

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! The Chickasaw Nation continues to be in dire need of rain. The fire danger is critical and the agriculture businesses are certainly suffering because of the drought. We continue to pray but there is no relief in sight.

We are happy to welcome Dr. Andrew Stevens as he joins the surgical team at Carl Albert Hospital. Other new assignments at the Chickasaw Nation Health System include Lisa Bumpus as the new Deputy Administrator and Sandy Sanders as the new Tribal Health Director. The Legislature was given a preview tour through the new hospital by artist renderings.

The new hospital is to be built on Stonecipher Drive in Ada. Hookups for RVs are planned for the hospital area. Family members often use RVs so that they can be close to their loved ones who are patients. Stage 2 of the construction includes provisions for a hospitality house for families to use when their loved ones are extremely ill.

I attended a meeting of the Chickasaw Historical Society last month. Membership is open to anyone at the low cost of \$20 per year. Membership entitles a person to receive copies of the Chickasaw Journal, a quarterly magazine that contains stories of our people, our history and heritage. Membership is a wonderful way to support the work of the Historical Society and to learn a lot of our history.

The Hall of Fame Induction and Banquet was especially nice this year. The location was changed which allows many more people to attend. Congratulations to the inductees and their families: James E. Amerson, Charles David Carter, Mary Stone McClendon and Catherine Pickens Willmond. We are so very proud of all our Hall of Fame members!!

Administrator Bill Lance submits the following statistics: In the month of July, 2006, there were 240 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl

Albert was 14,049. July Emergency Room visits were 1,011. July saw 221 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,230 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 4,241 patients in July. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,890 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,125. The Durant Clinic saw 2,747 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,545 in July.

Until next month, may you each enjoy good health. I would love to hear from you! Please contact me through my email address [mary.green@chickasaw.net](mailto: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.