

Greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! May is an exciting time for our Chickasaw students! I would like to take this opportunity to say congratulations and much success to each of you graduating seniors in the years ahead, whether your plans are to further your education or go into your career choice. We appreciate the effort you put into your studies and we are proud of you.

Spring is such a beautiful time if the year. We hope all of you are doing well health wise. Speaking of our health care needs, we appreciate so very much Dr. Marcia Matthews coming on board early and seeing patients in the Ardmore Clinic as Dr. James Moody delayed his date of employment until April 25th. Dr. Matthews reported to her permanent assignment at the Tishomingo Clinic on April 10th.

Our Health System Administrator, Bill Lance, reported that plans have been finalized for the new pharmacy distribution center to be built on the property currently occupied by the ball field just west of the Abbott-Miller complex. We are getting more excited each day as the time nears to finally get the center built. Mr. Lance also provided the following information about the Health System.

In the month of March, 2005, there were 221 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility and a 3-month total of 679. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 13,971 and a 3-month total of 42,240. March Emergency Room visits were 1,054 and a 3-month total of 3,327. March saw 292 surgeries and a 3-month total of 781. The Same-day Clinic saw 2,910 patients and a 3-month total of 9,751.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 1,936 patients in March and a 3-month total of 10,576. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,930 patients and a 3-month total of 8,904 and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,734 and a 3-month total of 7,659. The Durant Clinic saw 2,721 and a 3-month total of

7,650 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,280 and a 3-month total of 3,063.

The total number of visits by ambulatory patients in all clinics for the 3-month period ending on March 31 is 80,102. It makes me proud that our Health System is able to provide so much health care to our citizens and our Native American neighbors.

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. I look forward to speaking with you! Until next month, thank you.