

Greetings and happy new fiscal year from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District and Chairman of the Health Care Committee! October begins Fiscal Year 2005 and we are excited about the possibilities for our Chickasaw Nation in 2005.

Bill Lance, Administrator of the Chickasaw Health System has provided the following information for this month's report. The total number of hospitalizations at Carl Albert for September was 220 and a 7 month total was 1,528. The number of outpatient visits at Carl Albert was 14,106 for September and 98,874 for the last 7 months. Emergency Room visits were 997 in September and 7,048 in the last 7 months. The number of surgeries for September was 256 and 1,676 for the last 7 months. The Same-day Clinic saw 2,835 patients in September and 19,274 in the last 7 months.

The Family Practice Clinic in Ada saw 4,718 patients in September and 32,658 in the last 7 months. The Ardmore Clinic saw 3,079 for September and 20,692 in the last 7 months. The Tishomingo Clinic saw 2,610 patients in September and 17,712 in the last 7 months. The Durant Clinic saw 2,584 patients in September and 17,745 in the last 7 months.

The total number of patients seen or admitted in the last 7 months for all clinics and the hospital is 231,313. As large as that number is, it should go up in the near future as the work of the new Purcell Clinic begins to be reported.

I spent a wonderful 5 days this month with the Ada Senior Citizens group on a bus trip to Nashville and Dollywood. The Chickasaw Nation bus is beautiful and a nice way to see the countryside. The Seniors sold candy bars and held pie auctions to raise the money for the trip. The adventure was fun, the company was good and I'm very thankful for the experience.

Many of you have contacted me with concerns and requests. I thank you for the communications and hope that I can continue to serve the needs of my fellow Chickasaw. Please continue to send 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!

For your information, my articles are now located on Chickasaw.net web site. 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.