

Hello and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! Fall is my favorite time of the year. The Chickasaw Festival this year was good; however, the weather did not cooperate and the parade was cancelled. Next year will be bigger and better, I am sure.

The Friday night art show was outstanding as was the Thursday night reception honoring our Hall of Fame inductees. Our elders over 80 years of age were recognized and honored at the annual meeting with gifts. Several elders in attendance were over 90 years of age. I believe that the Healthy Lifestyles program is truly making a difference for our citizens!

Kudos to the Chickasaw winners of the art contest at the Festival: Grand Champion, Kelley Lunsford; Best of Show 3-D, Joanna Underwood; 3-D Open, Daniel Worcester; Jewelry, Joshua Hinson; Ceramics, Joanna Underwood; and Photography, Paul Moore. Congratulations to all and thank you for sharing your artistic talents.

In the month of September, 2005, there were 209 hospitalizations at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 14,363. September Emergency Room visits were 1,066. September saw 256 surgeries and the Same-day Clinic saw 2,672 patients.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 4,340 patients in September. The Ardmore Clinic saw 3,173 patients and the Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,203. The Durant Clinic saw 2,451 patients and the Purcell Clinic saw 1,505.

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.