

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Health Care Committee! Everyone here enjoyed the holidays but are ready to return to the work we do here and maybe lose some of the weight we have gained so that we are healthy and fit. I wish all of you for 2008 good health and prosperity in the new year. Remember to thank God for the blessings each of us receive daily.

We are happy to report that construction has begun on the new hospital in spite of the inclement weather. Many other construction projects have also begun across the Chickasaw Nation. Let us all pray for a mild winter in order for that construction to continue!

Health System Administrator Bill Lance has submitted the following statistics: for the month of November, 2007, there were 220 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 17,111. November Emergency Room visits were 847. November saw 240 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,746 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 1,655 patients in November. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,109 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 1,803. The Durant Clinic saw 2,287 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,773 in November.

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.