

Greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! It's summer and many people are on vacation. However, legislative business continues and we Legislators and staff are on duty tending to the needs of the Nation. Summer is the time that we examine the Nation's budgetary needs for next fiscal year.

Kudos to Katie John for attaining the Gates Millennium Scholarship; to the Heritage Preservation Division for organizing what should be the best Chi-Ka-Sha Reunion ever; and all the speakers at Sovereignty Symposium, including our Legislator Scott Colbert and Legislative Counsel Robert Cheadle.

Our Health System Administrator, Bill Lance, reported that the electronic health records system is in the implementation process at Carl Albert Hospital. The system will eventually allow the hospital and all clinics to share health information on patients. He also reported the following facts:

In the month of May, 2005, there were 238 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 12,843. May Emergency Room visits were 1,274. May saw 272 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,677 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 3,957 patients in May. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,732 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,382. The Durant Clinic saw 2,514 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,403.

I publish the Health Systems reports each month because it never ceases to amaze me how many patients are receiving health care through the Health System. I am so thankful for the doctors, nurses and professional and administrative staff of the Health System!

Remember to spend time with your family and to express how much you and God love them. Be safe in your travels over the summer and may God bless and keep 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. I look forward to speaking with you! Until next month, thank you.