

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! Happy New Year and I hope that all of you enjoyed a joyous Christmas with family and friends. I enjoyed my time with family and am looking forward to 2006; however, it seems as if the days and years are passing by faster and faster.

Kudos to the 21 GED recipients of 2005! We are proud that you studied hard and completed the course. We give our best wishes and our support to the 233 current GED participants.

We are happy to report that Dr. Neill Taylor has been hired in the Women's Clinic at Carl Albert and will begin work in February. Dr. Taylor brings a distinguished resume and we are very pleased to have him on the staff.

All of us that are diabetic have the opportunity to attend a 16 session course in regard to Diabetes prevention for all of our citizens that are high risk. Thanks to the Health System for providing the course.

The Health System has provided over 26,000 flu shots to date. We have more vaccine so it is not too late to get yours.

Bill Lance, Health System Administrator, provided the following information: In the month of November, 2005, there were 215 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 13,337. November Emergency Room visits were 1,090. November saw 233 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,839 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 4,125 patients in November. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,732 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,051. The Durant Clinic saw 2,593 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,494.

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.