

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Health Care Committee! What beautiful Spring weather we are having. We enjoyed the warmest temperatures on record for February and early March. But we also need some rain. We hope to get some in April!

The entire Legislature was treated to a presentation and tour of the new hospital in March. The Governor invited us to his conference room where we saw a PowerPoint presentation and had lunch with Governor Anoatubby, Lt. Governor Keel and all the administrators as well as Lisa Bumpus, Deputy Administrator for the Health System. We then took a tour of the new hospital.

We all wore hard hats as work was progressing as we toured. There were many new items to see as the steel and concrete floors had been built since our last visit. Many of the outside walls are also up. Air conditioning units and insulation are being installed now. Dr. Judy Goforth Parker took pictures to put up on her blog so that she can share them with you. It was an informative trip and the building is huge and very impressive!

The Health System provided the following statistics: for the month of February, 2009, there were 189 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 20,149. February Emergency Room visits were 1,119. February saw 216 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,990 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 1,766 patients in February. The Ardmore Clinic saw 3,221 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 1,983. The Durant Clinic saw 2,697 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 2,253 in February.

I would love to hear from you! Please contact me through my email address mary.green@chickasaw.net or through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of the Chickasaw Times and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. My articles are

also located on the web site. Until next month, thank you.