

Greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! May has certainly been a busy month and the Health Care Committee did not meet due to scheduling difficulties. However, Bill Lance, Health Systems Administrator, sent a report regarding patient services at Carl Albert Hospital and the clinics.

The total number of hospitalizations at Carl Albert for June was 218 and a 3 month total was 636. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 13,395 for June and 42,272 for the last 3 months. Emergency Room visits were 933 in June and 2,940 in the last 3 months. The number of surgeries for June was 242 and 726 for the last 3 months. The Same-day Clinic (formerly known as Urgent Care Clinic) saw 2,523 patients in June and 7,765 in the last 3 months.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 4,527 patients in June and 13,882 in the last 3 months. The Ardmore Clinic saw 2,967 for June and 8,666 in the last 3 months. The Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,482 patients in June and 7,174 in the last 3 months. The Durant Clinic saw 2,481 patients in June and 7,464 in the last 3 months. The total number of patients seen in the last 3 months for all clinics is 80,094.

It is truly an honor for me to bring such wonderful news!! We are truly blessed to have a Health System that is able to provide services to that many Indian people. It is also my pleasure to bring you good news from the Department of Education.

This year has seen 15 students receive their GED Diplomas compared to 4 at this time last year. We all know that it is never too late to continue formal education and it lifts my heart to see so many that are so many Chickasaw students continuing on. Also, elder educations have begun again since the scholastic camps have concluded. The classes are held at senior citizen sites.

The Department also reports that a total of 64 students completed the CNASA Camps this year and 21 attended the Entrepreneur Camp. A Gates Millennium Scholarship (GMS) workshop was held at East Central University and 72 students attended. The GMS is a national scholarship that provides up to the total cost of education on a competitive and needs basis.

For your information, my articles are now located on Chickasaw.net web site. As always, I invite any comments or questions you may have. Please contact me through the address and telephone number listed elsewhere in this and every issue of the Chickasaw Times and on the web site. I look forward to speaking

with you! May God bless our health care providers and also our Indian people that they may be in better health in the coming year. Thank you.