Bottling Company, LLC** a Native American owned water bottling company, owner John Fryrear, of El Reno, OK. Mr. Fryrear gave a presentation on the bottling company.

ASEDA welcomes tribal members and elected officials to attend our monthly board meetings scheduled every second Thursday of each month, 10:00 a.m. tribal complex Governor's conference room.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



#### AST VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

The AST Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program which started February 12th continues to prepare free basic tax returns for low-to-moderate income Tribal members. At the time of this writing our VITA tax program has refunded over \$12,500 dollars and a value of services provided at \$2,430.00 in savings. A final report of program success will be provided to Internal Revenue Service (I.R.S.) and May newsletter. As site coordinator, Eddie Brokeshoulder, I would like to give a much needed special thank-you to our VITA Volunteer Certified Basic Tax Preparers: Belinda Collins, Genevieve Foster, Jessica Gonzales, Jennifer Hernandez, David Deer, Tresha Spoon, Brenda Claw and Mark Rogers. Also the following certified volunteer greeters: Treasurer Kathy Deere, Leah Bettelyoun, Novadeen Hood, and Stella Little.

Our program continues to accept appointments through Saturday, April 12th. Please call 275-4030 x 241, for an appointment, do not wait until April 15th, the last day to file. Should you have questions, please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder, Site Coordinator at 275-4030 x 148 or [eddieb@astribe.com](mailto:eddieb@astribe.com).



#### Absentee Shawnee Development Corporation

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe filed for a Not For Profit Certification of Incorporation with State of Oklahoma on August 2013, now named Absentee Shawnee Development Corporation (ASDC). A recent meeting with Kristi Coker-Diaz, of First Nations Oweesta Corporation, provided attendees Treasurer Kathy Deere, Glenna Jones and I information on steps we need to take to assemble board of directors, implementing Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and advertise for an executive director. The ASDC is in need of a volunteer who has a financial and business ownership background to serve on our board of directors. If you are interested, please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder at 405-275-4030 x 148.

**Access to Capital & Credit in Native Communities:** A free webinar sponsored by OSIYO Consulting, LLC and GBS, LLC facilitated virtual session which examined ways to improve access to capital and credit in Native Communities. The webinar will assist our Absentee Shawnee Development Corporation by providing best practices in raising capital and improving credit for our Tribal community. If you would like more information on the development of this opportunity more articles will be presented in our upcoming newsletters. Contact Eddie Brokeshoulder if you have any questions at 405-275-4030 x 148.

**Building a Powerful Grants Strategy:** A free webinar sponsored by First Nations Development Institute and GrantStation. Owner Cynthia Adams gave a presentation on establishing a grants calendar for the next 12 to 18 months, designing and adopting a Grants Decision Matrix before beginning the process of building a specific grants strategy for each project.

In closing the office of Treasurer continues to provide accountability and transparency in abiding by our Tribal constitution as custodian of all monies, and related accounting functions, which come under the jurisdiction or control of the tribe.

Respectfully,  
Eddie Brokeshoulder  
Financial Consultant

**\*\*\*NO REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR MARCH FROM LT. GOVERNOR AND REPRESENTATIVE\*\*\***



The AST Fitness Program would like to extend an invite to all tribal members looking to increase their levels of physical activity and learn more about fitness and exercise. The AST Fitness Facility at the Resource Center is fully equipped with state of the art treadmills, elliptical machines, stationary cycles, dumbbells, isolation strength machines, and a cable machine. Our facility is also equipped with freestanding striking bags, medicine balls, exercise balls, fitness mats, resistance bands, BOSU balls, and other various exercise apparatus for your preferred workout. The AST Fitness Program currently provides free fitness classes to all tribal members. Classes include: Kickboxing, Circuit Training, Chair Exercise, Tai Chi, Boot camp, and Aerobic Fitness. The AST Fitness Program is here to help you get started on increasing your levels of physical activity and exercise. We invite you to come visit our fitness facility and see what our fitness program can provide for you.



### AST Fitness Facility Hours

Monday through Thursday

6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday

6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday

CLOSED

405-364-7298



**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

Oklahoma's new **SOCIAL HOST** law means that if you let underage drinking occur at your house or on your property, you will get fined, up to \$500 for the first offense.

**FRIENDS**  
WHO HOST **LOSE** THE MOST



Absentee Shawnee Tribe Behavioral Health Services SPF - Program  
405.701.7987

# RESOLUTIONS

## RESOLUTIONS THROUGH FEBRUARY 19, 2014

### EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:

#### E-AS-14-05 02/19/14

Establishes that the 73<sup>rd</sup> Semi-Annual General Council Meeting for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma be set for Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., Thunderbird Entertainment Event Center, in Little Axe, Oklahoma.

#### E-AS-14-06 02/19/14

Authorizes, adopts and approves the submission of four applications to the U. S. Department of Justice Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation, and further authorizing such approval for submission for the entirety of the fiscal year 2014 and continuing until the Year 2019.

#### E-AS-14-07 02/19/14

Amends the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Criminal Code Chapter Six,

"Traffic Offenses", as provided for in the attachment Exhibit A, effective immediately.

#### E-AS-14-08 02/19/14

Approves and accepts Rachel Anne Powell Hendricks, William Chase Anderson, Tabitha Rose Johnson, Royce Jaxxon Bullock, Anniah Faith Moore, Panther Sky Little Axe, Kaley Jean Tiger, Rylan Ambrose Ramirez, Shawn Daniel Boston, Vicki Jo Thorpe, Christina Gracella Preciado, Oscar Gabriel Preciado, James Francis Thorpe, Jr., Jasper Pristine Thorpe and John Edward Canales as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

#### E-AS-14-09 02/19/14

Authorizes the submission of an updated Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Transportation for construction, overlay, or maintenance.

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## CULTURAL PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

The AST Cultural Preservation Department would like to pass along the following information concerning updates to each of our programs.

### Cultural Preservation

This past month, we held our second activity of the year for our Program. On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, participants had the opportunity to learn how to make a Yarnbelt by Fingerweaving. Ms. Jennifer Onzahwah led the demonstration and presentation at the LA Resource Center. As usual, lunch and snacks were provided and we had lively conversation and good fellowship.

It is my hope that those of you who participate will be able to take away a new skill upon the completion of each class. It is our intent to have an activity each month, though it may not always be a cultural or skills demonstration. If you have questions about the skills classes or would like to lead a demonstration, please call Joseph at Ext. 203, or send an email to [joseph.blanchard@astribe.com](mailto:joseph.blanchard@astribe.com)

### Library

We have a variety of resources available for checkout or your reading leisure including: magazines, newspapers, journals, CDs and DVDs. Since the last publication, we have conducted interviews for the Library Technician/Archivist position. The interviews are complete and a selection has been made so I will make a formal announcement and introduce our newest Team Member in the next newsletter. The Library program will be operational once again and services will be restored shortly. If you have any concerns or questions about membership or circulation, please call us at ext. 122.

### Gift Shop

The Gift Shop continues to make progress in sales and new inventory. At the time of this submission, we have started to receive our Spring orders from Pendleton and our other vendors. Plus, come in and view our selection of CDs in the Native style of music you prefer. We carry tunes for Powwow, NAC, and Stomp Dance. Also, the latest variety of bags, rugs and table cloths are now in stock. If we don't have what you like, let us know. Oftentimes, we can 'Special Order' your request and have it on hand in a matter of days. If you have any questions, please call Esther at ext. 122, or by email at [elowden@astribe.com](mailto:elowden@astribe.com)

### THPO

Our THPO program continues to make great strides and advancements. As previously discussed, in conjunction with the National Forest Service, we are hosting a Heritage Resource Technician (HRT) Paraprofessional training, March 17-26. This will consist of 40 hours of Classroom and 40 hours of Field Work, for a total of 80 hours to complete the certification. The cost of the course is \$200, which includes Lunch and Snacks. Please call myself or Carol Butler for all the details.

Likewise, along with this activity, there is another opportunity, in the near future, for us to assist the National Railway Association, which will require an additional 4-8 hours of 'E-Safety' training. These classes are necessary for individuals to gain eligibility to become employable or contract out for services.

Your concerns are important to us. We thank you for the continued support of our department as we continue to make changes to our programs, in order to provide the best service to our Tribal community. Thank you for your time.

Joseph H. Blanchard  
Cultural Preservation Director/ Tribal Historic Preservation Officer



Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority  
107 North Kimberly  
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801  
(405) 273-1050

### Storm Shelter Program

This program is designed to provide safe shelter and protection from violent storms, tornados, and unforeseen disasters

#### Applicant Requirements:

1. CDIB verification for applicant
2. Social Security cards for all household members
3. If applicant is not currently in the Mutual Help or NAHASDA Lease to Own Program, a clear title and/or deed will be required as proof of homeownership.
4. All required application forms completed.
5. No accounts in default or delinquent status owed to the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority.
6. Home must be applicant's primary residence.
7. Documentation from a physician if you are handicap or disabled.
8. If your application is selected, you will have 10 days to confirm your participation
9. Income verification of all household members.

#### Preference:

1. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Elders
2. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members who are Handicap & Disabled.
3. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members
4. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Descendants.
5. Other Tribes

#### Service Area

1. Pottawatomie County
2. Lincoln County
3. Oklahoma County
4. Cleveland County

#### Eligibility Requirements:

1. You are only eligible for a storm shelter for your primary residence.
2. Applicants who are participating in the Mutual Help Program as well as the NAHASDA Lease to Own Program are eligible to apply.
3. If you live in a mobile home, you must own both the mobile home itself and the land it is located on to be eligible for this program.
4. Storm shelters are awarded one time only to each family in order to meet the needs of all Tribal Members.
5. A waiting list will be established based on preference listed above.

Received by ASHA STAFF initials: \_\_\_\_\_  
TIME STAMPED: \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCENDENTS OF FRYOR & MARGARET (CHRISTJOHN) BROWN FAMILY REUNION

If you plan on attending please call one of the people listed below to RSVP by May 1. We are trying to get a count on how many plan to make it. Also if you would be interested in Tee shirts let us know that too. Thanks!  
Please call:

Glenda (Brown) Fuller 405-962-5732  
Ronnie Lauderdale 405-765-2700  
Twiggy (Wilson) Gregory 405-434-9136.  
John Soap Jr. 405-585-9268  
Sissy Franklin 405-567-9254.

## 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.

#### 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.

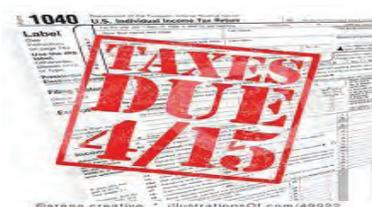
FY-2013  
YTD TAX COLLECTIONS  
(thru 1/31/14)

RUN DATE:  
02/12/14

| 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          | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$5,532.03          | 1.86%                |
| Gaming % of free cash    | \$250,000.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$250,000.00        | 83.85%               |
| Employee (1%)            | \$10,095.26         | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$10,095.26         | 3.39%                |
| Severance (8%)           | \$8,940.31          | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$8,940.31          | 3.00%                |
| Motor Vehicle            | \$13,670.11         | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$13,670.11         | 4.59%                |
| 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          | 3.12%                |
| <b>TOTAL TAXES</b>       | <b>\$297,541.23</b> | <b>\$0.00</b> | <b>\$297,541.23</b> |                      |
| Miscellaneous            | \$600.00            | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$600.00            | 0.20%                |
| <b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b> | <b>\$298,141.23</b> | <b>\$0.00</b> | <b>\$298,141.23</b> | <b>100%</b>          |

NOTE:

**AST VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)**



**FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE  
FOR LOW -to- MODERATE INCOME  
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL MEMBERS  
WHO MAKE LESS THAN < \$52,000**

- ✓ Trained preparers check eligibility for EITC and Child Care Credit
- ✓ Federal and State returns are *electronically* - filed with the IRS
- ✓ Confirmation the IRS has accepted your tax return
- ✓ Direct Deposit of Federal and State refunds available
- ✓ **Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Limit = \$52,000**

**Please bring the following items:**

- AST C.D.I.B.
- For married filing joint, both spouses must be present
- Taxpayers Proof of Identity (Driver's License) and/or spouse
- Previous Tax Year Return
- All forms, W-2, 1098 and 1099
- Information for other income
- Total paid to day care provider and their tax ID number
- Information for deductions/credits
- Proof of account for direct deposit of refund (e.g., voided check)
- Social Security Cards for you, your spouse and/or dependents.

**Filing Period: February 12, 2014 – April 12, 2014**

**Location: Title VI Building, Tribal Complex**

**Schedule: Wednesdays 3 P.M. – 7 P.M.**

**Thursdays 3 P.M. – 7 P.M.**

**Saturdays 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.**

**Call for an Appointment: (405) 275-4030 Ext. 241**

**Please arrive 30 minutes early to complete intake / review form.**

**Appointments Only!**



**Absentee Shawnee Tribe  
Development Corporation**

**BOARD MEMBER  
NEEDED**

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Development Corporation is establishing a board to help further develop the AST CDFI program into a certified Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI).

The CDFI board must be a representation of who CDFI will serve, and will consist of five individuals with skills and experience in or more areas of business, banking, accounting, business law, marketing, nonprofit management, or fundraising.

If interested in serving in this worthwhile endeavor as a CDFI board member please submit a Letter of Interest and Resume to:

Mail: Eddie Brokeshoulder, CDFI Steering Committee  
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma  
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Fax: 405-695-9780  
Email: [eddieb@astribe.com](mailto:eddieb@astribe.com)  
For more information (FMI): 405-275-4030 x 148

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|
|  |  |  |   |  |  | 1   |
| 2  | 3<br>Hot Dog<br>Pork n Beans<br>Chips<br>Yogurt                            | 4<br>Spaghetti<br>w/ meat sauce<br>Veggies<br>Salad Bar*<br>Breadstick | 5<br>Chicken Patty<br>Mashed Pot/Gravy<br>Brussel Sprouts<br>Bread<br>Mixed Fruit | 6<br>Smoked Sausage<br>Mac & Tom.<br>Veggies<br>Fruit                          | 7<br>Biscuits<br>Sausage Gravy<br>Scrambled Eggs         | 8   |
| 9<br>Spring Forward<br>Set clocks up one hour!!! | 10<br>Chef Salad<br>w/ Chicken<br>Cottage Chez<br>Peaches                  | 11<br>Pork Chop<br>Stuffing<br>Green beans<br>Cobbler                  | 12<br>Baked Chicken<br>Veggies<br>Wild Rice<br>Bread/Pears                        | 13<br>Manwich<br>Pot. Salad<br>Pickle Spear<br>Prunes                          | 14<br>Pancakes<br>Sausage Patty<br>Fruit                 | 15  |
| 16   | 17<br>BBQ Sandwich<br>Coleslaw<br>Pickles & Onions<br>Chips<br>Fresh Fruit | 18<br>Baked Ham<br>Sweet Pot.<br>Blacked-Eyed Peas<br>Crisp            | 19<br>Enchilada<br>Casserole<br>Mexi-corn<br>Tossed Salad*                        | 20<br>Chicken Fajitas<br>w/bell peppers & onions<br>Tortillas<br>Refried Beans | 21<br>Biscuits<br>Sausage Gravy<br>Scrambled Eggs        | 22  |
| 23   | 24<br>Chicken Strips<br>Mashed Pot. & Gravy<br>Tossed Salad*               | 25<br>Fish Sticks<br>Mac & Chez<br>Veggies<br>Pie                      | 26<br>Beef Stroganoff<br>Broccoli<br>Cookie                                       | 27<br>Wild Onion<br>Dinner<br>Beans<br>Cake                                    | 28<br>Cereal<br>Sausage Patty<br>Toast<br>Tropical Fruit | 29  |
| 30   | 31<br>Hamburger<br>Lett, Tom, Pickles<br>Onion Rings<br>Pineapples         |  |   |  |  |  |

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 on Fridays 9am to 11am

## Injury Prevention

Since spring forward happens this month, its time to change out the batteries in smoke detectors or update your old ones! If you are a tribal member in need of a smoke detector or carbon monoxide home detector, please contact Rosie Tall Bear at the AST Little Axe Clinic (405)-4470300 ext. 7601. All you need to do is fill out a survey form and we can either install them for you or you can pick them up.

Here are some fire safety tips to remember from the National Fire Protection Association:

- Clean the lint filter from your clothes dryer and keep the area around your dryer clear of things that can burn
- Make sure your smoke detectors are working
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop & make sure you clean the oven
- Check electrical cords to make sure they don't run across doorways or under carpets

If you have any questions or want more information about AST Injury Prevention Program, please contact Rosie Tall Bear at the AST Little Axe Clinic (405)-447-0300 ext. 7601.

# Horse Shoe Bend After School Program

March 2014

The after school program is back in full force for the second semester of school. Unfortunately, due to school scheduling: Lauren Wood, Jo Kleinsasser and Caitlyn Wells will not be able to continue their tutoring with us this semester. We are hopeful they will be able to come back and tutor in the fall of 2014. With three of our tutors gone this semester we still anticipate being able to maintain our current student workload that need to be tutored as we still have 9 tutors onsite daily with the program having around 20 students attending daily.

We started a new initiative with our Absentee Shawnee Tribal health department and by partnering with them grant funds through the Methamphetamine Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI) Program will be used to provide a music instructor once a week at the Horse Shoe Bend After School program. This contracted individual will be able to instruct our students in the area of music, playing musical instruments and learning about all the different types of music. We are also working on an additional site for after school tutoring which will be located on the campus here at the tribal complex. Two 50 X 100 portable metal buildings were delivered on January 17, 2014 for this project and we anticipate it being opened sometime after Spring Break.

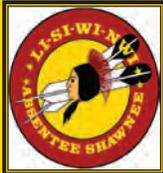


On January 15, 2014, our Absentee Shawnee Police Department, Officers Trent Norton and Shawn Crowley gave a presentation on Bullying. Our students were very responsive to this topic as most had witnessed and/or have been a victim of bullying at their school. We hope that the students were able to absorb all of this useful information on what to do when bullying occurs. At this same event we also had two members of our Absentee Shawnee Health Clinic, Eva and Jennifer, interact with students in role playing and games. Students were encouraged to talk about good and bad feelings and to work towards talking to someone when something is bothering them. Students were supplied with bags of treats from both Departments.

I would like to thank all who attended this worthwhile event: Treasurer Kathy Deere, Officer Trent Norton, Officer Shawn Crowley, Jennifer Sloan, Eva, and Christy Williams.

If you should have any questions or concerns I may be reached at 405 481-0397.

Thank you,  
Edwina Butler-Wolfe  
Governor

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|  | <p><i>Leah Bates</i><br/>for<br/>ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL<br/><b>TREASURER</b><br/><b>VOTE MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup></b></p> |  |
|---|---|---|

# MARCH 2014 BIRTHDAYS

Alford, Dianne Susan  
 Alford, Donald Ray  
 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, 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  
 Campbell, Mikayla Jo  
 Carlson, Scottina Dakota  
 Carnes, Kylee Aleea 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 Sabbestiun

Johnson, Sandra Kay  
 Johnson, Tiffany Sheri  
 Johnston, Diana Sue Alford  
 Judkins, Ashley Ann  
 Keith, Andy Ronin  
 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, Cynthia A.  
 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, Jasmine Consuelo  
 Martinez, Shawnee Danielle  
 Masquas, Cora Irene  
 Masquas, Joshiah Lee  
 May, Gina Lanette  
 McDoulett, John William  
 McDowell, Farrell Ramon  
 McKane, Sidna Rae Lenee  
 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  
 Perkins, Miranda Deann  
 Perry, Sierra Breanna  
 Peter, Kalina Nicole  
 Pine, Jeremiah Andrew  
 Ponce, Aisaiah Anthony Oscar  
 Pynch, 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  
 Richey, Kodi Rae Jolynn  
 Ridenour, Sydney Bree  
 Riley, Hulbutta Kotcha  
 Robbins, Blake Anthony  
 Robbins, Taylor 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  
 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  
 Sutfon 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  
 Tiger-Allen, Shane Clifford  
 Trussell, Sherry Lynn  
 Uchida, Denise Louise  
 Uchida, Kevin Micheal  
 Valdivia Jr., Enrique  
 Vaughn, Dylan Thomas  
 Wade, Justin Lee  
 Walker, Robert Stanley  
 Wallace, Christopher James  
 Warrior, Anthony Louis  
 Warrior, Pamela Sue  
 Washington, Olvie Winston  
 Watkins, Destiney Shae  
 Watkins, Jayana Laneis  
 Watson, Adriana Renae  
 Watson, Brent Grynne  
 Watson, Micah Lashaun D.  
 Watson, Peyton Deshae  
 Wenner, Martha Ellen  
 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, Frank Richard  
 Williams, Kaylee Nicole  
 Williams, Kevin Bruce  
 Williams, Paula Sue  
 Wilson Harjo, Reta Marie  
 Wilson, Adam Lee  
 Wilson, Mariana Danyel  
 Wilson, Melvin Wayne  
 Wilson, Zelmia Jo  
 Womack, Che'le Caye  
 Wood, Judith A.  
 Wood, Ryan Ashley  
 Wright, Cynthia Diane  
 Yamutewa, Chebon Dale

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY AUNT RHONDA!**

We love you lots!  
The Geisslers and The Womacks



Happy Birthday Wishes  
To all our March Relatives  
Chelle Foreman  
Rhonda Kaseca  
Manuel Herrera  
Everett Tahah  
Kylie Ann Yates  
Eat Lots of Cake  
And enjoy your big day!  
Marvin & Sherry



**Shelsie Mae White Thunder**

Love ya!  
Mom, Dad, Sheldon,  
Shelby, Bryson & Daelan

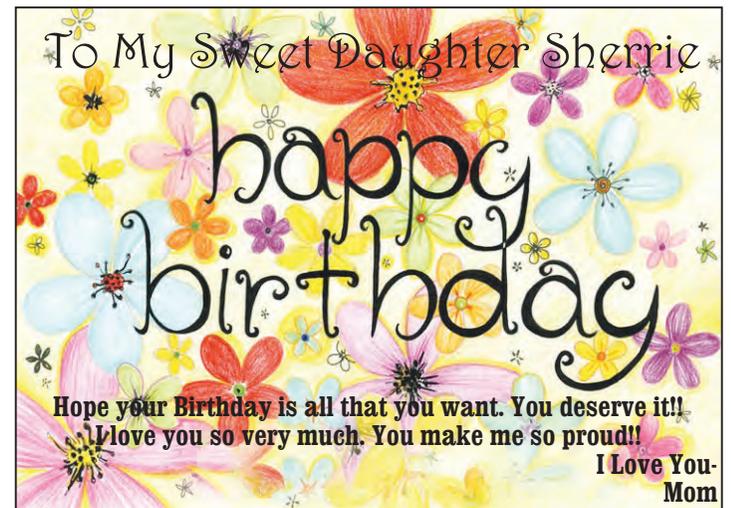
Wishing my Big Brother

B.K. Runsabove



Happy 26<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Love your Sister,  
Shelby



To My Sweet Daughter Sherrie

Hope your Birthday is all that you want. You deserve it!!  
I love you so very much. You make me so proud!!

I Love You-Mom



To our fun, loving, prankster,  
**Bryce Runsabove!**

We Love You & may you be blessed with many more birthdays!  
Love Always, Mom, Dad, Honor, Wade, Brock, BK, Mike, Matt, Momo, & GooGooch!!



Happy Birthday To You

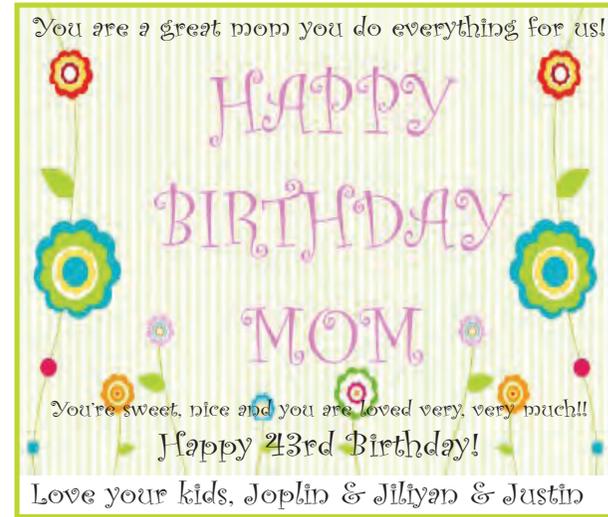
To my sweet, loving, little sister. I hope your birthday is filled with love and laughter.  
To the Best Sister Ever!!

Love-Creep

Happy 26<sup>th</sup> Birthday

\*Booty K\* (BK Runsabove)!

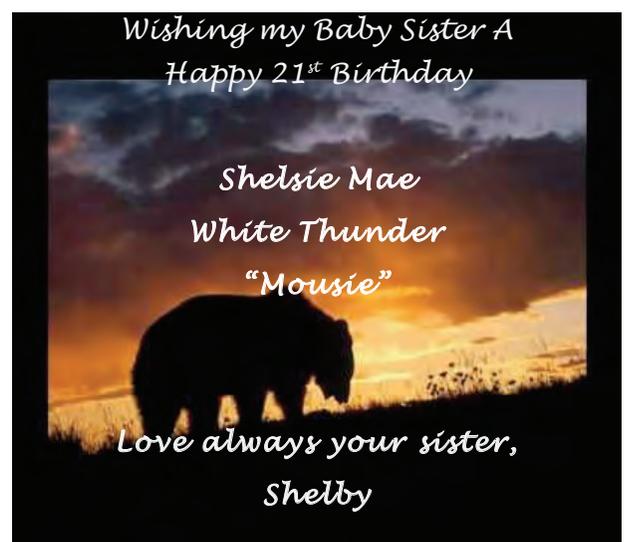
Thank you for being a Fun, Loving, & good hearted helpful person!  
We Love You & Enjoy your Special Day! Love Always, Mom, Dad, Honor, Wade, Brock, Bryce, Mike, Matt, Momo, & GooGooch!!!



You are a great mom you do everything for us!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOM**

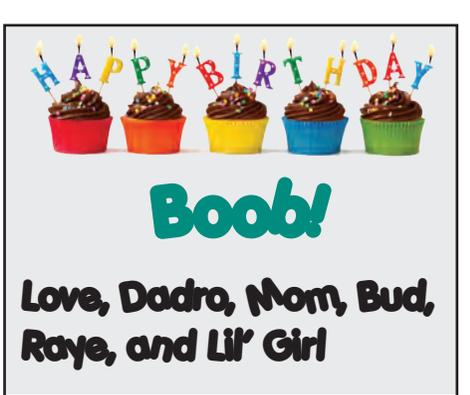
You're sweet, nice and you are loved very, very much!!  
Happy 43rd Birthday!  
Love your kids, Joplin & Jilijan & Justin



Wishing my Baby Sister A  
Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday

Shelsie Mae White Thunder  
"Mousie"

Love always your sister,  
Shelby



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Boob!**

Love, Dadda, Mom, Bud, Rave, and Lil' Girl

# Congratulations



**Darlowe & Laurie  
(Schulenberg) Todd**  
October, 2013

Rapid City, S. Dakota  
From Don & Esteline Schulenberg



**Clint & Michelle  
(Whinery) Rapp**  
Summer, 2013

Michelle is a R.N. at Midwest City Hospital. She was awarded "Nurse of the Year" at the Reed Center at their Winter Gala.

Michelle is the daughter of Tom & Pam (Schulenberg) Whinery



**Colby & Rachel  
(Whinery) Oldham**  
January, 2014

Harn Homestead  
Oklahoma City

Win A Silverado Truck - Saturday, March 29th



Norman Casino Location  
Ask How You Can  
Earn Entries At Player's Club

**Shawnee Casino Location:**

**YOU COULD WIN A**

**CHEVY SPARK**



**EARN ENTRIES ALL MONTH LONG! FINAL DRAWING @ 10PM ON SATURDAY, MARCH 29**

# HELP BUILD A PLAYGROUND!

In partnership with Boy Scout Troop 424, Good Neighbor Pharmacy, and KaBOOM!

## WHAT WE'RE DOING

We are looking for volunteers to help build a new playground for the children of our community. Bethel Acres is teaming with Boy Scout Troop 424, Good Neighbor Pharmacy and KaBOOM! to build the playground at the Bethel Acres Community Center. Volunteers do not have to be trained, skilled or have any special tools. You just need to be enthusiastic, energetic and willing to work while having fun.

## DATES FOR VOLUNTEERING

**Site prep day:** Thursday, March 20 (15-20 volunteers needed)

**Build Day:** Saturday, March 22 (100-150 volunteers needed)

## WHO TO CONTACT

If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the following people (via text, call or email):

\*Ryan Sharp: (918) 645-1303 or ryan.m.sharp@gmail.com

\*Neal Davis: (405) 314-3930 or nealdav@msn.com

**Facebook.com--Search "Bethel Acres Community Playground"**

April is.....

## Sexual Assault Awareness Month

The AST Domestic Violence Department would like to invite you to join us in recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We will have our 4th Annual Balloon Release in remembrance of those affected by Sexual Assault and to bring awareness to this crime.

- **Balloon Release for the Shawnee Complex will be on April 3, 2014 @ 3:00pm in front of Building #1.**
- **Balloon Release for the Norman/LittleAxe area will be April 4, 2014 @ 3:00pm at the LittleAxe Clinic.**



Although April is declared Sexual Assault Awareness Month it is important to keep in mind that this type of violence happens everyday of the year in our community and possibly within our families. If you or someone you know is or has recently been affected by Sexual Assault please contact us at 405-273-2888. Below are the names and numbers of those who can help.

Jackie—(405) 432-9377  
Melissa—(405) 432-9657  
Linda—(405) 585-8348  
Kimberly—(405) 365-9658

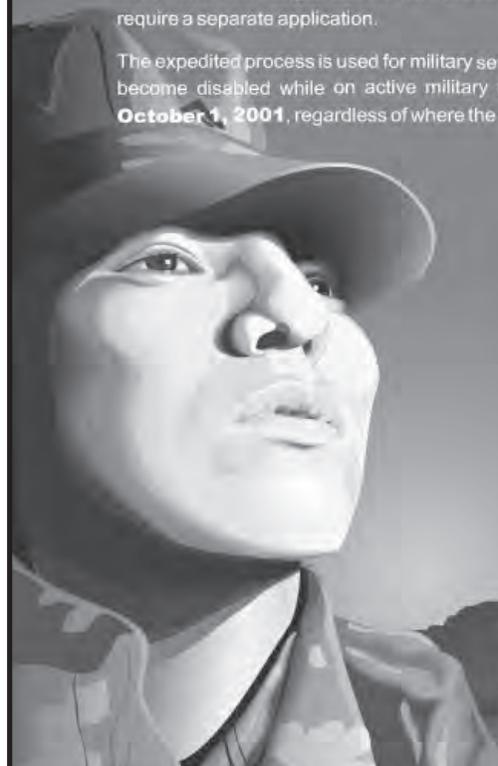
*The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma's Domestic Violence Department's mission is to eliminate violence in Native Country and to strengthen Native families to end the cycle of violence.*

## 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**)

# AST EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: BIG JIM YOUTH AWARDS APPLICATIONS

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Education Department 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)

High school seniors of both genders within the 50 United States are eligible to apply for these awards for the 2013/2014 school year. Applications will be accepted from January 1 to March 31, 2014 by US mail or email, official transcripts must be mailed. The official application form will be available at [www.astribe.com](http://www.astribe.com) under the Education Department. The \$1000.00 award is in the form of a scholarship to the college or university where the award recipient will attend for the fall 2013 semester.

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 2014.

Award recipients will be recognized as the 2013/2014 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 \$1000.00 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)

### Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Education Department

2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive

(405) 275-4030 Toll free (800) 256-3341 Fax (405) 273-7938

[youthaward@astribe.com](mailto:youthaward@astribe.com)

Applications accepted:  
Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> –March 31<sup>st</sup>  
Finalists announced:  
May 2014

- \$1,000 Scholarship Big Jim Academic Achievement Award (Male)
- \$1,000 Scholarship Big Jim Academic Achievement Award (Female)
- \$1,000 Scholarship Big Jim Athlete of the Year (Male)
- \$1,000 Scholarship Big Jim Athlete of the Year (Female)

#### **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

# ELECTION COMMISSION OFFICE HOURS

2014

## January

| Su | Mo | Tu  | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
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## April

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## May

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## June

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## September

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## October

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## November

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## December

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✓ Holidays

○ Election Day

□ Open 8-12/1-5

X Open 1-5

## Free Music Lessons



## ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE Promoting Safe and Stable Families Parenting Classes



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

This session, the classes will meet every Wednesday evening for ten weeks at 6pm, starting **March 26 through May 28, 2014**. New participants will be accepted until February 5th, after this date you will have to wait until the next session to enroll. Every class must be attended by the participant to receive a Certificate of Completion.

A dinner will be provided at every class as well as a babysitter on site if needed. Classes are also available for non-tribal members at a small fee of \$50. For more information or to sign up, call 405-878-4702.

Sena Yesslith, PSSF Worker



Hi there!  
If you've ever wanted to learn the acoustic guitar, bass, or piano, the AST Music Program can help you learn all these instruments and drums too!  
You just need to call me or email me and I'll do my best to get the right day and time set up for your lessons. We have had over 300 tribal members that have learned to play music and they are loving their new found gift. We have all the instruments you'll need right here at the Shawnee music house right next to the AST Police Department. My number is 405-370-5576 (cell) or you can email me at [bpradley@astribe.com](mailto:bpradley@astribe.com).  
Please hurry! Enrollment is filling up FAST...  
Please give me a call or email me and let's get started on the gift of music.

**Phil Bradley Music Program**  
405-370-5576  
[bpradley@astribe.com](mailto:bpradley@astribe.com)

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE  
TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

RECYCLING MA-  
TERIAL THAT  
WE ACCEPT.

ALL WHITE PAPER,  
ENVELOPES, COL-  
ORED PAPER, JUNK  
MAIL, FAX PAPER,  
MAGAZINES,  
NEWSPAPER, CARD-  
BOARD, AND ALU-  
MINUM CANS.

MATERIAL WE  
DO NOT AC-  
CEPT.

TONER, CARBON  
PAPER, FOOD  
WASTE, AND PLAS-  
TIC.

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 Pro-gram 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.

### 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.astribes.com](http://www.astribes.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



## AST COUNTRY KITCHEN

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

### Early Bird Breakfast

**\$4.99**

2 Eggs/Bacon or Sausage/Hash Browns

Biscuits & Gravy or Toast & Coffee

(Not valid on Saturday or Sunday. 1 coupon per customer. With coupon.

No substitutions



Check out our daily homemade lunch specials!

Something different every day!

Open 7 Days A Week!

**366-7220**



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

# VETERANS!

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL BE PROVIDING A TRAILER FOR AN OFFICE SPACE FOR THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE VETERANS ASSOCIATION. SO IF YOU ARE A VETERAN & INTERESTED IN ATTENDING OUR MEETINGS; HERE IS A SCHEDULE FOR THIS YEAR:

MARCH 12, 2014,  
JUNE 11, 2014, SEPT. 10, 2014,  
DECEMBER 10, 2014.

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THUNDERBIRD CASINO IN THE WARRIOR'S ROOM START TIME IS 7:00 PM WITH A POTLUCK MEAL SHARED

# After School Program 2013/2014

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 GRADES K-5 for

**Absentee Shawnee Tribal Students**

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

Duration: Starts October 7th 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



## Job Opportunities

### Shawnee Campus

- Procurement Clerk II
- Procurement Clerk I
- GAP Coordinator

### Little Axe Health Clinic

- Dentist
- Dental Hygienist
- Medical Director
- Security Guard
- Staff Physician

### Thunderbird Casino/Shawnee Casino

- Surveillance Operator

For More Information Visit:  
[www.astribe.com/employment](http://www.astribe.com/employment)

Absentee Shawnee Tribe  
Human Resource Department

2025 Gordon Cooper Drive  
Shawnee, OK 74801

(405) 275-1468



## Coming Soon!!!

# New Patient Portal

## Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System

Little Axe Health Center

Shawnee Clinic

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



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

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

# Prescribed Burn to Prevent Wildfires

On February 18, 2014, the Realty Department, Cultural Department, Joseph Blanchard, Project Specialist, Andy Warrior, Levi Littlecreek and Terrence Tiger, joined up with the Wild land Fire Program to unite a prescribed burn on a 30 Acre tract of prairie terrain in Eastern Pottawatomie County. The Wild Land Program is a serviceability formed by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe to manage our lands with prescribed burns. Prescribed fire is a natural process that can be used to restore ecosystems and landscapes to their historical biological diversity and productivity. Also, prescribed

fires can be used to improve forage production, quality, composition, and palatability for livestock or wildlife. It can also be used to control non-native or undesirable plant species, plant diseases, and internal and external animal parasites such as ticks by modifying their habitat. Fire can be used in forest management to reduce logging debris and leaf litter, manage competing vegetation and prepare logged areas for planting or seeding. Prescribed fire can be used to enhance the appearance of both forests and rangelands. Fire can be an economically and ecologically sound alternative to herbicide use to reclaim native prairies, shrub lands, savannahs, or forests and to reduce the probability of wildfires.

- Reduce fuel accumulations - Periodic burning reduces the annual fuel accumulation in forests and grasslands reducing fire intensity and creating an ecosystem less susceptible to catastrophic wildfire.
- Improve wildlife habitat - Periodic burning improves habitat for Oklahoma wildlife by modifying cover, and food quality and volume.
- Increase biodiversity - Periodic burning induces environmental changes that result in plant and animal communities that are adapted to fire.



The realty department is mailing letters out to land owners to recommend a prescribed burn. We are recommending a prescribed burn; because, after recent inspections a notice of understory brush is starting to overtake hay fields and prairie pastures on our lands. Our intentions of recommending a prescribed burn are to increase the value of property and restore its natural habitat. We would appreciate your help, support and cooperation from land owners so that we can help you preserve your property. For more information about the Wild Land Program, contact Project Specialist Andy Warrior 405.275.4030 Ext. 189.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 405.275.4030 Ext. 127.



# Valentine's Day BINGO




Floyd Deere is ready to celebrate Valentine's Day



Jerry & Barbara Littleaxe  
Married 53 years  
Awarded with a gift card for being married the longest



Buster having some fun with the elders!!!



Richard & Mary Birdtail  
Celebrating 28 years together



Elders getting some exercise and having fun!!



Marjorie Kanitobe  
enjoying her chocolates!!!



It's Time for a Change

bettylwatson.com



**Betty L. Watson**

for Absentee Shawnee Tribe  
Lt. Governor



**BETTY L. MAHARDY WATSON  
CANDIDATE FOR LT. GOVERNOR  
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE**

We have elected officials in office now for four years! Do you want to elect them for another two (2) years? What have they accomplished in the four (4) years?? It is time for a CHANGE! CHANGE FOR A BETTER TRIBAL GOVERNMENT! We need dedication, loyalty, integrity and accountability of the actions of our elected officials. We need an Ethics Commission to establish Ethics & Conflict of Interest Codes to govern the actions of our elected officials, as well as tribal employees. It's time for a CHANGE! We need to elect strong, dedicated and experienced leadership to face the challenges our tribe, a sovereign nation is confronted from the federal and state government on a daily basis. Experience in tribal government is complicated and takes years to understand the complexity of the intricate governmental powers the tribe possesses as a sovereign nation. We cannot afford to make mistakes as a sovereign nation because of the far reaching effects to other sovereign nations nationally. We are facing one such challenge today with the CITY OF SHAWNEE ATTEMPTING TO IMPOSE A 3% SALES TAX ON THE TRIBES IN THE SHAWNEE AREA!

My number one goal, if elected as your Lt. Governor, is economic development. We must provide for our growing tribal membership, now 4,000 and growing! I want to create income from new revenue sources from economic development to provide additional services and benefits for ALL tribal members, NO MATTER WHERE YOU LIVE. Presently, you must live in a five county service area, (Cleveland, Pottawatomie, Oklahoma, Logan, and Lincoln), in order to receive benefits. If you live outside this area, you receive very few benefits, even though you are counted in the total membership when the tribe receives their budget from the BIA (\$2,206,533.00) and Indian Health Service (\$21,894,467.00). The government has established guidelines that restrict the use of these funds, BUT we can create income from other revenue sources that can provide benefits for ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS. You know tribes that provide a per cap payment to all members from their casino revenues, what do we get? Nothing! Some tribes provide additional help for the elders living on fixed incomes by providing food vouchers and additional help with emergency expenses.

Our only source of revenue is from the Thunderbird Casino! It is the only economic development that generates any income for the tribe. If the Thunderbird Casino was destroyed by fire or a tornado (we have had two tornados and a fire that came close), what would we do? I asked the treasurer how long could we operate, if this were to happen, 3 to 4 months, maybe. That is scary! We cannot delay; we must elect leadership with the education, tribal government and business experience to create wealth and jobs through economic development. The Tribe built a new health clinic at Little Axe, but we will not realize any income until we pay off the \$26 million debt in 2034. We, the General Council voted not to build the clinic, but the elected officials went around us and built it anyway. It is built on fee land meaning we would have to pay property taxes if the City of Norman takes away the waiver given for 5 years. Property taxes 0.97% of property's assessed fair market value for a \$23M facility is \$223,100 per year. And, we are building a child care facility on the same land, we will have to pay taxes on it. The old clinic building at Little Axe is empty! No plans for development, it has been 2 years, there are many uses for the building that could create income for the tribe, where is the leadership?

We have a convenience store, cafe, two smoke shops, two banks, and COWS, none generating any real profit for the tribe. We have prime property, Tecumseh Square, Lillard Pipe Building & Land, Earlsboro property (Dreamcatcher site), needs to be developed. We are paying property taxes on 687 acres in Pott. County and 111 acres in Cleveland County, should have been placed in trust years ago. My top priority is increasing our land base, putting our fee land into trust and pursuing the Absentee Shawnee homelands in Kansas and Texas, that have never been extinguished!

**THIS ELECTION IS ABOUT CHANGE! We need STRONG, DEDICATED, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP WITH WISDOM TO ACCOMPLISH THESE GOALS FOR OUR PEOPLE. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE ON MARCH 15!!**

Thank you.



**VOTE for Lt. Governor, Kathy Deere  
Accountable, Honest, Reliable, and Trustworthy**

I have been asked lately, "Why am I running for Lt. Governor instead of Treasurer?" My answer is I feel that we need elected officials that are honest, reliable, and trustworthy leaders to address local, state, and national issues and I feel I can be more of an asset to our Tribe as Lt. Governor. Some conferences, symposiums, and workshops I attended I have been the only tribal leader there and sometimes the only tribe representing Oklahoma. I will continue to serve this tribe with respect, honor, and as a privilege.

You can say, we are a small tribe, but we can stand with other tribes and be heard as many voices instead as of one. We are strong as many, not as one! We have to be involved with health, sovereignty, land, gaming, general welfare, taxation issues, economic development, etc. All of these issues are affecting tribes locally, state, and nationally. We have to think about our future of our children and grandchildren. We want to leave them with future legacies not burdens.

Campaign promises of Per Capita. Let us stop and think how it will affect all of us. When you think about the future of The Absentee Shawnee Tribe and its members, it seems that the question of a per capita payment is always either a common question or a platform. With the economic state of not only the tribe, but the nation as a whole, per capita payments are not reasonable. Most tribal members and election candidates seem unaware of the sacrifices that would have to be made to issue per cap payments. Part of the Absentee Shawnee Tribal motto is "Honoring our Past, Building the Future". In order to make per cap payments, services to all Tribal members would be at a disadvantage. So when programs such as education could be affected, which would hinder the youngest Tribal members, which are our future. Services would be drastically cut and could effect our elders, and they are our link to our past. Programs such as Social Services, Housing, and Healthcare could be effected which benefit all tribal members. You must remember that the Gaming Industry itself is a gamble; we must realize that the revenue generated from our gaming operations is often inconsistent and unreliable, and that the funds from the casinos are better suited benefiting the Tribe as a whole, through services.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as elected Treasurer and I want to continue to serve as your elected Lt. Governor. So if you bestow this honor on me, I will strive to do the best of my ability for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

With all my respect,  
Kathy Deere



**WYNONA COON  
FOR  
LIEUTENANT  
GOVERNOR**

As the Primary Election approaches, I ask for your support and vote to serve as your next Lt. Governor. I have the experience and knowledge to provide a strong leadership.

As I have stated the Tribe needs to be moving at a faster pace than we have in the last few years. We as leaders must establish a strategic plan in order to move forward and work in a collaborative effort to achieve goals of property and sustainment for the betterment of our Membership's future.

The issues we must place emphasizes on: Other means of Revenue, Revenue Allocation, Economic Developments, Partnerships and to be able to expand and enhance our programs and services.

As we cast our votes, evaluate each candidate on their experience, knowledge, and skills and who will represent you best at all levels. We need to restore a professional work environment, integrity and have accountability.

Again, I ask for your support and vote to move forward.

Respectfully,  
Wynona Coon

**Hello Friends, Family and Tribal Members,**

**I am seeking your vote for the March 15, 2014 election. I wish to serve as your TREASURER. I have been working among the Shawnee at the Little Axe Health Center Clinic for several years. I enjoy serving our people and look forward to serving you at a higher level. My intention is to work with the Executive Committee to make forward progress. I bring Healthcare knowledge and experience to the table. I hope to improve the services that we currently have and create new services to meet the needs of our people. I appreciate your time, consideration and VOTE in the upcoming election.**

**SHARON PONKILLA  
FOR ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE  
TREASURER!**

**KENNETH BLANCHARD**  
**CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF**  
**TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE**

As former Governor and Lt. Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe I have the knowledge and experience to provide professional leadership and improve services that impact each of you as a tribal member.

We need to plan for our future with sound economic development that will provide programs and services that will have a direct effect on you and your families now and in the future. We cannot provide these thing without dollars. We own several pieces of property that can be developed to generate the needed funds. We need more information and stability in our health care programs. We need to evaluate the educational needs of our youth. Their future depends on what opportunities we provide for them now. With my experience in tribal government I am not a "learn as you go" candidate. Please consider these things before you cast your vote.

I am asking for your vote March 15, 2014.

**EWELL LONGHORN FOR TREASURER**

I previously served as Treasurer from 2006-2008. I learned very much during my two year term. Two years is really a short time but I am proud to point out a few accomplishments during my term:

Intervened to stop the sale of our bank that would have resulted in a loss by the Tribe of \$1.6 million.

Directed and supervised the Finance Department in bringing the Tribe's Indirect Cost Agreements with the BIA current. When I took office the Tribe was two years without a current Agreement and our federal funding agencies were threatening to stop funding our grants unless we had a current Agreement.

Cut the cost of the Tribe's annual audit by almost 50%. The Tribe was paying two separate audit firms to complete the audit. I directed the Finance Department in eliminating one of the audit firms resulting in a savings of approximately \$50,000 for each annual audit.

Ahead of the big recession that began in late 2007, I saw the downturn coming and directed our investment firms to begin selling the riskier investments in the Tribe's investment portfolio. I believe large potential losses were avoided by this action.

Since I left office in 2008 I've continued working with Tribal governments as an economic development consultant and as executive director for a large tribe. I hope to serve my Tribe again as Treasurer. A few of my goals will be as follow:

Analyze our businesses (includes two casinos now and a bank) and determine why we are still unable to make per capita payments to our Elders.

Search and apply for new grant opportunities for tribal projects especially in the areas of renewable energy and farming on the Tribe's lands and those of our Tribal members.

Expand and develop training and job placement services for Tribal members especially our young Tribal members from the ages of 18 to 30 years old. Young families often need more assistance to prepare for and to find better jobs.

I am proud to say I am an Absentee Shawnee with a bachelor's degree in business, seven years experience in the banking industry and over 20 years working with tribes. I hope to receive your support and vote in the election!

**Elect a Man with a Plan**

Lieutenant Governor: (X) J. A. Little Axe MBA, LPN

If you're sitting here reading this article, it means you want answers. You're here on your own time because you care about this tribe—and you want to make sure I care about it as much as you do. You want to make sure I'll bring real solutions with me to office, not just bandages. Well, I'm not going to waste any of your time. My main focus today is your healthcare system.

"Tribal Healthcare" It's a phrase we hear often enough, but it is often used without full understanding of the implications. "Tribal Healthcare" means that you are our priority. Right now, we have fewer providers than we need to keep up with demand. Not only that, existing healthcare providers are overwhelmed with the demand for care; taxed beyond their capabilities. That is not making you our priority. That is not securing your future or the future of this tribe. No one wants to move to a different provider or stay with the tribe's provider that has, to be frank, a lousy Healthcare system.

When I was a child, our clinic was moved from the main building on the tribal campus to the Shawnee clinic's present location, so what changed over the last forty years? For one thing, it certainly isn't the way we do business. We have spent countless dollars on fruitless ventures that have failed. Those dollars should have been spent on you and your healthcare, and encouraging our people to seek a career in healthcare.

With foresight we built a clinic in Little Axe and then with forward thinking a more suitable facility, although built under scrutiny, we now have a gorgeous facility. Now we must combine the two clinics we have with the education department and create an apprenticeship program to groom our future healthcare professionals and certainly our future leaders.

We must educate our adults so that they have a better understanding of challenges that come before us. Healthcare is a job generator; there is a job for anyone who will take the initiative to get a good education and training. We will support you with an apprenticeship program while you earn your degree. Upon graduation we will provide you a job in the healthcare system.

On top of that, we will provide bench mark healthcare. We will also be carving out our share of the multi-billion dollar healthcare industry.

I think the most valuable change we can make as a tribe is ensuring that our staff top to bottom is filled with individuals who strive for perfection rather than settling for what's merely acceptable. And what better way to motivate our clinics than to give them a more appropriate budget? More money invested in our healthcare means a lower patient-to-doctor ratio, which means you will be getting the attention you need and will have a better quality of life. Recently, we hired a new Executive Director who is on track to turn the health care system around. He will need complete support with his strategic plan and its implementation. A job that is enormous in its complexity and responsibility we will need to be patient with him. He cannot do it alone.

The tribe as a whole will now have a venture that will be successful and change the quality of life for every tribal member in the future. What better way can you and I leave a footprint in time and provide for future generations long after you and I are gone.

(X) John Al Little Axe MBA, LP

**WILD LAND FIRE FIGHTERS**

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians is proud and honored to host the 2014 Fire Classes.

The Oklahoma Native American Tribes sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service, Ozark-St. Francis National Forest will be host-



ing Fire Classes April 21-25. If you are interested in participating in the classes and being a wild land fire fighter please contact the Fire Program Coordinator closest to

your home or with a sponsored Tribe. CDIB card is required.

Basic Wild Land Fire Fighters MUST COMPLETE: Basic Fire Training-40 hour classroom and field exercise, Pre-Requisites, Work Capacity Test, IS-700 MUST BE DONE ONLINE PRIOR TO ACCEPTANCE INTO BASIC FIRE CLASS.

For information contact Coordinator James LeClair at (580) 723-4466 ext 142  
Emergency Management Coordinator, OMT



# SHERMAN TIGER FOR ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE REPRESENTATIVE

Hello my friends and relatives.

I hope all is well in your homes, I'm writing this letter in hope of getting your support in the upcoming March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 election. The Polling places are at Little Axe Resource Center and the AST Police department in Shawnee. Please do vote.

For those who do not know me my grandparents are Joe & Annie Charley Kaseca and Jim & Annie Mann Tiger.

My parents are Henry and Dorothy Kaseca Tiger. I was raised in the Little Axe area and live there today. I am committed to the Tribe and the community at large. I offer this information as I believe in the philosophy of: "How do you know where you are going, if you don't know where you have been?"

I have been your Tribal Media Director since September of 2011. Since I started I have been able to improve efficiency and save the Tribe money by changing how we printed, what type of paper we printed on and getting our bills paid timely, thus, avoiding late charges. Since I have been running this department we have annually come in under budget and markedly increased service levels.

## Let me share with you what I have in mind if you elect me:

- ☒ **Work as a team with the elected body.** I believe we must put aside our egos and work together for the betterment of our Tribal members. We need to make progress and that can only be done by not placing blame on others or saying that's not my program. I want to work together, as there is only one EC committee, and this elected body is answerable to you our Tribal members and together we can make a difference.
- ☒ **Programs are funded to help our people and shouldn't be utilized to gather votes.** We need to help you, our tribal people, with the resources we are fortunate to have. We need to hire competent staff and allow them to do their work without fear of their jobs being lost if they don't hire or help a relative. We have programmatic guidelines that we need to follow and these should be used to meet your needs. If we don't have guidelines then I will work with policy developers to provide those guides as I want to help, not hinder, service levels.
- ☒ **If elected I will strive to ensure that we as a Tribe take care of the funding we receive.** An example is: Implement time clock usage for all employees. Large major employers use them to keep track of their most valued asset – employees. We need to look at this and use it to improve efficiency and promote good money management.
- ☒ **Let's promote good money management and business like practices.** When we shut down the Tribe due to weather we are heavily impacted from both a monetary standpoint and the lack of services offered. Businesses don't shutdown as that is a loss of revenue. Let me give you just a basic idea of how that impacts us here at the Tribe. Let's say we have 300 employees and we may pay them each \$14 an hour (this is just an example). If we close for one day that is \$14 per hour x 8 hours x 300 = \$33,600. That is a lot of money for our small tribe to incur and that is without any services and/or limited services being offered. This is but one area we can improve on and move our Tribe to being more like a business with higher productivity and better budget practices being done. We expect our Casino and Tribal store to be open why not our clinics and Tribal government? The Tribe has a generous leave policy so that those who choose to not drive due to weather conditions could stay home and we as a Tribe could still do the business of the Tribe. I will work towards making this a reality for our Tribe.

\* The business practices of implementing time clocks and changing our facility closure policy could save the Tribe an enormous amount of money and promote efficiency. This in turn could mean we would not have to take funds from other programs or from the money the Casino turns over to the tribe.

## Cattle Adventure or Venture?

- ☒ As for the cattle, this is one business venture that was not well thought out. Those who started it say it's a money making deal. But all of these costs have not really been put on the table. Just how much will these cattle sell for? How much is being expended for the land leased the cattle are on? What is the cost for us to transport these cattle to the veterinarian when they need vaccinations or necessary medical attention? What is the cost(s) of the feed, fence or pole barn that's not finished yet? What is our cost of taking an employee from maintenance to do all these things such as feed and check on them, etc.? This is similar to how the equipment in Media was purchased but not thought all the way through. We cannot afford to do things halfway. I am committed to strategic or long term planning.

I hope that I have made my position clear on these points and the direction that I would like to take the Tribe in my term. Thank you for taking the time to read this and I look forward to your support in the upcoming election.

Nee yaw way  
Sherman Tiger

# CYBER SECURITY

JOSHUA GIBSON | MIS | IT ANALYST

Hello to all, I'm Joshua Gibson -IT Analyst in our MIS department at the Tribe. I am one of four within our department, Rico Coon, Michael Berry and Nishant Shrestha. We all have different roles within our team in IT. We stay busy between network administration, media and storage, web design, communications, web services, network security, and various technical duties. We all have input as to what should be advanced for protecting tribal assets within the network. Currently I am finishing up my Cyber Security degree in a program at Rose State College; I've had the opportunity over the years to meet a lot of professionals in the field as well as meeting cyber division FBI agents, and Military cyber professionals to discuss threats that are ongoing with cyber security issues.



Cyber Security, where do we begin? The first line of defense is you. The user is by far the weakest link in a chain that opens back doors and most of the time leaves windows open to give malicious programs the opportunity to strike ones network. I would like to broaden, you our tribal citizens and employees, knowledge base on some of the dangers that meticulous programs pose as threats to your personal documents, financials, or other important information.

Let's get a brief history of Cyber Attacks; they have been around since before broadband was commercialized. 1949 was a pivotal point when theories for self-replicating programs were first developed; this gives you a keen sense of understanding on how long these malicious programs have been in the works, this was pretty much when technology really took off after WWII. In 1981 Apple had Viruses 1, 2, and 3. The virus was created to pirate computer games. 1983 Fred Cohen, coined the name Computer Virus as it self-replicates. In 1986 two programmers, Basit and Amjad, replaced the executable code in the boot sector of a floppy disk to infect any drive. They created this virus known as "Brain" and it was to expose piracy as individuals would copy the program and expose piracy around the world. The 90's were very experimental times for viruses and Trojans there was a lot of high profile attacks geared toward the government at the time Microsoft began to feel the effects of malicious programs. This was mostly through office suites (e.g., outlook, word, and excel). By the 2000's viruses were on the rise and began to spread like wild fire with the introduction of broadband (high speed internet). These attacks could be carried out much faster and efficiently. The more people hopping online, the more they were oblivious to attacks. It gave more chances for attackers to infiltrate anything and everything. It is very important that if you use these technologies on a daily basis, you should be aware of the dangers that you risk by not knowing.

I would like to leave you with seven 2014 Security Predictions for this year:

1. The U.S. Healthcare Website, many hackers are awaiting for users to sign-up as there are over 500 million lines of code. That's 25 times more than Facebook, 10 times more than WIN XP, 10-25 times more lines of code to secure and monitor.
2. Cryptolocker also known to be ransomware, these target small and medium sized businesses to hold important information as hostage by requesting sums of money to retrieve the documents back.
3. Infrastructure attacks; there were 25 major vulnerabilities in equipment that controls much of the world's critical infrastructure and industrial machinery in late 2013.
4. Non-traditional computer devices like cars, toys, and medical devices, hackers are now able to hack devices primarily due to wireless capabilities and bluetooth technology that is embedded in these devices.
5. A chain-of-trust hack -An attack such as this would be (e.g., phishing – a web address posing as a legitimate web site to acquire login credentials). Created to imitate a familiar site you normally visit. These are targeted to partners and contractors of businesses as they are the least secure.
6. Malware gets meaner – meaning it will disguise itself a lot more effectively tricking the user into allowing it to be downloaded for additional software additions, (e.g., tool bars on web browsers, extra media players, or links to malicious websites).
7. Network attackers become cyber shrinks – these are expected to be attacks focusing on more psychology than technology with techniques like convincing phishing emails and leveraging pop culture, to target the weakest link the user.

Facts – worldwide phishing attacks cost was more than \$1.5 billion in 2012. Social engineering threats increased 20% in 2013.

These are just some of the concerns that apply to businesses and home users as well. In the upcoming months I will address more of these issues in depth and provide a solution to better defend these ongoing threats for our tribal citizens and hope to maybe inspire young and elder tribal citizens in taking the initiative of learning about the information technology field. I believe this knowledge should be made accessible to you, as technology continues on the up rise; dangers lurk not far behind these wonderful advances.



# WE NEED YOU!!!

The Indian Child Welfare Program actively seeks Native American families to become foster parents for Native American children.

To find out how to become a foster parent for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe call 405-878-4702

## Foster & Adoptive Parents Needed!!!

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

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

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

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

If you find yourself and your family interested in Foster Care, please contact Amanda Lenora, CPS/Foster Care Worker - 405-878-4702

## ASTribe Indian Child Welfare Department FOSTER CARE

This article appears in the Daily Times in Farmington, New Mexico. And even though this talks about the foster care program and tribal children in foster care, this article can speak on behalf of what the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Foster Care and other tribes are going thru. Finding foster homes is a necessary to not only protect AST children but to also maintain their cultural identity, heritage and traditions. The Absentee is a small tribe and we should be able to work as ONE TRIBE to care for the AST children. If you have any questions, contact the ICW department at (405)275-4030.

*"Only two foster homes in San Juan County belong to American Indian families, but more than half of the 85 children in foster care now are American Indian. That means about 40 American Indian youths in the local foster system are living with non-native families. The Children, Youth and Families Department, charged with placing children in alternate homes if their own families are deemed unsafe for reasons of abuse or neglect, is having a hard time finding enough native families for the number of native children in the system.*

*The department does everything it can to match a child with a family of a similar background. That doesn't work when fewer homes than children are in the system, which means native children more often than not end up in non-native families. This is contrary to federal policy, which directs the department to make every effort to place children of American Indian descent in homes that nourish their cultural identity. But without more native families stepping up to offer a home for children, there is little the department can do to remedy this situation.*

*The Indian Child Welfare Act provides four placement options, which the department must pursue in descending order every time it places a native child. The first option is to place American Indian children with a relative who can provide a safe environment and who eventually attains a foster care license. The second option is for a child to be placed in a family from the same American Indian tribe. The third is for the child to be placed with a American Indian family not of the same tribe. The final option, and the one the CYFD most often uses, is matching native children with non-native families that simply have a foster care license.*

*This is a loss for children and for potential foster families. It's also a loss when it comes to efforts to revitalize native traditions and teach them to the children. We encourage all native families with the resources that can allow children a home to contact the Children, Youth and Families Department. Fostering a child is one of the most rewarding things a family can do."*

In the state of Oklahoma alone, there are almost 3000 Native American children in the foster care program with a majority of these children placed in non-native placements. Now imagine if your son, daughter, grand children were placed in another home that didn't teach or understand the Absentee Shawnee traditions. What would happen to their identity, their sense of being a AST, their sense of belonging and being proud of being a Absentee Shawnee?

The AST ICW dept are in need to foster homes. Emergency homes, temporary homes, it doesn't matter. We have made it a goal to get certify at least 5 homes to be foster homes for the AST. With obtaining more every year from this point on. It takes ONE TRIBE to care for ONE CHILD. As the great Tecumseh said, "A SINGLE TWIG BREAKS BUT A BUNDLE OF TWIGS IS STRONG."

For more information about being a foster home, please contact: Indian Child Welfare Department (405)878-4702

## To All-

**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 Native American children from their homes on tribal land and sending them to religious and BIA boarding schools. The legacy 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 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 878-4702 ext. 133.**

# HEALTHCARE OPEN ENROLLMENTS UPDATES!



**Medicare.gov**  
The Official U.S. Government Site for Medicare



General Open Enrollment: January-March 2013

This General Open Enrollment period gives Medicare recipients who missed their Initial Enrollment Period the opportunity to sign up from January 1 through March 31 each year. Your coverage will begin on July 1, 2014. **1-800-MEDICARE, www.medicare.gov.**

Inaugural Open Enrollment **EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH 31, 2014**

This inaugural open enrollment period allows consumers to enroll in the Affordable Care Act. You may qualify for health plan discounts and tax credits. Native Americans can enroll and unenroll on a monthly basis. **www.healthcare.gov, 1-800-318-2596**

Your Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System Patient Benefit Advocates are available to assist with Medicare enrollment and Affordable Care Act Health Insurance Marketplace information.

For more information contact:

Connie Bottaro  
Little Axe Health Center  
405.447.0300

Liza Wilson  
Little Axe Health Center  
405.447.0300

Lela Culley  
Shawnee Clinic  
405.878.4702



## 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



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



**Leah Bates**  
for  
**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL**  
**TREASURER**  
**VOTE MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>**



**Fellow Tribal Members,**

My name is Leah D. Bates and I am seeking your support as I pursue the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Treasurer seat. My deep-rooted tribal beliefs have further propelled me to not only continue to work for my tribal people, but to help on a more grand scale. The past five years, I have had the privilege to work in multiple positions within the AST Health System Administration. I have been a stable infrastructure through executive support services for the Health Board and Executive Health Director in the largest budget area and resource expenditure in the tribe. I have been a key component in creating a smooth transition for multiple Directors. In each job title, I have meticulously absorbed as much knowledge and experience as possible so that I may be able to accomplish my job duties to an exceptional level. Through my work ethic, I have been instrumental in implementing a time clock system for our health staff, helped create health budgets, and maintain grants with knowledge of grant guidelines. I also have experience as a Human Resource Assistant, auditor, payroll, marketing and social media, new employee training and orientation. Currently as an AST Clinic Program Analyst, I also help guide and fund tribal members who seek to gain education to further their careers in a health related field. Outside of Health Administration, I aim to strengthen our tribal community through establishing a boys and girls club, increasing the retention of our tribal youth within the Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI), providing leadership in implementing a large community playground for the Little Axe area, and developing an AST tribal language class for elementary tribal youth.

As a mother of five children, I know the importance of hard work and establishing a financial budget that is both beneficial and practical. I will apply all of my knowledge, skills, ability and experience in a focused, combined effort contributing towards being financially stable and help our tribe provide sustainability for our future generations. I seek to work in a collaborative manner, with various groups of people, to provide an outcome with positive results.

Sincerely,

Leah D. Bates

Leading Candidate for AST Treasurer

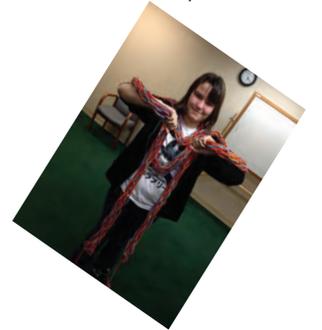


**Camp Nikoti Youth Programs**



**After School Program**

The students in our afterschool program have been working really hard the past couple months. We are starting to see lots of improvement overall with several of our youth and working hard with the others to improve. We have been working with Little Axe schools in order to get resources and textbooks for our kids to use, and in order to get the word out about our program. Our youth have completed 11 miles worth of walking the past couple months also. They also worked with Tresha Spoon in making yarn scarves, and they drew pictures to decorate the office door. Our workers have done a great job giving the students the one on one time they need with their studies and giving them the guidance they need to achieve. Our program is still growing slowly and gaining attendance about every week.



**Youth/Juvenile Diversion Program**

Our diversion program has been going really well. We currently have four families going through the program. We are about to graduate our first family through the program for this year. The kids and their parents are putting in a lot of work in order to help each other grow and learn from their choices. We have gotten great feedback from our families and the slow changes that they are already noticing with their youth.

**Tribal Youth Council**

**Location:** AST Complex Building 1

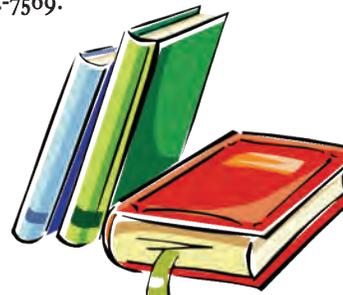
**Date/Time:** First Meeting will be **MARCH 29<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00am. Meetings vary in length, but usually last at least an hour.

**Participants /Ages:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The Youth Council is open to all students in this grade range.

**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.

**Questions:** For Further questions please contact Tresha Spoon at 275-4030 ext. 121, or Blake Goodman at 364-7569.



**The Absentee Shawnee Diabetes and Wellness Program**



**Spring run**  
**Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**



**Registration: 7:00 a.m./Race begins at 7:50a.m. No late starts.**

**Open to the Little Axe community**

**Check-In: Oval to the north of the clinic at 7:00 a.m.**

**Location: Little Axe Health Facility**

**Course: Lake Thunderbird South Dam**



For more information, please contact the AST Fitness Center at (405) 364-7298

