

Greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Committee Chair of the Health Care Committee! After having beautiful weather for the holidays, Winter came in full force with rain, ice and sleet. We were iced-in for a couple of days and still have ice and sleet in places. We are bracing for another ice/sleet/snow storm expected to hit tomorrow.

We haven't had the ribbon cutting for the new prescription center yet, even though it is up and operating. I have not yet toured the building, but know that it is nice. We take great pride in all new facilities we build. I called in a prescription on a Monday, went to the drive-through window on Wednesday, gave my name and chart number and received my prescription in less than 5 minutes. What an improvement! We are so proud to offer this wonderful facility to our people as it cuts the waiting time in picking up prescription refills. We hope some day soon to add same-day new prescriptions.

Plans are moving forward for our new state-of-the-art hospital. We can see work being done on the utilities in preparation of construction. Administrator Bill Lance met with the Health Care Committee and gave an update on the Health System.

Administrator Bill Lance submits the following statistics: In the month of December, 2006, there were 206 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 12,831. December Emergency Room visits were 953. December saw 227 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,324 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 3,917 patients in December. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,872 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 1,888. The Durant Clinic saw 2,202 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,581 in December.

The calendar year ending on December 31, 2006, showed a total of 337,472 total ambulatory visits for the Health System. This is much more than was anticipated and it shows the dedication of

our Health care staff. We are very blessed to be able to provide quality health care for so many Chickasaws and other Native Americans.

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.