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Documentary examining Sequoyah's life to air on PBS in November Pages 14-15

## GWJ FV OJJ6C CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI DULIISDI 15-21 2021

# Language warrior honored

Dr. Hartwell Francis becomes honorary member of the EBCI

> By JONAH LOSSIAH One Feather Staff

t 4:09 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 9, Dr. Hartwell Francis held a smile so strong that a mask had no chance to conceal.

Resolution 3524-2021 was submitted by the Cherokee Speakers Council to recognize Dr. Francis as an honorary member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) for his work in preserving the Cherokee language. Several Speakers Council members and individuals from the audience

see HONORARY next page



Bo Lossiah, right, Cherokee Speakers Council secretary, places a Cherokee gorget around the neck of Dr. Hartwell Francis who received the designation of Honorary Member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians on the afternoon of Thursday, Sept. 9. (JONAH LOSSIAH/One Feather photos)



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#### Letters Policy

The Cherokee One Feather is available as a forum for opinion or comment concerning issues of interest to the community and readership. Letters, including any submitted photos, should be exclusive to and will become the property of the One Feather. Letters must be signed and include contact information (name, address, email, or phone number). Letters should not exceed 250 words and may be rejected if those exceed the word limit. Submissions of more than 250 words may be considered for commentaries at the discretion of the Editor. The name and township of the writer will be printed. Letters must conform to the ethics policy of the Cherokee One Feather and the paper reserves the right to refuse publication of any material. The Editorial Board is the final arbiter on all decisions involving content.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed by the editor and commentators are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Cherokee one Feather and Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

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#### Winner of 23 NCPA awards in 2020 including 1st Place - Community Coverage, Sports Coverage





Dr. Francis is greeted with a congratulatory handshake from Principal Chief Richard G. Sneed, right.

**HONORARY:** Dr. Francis honored, from front page

shared words of respect for Dr. Francis on Thursday afternoon.

Just before the vote, Dr. Francis addressed Tribal Council fully in the Cherokee language. After finishing, he received an applause from the entire chamber.

Once everyone said their piece, Tribal Council Chairperson Adam Wachacha asked any Tribal Council member who wished to vote yes for this resolution to stand. Swiftly, 12 Council seats emptied.

"It's an overwhelming honor to be given the opportunity to work with the language. This is just extra special to be made an honorary member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians," said Dr. Francis.

He did not have a history with Cherokee before moving to the mountains of North Carolina. He said that it all began with taking a job.

"I started in 2006 at Western Carolina University, basically without knowing anything about the culture or the people or the language. The state of the art was so limited that I was able to get the job at Western. I never looked back, but I'm just so happy that I got the job there," said Dr. Francis.

Following a decade getting to know the speakers and working with almost every language program in Cherokee, Dr. Francis moved to work full-time with the EBCI in 2016.

"It's special. I've made great friends here, with the speakers especially. The speakers have been very welcoming and shared their language. It's been an honor to work with them and give them the opportunity to share their language the way they want to share it."

Among those, Dr. Francis often found himself in the office of Bo Lossiah, secretary of the Cherokee Speakers Council. Lossiah was one of the members of the Speakers Council that spoke in front of Council.

"Any time you ask for a recording if you have a parent or grandparent that speaks, if they spent time with him, he has it. He presents it to you in a timely manner, and he's taken the time to make sure that those recordings are there for the integrity. So that we know how it's spoken from here to here on out. For all time. It's for everyone. He's done work for Dora Reed. He's done work for Cherokee Choices. He's gone down to the Snowbird library, and he does that without any hesitation. I can say he's visited homes...he goes anywhere he needs to be."

Lossiah said that it is difficult to explain all that Dr. Francis has done over the last 15 years. He said that one of the major assets that he brings is his ability to research. Part of that means working with other Tribes and ensuring that the EBCI stays up to speed.

"I can just keep going on all the work that Dr. Francis has done, and all he's done with the Cherokee speakers as far as helping us develop language materials. Recording, I can't say that enough. We're never going to have the opportunity to listen to the people that we have now."

Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver Johnson also made sure to add her perspective on Dr. Francis.

"I've never seen anyone that works as hard as Hartwell does. When he first came to us, I named him White Rabbit. I think that's stuck with him. He works. I never see him slow down. He just works all the time. And you heard for yourself how well he's learning to speak the language. A lot of Cherokees could sit back and take notes on how well he's learning the language. We're very fortunate to have someone like Dr. Hartwell Francis helping us to preserve the language. And when he makes me mad and I scold him, he just laughs at me," said Johnson.

She has worked closely with

him for years and says that he has only continued to develop respect from her.

"If anyone deserves the honorary place with the Eastern Band of Cherokees, Hartwell Francis does." JC Wachacha was another elder and member of the Speakers Council who offered his words. He said that Dr. Francis knows the Cherokee way. He also spoke about when he first started working with elders in Cherokee. Wachacha, like others, took their time to trust him.

"I had to learn to like him, you know? When I first met him. He kind of throwed me off guard there for a while. But, he's a good one. I just came up here to give him my support," said Wachacha. Dr. Francis said that over the years he has learned how to roll with this, and that earning the respect from elders like Wachacha and Johnson is a true honor.

"That's also very special. It takes some effort but it's worth the effort to work with people who initially wonder why you're there. And plenty of people have wondered why I'm here. I'm here because the language is so beautiful. I love the language and it's a great object of study on its own," said Francis.

As the unanimous vote came in, the honorary Cherokee stood slightly stunned. Lossiah placed a golden gorget over his head and Dr, Francis turned to a room with all eyes on him. It was time for a long line of handshakes and hugs. An honor he never expected to receive, but one that brought together everyone in the Council House.



## Same-sex marriage amendments killed by Council

## By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Staff

For now, the marriage law of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) will remain the same and only recognize unions between a man and a woman. Tabled Ord. No. 574 (2021), submitted by Tamara Thompson, an EBCI tribal member from the Big Cove Community, sought to change the wording of the Tribe's marriage law (Cherokee Code Section 50-1) and allow same-sex marriage. That legislation was defeated during the regular session of Tribal Council on the afternoon of Thursday, Sept. 9.

The idea of changing the Tribe's marriage law was first brought forth to Council in June by Thompson, but it was not deemed read and tabled as is customary for newly submitted ordinances and it died on the floor. The same scenario played out the following month. It was then deemed read and tabled during the August session. The ordinance sought numerous changes to Sec. 50.1 including striking that the institution of marriage is only "between a man and a woman". It also would have added, "Marriage shall not be limited by the gender or sexual orientation of the parties being married" and amended the following sentence to read, "The licensing and solemnization of same-sex marriages, that are duly and legally recognized within the United States, are accepted without discrimination within the jurisdiction of the Eastern Band."

Thompson told Council during discussion on the issue on Thursday, "There was a time, if you think back to the 1960s, when inter-racial marriages were illegal. That wasn't right, and the same thing is being done now. It's in the same category."

She added, "There's a Veteran's Park out here. Every name on that, they fought for freedom. This is freedom. This is a form of freedom, and I deserve freedom too." Principal Chief Richard G. Sneed commented, "This is really a simple civil rights issue. That is really what it comes down to. As a tribal government, we should not be passing laws that contain discriminatory language. Our current marriage law, (Cherokee Code Section) 50-1, does include discriminatory language as it recognizes marriage only between a man and a woman."

He proposed a floor amendment to Ord. No. 574 to strike Section 50-1 entirely and replace it with the following language, "The institution of marriage is recognized in the territory of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and may be solemnized by any ordained minister. Any judicial official of the Cherokee Court is authorized to officially solemnize a marriage. For a marriage to be legally recognized, a couple seeking to marry shall obtain a marriage license from and record with the Register of Deeds in their county of residence."

Thompson said she supported Chief Sneed's proposal. "A neutral law is better than a discriminatory one any day of the week."

Chris Siewers, of the EBCI Attorney General's Office, offered his legal thoughts on Chief Sneed's proposal. "You can't get married in Cherokee without the involvement of the state. Cherokee doesn't issue marriage licenses. So, the law is outdated in that respect. Marriage is a three-step process. You have to go get a license from the Register of Deeds, you have to get it solemnized, and then you have to return the license. And, those three steps make a valid marriage."

He added, "Because Cherokee doesn't issue the license what we're talking about here is solemnization. From a legal perspective, leaving the law the way it is now is concerning to me as an attorney for the Tribe because it keeps in a bit of a legal limbo...the State of North Carolina says that the state will give full faith and credit to solemnizations performed on tribal land, but full faith and credit is only extended when the law is not considered discriminatory. This language would not be allowed because of the U.S. Supreme Court opinion in Obergefell – language that restricts marriage to a man and a woman is not allowable in any state in the United States any longer."

Ord. No. 381 (2014) was passed on Dec. 11, 2014 and added the language to the Cherokee Code banning same-sex marriages within the EBCI tribal jurisdiction. The legislation stated in part, "God's Holy word defines marriage as being between a man and a woman only, according to Genesis 1:27; and, it defines homosexuality, etc. being error according to Romans 1:27..."

Dan Conseen, an EBCI tribal member from the Wolftown Community and the Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, told Council during discussion, "The original ordinance (2014) that was submitted was done so to help protect the churches from outside influences and unnecessary pressure to perform same-sex marriages. And, all we are asking is for a modification to exempt the churches from that problem."

Yellowhill Rep. Tom Wahnetah noted, "I think this speaks to the law more than it does religion because I think that they should be separated. As lawmakers, that's what we're here to do is make the law and make sure it is right and that we don't violate anyone's rights."

Rep. Chelsea Taylor-Saunooke made the motion to accept Chief Sneed's amendment with Rep. Albert Rose giving a second to the motion. Those two legislators, along with Rep. Wahnetah and Big Cove Rep. Perry Shell, voted in favor of the amendment. The other eight members of Council voted against it, and the amendment failed.

Painttown Rep. Dike Sneed made the motion to kill the ordinance and Vice Chairman David Wolfe seconded his motion. Voting to kill were: Rep. Sneed, Vice Chairman Wolfe, Painttown Rep. Tommye Saunooke, Wolftown Rep. Bo Crowe, Tribal Council Chairman Adam Wachacha, Cherokee Co. - Snowbird Rep. Bucky Brown, Birdtown Rep. Boyd Owle, and Big Cove Rep. Richard French. Voting against killing it were Wolftown Rep. Chelsea Taylor-Saunooke, Birdtown Rep. Albert Rose, and Yellowhill Rep. Tom Wahnetah. Big Cove Rep. Perry Shell abstained from voting stating that he supported the proposed amendment put forth by Chief Sneed.

## EBCI Prosecutor's Office responds to your questions

### Question:

Why do our prosecutors take it so easy on drug offenders? With the number of resources and opportunities our tribe has, yet we are seeing an increase in drug use and distribution.

## Answer:

We hear your frustration, and we share it. The Tribe is extraordinarily blessed to have resources available to its members that other jurisdictions cannot afford to offer and yet we continue to experience the destructive and deadly consequences of the unlawful distribution and use of controlled substances (drugs).

While the drug problem is so much bigger than any one group can solve, we will try to address what we in the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor have done and are doing and how we need your help in our effort to do better.

As Tribal Prosecutors, we are responsible for, among other duties, advising and assisting in the investigative work of Cherokee law enforcement. What that looks like in operation as it pertains to drug crimes is that the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor (OTP) meets almost daily with the Narcotics Division of CIPD, the OTP reviews all search warrants related to the investigation of drug crimes (and other crimes) and are closely connected with the execution of search warrants. We are on scene whenever possible for every fatal drug overdose and have attended autopsies connected with these investigations. We are available at all hours (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) to all Cherokee law enforcement for consultation regarding the charging of drug crimes (and all other crimes). Once a crime is charged, we work to obtain a conviction or another just resolution for all drug crimes committed on the Qualla Boundary.

Statistically, Cherokee law enforcement officers have continued to charge crimes related to controlled substances (drugs), and the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor has obtained convictions related to those crimes-more than 240 convictions for drug crimes in the last three years. In Cherokee, unlike in other jurisdictions, every conviction for drug possession or distribution requires active jail time. In the 2021 fiscal year, the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor obtained convictions in all crime categories imposing more than four times the number of active years imposed in 2018; however, drugs are still wreaking havoc on the community. We firmly believe that active jail time alone is not the most effective strategy for reducing the harms suffered by the Tribe and its members when it comes to drugs.

Our job as Prosecutors is to seek justice in connection with drug crimes and all other crimes committed on Boundary. Justice is not one size fits all. We consider a number of factors when recommending what we consider to be a just resolution to any matter. These factors include considerations such as a Defendant's criminal history, the strength of the case, its factual weaknesses, any evidentiary concerns that would stand in the way of a successful prosecution, the concerns and harms suffered by any victim, and whether there are other remedies that may be available outside of those within the criminal justice system. With these and other factors considered, the larger

question is "what resolution would be the best to keep the defendant from committing this crime again?" Will jail time alone be a deterrent? What happens when they get out of jail? Will they go home where we know others are using controlled substances, too? What is the root of the substance use issue? Childhood trauma, domestic violence, stress, depression, or money? All these things must be considered when trying to put together an idea of what will serve justice and attempt to deter the defendant from future criminal activity. We look to other Tribal agencies and programs for feedback on these questions, and we welcome feedback from community members, too, on what you think best serves the Tribe in terms of drug offenses and all offenses.

We also ask for help from the community in helping those of us in the criminal justice system successfully identify, investigate, and prosecute individuals responsible for all crimes in this community.

If you see crime occurring, please report it through Dispatch (Cherokee Police Dispatch Center 828-497-4131).

If you believe someone is violating terms of his or her

## Post 143 seeking contact info for EBCI service men/women

The Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 is seeking contact information for active duty EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) troops currently deployed overseas.

All information will be held in the strictest confidence. The Post and Ladies Auxiliary wants to send care packages and notes of encouragement to the troops.

## Info: Warren Dupree 508-2657 or David McQueen 736-9572

release from incarceration, please report it through Dispatch.

Please cooperate with law enforcement when approached.

Please respond to the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor when we reach out to you.

Please appear in Court when asked.

Please communicate with us directly if you are the victim or witness in any criminal matter.

We also ask for your help in creating and nurturing Tribal community and cultural initiatives that will better ensure successful transitions from incarceration.

Thank you for the question, and we welcome feedback about how you think we might do better and any other questions you may have about the functions of our office.

(Editor's Note: The One Feather, as a service to the community, will provide any program or entity of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, opportunities to respond to community questions. If you are leadership in a program or entity, contact the editor for details.)

## **Cherokee Central Schools committed to remaining open**

## **By JONAH LOSSIAH**

One Feather Staff

In their meeting Tuesday night (Sept. 7), members of the Cherokee Central Schools (CCS) Board of Education made it clear that they would be doing everything possible to stay open amid raising numbers of COVID-19 on the Qualla Boundary.

Cherokee has recently seen its second biggest spike of positive cases since the beginning of the pandemic, with 183 confirmed positive cases over the last two weeks. Several board members said that they had been contacted by parents or other people in the community worried about closure of the school.

"You're serving 1,407 kids. Since last Aug. 15 (2020), we've had 17 positives in students out of that whole population. Right now, we have five in elementary, one in middle, one in high school. So, you have seven right now. That's minimized on direct. You can't minimize a group more than you're doing. And every bit of that speaks to the efforts you've made trying to keep people safe," said Superintendent Michael Murray.

Murray continued by saying that CCS is following all the safety guidelines provided, and that there are still changes being made to protocols nationwide. He said that one of these protocols is quarantine and testing requirements. He said that the school's current policy is that in order to return to school after isolating, the student or teacher must be test at least five days after exposure. If they then receive a negative test and aren't showing symptoms, they may return.

Another shift that is coming

will be the food delivery service that CCS has been performing. Superintendent Murray said that the current structure isn't sustainable.

"We're the only system that I know of that has continued to provide lunch out in the community for...the ones that are picking remote now. I'm going to tell you; it's created a terrible hardship for us. I sent Terri [Bradley] out today. Being one of the only ones, I would rather us just set it up to where people could drop by and get their food and we do it a safe way. Because I'm having a hard time manning it. Terri was gone four hours today," said Murray.

After a brief discussion, the Board voted to amend the food policy to allow remote families to come pick up food, ending the food delivery service.

Among other announcements, Murray reported that the graduation rate for the 2021 class at Cherokee High School was 87 percent, which was greeted with a round of applause from the Board.

The School Board then passed all the items on the consent agenda, as well as one walk-in resolution. This approved four individuals for positions at the school. There was no contest to any of these items.

The Board also addressed vacation time during the first week of October, time that is usually set aside for the Cherokee Indian Fair. In 2020, CCS still offered the time off to staff and students despite the Fair being canceled. The Board is holding to that decision this year, stating that staff have already planned to take time off during that week.

They did slightly amend the days, however. Teachers and staff will now have an optional workday on Oct. 5 and 6, a half day on Oct. 7, and time off on Oct. 8. This move was made to connect the days off with the weekend.

Before the Board moved to a closed session, the Cherokee One Feather requested a statement regarding the Secretarial Order 3402 delivered by Deb Haaland, secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior. The order requires that all educators of BIE-operated schools 'shall receive a COVID-19 vaccine no later than October 15, 2021'.

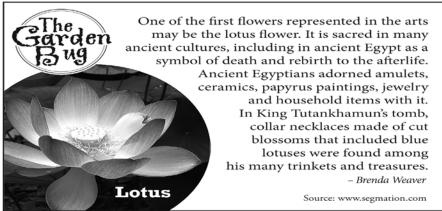
Superintendent Murray issued the following statement, on Sept. 9, regarding Secretarial Order 3402, "Cherokee Central Schools is a tribally-controlled, BIE-funded school system. We are not operated by the BIE and, therefore, this directive does not apply to our system. Our School Board continues to strongly encourage vaccinations and we feel that, along with education, is the best way to accomplish getting our staff vaccinated."

The statement continued, "We are over 72 percent vaccinated at this point with that figure increasing during the next two weeks. Our Cherokee Central Schools Board and staff are committed to keeping our children and families safe through consistent COVID protocols such as wearing masks indoors, social distancing when appropriate, and strict sanitation measures implemented daily."

The Board then moved into a closed session to finish the meeting. No further decisions were made.

The Tuesday, Sept. 7 meeting of the CCS Board of Education was called to order at 4:45 p.m. with Vice Chair Isaac Long; Secretary Tara Reed-Cooper; Board members Gloria Griffin, Karen French-Browning, and Regina Ledford Rosario; Superintendent Dr. Michael Murray; HR Director Heather Driver; Wolftown Tribal **Council Representative Chelsea** Saunooke; and School Board Assistant Terri Bradley all in attendance. Chairperson Jennifer Thompson was a few minutes late to the meeting. Asst. Superintendent Dr. Beverly Payne was absent from the meeting.

The next meeting of the School Board is scheduled to take place on Monday, Sept. 20 at 4:45 p.m. Meetings are being held in the Chief Joyce Dugan Cultural Arts Center at CCS. Board of Education meetings are considered public meetings and are open to public attendance except for executive sessions.



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## **Tribe receives grant for Little Free Libraries**

## By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Staff

Abbott Owle, an 11-month-old member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, grabs a copy of "We love you Moms and Babies" from the Little Free Library at the Dora Reed Qualla Boundary Head Start/Early Head Start Center on the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 8. He was taking advantage of a new grant-funded program aimed at increasing literacy among Cherokee children.

"The library will have 20 new books each week," Frances Long, Qualla Boundary Head Start/Early Head Start literacy/multi-cultural coordinator, said in a statement. "We ask that each family get one book per family so all children have a chance to receive a free book. Once you take a book, please leave a book in its place."

The library kiosk in front of the Dora Reed Center is made possible through a grant awarded to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Reading Nation Waterfall grant, awarded to four federally recognized tribes (EBCI, Crow Tribe of Montana, Northern Chevenne Tribe, and the Santo Domingo Pueblo) and one state recognized tribe (Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina) awards \$69,000 to each grantee over a three-year period.



Abbott Owle, an 11-month-old member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians being held by his mother Miranda Smith, grabs a copy of "We love you Moms and Babies" from the Little Free Library at the Dora Reed Qualla Boundary Head Start/ Early Head Start Center on the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 8. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

"It is a one-time award, but it is for three years with the idea being that over that time a way can be found to continue the project into the future utilizing any available funding," said Adam Kyle Lambert, Qualla Boundary Public Library manager. "The grant includes funds for books for the Little Free Libraries, a community survey, and some funds to support some programming and materials for Qualla Library, Snowbird Library, and the Elementary Library based upon the community assessment survey."

Dr. Anthony Chow, Reading Nation Waterfall project director, visited Cherokee in July and distributed 150 books at the Qualla Boundary Head Start and the Qualla Boundary Public Library. "Many thanks to Adam Lambert, Chief Sneed, Tina Saunooke, Donna Robertson, and all of the wonderful people and members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian tribe who spent time with us during our site visit," he said in a statement. "We learned quite a bit about their history, their dreams and aspirations, and the very real barriers they face, especially as it pertains to early children's literacy."

For more information about the program or to take the community survey, visit www.myreadingnation.com/ebci.

# **COVID HOTLINE** 497-3743

## Constitution vs. Charter: Article IX Know the difference!

## **Proposed Constitution**

## Article IX

Section 6. Penalties. A judgment of conviction causing an official to be removed by impeachment rendered by the Tribal Council shall include a disqualification from holding future elected or appointed office of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Clause 1. Reversal of Removal and Penalties. All judgments and penalties determined by Tribal Council regarding impeachment are final and are not subject to review by any other branch of Tribal government.

Clause 2. Criminality. A judgment to remove from office by impeachment shall be final. Civil and criminal charges of the impeached official may be brought forward in a court of law.

Clause 3. Restitution. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians may initiate a civil action in the Judicial Branch to seek restitution of any funds or property misappropriated or wrongfully acquired by an individual removed by impeachment.

Current Charter: Section 22. Any officer of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who violates his oath of office, or is guilty of any offense making him ineligible to hold said office may be impeached by a two-thirds vote of council.

## Why are Tribal Council judgments final in an impeachment trial?

Elected officials are subject to impeachment since they are not employees, however the citizens of the Tribe may vote them out at the next election. The alternative is impeachment through the Constitution as the way elected or appointed officials are held accountable for their actions while in office as it is a political process. As a political function, there is no other political group that can supersede the authority of Tribal Council.

## What does criminality mean?

As an example, if someone is impeached on charges of embezzlement in office, it does not protect them from criminal proceedings of the same charge. Impeachment is not a criminal process but political.

## What is restitution?

Restitution is the restoration of something stolen. If someone is convicted of impeachment it usually involves money. Even after being impeached, the tribe can still file a claim in Tribal Court to recover funds and/or property that were illegally taken. Being impeached does not stop any civil or criminal cases from occurring including the recovery of monies and/or items.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TRIBAL CONSTITUTION AND PARTICIPATE IN ITS CREATION! VISIT WWW.SGADUGI.ORG OR SIGN UP FOR ACCESS TO WEEKLY MEETINGS-CONTACT LLOYD ARNEACH AT lloyd.arneach@7clantech.com

## Swimmer found guilty of second degree murder

ASHEVILLE – A federal jury in Asheville convicted Shane McKinley Swimmer, 21, of Cherokee, of second degree murder late on Thursday, Sept. 9, announced William T. Stetzer, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina.

Chief U.S. District Judge Martin Reidinger presided over the three-day trial. Robert R. Wells, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Charlotte Division, and Chief Josh Taylor, of the Cherokee Indian Police Department, join Acting U.S. Attorney Stetzer in making Thursday's announcement.

According to filed court documents, trial evidence, and witness testimony, on Nov. 10,

2018, Swimmer and his uncle, Charles Ray "Chino" West, were at his uncle's residence on Rocky Knob Trail in Swain County, which is within the boundaries of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians reservation. Trial evidence established that shortly before 7 p.m., Swimmer attacked his uncle with a baseball bat, striking the victim in the head at least nine times. The victim died as a result of his injuries.

Following the attack, Swimmer went to another family member's house nearby and announced that the victim was dead before calling 911. Officers with the Cherokee Indian Police Department arrested Swimmer shortly thereafter. Swimmer remains in federal custody. The second degree murder charge carries a statutory maximum penalty of life in prison. A

sentencing date for Swimmer has not been set.

In making the announcement Acting U.S. Attorney Stetzer thanked the FBI and the Cherokee Indian Police Department for their investigation of the case. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John Pritchard and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney (SAUSA) Alexis Solheim of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Asheville. Ms. Solheim is a state prosecutor with the office of the 30th Prosecutorial District and was assigned by District Attorney Ashley Welch to serve as SAUSA with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Asheville. Ms. Solheim is duly sworn in both state and federal courts. The SAUSA position is a reflection of the partnership between the office of the 30 th Prosecutorial District and the United States Attorney's

Office. The SAUSA position helps ensure the effective and vigorous prosecution of federal court cases that impact the counties within the 30th Prosecutorial District.

- U.S. Dept. of Justice release

## **CIPD Arrest Report for** Aug. 29 to Sept. 5

The following people were arrested by the Cherokee Indian Police Department and booked into the Anthony Edward Lossiah Justice Center. It should be noted that the following defendants have only been charged with the crimes listed and should be presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Mugshots can be viewed online at theonefeather.com.

Tolley, Lawrence – age 49 Arrested: Aug. 29

## MISSING PERSON

Male

William Noel Kokuluk

Missing Age: 64

Current Age: 65 years

American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 5' 9" Weight: 145 lbs

Hair: Black Eyes : Black

Date of last contact: August 3, 2021 Case created: September 8, 2021

Location: Anchorage, Alaska (Anchorage Borough)

Circumstances of Disappearance: William was last seen on 08-03-2021 in the area of E. Tudor Road and Wright Street in Anchorage. He has not returned home since then and it is unknown where else he would go. Attempts to locate William have been unsuccessful. There is concern for his well-being due to medical issues. His last known clothing description and direction of travel are unknown. If you have seen William Kokuluk, contact the Anchorage Police Department (907) 786-8900.

GWУ &V° ФУЬС

Case #210024886

Source: Namus.gov





## 600,000 INDIVIDUALS GO MISSING EVERY YEAR. 4,400 UNIDENTIFIED BODIES ARE RECOVERED EACH YEAR.

The National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS) is a national information clearinghouse and resource center for missing, unidentified, and unclaimed person cases across the United States. Funded and administered by the National Institute of Justice and managed through a cooperative agreement with UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas, all NamUs resources are provided at no cost to law enforcement, medical examiners, allied forensic professionals, and family members of missing persons.

TO SEARCH THE MISSING, UNIDENTIFIED, AND UNCLAIMED PERSON DATABASES, GO TO

WWW.NAMUS.GOV

Released: Not released as of report date Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

Radford, Jake Michael – age 22 Arrested: Aug. 30 Released: Aug. 30 Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Bradley, Albert James – age 32 Arrested: Aug. 31 Released: Not released as of report date Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor, Probation Violation

Reed, Michael James Hunter – age 45 Arrested: Aug. 31 Released: Aug. 31 Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance, Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property

Tramper, Trixie Makayla Lee – age 19 Arrested: Aug. 31 Released: Aug. 31 Charges: Contributing to the Delinquency, Undiscipline, Neglect, or Abuse of Minors; Obstructing Justice

Bird, Stephen Isaiah – age 22 Arrested: Sept. 1 Released: Sept. 1 Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Jose Guerrero – age 37

Arrested: Sept. 1 Released: Sept. 2 Charges: Domestic Violence

Murphy, Reena Lashanda – age 29 Arrested: Sept. 1 Released: Not released as of report date Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Jumper Jr., Glenn David – age 34 Arrested: Sept. 2 Released: Sept. 2 Charges: Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle

Pheasant, Taelynn – age 20 Arrested: Sept. 2 Released: Sept. 2 Charges: Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property, Misdemeanor Criminal Conspiracy

Tolley, Cassandra Marie – age 31 Arrested: Sept. 2 Released: Not released as of report date Charges: Probation Violation

Ensley, Donnie – age 50 Arrested: Sept. 3 Released: Sept. 3 Charges: Assault on a Female

Medford, Charles Ray – age 38 Arrested: Sept. 4 Released: Not released as of report date Charges: Domestic Violence

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## SPORTS DJK

## cross country Cherokee hosts multi-school meet

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P. One Feather Staff

Cherokee Central Schools hosted a multischool cross country meet for both middle school and high school runners on the afternoon of Wednesday, Sept. 8. Cherokee's teams all placed including: Middle School Braves, third place; Middle School Lady Braves, third place; High School Braves, second place; and High School Lady Braves, fourth place.

In addition to Cherokee, the following schools participated in the meet: Andrews Middle, Carolina Mountain XC team, Hayesville, Hayesville Middle, Highlands, Highlands Middle, Hiwassee Dam, Martins Creek Middle, Mountain Discovery Charter School, Murphy, Murphy Middle, Smoky Mountain, Swain Co., Swain Middle, The Learning Center Charter School, and Tri-County Early College. Following are the top 10 finishers in each race plus each Cherokee finisher, per ncmilesplit. com (note – results were unavailable for high school girls):

## Middle School Girls

- 1 Annie Lewis, Swain, 13:38
- 2 Fern Crayton, Martins Creek, 13:55
- 3 Kennedy White, Murphy, 14:32
- 4 Hailey Hill, Muprhy, 14:46
- 5 Courtney Logan, Highlands, 14:50
- 6 Claire Worley, Highlands, 14:56
- 7 Marden Harvey, Mountain Discovery Charter, 15:05
- 8 Emily Gray Stargell, Swain, 15:17
- 9 Livia Crowe, Cherokee, 15:23
- 10 Yvonne Saunooke, Cherokee, 15:32
- 16 Emilee Brady, Cherokee, 16:40
- 17 Lilly Lossiah, Cherokee, 16:41
- 42 Kiara Sneed, Cherokee, 20:31 *Team Scores*
- 1 Swain 36
- 2 Murphy 63
- 3 Cherokee 74

## Middle School Boys

- 1 Ogana Swimmer, Cherokee, 12:17
- 2 Samuel Hernandez, Cherokee, 12:46

- 3 Myca Mustin, Andrews, 13:13 4 – Ross Clapsaddle, Swain, 13:37
- 5 Jackson Dye, Hayesville, 13:59
- 6 Timmy McDowell, Highlands, 14:00
- Devley Hereker, Hereralle 44.00
- 7 Parker Hughes, Hayesville, 14:08
- 8 Caleb Hina, Carolina Mountain XC, 14:16
- 9 Kaden Sawyer, Swain, 14:19
- 10 Jim De La Cruz, Highlands, 14:20
- 23 Kaden Stephens, Cherokee, 17:22
- 34 Isiah Ledford, Cherokee, 18:33
- 36 Zandler Bell, Cherokee, 19:18
- 38 Levi Oocumma, Cherokee, 19:34
- 43 Drake Cruz, Cherokee, 22:45
- Team Scores:
- 1 Hayesville 34
- 2 Swain 41
- 3 Cherokee 72

## **High School Boys**

1 – Connor Brown, Swain, 18:17

Ogana Swimmer, a member of the Cherokee Middle School cross country team, took first place at a home meet on the afternoon of Wednesday, Sept. 8 with a time of 12:17. His teammate, Samuel Hernandez, came in second place with a time of 12:46. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

- 2 Caleb Phillips, Smoky Mtn., 18:42
- 3 Clayton Laney, Murphy, 18:51
- 4 Zeb Mathis, Smoky Mtn., 19:09
- 5 Liam Cook, Murphy, 19:16
- 6 Jaylen Bark, Cherokee, 19:34
- 7 Connor Lambert, Swain, 19:39
- 8 Parker Smith, Smoky Mtn., 19:41
- 9 Kane Jones, Swain, 19:46
- 10 Caleb Rice, Murphy, 19:50
- 11 Tyce Hogner, Cherokee, 19:59
- 12 Oztin Swayney, Cherokee, 20:17
- 14 Ayden Thompson, Cherokee, 20:37
- 18 Dacian Tafoya, Cherokee, 20:53
- 42 Eli Bird, Cherokee, 26:18
- 52 Gideon Freeman, Cherokee, 35:11
- Team Scores:
- 1 Smoky Mtn. 48
- 2 Cherokee 60
- 3 Swain 63



Gideon Freeman, second from left, is encouraged by his teammates on the Cherokee Braves varsity cross country team during a home meet on the afternoon of Wednesday, Sept. 8. After finishing, Dacian Tafoya, Ayden Thompson, and Jaylen Bark doubled back to cheer on their fellow Brave. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)







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# **COMMUNITY** @SSY **The Syllabary and then some...**

"Searching for Sequoyah" documentary to explore his life

> By SCOTT MCKIE B.P. One Feather Staff

This year (2021) is the bicentennial of the Cherokee Syllabary – a system of writing the Cherokee language developed over years by Sequoyah in the early 1800s. "Searching for Sequoyah", produced by James M. Fortier and LeAnne Howe, will air on PBS stations nationwide starting in November and examines not only that major accomplishment but also the man's intriguing life.

Howe, a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is an Eidson Distinguished Professor in American Literature and English at the University of Georgia in Athens, Ga. She noted, "What we were interested in showing in our documentary is that Sequoyah worked for years on perfecting the Cherokee Syllabary. And, he worked alone."

She added, "Sequoyah didn't speak English and so if you can imagine how difficult it was to create the Cherokee Syllabary, Sequoyah's invention is all the more impressive. In fact, it's genius." Filming on the documentary took the crew and producers to North Carolina, Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Mexico.

Fortier, a member of the Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation (formerly The Ojibways of Pic River First Nation from Ontario,



James Greg Bilby, a Cherokee Nation citizen, plays the role of Sequoyah in the upcoming documentary film entitled "Searching for Sequoyah". (Photo by Karl W. Schmidt)

Canada), is an award-winning documentary film maker. He said the idea for "Searching for Sequoyah" was first hatched 19 years ago when Howe and himself were working on another documentary entitled "Spiral of Fire" which focused on modern-day Cherokee life.

"We filmed for over a month on pretty much every aspect of modern Cherokee life," he noted. "But, obviously Sequoyah was all around us. His image or the Cherokee Syllabary were evident almost everywhere."

Fortier said they never forgot the idea. "The idea sat at the back of our minds percolating for about 15 years before we acted on it. That was set in motion when LeAnne took a faculty position at the University of Georgia, Athens – smack in the middle of Southeast Cherokee traditional territory."

The duo applied for and received funding from Vision Maker Media and started their project five years ago. "Early on in our discussions, we started talking about the need to incorporate Sequovah's living descendants into the film. I wanted to have them become storytellers themselves relating from their own family's experience what they knew of the famous ancestor. And, of course, the mystery surrounding his death in Mexico was a big discussion point, revealing that for all the volumes of material written about him, the latter part of his life and

certainly his death still remained a mystery."

That mystery remained a focal point of the documentary. Fortier said, "Once we began peeling back the layers of his life, it's easy to see what a dichotomy he became, one of the most famous, historical Indian figures in American history, yet there were all these holes, inaccuracies, outright fabrications, and unknowns in his 'official' biography."

Fortier said that the stories of Sequoyah provide historical lessons. "Sequoyah was really a man of peace, a unifier and a great thinker and leader. He was also a visionary. He saw things as they were at the time for Cherokee people and he envisioned a much better way forward, and the key to bringing about that vision was his Syllabary. And, the effects of what he brought to the Cherokee people are still being felt today, 200 years later. So no, history is not stuck in the past, history is the here and now and when we open our eyes we can see it all around us in our modern world. So, I just hope this little film about an immensely historical person has the ability, if only for an hour, to stop some of us in our tracks and pay attention to what this amazing person did for the Cherokee people 200 years ago and why it still matters today."

Howe added, "Americans need to know the stories of the original people of the Americas who lived here thousands of years before white people ever set foot in the Americas. Sequoyah's work lives on through stories and the people."

Fortier doesn't consider himself an expert on Sequoyah and noted that much of the knowledge he gained during research and filming was new to him. "I had never even known there were Kickapoos and Cherokees that migrated as far as into northeastern Mexico. Most of the facts we dug up were already discovered over the past 150 years or so, but they were so dispersed that no one ever compiled it all into one comprehensive presentation and certainly not in a documentary film. The unknowns we discovered in Mexico were not unknowns to the people there, it was just a matter of connecting the dots as best we could, and I think we did that in a way that has not been done before."

The filmmakers both state that Sequovah's life and accomplishments warrant him being discussed and researched in the 21st century. "Sequoyah was a visionary," said Fortier. "He was larger



Howe, left, and Fortier begin filming re-enactment visuals of Sequoyah and his wife and daughter in their 'cabin' at the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah, Okla. (Photo courtesy of production)

than life in many ways, yet fallible and ordinary too, just like the rest of us. I think many Cherokee people recognize that in him, he was both, he could be a brilliant unifying leader and a regular everyday Cherokee, just like them, and yet with. Perhaps, Cherokees see a little of themselves in Sequoyah, and because of that I think they draw inspiration from his achievements Howe noted, "Watch the film. stories of the Cherokee Indians in the film. Sequoyah is their ancestor. For Indian people, our stories

so much more. I think that's the

sort of hero, for want of a better

word, most people can identify

and will continue to revere him."

You can see it on their faces and

are alive. Our ancestors live on

through us. This is the truth of

'Searching for Sequoyah'."

hear it in their voices and the

## **OBITUARIES** JhfiFR

#### **Carolyn Sue Bird**

Carolyn Sue Bird, 62, of the Snowbird Community, passed away on Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. She was born in Swain County on June 12, 1959 to the late William Bird and Ellen Bird who survives her.

She worked as a home health care nurse for most of life and was secretary for the Cherokee Speakers Council. She was a member of Zion Hill Baptist Church where she served as Sunday School teacher. Carolyn graduated from Robbinsville High School. She spoke fluent Cherokee and enjoyed spending time with her family. She enjoyed going to eat at different places and was a good friend to all that she knew and never met a stranger. She was an avid Tar

Heels fan and enjoyed making fry bread for Fading Voices every year. She also loved to spend time with her pride and joy, Soloman.

In addition to her mother, she is survived by a son, Gatlin West (Redbird); four grandchildren, Soloman West, Justrahna West, Loki West, and Awee Sequoyah; three sisters, Lillie Bird (Ronnie), Encie Bird (Chuck), and Hattie Owle (Jason); four brothers, John Bird (Debbie), Jonah Bird (Emily), Jarrett Bird (Rihannon), and Ike Bird April); numerous nieces and nephews; and special friends, Shirley Thompson, Jesse Ortega, Martha Sampson, Michelle Long, and Sally Wildcat.

In addition to her father, she is preceded in death by a sister, Judy Bird, and a brother, Jim Bird.

A funeral service was held on Friday, Sept. 3 at the Little Snowbird Playground with Henry Ethridge and Ernie Stiles officiating. Burial followed at the Bird Family Cemetery. Family and friends served as pallbearers.

#### Sandra Leigh Ledford Robbins

Sandra Leigh Ledford Robbins, 41, of Whittier, passed away on Saturday, Sept. 4, 2021. She was born on April 10, 1980 to Gail Ledford Johnson, who survives her.

Sandra worked as a Cosmetologist at Perfect Reflections in Sylva. She received her degree in cosmetology from Southwestern Community College. Prior to attending Southwestern, she attended elementary and middle school in Cherokee and high school at Swain County High School. She enjoyed singing karaoke, attending concerts, watching horror movies,

CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

## Circle of Support Groups

Analenisgi is offering groups, for friends and family of our adult clients, focused on providing education and support to our community.

There are two groups that will be offered:

Mondays @ 12pm - 1pm Support group focused on Substance Abuse

Thursdays @ 4:30pm - 5:30pm Support Group focused on Mental Health

- Both groups will be located in the Rivercane room located across from the Analenisgi lobby and front desk.
- Masks are required and we will be social distancing during the group.
- You can enter through the Analenisgi entrance before 4:30pm, or the main hospital entrance, before 4:30pm.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Holling at 828.497.9163 ext. 7528

playing video games, and crocheting.

She is survived by her husband, Jeffrey M. Robbins; parents, Daniel and Gail Robbins; one daughter, Briana Linn Bowman; two sons, Blayne Robert Bowman and Viktor Dravyn Robbins; and one grandchild, Aubrey Selvaria Haynie. She is preceded in death by grandparents, Ruth Ledford Long and James Alvin Long and one brother Steven Darell Ledford. A funeral service was held on Friday, Sept. 10 at Bigwitch Baptist Church in Cherokee with Ben Reed officiating.

Crisp Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

## Good Housekeeping

#### Chilled Corn and Bacon Soup

Light but lush - it's thickened with late-season corn, low-fat milk and a Yukon gold potato - this refreshing farm-stand soup is summer's answer to cold-weather chowders.

- slices thick-cut bacon, cut
- into 1/2-inch pieces large shallot, finely chopped
- cups fresh corn kernels T large (8 ounce) Yukon gold potato, peeled and shredded
- 1/8 teaspoon smoked paprika, plus additional for garnish
- 2/3 cup water cups (1%) low-fat milk 4
- Salt and pepper cup packed fresh cilantro 114 leaves

1. In 12-inch skillet, cook bacon on medium 6 to 8 minutes or until crisp and browned. With slotted spoon, transfer to paper towels to drain. If making ahead, cover and refrigerate up to overnight.

2. Drain and discard all but 1 tablespoon fat from skillet. Add shallots and cook on medium 2 minutes or until golden and tender, stirring occasionally. Add 2 1/2 cups corn, shred-ded potato and paprika. Cook 2 minutes, stirring, then add water and cook 7 minutes or until liquid evaporates and vegetables are tender.

3. Remove skillet from heat and transfer corn mixture to blender. Add milk and 1/8 teaspoon salt and purce until mixture is very smooth. Cover and refrigerate until soup is very cold, at least 3 hours and up to overnight.

4. To serve, divide among serving bowls. Top with bacon, cilantro, 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper and remaining 1/2 cup corn. Garnish with paprika. Makes 4 servings.

· Each serving: About 375 calories, 12g total fat (5g saturated), 23mg cho-lesterol, 750mg sodium, 54g total carbohydrate, 5g dietary fiber, 17g protein. © 2021 Hearst Communications, Inc. All rights reserved

## Qualla Country Fish Tournament results

A total of 69 anglers turned in a total of 127 valid tags at the Qualla Country Fish Tournament, hosted by EBCI Natural Resources Division on Sept. 4-5 on the Oconaluftee River. In all, the following tags were turned in: 108 blue (\$25), 9 white (\$50), 5 red (\$100), 2 yellow (\$500), and 3 grey (\$1,000).

Turning in grey tags were M. Buff of Hickory; J. Teesateskie of Cherokee, and V. Osborne of North Wilkesboro. Turning in yellow tags were L. Queen of Cherokee and J. Sutton of Adairsville, Ga.

"Congratulations to all our winners," Natural Resources officials said in a statement. "We give thanks to all our friends, old and new, for joining us this 2021 fishing season. We appreciate your participation in our annual fishing tournaments and look forward to seeing you again for the 2022 Opening Day Tournament the last Saturday in March."

- EBCI Natural Resources release

## As WCU's Mountain Heritage Day approaches, festival opportunities grow

CULLOWHEE – When Whitewater Bluegrass Company takes to the Mountain Heritage Day stage on Saturday, Sept. 25, it will mark the 25th time the band has performed at Western Carolina University's annual fall festival.

"This is a certainly a milestone for us," said Uncle Ted White, the band's bassist. "This band had its origins at Western with students picking and singing and being back is a special reminder to us of our roots. Which is what it's all about for everybody, anyway." Mountain Heritage Day, an annual multicultural celebration held on the WCU campus, is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with free admission, free parking and free shuttle service. Renowned as a showcase of bluegrass and mountain music, family activities and the region's finest arts and crafts, other highlights include presentation of the Mountain Heritage Awards to an individual and an organization in honor of achievements in historic preservation and outstanding cultural contributions. NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Collection boxes on the grounds placed for donations to support Mountain Heritage Day will this year instead support a WCU Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning initiative to sponsor a house renovation for one of more than 100 families that suffered damage during the recent flooding in Haywood County. It has been estimated that \$17,500 would help a family make needed repairs to get back in their home. WCU is hoping to collect enough money to sponsor at least one rebuild. MOUNTAIN HERITAGE DAY 5K

The Mountain Heritage Day 5K is back. The race starts at 8 a.m. at the Stillwell Science building on a route past iconic landmarks, including Alumni Tower. The family-friendly activity is ideal for both advanced runners and casual walkers. Chip timing will be provided by Race Odyssey Events. All proceeds support the Sport Management Association Scholarship Fund. Online registration is now open, with special advanced pre-registration rates. Participants will be asked to adhere to physical distancing guidelines outdoors at check-in and in the start/finish area. Face coverings are required when using restrooms indoors. In lieu of gathering for a post-race

awards ceremony, custom handcrafted medals will be shipped directly to the overall winners and age group winners. The first 100 to register are guaranteed a free Mountain Heritage Day 5K T-shirt. Register at RunSignUp. com.

## NEW PERFORMANCES, ANOTHER EXHIBITOR

An additional handiwork and skills exhibitor recently added to the lineup is Kevin Fountain, who will demonstrate corn grinding and hit and miss engines. Calliope Stage Company will do a 12:30 p.m. performance of "Moonshine and a Gray Duck," conceived and written by Colin Wasmund with Howard Allman and directed by John Baldwin. A short comedy that explores the clash of culture between Upper Midwest and North Carolina Appalachia, this piece finds joy in the differences of language and colloquialisms and the "culture shock" one can experience when their social sphere is punctured with unfamiliar words and ways of doing things.



## BONUS CAMPUS EVENT

A free and open to the public performance of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by WCU's School of Stage and Screen will take place at 2 p.m. at the university's picnic pavilion, located behind the softball field. Directed by Peter Savage, the classic tale takes place deep in a magical forest - not unlike those surrounding Cullowhee - with four runaway lovers, a troupe of outrageous amateur actors, and the feuding king and queen of the fairies spending a wild night in the woods, resulting in tempestuous love triangles, contagious fogs and moonlight revels. This outdoor production runs 80 minutes, with live music by WCU alumnus and old-time musician William Ritter. With general seating, camp chairs and blankets recommended.

For more information and updates, go to www.mountainheritageday.com. - Western Carolina University

Doesn't seem like a year, here one day and then suddenly gone. We often sit and think about you, sharing stories, We wish we could turn the clock back, but time has a way of moving on. Family chain has been broken but we trust in God we will meet again one day. For you are not gone, you're just in a different room. We miss you brother .... 06/16/76 - 09/12/20

> Garfield Axe-Long & Rita Driver

#### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

## Costa Rica youth cultural exchange applications being taken

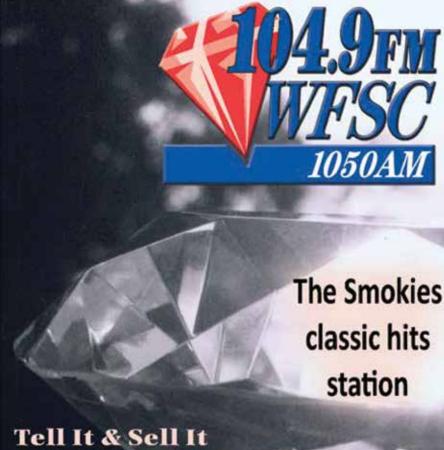
The Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute is currently taking applications for a youth cultural exchange program to Costa Rica in July of 2022. Applications and more information can be found at http://www.rkli. org/2021/09/01/2022-youth-cultural-exchange-program/.

Applications are open to regional youth attending Cherokee Central, Swain, Jackson, Graham, Cherokee, and Macon County schools currently in 10th-12th grade. This is an application and interview selection process.

Selected participants are required to be fully vaccinated and willing to take a COVID-19 booster shot if recommended by the CDC or local health experts, purchase their own passport by December 2021, participate in mandatory meetings about twice a month starting in November 2021, and help with volunteer and fundraising efforts.

The trip includes learning about Cherokee culture and language to share with the indigenous peoples of Costa Rica. The itinerary includes tours of coffee and chocolate plantations, rafting, ziplining, service-learning projects, cultural exchanges, and visiting Earth University.

Levi West, Cherokee Youth Council leadership specialist, is the main contact for any questions or requests for more information. Please reach out to him at 359-5543 or levi.west@cherokeeboysclub.com. It is the responsibility



Fell It & Sell It 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Weekdays of the applicant to confirm receipt once an application is submitted.

The Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute is a department of the Cherokee Boys Club and is funded by the Cherokee Preservation Foundation.

- Submitted by the Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute

## TABCC to being accepting permit applications

The Tribal Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission will be accepting applications for alcohol permits once the official general election results have been certified. For questions, please call Amanda Younce or Aisha Owle 788-4261.

#### **Cherokee Bear Harvest**

The bear season is now open and will run through Dec. 31.

The following is a message from Cherokee Natural Resources, "Hunters play an essential role in collecting management information for sustainable bear populations. However, we average about three harvest submissions per year and the numbers are not sufficient to inform our management. Please report your take to Cherokee Natural Resources along with the first premolar tooth (or allow us to extract it) to determine age. Please freeze or keep other samples on ice that could decompose. If possible, keep an eraser sized (or bigger) piece of meat frozen for us. We will also wish to collect weight, location, sex, and the effort it took to harvest (number of hunters in party and hours put in). These data will help us understand how important hunting is to bears and how it keeps damage issues in check. There will be a \$500 draw from those that submit samples and information."

Submit samples and infor-

mation to their office at 1840 Painttown Road, next to Cherokee Bingo. Info: 359-6110 or email ebcifw@gmail.com

> - Cherokee Natural Resources release

## Senior Citizens Heating Assistance applications

Applications for the 2022 heating season will be available at Tsali Manor on Monday, Sept. 13 via drive-thru. Applications will be available Monday through Friday after 1 p.m. each day.

Fuel applications will be handed out at the drive-thru. Please stay in your car, and the applications will be brought out to you. They can be returned Monday through Friday after 1 p.m.

The deadline for applications is March 31, 2022. If you will be 59 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> by March 31, 2022, you are eligible for services upon turning 59 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. If you are applying for electric heating assistance, please attach a current billing statement. The heating season ends on April 30, 2022.

If you have further question, call 359-6860.

- Tsali Manor release

## "Dracula" to sink his teeth into Mountainside Theatre

On Friday, Oct. 1, Mountainside Theatre will host the world premiere of "Dracula: The Failings of Men," written by debut playwright Benedetto Robinson. The production is an original work by Havoc Movement Company that will be joining the Cherokee Historical Association for the fall season.

Directed by Havoc's co-founder Jake Guinn, a long-time veteran of outdoor drama, the show features a cast packed with livestunt powerhouses as well as aerial effects that have been designed to bring the vampires to (supernatural) life. The story begins as a ghost ship washes ashore near London in 1897 and an ancient evil goes searching for blood. "Dracula" is an action-horror reimagining of the classic Bram Stoker novel as an immersive show. The audience will literally walk alongside Ada Van Helsing as she battles against the darkness in this high-action adaptation. Masks will be required for all attendees.

Performances will run from Oct 1-31. Tickets are \$30 or \$20 for members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. VIP Experiences are available for an extra \$20.

Started in 2018 by Jake Guinn, Jake Scott-Hodes, and Kristen Noonan, Havoc Movement Company offers theatre poised to enrich the Southeast community with adventurous art! Havoc works with movement artists, local and abroad, to create compelling and unique performances, drawing from multiple movement disciplines to devise refreshing theatrical experiences for all audiences.

Purchase tickets here: https:// www.cherokeehistorical.org/ dracula/

- Cherokee Historical Association release

#### **NATIONAL PARK NEWS**

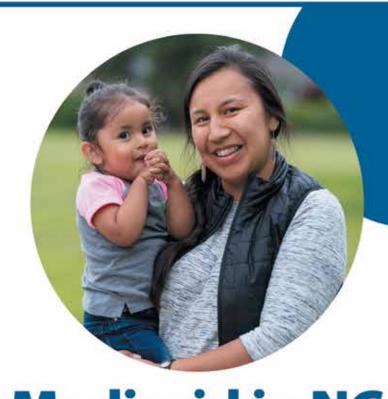
## Heintooga Round Bottom Road temporarily closed for maintenance

Great Smoky Mountains National Park officials announced on Monday, Sept. 13 that Heintooga Round Bottom Road will be temporarily closed during the weekdays beginning Sept. 13 through Friday, Sept. 24. The full closure is necessary to safely operate large equipment along the one-way road for the delivery of gravel and road grading. The closure will be in place Monday through Friday each week. The area will be open to all access on the weekends.

The road closure begins at the Balsam Mountain Picnic Area and extends throughout the one-way section of Heintooga Round Bottom Road. The lower two-way section of the roadway and Straight Fork Road will remain open. This closure restricts access to the Spruce Mountain, Palmer Creek, and Balsam Mountain Trailheads. For more information about

road closures, please visit the park website at http://www.nps.gov/ grsm/planyourvisit/temproadclose.htm.

- National Park Service release



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## S OPINIONS ZPODET

## commentary Woe the People

By ROBERT JUMPER One Feather Editor

Representative government is a mixed blessing. While representative government represents, by definition, the people, it is impossible for a small body of elected officials to resolve or agree with every person or body of people that they represent.

I have heard many people say that "he/she is not my (and then you may fill in the blank)...president, chief, council person" because "I didn't vote for them". Well, for those of you who think that way, I will tell you something that might be a revelation to you. If you choose to accept citizenship in a representative government, you choose to abide by the decisions of the majority, and sometimes just a voting majority, of the population. The only way that person, duly elected to office by the system of government you choose to live under, isn't your president, chief, council member, etc., is if you renounce your citizenship.

Once again, the people have spoken in the way that is prescribed by the government they chose to live under. The Tribal election results have been accepted. Congratulations to those who have been newly elected or reelected to Tribal Council seats, and also to those who will be newly seated at the Board of Education. We, the People, also decided to allow the expansion of alcohol sales throughout Cherokee proper to the trepidation of some of us and celebration to others.

In the coming months and over the next two years, we will be seeing the results of the decisions we made in September. Our power switches from direct voices through votes, to voices of influence through the power of suggestion.

And that is something we need to chat about. Time after time, our community has heard and seen some unattractive exchanges in front of, by, and with our Tribal Council. As governments go, we have some of the most liberal policies and procedures when it comes to addressing the seats of government. It is because we are very passionate about "podium" ownership. In fact, for years, there was a powerful argument by different factions concerning who and for how long "the people" would stand in front of and dominate the podium.

What is the significance of the podium? Well, for the uninitiated, at our Tribal Council Chamber, the Council members sit at a table that is ostensibly shaped like a horseshoe. At the open end of the horseshoe stands a podium from which those who wish to address the Council may speak. Oh, and the podium has a microphone. And the microphone and a corresponding camera are connected to the networking technology that allows the world to see and hear all the comments made by the one who stands at the podium. Thus, the power of the podium. It basically allows you to not only stand toe-totoe with the most powerful leaders in our tribal government, it gives you a megaphone to the community and to the world, the very definition of a bully pulpit.

As we have discussed in the past, we have a hard time communicating to and with our leadership. Not so much that we are not afforded opportunity. It is that we are either too timid, too disconnected, or too apathetic. Most of our citizenry never step before the podium, but we never lack for people who say they represent the entirety of the citizenry. There are those that look at the podium as some sort of magical device that allows them to see into the minds and hearts of every member of the Tribe, although that is just a working theory, because the reality is my views, as a tribal member, are routinely misrepresented by people who stand at the podium and say that they stand in representation of all the views of the people.

Challenges to the status of citizenry or tribal membership have included hints at redefining what or who qualifies to be a tribal elder. There has been commentary from both the Executive Office and from Tribal Council members that "it takes more than being an enrolled member and reaching the age of 59.5 to be a tribal elder". Then, typically the statement is followed up by some negative experience or disagreement someone had with an older person that could potentially disqualify them from being a tribal elder. This is surely an area of contention for me because I get the feeling that now that I have finally reached the age that some folks have started referring to me as "Elderly Rob", that they might change the criteria and benefits for those of us in the senior class. Maybe they will grandfather us in. Let me at that podium.

On the other hand, we are a relatively small nation. If you live on or near the Qualla Boundary, it is possible to speak directly to individual members of leadership. You are likely to encounter them at a potluck, a ball game, a funeral, or other local public function. And maybe more of us are speaking out in that format. Hopefully so. The problem with communicating in this way is that several may be doing so. Your thoughts may get lost among the many other voices speaking to power. Public forums do allow more focused communication. And during Tribal Council sessions, including Budget Council and all the various work sessions, the Council

and Executives are there for the purpose of establishing governance for you. It takes a smaller amount of time to share your position with all of them as opposed to trying to get to each one individually. Again, for the people, the podium is a bully pulpit.

We all have seen totally relevant discussions about important issues turn into childish shouting matches during our Tribal Council sessions. It surely is discouraging and disheartening to see our Council Chambers devolve into shouting matches. All it seems to take is for one person to attack the integrity of another for the games to begin. All our talk about the proud history and wisdom of our people gets buried under a barrage of personal attacks and slurs to character. "If you disagree with me, then you're nothing" seems to be the standard by which we debate issues sometimes. And most of the time, the issue that needs to be resolved for the people gets lost in the fray. We sometimes have short attention spans and are very easily distracted.

The civil rights of our people are important, or at least they would be if we had any. We have a Charter, the governing document of our Tribe. In the Charter are 24 sections, 1,901 words that outline the rights and duties of the Executive Office and of Tribal Council. And just what are your rights in the foundational document of your Tribe? It mentions your right to vote. That is a good one to have. Oh, and there is the right of equal representation. Now that is a tough one. You see, the way you are supposed to be afforded equal representation is via a tribal census that determines the population and therefore the weight of representation of each seat on Council. And since we have kicked the can of a tribal census down the road a decade or two, one of only two rights that you have under the Charter is kind of beyond its expiration date. And yet there does not appear to be a census on the horizon to correct the situation.

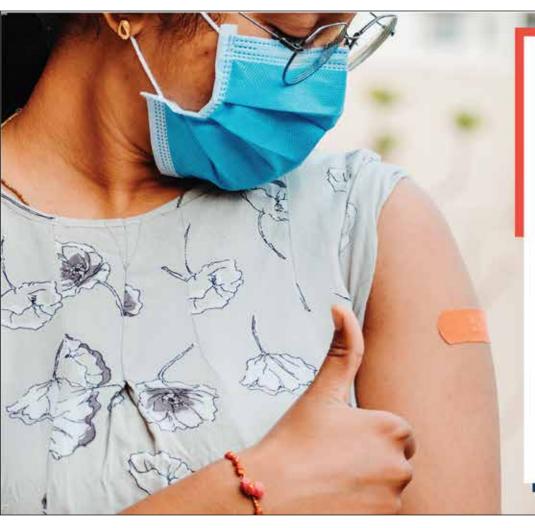
If you are looking for other civil rights, you must go to the Cherokee Code, except that those aren't civil rights. They are civil privileges, afforded to you by the governing body. The difference is that in most of those, you do not get to vote in or out. You must leave that up to the representative government that you install with that single civil right, the vote.

Don't get me wrong, we have some pretty good civil privileges within the Code, but shouldn't some things be more than just privileges? And how do you hold your officials accountable without a bill of rights to make ethics enforceable? We have been woefully negligent as a community regarding the issue of a constitution of, by, and for the Principal People. Many of the issues that we have belabored over the past years - alcohol, cannabis, land purchases, marriage rights, housing, you-name-it, are constitution-type issues because it involves the rights of the citizenry. And our rights currently are two, according to the Charter and Governing Document. And, as a community, we seem to be good with that.

There is an old saying that goes, "Gag at a gnat and swallow a camel." The concept is that we focus on the bits and pieces of our lives that, in the overall big picture won't impact us much, but ignore that which would make the most difference in making things better overall. That is the way I feel we have, as a community, looked at the proposition of replacing the Charter with a tribal constitution. We are clinging to two rights when we should be crafting a true people's document to govern by.

When my brother went to buy his first car, he had an interesting take on the selection process. He didn't have a lot of money or credit, so my thought was that he would be very prudent in his choice. Well, I was shocked when he rolled up in his new ride. The term "rattle-trap" leaps to mind as I remember my first look at it. As he pulled in the driveway, the car sounded like it was coughing up its last breath. Examining it further, I found a rusted body, duct taped engine components, ripped and stained upholstery, and bald tires. As I read off all these attributes to him and asked him what he was thinking, he said, "Yeah, but check out the stereo and speakers!" Nothing wrong with an impressive sound system, but it's not the primary function of the vehicle or even why you buy a vehicle (well, except in my brother's case).

Many of our woes come to us because, in many cases, we are short of sight. I am not laying any blame. We are products of the environments we grow up in. It is up to us to make the changes if we want them. But, we have got to want them. It starts with you and me and the rest of the community educating ourselves and reaching out to each other to find the common ground it takes to produce a document that truly leads us into the future. The Charter can't do that We need to stop stumbling on little things or singular issues and focus on the cause. Stop treating the symptoms and start doctoring the disease. And we have to stop giving the idea lip service, roll up our sleeves, and work together to make our lives and those of the next generation of Cherokee people more engaged and vital.



## **COVID-19 CASES ARE RISING FAST.** You can protect yourself.

Don't wait to vaccinate. You risk getting COVID-19 and suffering from severe illness, hospitalization or death. COVID-19 vaccines have been proven to be safe and effective. They are free to everyone age 12 and over. If you don't get vaccinated, wear a mask. Get vaccinated today.

Find a vaccine location near you at <u>MySpot.nc.gov</u> or call 888-675-4567.



## speaking of faith Lead us to the rock that is higher...

## By TIMOTHY L. MELTON, PASTOR

(Transcribed by Myra D. Colgate) Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church

Read Exodus 33:11-23; Psalm 61:1-8; Proverbs 30:24-26.

Have you ever been caught between a rock and a hard place? Moses certainly was. With some saying there could have been over 3,000,000 people to lead out of Egypt, to make a journey from slavery to their own new land. Having to go through a desert and wilderness to a "Promised Land" they had never seen, it must have seemed almost an impossible journey. However, the Lord told Moses, he had found "grace in My sight", since Moses had met with the Lord face-to-face, as a friend, and asked Him to "Show me Thy Glory," so Moses would know God would go with them.

God answered him, "I will do what you have said, for I know thee by name. All my Goodness will pass before thee. By Me is a place where you will stand in the cleft of the Rock with My hand covering you and you shall see the hinderparts of My Glory and I will call out My Name, but you may not behold My Face."

After over 400 years of hard slavery in Egypt, the Mountain of Sinai was a shock to these people as it shook and with its loud thunderings and lightnings for over 40 days. The people began thinking Moses, who had climbed up there was dead, and so, to these people raised in idol worshipping Egypt, sin reared its ugly head in their camp. They thought to have a golden calf made, and to follow it as the Egyptians did.

In today's world-like view, most would think, a new car, a new house built on a large property, building a bank account, etc., would show us His Glory.

Yet, God wants us to get to the place where we realize we need Jesus, and we need more of Him. We need a place where we would consider God as the Treasure of our life, that God might say, "He's a man after My own Heart, or we could say that He is the very Breath in my body."

God has said, "Seek you first the Kingdom... as that's the man who is looking for Who I Am, who is not looking for things, but is seeking Me...He is the good treasure. God is everything to him.

We can see that being hidden in the cleft of the Rock is being found between a Rock and a hard place. It was a tough place for Moses. Moses had to put all his trust in God. God told him, "He would cover him with His hand." It is the hard place that hurts, but know it is the Rock that will keep one when there's no way out. We never have to find a way out, for God can still find a way out for those who will trust Him to do so.

God may literally bring one to a place where no one else can help us. He may do this just to show a person that He is God and there is no one else who can help, especially if we are looking to Him for a miracle. Remember, a miracle of God isn't needed until it's the Rock that makes the difference.

When David needed a miracle, he wrote "lead me to the Rock that is higher than I." Set my foot on something solid. Stabilize me there. Wait until you need to soar above like on the wings of an eagle. Catch the solar winds so you can float above to see what's up ahead, even a place where there's "a mighty rushing wind".

Yes, there is a place a Christian can go. It's a place where He's still God. Don't just leave the Church, it's a place where you don't have to seek for shelter when it rains or pours for He is a strong tower made of the Rock, our Cornerstone, who has never lost a battle or a war. He did not lose His life; He gave up His life. No one could take His life. It wasn't His time.

There are times we might have thought we were lost, or maybe things really looked bad for remaining in a job, but it actually was meant to be a blessing with a better salary awaiting. Maybe it was meant for us to grow stronger, so we could survive.

## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



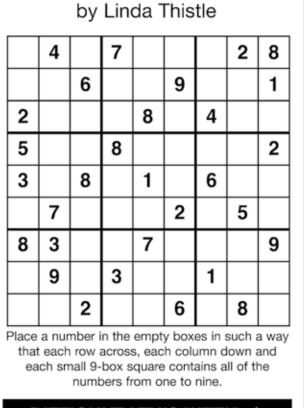
Detail of "Jacob Weeping for Joseph" by Marc Chagall , 1956

They took the ornate robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe." He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces." Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days.

🔊 GENESIS 37: 32-34 🖉

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♦ Moderate
♦ Challenging

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 Is the book of Corinth in the Old Testament, New Testament or neither?
In Matthew 5, how many Beatitudes did Jesus mention in His Ser-

mon on the Mount? 4, 6, 8, 10 3. From Luke 2, what village was known as the "City of David"? Damascus, Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem

4. In 1 Kings 17, who ate a poor widow's last meal? Amos, Elijah, Matthew, Daniel

5. To what tribe of Israel did Paul belong? Asher, Benjamin, Issachar, Reuben

6. From Genesis 4, who built a city called Enoch? Adam, Moses, Noah, Cain

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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1. TELEVISION: What was the name of Tim Taylor's friend and sidekick on the "Home Improvement" sitcom?

GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. city has the nickname "Big D"?

3. LITERATURE: Which novel begins with the line, "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again"?

4. MEDICAL: What usually causes rickets in children?

5. MUSIC: Which novel is referenced in The Police's song "Don't Stand So Close to Me"?

FOOD & DRINK: Cafe du Monde is a famous restaurant in what city?

 ENTERTAINERS: Which famous actor was born Maurice Micklewhite?
MEASUREMENTS: What scientific unit of measurement also is the name of a mammal?

9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is a thalassophile?

10. ANATOMY: What is the colored part of the eye called?

## PPENINGS contact info to scotmckie@ebci-nsn.gov.

Event listings are free of charge. Send your event name, date and time, location, and

## EVENTS **BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS**

**Hospice Promise Foundation** Charity Golf Tournament. Sept. 25 at Sequoyah National Golf Club. Registration at 7:30 a.m.; Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Registration is \$90/player or \$360/foursome and includes range balls, green fees, golf cart, drink ticket (non-alcoholic drink), and beverage cart on course. This is a benefit for Hospice Promise Foundation. Info: Angela Toomey 356-4985, angela.toomey@lhcgroup.com

## CULTURAL EVENTS

Cherokee Heritage Festival. Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Cherokee Homestead Exhibit adjacent to the old Jail Museum in Hayesville. This free event is sponsored by the Clay County Communities Revitalization Association. Cherokee dancing, cultural arts demonstrations, storytelling, fry bread, singing, and flute music. Parking and shuttle bus will be available. Info: 369-6531 or www. cccra-nc.org

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Book Reading and Signing** with Brad Wagnon, Cherokee Nation author. Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Info: Dawn Arneach at dawn.arneach@mci.org

## Fall Historical Discovery Appalachian Mountain Music Event.

Sept. 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Glenville Community Center in Glenville. Hosted by the Glenville Area Historical Society, the event will feature headliner Pretty Little Goat, a grassroots band performing old-time music. Info: 507-0322 or email historicalsocietyglenvillearea@yahoo.com

## SPORTS EVENTS Smoky Streak Fun Walk,

5K/10K. Oct. 23 at Smoky Mountain High School. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., races begin at 9 a.m. A fun walk will be around the track at the high school. Halloween costumes are welcome and encouraged. This event is being hosted by Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital. Registration is free for all participants. T-shirts will be provided to all who register and attend the event. Register for the race at, runsignup.com/Race/NC/ Sylva/SmokyStreaktoHealth

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**Cherokee Cancer Support** 

Group meets the first Thursday of each month at Betty's Place at 40 Goose Creek Road in the Birdtown Community. A potluck is held at



5:30 p.m. and the meeting is open to all. Betty's Place is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They provide counseling and support services to cancer patients that may include supplies, travel, and meals. Info: 497-0788

### Life Recovery Meetings hosted by Grace Community Church.

Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Acquoni Baptist Chapel. Life Recovery is a 12-Step addiction recovery program where all 12 steps are rooted in scripture and taught from a Biblical perspective. The meetings are open to anyone, and all materials will be provided. A light lunch will be provided. Info: Pastor Scott Hill 508-7836

Analenisgi class schedule Mondays

MAT - Early Recovery Live, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. - Early Recovery Live, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Early Recovery Virtual, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Peer Support - WRAP Live, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - Grief Group Live, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays MAT - Foundations Live, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. - Foundations Virtual, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Substance Abuse Therapy (SAT) - SAT Group Live, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Wednesdays MAT - Transitions Live, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- Recovery Transitions Virtual, 1

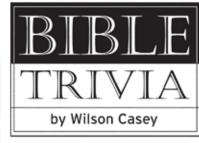
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**Puzzle Answers** 

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ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) 8; 3) Bethlehem; 4) Elijah; 5) Benjamin; 6) Cain



Answers

1. Al Borland Dallas "Rebecca" 4. Lack of vitamin D "Lolita" 6. New Orleans Michael Caine 8. Mole, which is used to measure particles in a substance A lover of seas and oceans 10. Iris

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p.m. to 2 p.m.

Peer Support

- Healthy Boundaries Live, 8:30 p.m.

## Thursdays

### MAT

- Long Term Live, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- Long Term Live, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Long Term Virtual, 2 p.m. to 3

#### p.m.

Peer Support

- MAT Peer Support Group, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
- Substance Abuse Therapy
- SAT Group Live, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

## Fridays

### MAT

- MAT Support Group Live, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- MAT Support Group Virtual, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

## Peer Support

- Radical Acceptance Live, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Substance Abuse Therapy - SAT Group Virtual, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

## Analenisgi Circle of Support

**Groups.** Mondays 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., group focused on Substance Abuse. Thursdays 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., group focused on Mental Health. Both groups will be located in the Rivercane room located across from the Analenisgi lobby and front desk. Analenisgi is offering groups for friends and family of adult clients. These groups are focused on providing education and support to our community. Info: Jennifer Holling 497-9163 ext. 7528

Community Event listings are FREE of charge. Submit flyers or event info to Scott at scotmckie@ebci-nsn. gov or message us on Facebook.

## THANK YOU FROM BILL TAYLOR Wolftown/Big Y Tribal Council Representative-elect

I would like to thank the voters of the Wolftown and Big Y Communities for their support in selecting me as your Tribal Council Representative. I am anxious to bring your concerns to Tribal Government to improve our Communities and the Tribe as a whole. I look forward to hearing any concerns you have and working together to address our challenges. Again, thank you for your confidence in my ability to represent the Wolftown and **Big Y Communities.** 

> Thank You Bill Taylor





by Freddy Groves

## Are You Getting All Your VA Benefits?

Are you taking advantage of all your veterans' benefits? The Department of Veterans Affairs recently launched a program to bring awareness of the benefits that elderly veterans might be missing. Per the VA's notice, only 189,800 war-time veterans and 139,800 surviving spouses are using all the pension benefits they could receive.

Here are a few benefits, available through the Pension and Fiduciary Service:

• The Survivors Pension is a monthly payment to qualified surviving spouses and unmarried dependent children of wartime veterans, but only those who meet certain income and net-worth limits. There's an additional benefit for surviving spouses who are housebound or need aid and attendance from someone else.

• The VA Pension is for wartime veterans who are permanently and totally disabled because of nonservice disability, or those who are over age 65 and meet income and net-worth limits.

 The Special Monthly Pension is an additional payment for qualified veterans who are housebound, need aid and attendance for daily activities, have limited sight or are in a nursing home.

• Surviving Spouses of Blue Water Veterans (who served between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975) might be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, even if they were previously denied.

• Funeral and Burial Benefits are available whether the death was service or nonservice related. Additionally, there are benefits such as the burial flag, a headstone or marker and Presidential Memorial Certificate. See the National Cemetery website for much more information [www.cem.va.gov/burial\_benefits] and to check eligibility in advance.

For details about benefits, go to benefits.va.gov/benefits. Click on Apply to find instructions and forms.

Those seeking help in filing claims need to beware. Be sure who you're trusting with your information. Look for a VA-accredited Veterans Service Organization (VSO) representative — they are character-checked and have to pass an exam. Search for accredited representatives at www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation by filling in the information, or call 1-800-827-1000 to ask for someone in your area.

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## Brewer's Yeast and Pet Allergies

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I read an article that says brewer's yeast is safe for cats and dogs. I disagree. I found several more articles online that say pets can be allergic to brewer's yeast. What do you say about that? — Carla L, via email

DEAR CARLA: Pet owners should always research and evaluate the risks of any supplement for their pets. Brewer's yeast is a mainstay for owners trying to find a natural flea control treatment, and others swear that its blend of B vitamins makes their pets healthier.

It has been found that brewer's yeast created for humans often contains ingredients like garlic and onions that are downright toxic to pets. Owners should purchase only brewer's yeast formulated for dogs or cats, as PetMD notes (www.petmd.com/dog/nutrition/brewers-yeast-dogs-understanding-benefits-and-risks).

Here are some other tips for picking the right brewer's yeast:

 Give only the amount recommended for your pet's size.

 Brewer's yeast that has been "de-bittered" lacks chromium, a mineral that helps regulate blood sugar in humans but hasn't been studied in dogs.
Read the label carefully: Some brewer's yeast for pets contains garlic, which can be toxic, especially for smaller pets.

 Consider a brewer's yeast that includes omega-3 oils for added benefits.

— This supplement can add up to 80 calories to your pet's meal. It can also cause excess gas.

Some pets really are allergic to the yeast itself, though. Avoid giving brewer's yeast to dogs with known yeast allergy, who have digestive illnesses like colitis, or who are immunocompromised. Always monitor your pet for new behaviors or symptoms after giving them any new supplement.

Send your questions, tips or comments to ask@pawscorner.com.

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## **TRADING POST** DG.Эодл Dδ ՏӨЛ0ьЛ

## FOR SALE

1989 Dodge Ram Handicap Van w/318 Engine and Wheel Chair Lift \$1,500, 1979 Monti Carlo with 305 engine automatic transmission \$1,500, double pane window sashes \$25/each : 371-8262

55ft mobile home that needs moving off lot \$3000, 2 acres of land for sale in Whittier, : 352-942-9968

Elvis collectors plate, 30 canning jars, 2 pair Carhartt overalls \$45 each : 400-7453

Storage building 10X20, mini dachshunds \$150 each : 497-9155

1988 Mercury Topaz \$1000 : 507-4329



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Decisions involving your finances might seem to be foolproof. But they could have underlying risks you should know about. Don't act on anything until all the facts are in.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Keep that keen Bovine mind focused on your financial situation as it begins to undergo some changes. Consider your money moves carefully. Avoid impulsive investments.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) You'll need to adjust some of your financial plans now that things are changing more quickly than you expected. All the facts you need haven't yet emerged, so move cautiously.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Personal and professional relationships dominate this period. Try to keep things uncomplicated to avoid misunderstandings that can cause problems down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) That elusive goal you'd been hoping to claim is still just out of reach. But something else has come along that could prove just as desirable, if only you would take the time to check it out.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to get away for some much-needed rest and relaxation. You'll return refreshed and ready to take on the workplace challenge that awaits you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Confidence grows as you work your way through some knotty situations. Watch out for distractions from well-meaning supporters that could slow things down.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Consider spending more time contemplating the possibilities of an offer before opting to accept or reject it. But once you make a decision, act on it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You're in a very strong position this week to tie up loose ends in as many areas as possible. Someone close to you has advice you might want to heed.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Congratulations. This is the week you've been waiting for: After a period of sudden stops and fitful starts, your plans can now move ahead with no significant disruptions.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're in an exceptionally strong position this week to make decisions on many still-unresolved matters, especially those involving close personal relationships.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) The new moon starts this week off with some positive movement in several areas. A special person becomes a partner in at least one of the major plans you'll be working on.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You work hard and get things done. You also inspire others to do their best. You would do well heading up a major corporation.

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## Employment Opportunities

## Position: Massage Therapist

Full-Time\* - Part-Time\* -SIGNING BONUS UP TO \$2500\*

Job Description: The Massage Therapist role is to provide and maintain the highest standards of massage therapy and recommendations for home care. The massage therapist must provide excellent guest care and create a feeling of rest and relaxation for spa guests, resulting in high retention and increased treatment and retail sales.

Applicants must possess a current NC massage license. Required to have open availability, weekends, and holidays. Background Check/Drug Testing, EEOC

For questions, please contact: Angie Hill, Spa Operations Manager 828-497-8550 angieh@mandaraspa.com



## **Tribal Employment Rights Office**

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:45am-4:30pm

The Tribal Employment Rights Office ("TERO") is pleased to provide a monthly job listing for the Cherokee area. Please visit TERO's website at this link: <u>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – EBCI</u> <u>TERO (ebci-tero.com)</u> or stop by the TERO Office to receive a monthly job list. The TERO Office is located at the Acquoni Building at 756 Acquoni Rd, Cherokee, NC.

If you are (1) an enrolled member of the EBCI, (2) spouse of EBCI enrolled member or parent of minor EBCI enrolled member, (3) or an enrolled member of another federally recognized tribe, and you are interested in enrolling in TERO's Job Bank for job referrals, please contact Hillary Norville or Douglas McCoy at the email or telephone numbers below.

Hillary Norville – TERO Job Bank Coordinator 828.359.6422 <u>hillnorv@ebci-nsn.gov</u>

Douglas McCoy – TERO Job Bank Coordinator 828.359.6478 dougmcco@ebci-nsn.gov



Application and job description can be picked up from the **Receptionist** at the Boys Club Information window between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (828-497-9101). The selected applicant must submit to a pre-employment drug screen and local, state, and federal civil and criminal background and sexual offender screens. Payroll direct deposit is mandatory. Indian Preference does apply in the filling of this position. If claiming Indian Preference, applicant must submit the appropriate certificate. The Cherokee Boys Club reserves the right to extend position closing dates or readvertise positions without notice.

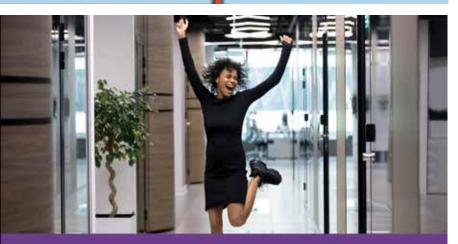
Cherokee Boys Club P.O. Box 507 Cherokee, NC 28719 Open Until Filled Agelink Childcare FT Lead Teacher FT School Age Group Leader FT Teacher's Aide (2)

> Snowbird Childcare FT Cook

Children's Home FT Residential Counselor (2) PT Residential Counselor (4)

Bus & Truck FT Truck Drivers (2) PT School Bus Drivers (10)

Construction & Facilities FT Carpenter/Mason (2)



## IN ONE HIRING EVENT, YOU COULD LAND UP TO \$3,000. HAPPY LANDINGS.

We have amazing openings in our casino and new convention center. And many come with hiring bonuses up to \$3,000. Join us September 21, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., in our Hotel Ballroom. Then let the celebrations begin. Details at HarrahsCherokeeJobs.com.



Select positions eligible for hiring bonus. Restrictions opply. Please see Talent Acquisition department for details. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo ID. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Harrah's Cherokee Casinos value diversity and inclusion, and are equal opportunity employers. ©2021, Caesars License Company, LLC.



## CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Closing Thursday, September 16, 2021 Residential Technician (Female – Women's Home) Residential Technician – Kanvwotiyi Patient Registration Clerk (Grant Funded) – Patient Reg.

> Closing Thursday, September 23, 2021 Operations Manager - Tribal Option Fiscal Coordinator – Tsali Care Center Registered Nurse - Inpatient

> > **Open Until Filled**

Administrative Assistant - PI/Engineering **Billing Technician II** Certified Medical Assistant/Licensed Practical Nurse - Primary Care CNA/Medical Clerk - Inpatient (2 Positons) Cook Dental Assistant II (2 Positons) **Diabetes** Educator **Dietary Services Supervisor** EVS Technician (2 Positons) Food Service Worker (2 Positons) Physician /Hospitalist - Inpatient PTI Physician/Hospitalist - Inpatient Masters Level Therapist - Family Safety Masters Level Therapist - Kanywotiyi (Hiring Bonus) Masters Level Therapist (Child) - Analenisgi Masters Level Therapist - (Grant Funded) Adult/Analenisgi Medical Social Worker - Primary Care Peer Support Specialist - Grant Funded Pedodontist PTI Radiology Technologist PTI Registered Nurse - Analenisgi Inpatient (2 Positons) PTI Registered Nurse - Emergency Room PTI Phlebotomist Senior Accountant Targeted Case Manager - Integrated Classroom Targeted Case Manager - Residential Support

**Tsali Care Center** 

Cook Aide CNA PTI (2 positions) Housekeeper (3 Positons) License Practical Nurse (2 Positons) Personal Care Assistant/CNA - Part-Time Regular (2 positions) Personal Care Assistant/CNA - Regular Full - Time Recreation Coordinator Registered Nurse - Part-Time Intermittent (2positions) Registered Nurse Supervisor - Part-Time Regular Retention Bonus Eligible Positions Certified Nursing Assistant/Part-Time Intermittent/Part-Time Regular (Starting Pay \$18.00/Hr.) Cook Aide (Starting Pay \$15.00/Hr.)

To apply, visit careers.cherokeehospital.org If you have questions, contact the Cherokee Indian Hospital HR Dept. at (828) 497-9163 ext. 6343.

#### EMPLOYMENT

**Tribal Alcohol Beverage Control Commission** has the following job available: Inventory Control Clerk

Anyone interested should pick up an application and position description from Amanda Younce at the Tribal Alcohol Beverage Control Commission Office between the hours of 9:00am - 4:00pm Monday -Thursday. This position will close 09/30/21 at 4pm. Indian preference does apply and a current job application must be submitted. Resumes will not be Accepted in lieu of TABCC application. **9/22** 

**CIC Technologies is looking for Full-time Low Voltage Technicians** with experience in ANY of the following

- Security Systems
- Access Control Systems
- Fire Alarm Systems
- Data/Fiber Cabling Pay depends on experience
- Benefits: • 401(k)
- Dental insurance
- Health insurance
- Vision insurance Please send resume to
- apply@cictech.net

Applications may also be picked up at CIC Technologies, 620B Casino Trail, Whittier, NC 28789. **9/15** 

#### LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee, North Carolina Estate File No. 21-045 In the Matter of the Estate of Jackie Lee Hornbuckle All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-CATION Ashton Kade Brady PO Box 197 Cherokee, NC 28719 **9/15** 

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee, North Carolina Estate File No. 19-067 **In the Matter of the Estate of Leighann Rose McCoy** All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-CATION Ruth McCoy PO Box 197 Cherokee, NC 28719 **9/15** 

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION EBCI THE CHEROKEE COURT CHEROKEE, NC FILE NO.: CV 21-621 John Biddix Elsie Biddix



## FACILITY MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN -BUILDING TRADES

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS POSITION IS TO PREPARE, REPAIR, FINISH AND/OR REFINISH BUILDING EQUIPMENT SURFACES (WOOD, PLASTER, DRYWALL, WALL COVERING, STEEL, CONCRETE, BRICK, ETC) BY RECOGNIZED PROCEDURE AND TECHNIQUES OF THE PAINTING TRADE.

## VISIT JOBS.WCU.EDU FOR DETAILS AND TO APPLY

An Equal Opportunity/Access/Affirmative Action/Pro Disabled & Veteran Employer. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in the application and interview process please call 828.227.7218 or email at jobs@email.wcu.edu.



The Museum of the Cherokee Indian is growing! Join our team as we enter the next phase of filing our mission of preserving and perpetuating the history, culture, and stories of the Cherokee. MCI is currently hiring the following positions:

- Director of Operations
- Director of Collections and Exhibitions
- External Affairs Manager
- Graphic Designer
- Front Line Associate
- Cultural Specialist

For full job descriptions and how to apply, please visit mci.org/employment or email employment@mci.org



#### v.

Unknown Father TO: Unknown Father TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is CHILD CUSTODY. You are required to make defense to this pleading not later than

\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021, said date being 40 days from the first date of this publication, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. This is the 9th day of September 2021.

Jamie Arnold Attorney for Plaintiff EBCI Legal Assistance Office PO Box 2280 Cherokee, NC 28719 828.359.7400 N.C.G.S.\_1A-1, Rule 4(j1 9/29

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee, North Carolina Estate File No. 21-095 **In the Matter of the Estate of Louise Cabe** 

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-CATION Robert Saunooke 319 Big Cove Road Cherokee, NC 28719 10/6

#### BIDs, RFPs, etc.

**Requests for Proposals** Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee Department of Transportation 680 Acquoni Road Cherokee, North Carolina 28719 Phone: (828) 359-6530 Pedestrian Improvements US 19 The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians CDOT Office is requesting Sealed Bid Proposals from Qualified Firms to provide the following services: Crosswalks, pedestrian signals, traffic signals and median islands on US 19 at Harrah's Casino. The deadline for submitting Bid Proposals will be September 23, 2021 at 10:00 AM, EST. Please be advised that all TERO rules and regulations, Tribal

procurement policies, applicable state and federal rules, regulations and laws shall apply to the performance of any work awarded pursuant to this solicitation and to the procurement of work solicited through this advertisement. You may request the full Request for Proposals (RFP) and requirements for proposals through the CDOT Office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Robert Willcox, CDOT Engineer at (828)-359-6122/(828)-736-3921 (cell) or Darrell Brown, CDOT Planner at (828)-359-6534. 9/15

## **Request for Proposals**

The Cherokee Tribal Court seeks competitive proposals for a Public Administrator. This service will be paid on a contractual basis from the Cherokee Tribal Court. Interested individuals

## Cherokee Veterans: We want to share your stories.

The Cherokee One Feather would like to share your stories in a column we call "Veteran's Corner". Send your written stories to Robert Jumper, editor, at robejump@nc-cherokee.com. Or, if you prefer to sit down for an interview with one of our reporters, call 359-6482 (Robert), 359-6263 (Scott), or 359-6264 (Jonah).

Thank you for your service, and we look forward to hearing from you so we can share your stories of service with the entire community.

O GWY IN OYLC CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* NA TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI should submit a brief letter proposal including the following: 1. Name and Contact Information 2. Copies of Certificates and Licenses

3. Relevant Work Experience Proposals may be submitted at any time, but those received on or before September

30, 2021, will receive priority over later submissions. Please mail or email proposals to:

Amber Shuler, Court Administrator

Cherokee Tribal Court

PO Box 1629

Cherokee, NC 28719

ambeshul@ebci-nsn.gov

This is a solicitation of proposals and not an offer to contract. The Cherokee Tribal Court reserves the right to decline any proposals received. 9/29

## Notice to Qualified **Professionals Request for Qualifications** (RFO)

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Handicapped & Elderly Living Program (H.E.L.P.) 145 Tsali Manor St. Cherokee N.C. 28719 Phone 828-359-6638

The Handicapped and Elderly Living Program (H.E.L.P.) is seeking qualified contractors and professionals who specialize in general residential rehabilitation and repair for residential properties. Work to be performed may include:

Removal and installation of metal or shingled roofs

Removal and installation of storm doors, doors and window Service, removal, and installation

#### of HVAC

Service and installation of electrical generators

Service, removal, and installation of propane heater & tank/line sets Service, removal and installation of electrical

Service, removal and installation of plumbing

Removal and installation of kitchen cabinets

Removal and installation of flooring

Rough and finish carpentry Construction of universally acceptable ramps and decks Sheetrock repair Lawn maintenance services Pest control

Locksmith

Qualified contactors and professionals will be expected to start work upon issuance of a contract.

Several contractors and professionals will be selected for work. Selections will be based on qualifications. The H.E.L.P. Program reserves the right to reject any and all submissions.

The work to be performed under this RFQ is subject to TERO guidelines. TERO certified vendors will be given preference. Qualification packages should include a W-9, tribal business license, proof of insurance, and any applicable licenses or certifications. Deliver sealed proposals to the H.E.L.P. Program office. Deadline for sealed proposals is September 30, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

Contact Stephanie Welch, swelch@nc-cherokee.com with questions or comments at 828-359-6638. 9/22

#### **Cherokee** Central **Schools Job Openings** Apply online at https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/ onlineapp/ or visit: www.ccs-nc.org for more information. Cherokee Central School is currently taking applications for employment for the following job opportunities, all jobs are open until filled unless otherwise indicated: 1. Director of CTE and STEAM 2. Adult Educator (Hope Center) 3. Pre-K Teacher assistant 4. Special Education Pathseekers Teacher Assistant 5. Special Education STARS Teacher Assistant 6. Special Education Teacher - Dreamcatcher 7. School Counselor (ARPA Funded) 8. Maintenance Worker I 9. Child Nutrition Assistant - Menu Planner 10. Food Service Worker **Cultural Teacher Assistant** 11. 12. Cherokee Language Instructor 13. High School Science Teacher 14. Math/Reading Interventionist (Multiple, ARPA Funded) 15. Elementary Academic Interventionist 16. Licensed Professional Counselor (Multiple, ARPA Funded) 17. Middle School Boys Basketball Head Coach 18. Varsity Wrestling Assistant Coach

- 19. Middle School Baseball Assistant Coach
- 20. Varsity Basketball Assistant Coach
- 21. CMS Baseball Head Coach
- 22. Middle School Wrestling Assistant Coach
- 23. Varsity Football Assistant Coach
- 24. JV Football Assistant Coach
- 25. Substitute Teachers



Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians HUMAN RESOURCES

PO Box 553 Cherokee, NC 28719 828-359-6388

#### Closing Sunday, September 19, 2021

- Family Safety Case Aide Family Safety Public Health and Human Services (L6 \$30,357 -\$37,946)
- 2. Utility Worker (Composting) Solid Waste Operations (L4 \$25,261 \$31,581) 3. Utility Worker (Sanitation) Solid Waste Operations (L4 \$25,261 \$31,581)
- 4. Utility Worker (Transfer Station) Solid Waste Operations (L4 \$25,261 \$31,581)
- 5. Weigh master/Administrative Assistant Solid Waste Operations (L6 \$30,357 \$37,946)
- 6. Truck Driver/Crew Leader Solid Waste Operations (L8 \$36,500 \$45,625)

#### **Open Until Filled**

- 1. Patrol Officer (Multiple) Cherokee Police Department Public Safety (L8 \$36,500 -\$45,625)
- 2. Detention Officer (Multiple) Detention Services Public Safety (L7 \$33,250 \$41,574)
- 3. FT Paramedic (Multiple) Emergency Medical Services Public Safety (L8 \$36,500 \$45,625)
- 4. PT Paramedic (Multiple) Emergency Medical Services Public Safety (L8 \$17.55 \$21.94 per hour)
- 5. Early Childhood Language Specialist Assistant (Part-time) New Kituwah Academy Community/Education/Recreation Services (L6 \$30,357 - \$37,946)
- 6. Youth Development Professional Cherokee Youth Center Community/Education/Recreation Services (L4 \$25,261 - \$31,581)
- 7. Certified Nursing Assistant Tribal In Home Care Services Public Health and Human Services (L4 \$25,261 - \$31,581)
- 8. Project Monitor Project Management Operations (L12 \$52,635 \$65,811)
- 9. Homeownership/Rental Occupancy Specialist Qualla Housing Services Housing (L8 \$36,500 - \$45,625)

#### All applications and job descriptions are available at www.ebci.com/jobs

Please attach any licenses, certificates, diplomas, resumes, etc. with application. If you are unable to attach the documents, you may drop them off at our offices located at 866 Acquoni Rd. Suite 100 or email them to the Employment Specialists listed on our website. Indian Preference does apply. NOTICE: Due to the Tribal State of Emergency, we will only advertise positions that are classified as Essential or Critical to Tribal Operations. Thank you for your patience and understanding.



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

In an emergency, call 911

Tribal Dispatch 497-4131

Cherokee Indian Police Dept. 359-6600

Tribal Fire and Rescue 359-6584

Tribal EMS 359-6450 or 497-6402

Cherokee Indian Hospital 497-9163

## EBCI TRANSIT NUMBERS

Transit Main Line Dispatch 359-6300

Tsali Manor funds passes for Tsali Manor residents and communal lunch attendees. This pass provides unlimited trips within the service area and on shopping trips. Out-of-town shopping trips are currently on hold due to COVID-19.

## Phone Numbers for Cherokee elders

Cherokee Indian Hospital main line 497-9163

**Tsali Manor** - contact is Debbie West 359-6291 or 736-3950

HELP (Handicapped, Elderly Living Program) contact is Stephanie Welch 359-6638

HIP (Home Improvement Program) contact is Cindi Squirrel 359-5520 or 507-7748

Congregate, Homebound Meals, Supplement - contact is Sherry Welch 359-6290

Heat Assistance/Emergency Assistance - contact is Krisna Ashe 359-6294 or 421-7364

EBCI Home Health/Home Care 497-9163 (ask for nurse on call)

> EBCI Domestic Violence 359-6830

EBCI Emergency Fuel Assistance 507-7825

Cherokee Immediate Care Clinic 554-5555

DaVita Cherokee Dialysis Center 497-6866

Snowbird Senior Center main line 479-9145

> Tsali Manor main line 359-6860

John Welch Senior Center main line 835-9741

Cherokee Boy's Club Elder Fuel Delivery and Elder Mowing contact is Donnie Owle 736-7612





# LET'S GET THE PARTY STARTED

# PUT ON YOUR

Must be 21 or older to enter the casino floor and to gamble, and must present a valid state or federal photo ID upon request. Know When To Stop Before You Start.® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. ©2021, Caesars License Company, LLC.



www.harrahscherokee.com