



Cherokee One Feather website



2023
Year in
Photos
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EBCI selects its
2024 Remember
the Removal
candidates
Pages 18-19

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of
vsgiyi 20-26
2023

Bigger and better in '24

Harrah's Cherokee
Valley River Casino
& Hotel \$275 million
expansion scheduled
for late 2024

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**
One Feather Reporter

MURPHY, N.C.—Harrah's Cherokee Valley River Casino & Hotel held a media tour of the \$275 million construction site for the 25,000 square foot expanded gaming floor, 296-room hotel tower, and 1,500-space parking deck on the morning of Dec. 11. Representatives from general contractor Robins & Morton and Harrah's Cherokee Valley River General



Harrah's Cherokee Valley River General Manager Lumpy Lambert is shown in front of the expanded gaming floor during a media tour of the facility's expansion on Monday, Dec. 11. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photos)

see **EXPANSION** next page

Christmas Wishes

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

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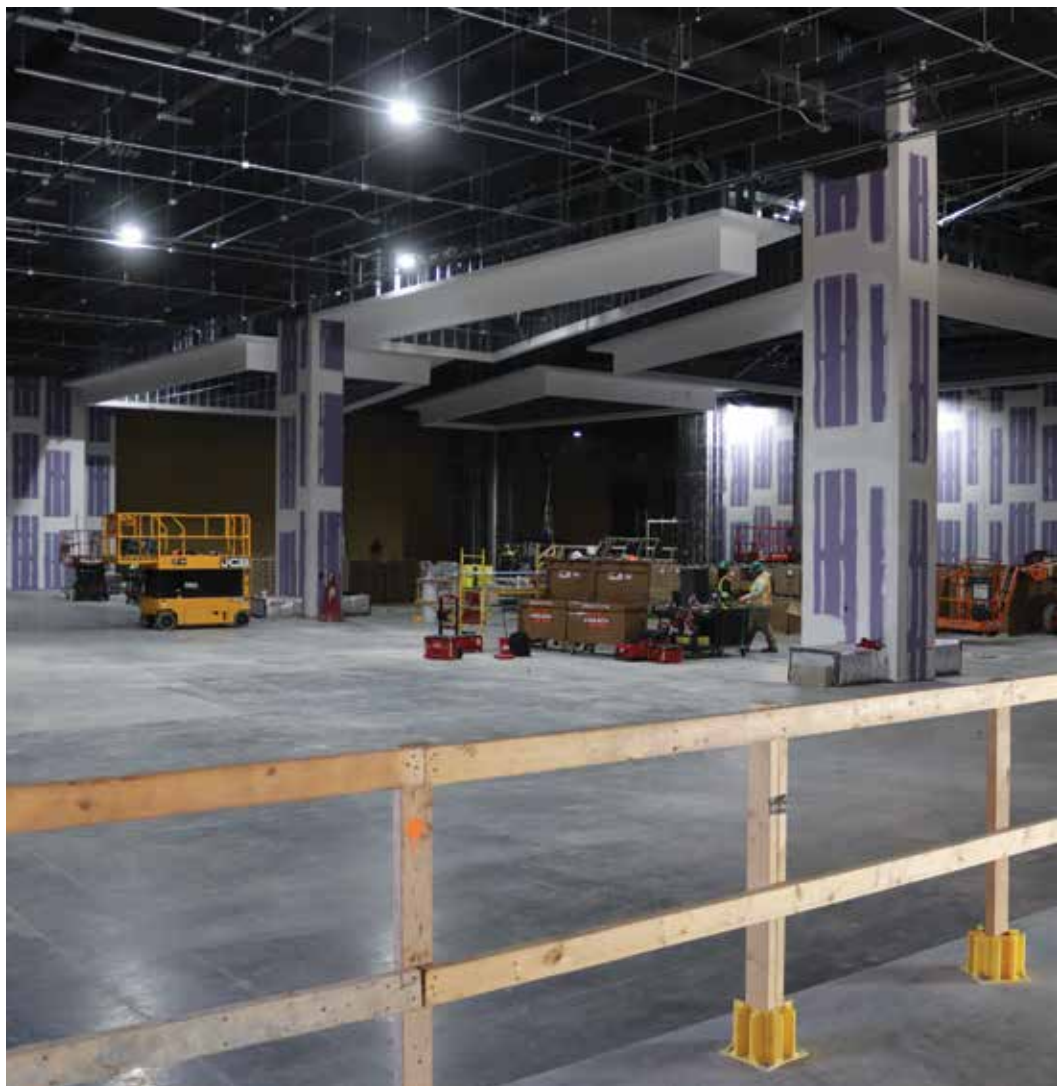
The Cherokee One Feather is available as a forum for opinion or comment concerning issues of interest to the community and readership. Letters, including any submitted photos, should be exclusive to and will become the property of the One Feather. Letters must be signed and include contact information (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. The deadline for all submissions is Friday at 12 p.m.

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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Cherokee's award-winning newspaper since 1965.
Winner of 12 NCPA awards in 2022 including:
Ad Sweepstakes Award for ad design/content



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The expanded gaming floor.

EXPANSION: from front page

Manager Lumpy Lambert led the tour of the new sites that will hold 400 new slot machines, 12 additional table games, a 10-table World Series of Poker poker room, and 22-seat casino bar.

Lambert is pleased with the progress of the expansion, a project he anticipated years ago. "We recognized the necessity of an expansion when we opened eight years ago," Lambert said. "We are certainly looking forward to the opportunity to grow and expand our market."

Lambert projects 100 new incremental positions, adding that the expansion will aid in generating revenue for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). "The expansion can assist in not only the continued development of tribal

programs, but tribal distribution for enrolled members and job opportunities," he said. "Assisting tribal distribution and tribal programming are our primary goals for the EBCI."

Lambert also noted that design elements for the expansion will feature Cherokee cultural elements to maintain the cultural integration of Harrah's Cherokee Casinos. "It's always in the game plan to utilize local artists and infuse the culture as best we can," Lambert added.

Construction of the expanded gaming floor is set to be complete and available to guests in mid-2024. The parking deck is projected to closely follow the gaming floor with an opening in summer 2024. The new hotel tower is projected for late 2024.



The new parking deck.



The expanded gaming floor.

2023 Year in Photos

We hope you enjoy some of our favorite and most poignant photos taken by One Feather staff in 2023.



A total of \$17.5 million of the ARP funding for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has been designated for water and sewer infrastructure such as the sewer and water pipeline that is being implemented along Acquoni Road as shown in this photo on Feb. 17. (ROBERT JUMPER/One Feather photo)



Mary "Missy" Crowe and Karyl Frankiewicz dance at the Cherokee Winter Social held at the Peaches Squirrell Sports and Recreation complex on Saturday, Jan. 28. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



The Cherokee Lady Braves defeated the Robbinsville Lady Black Knights 72-71 to win the Smoky Mountain Conference Tournament at the Ken Solesbee Athletic Center at Andrews High School on the evening of Friday, Feb. 17. With the win, the Lady Braves went undefeated in conference play on the season. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



EBCI Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver Johnson, a first language Cherokee speaker, walks in the Annual Cherokee Speakers Walk, honoring first language speakers of the Cherokee language and those learning the language, which was held at the old Cherokee High School site on the morning of Wednesday, April 19. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Then-Big Cove Rep. Teresa McCoy, center, cries as she hugs Tammy Jackson, left, following passage of legislation by Tribal Council on Thursday, April 6 that grants a referendum vote on the proposed Constitution for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Shown at right is Stephanie French, Yellowhill Community Club. In July, Tribal Council reversed its decision and removed the constitution referendum vote from September's ballot. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Ronda Linda Colindres, the grandmother of Lively Crue Colindres who was murdered in February 2022 at the age of eight-months-old, holds a sign honoring Lively during the 4th Annual Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Walk and Vigil which was held on the evening of Friday, May 5 in Cherokee, N.C. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Onita Bush, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a fluent Cherokee speaker, is shown at the 37th Annual Fading Voices Demonstration Day held in the Snowbird Community in Robbinsville, N.C. on Saturday, May 27. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Ariyonna Hill-Maney, Cherokee High School Class of 2023 valedictorian, gives her address during the school's commencement ceremony at Ray Kinsland Stadium on the evening of Thursday, May 25. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



A send-off event was held for the 2023 Remember the Removal Ride (RTR) at Kituwah on the evening of Friday, June 2. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians contingent is shown, left to right, Destiny Mills, Venita Wolfe, Nelson Lambert, Rae Queen, and Sunshine Parker. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Maj. Vaughn Benner, U.S. Army; Wendy Nevarez, U.S. Navy; Col. Bob Blankenship, U.S. Army; and then-Principal Chief Richard G. Sneed, U.S. Marine Corps, salute after placing a wreath during the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Cherokee Veterans Park in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Monday, May 29. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Members of the Kolanvyi Indian Ball Team put on several stickball exhibitions during the Kituwah Celebration held at Kituwah on the evening of Friday, June 9. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the world's largest Buc-ee's convenience store which opened in Sevier County, Tenn. on the morning of Monday, June 26. Then-EBCI Tribal Council Chairman Richard French, right, presents a gift to Tennessee Governor Bill Lee during the event. The 74,000 square foot store contains 120 fuel stations and is located at The 407 - Gateway to Adventure property operated by the Kituwah, LLC, an enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Surrounded by tribal leaders and officials of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Kyle Pheasant cuts the ribbon to officially open the EMS Family Playground in the Yellowhill Community on the afternoon of Thursday, May 11. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Totsie Welch, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, trims buds at the cannabis farm operated in the Birdtown Community by Qualla Enterprises, LLC in late July. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



Olivia Wahnetah, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from the Yellowhill Community, holds up a fish she caught on the morning of Saturday, Aug. 5 during the 22nd Annual Talking Trees Children's Trout Derby on the Oconaluftee River in Cherokee, N.C. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Scarlett "Gigage" Guy was named 2023-24 Miss Cherokee during a pageant held at the 111th Cherokee Indian Fair on the evening of Friday, Oct. 6. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)



Aaron Ira Smart, a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation with EBCI heritage, soars in between rounds at the 7th Annual Cherokee Skate Jam at the Cherokee Action Sports Park on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 4. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Cherokee's Levi Tramper (#52) sacks Blaine Kirkpatrick, Avery Co. quarterback, in the end zone for a safety in the third quarter of a game held at Ray Kinsland Stadium on the evening of Thursday, Aug. 17. Tramper also had two fumble recoveries as the Braves won the season opener 26-8. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Mato Grant (#34), Cherokee Braves running back, blasts into the end zone on a 19-yard touchdown run during a game against the Rosman Tigers at Ray Kinsland Stadium on the evening of Friday, Sept. 8. For the game, he had 9 rushes for 123 yards and 2 touchdowns, and he caught 4 passes for 51 yards and 1 touchdown to help lead Cherokee to a 43-6 win. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Principal Chief Michell Hicks gives his address at the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Inauguration at the Charles George Memorial Arena on the morning of Monday, Oct. 2. Seated, left to right, are Vice Chief Alan B. Ensley and his wife, Libby Ensley, and EBCI First Lady Marsha Hicks. Cherokee Tribal Court Chief Justice Kirk Saunooke is shown seated behind Chief Hicks. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Austin Fourkiller-Raby, left, Cherokee Middle School runner, won the Smoky Mountain Conference (SMC) Middle School girls cross country championship held at Kituwah on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 14. Cecily "Dvdaya" Swimmer, Cherokee High School runner, won the SMC High School girls cross country championship. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)



A Māori contingent performs a Haka during Western Carolina University's Indigenous People's Day Celebration on campus in Cullowhee, N.C. on Monday, Oct. 9. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)



Dvdaya Swimmer, Cherokee High School sophomore, repeated as the 1A West Regional girls cross country champion in a meet at Kituwah on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 28. She finished the race with a time of 17:55.37. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



The Varsity Lady Braves volleyball team won the 2023-24 SMCTournament Championship for the first time in school history on the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 18 at Andrews High School. They are shown, left to right, back row - Will Poolaw, Kieran Wolfe, Arden Arkansas, Head Coach Pam Sumner Bryant, Kyla Moore, Alexis Davis, Joscelyn Stamper, Assistant Coach Stephanie Maney; front row - Coco Wells, Awee Walkingstick, Creedon Arch, Dvdaya Swimmer, Evan Nations, and Loshi Ward. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)



Lou Montelongo reads a statement on behalf of the family of Victoria Cabrera-Davis during an informal gathering in front of the Tribal Council House in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Thursday, Nov. 30. Cabrera-Davis, 17, was found safe by Cherokee Indian Police Department after she had been missing from the Family Safety Building since Nov. 16. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)



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Tribal Council Chairman's report

By **MIKE PARKER**

Tribal Council Chairman

On Monday, Nov. 13, Mike Stamper, Painttown Representative, attended a fundraising event for House Representative Jake Johnson in Raleigh, N.C. He is the House Deputy Majority Whip leader, a Republican from the 113th district, and he represents the counties of Henderson, McDowell, Polk, and Rutherford. Rep. Johnson will be integral to future deliberations regarding commercial gaming in the state. It was a great meeting and a well-received event. We look forward to many more meetings with Representative Jake Johnson and a long-standing friendship between himself and the Tribe.

During the week of Oct. 18-21, Cherokee Tribal Council and Executive Representatives attended the Alaskan Federation of Natives (AFN) annual convention held in Anchorage, Alaska. Representing Tribal Council were: Vice Chair David Wolfe, Birdtown Rep. Jim Owle, Birdtown Rep. Boyd Owle, Painttown Rep. Dike Sneed, Cherokee Co. – Snowbird Rep. Adam Wachacha, Cherokee Co. – Snowbird Rep. Bucky Brown, and Tosh Welch (Public Relations). Bill Taylor, EBCI governmental affairs liaison, represented the Tribal Executive office.

Delegates from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) attended to counter measures by the Lumbee of North Carolina,

and Senator Tom Tillis (R-N.C.) to garner support from AFN for the Lumbee Fairness Act to be presented to Congress. EBCI was able to garner support from the Cook Inlet Region of Alaska, as Tribes in that Caucus were in opposition to supporting Lumbee Act and were prepared to object on a point of order. Kenaitze Tribe being the front runner of that group. AFN committee Legal and Legislative (L&L) approved support for Lumbee Fairness Act after a Committee Zoom call held prior to the convention, thus circumventing the normal process. No discussion was held on the floor.

Pipestem Law Firm was able to facilitate meetings with at least one corporation. Further work in Alaska for Cherokee Support would require an equal emphasis on both tribes and corporations as the dynamic in Alaska does not provide for treaty or land-based tribes.

NCAI

Delegates from EBCI attended the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Annual Conference held in New Orleans, La. on Nov. 12-17. This conference had a record-attendance as a vote for rules change was being conducted. This rules-change resolution was sponsored by the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the EBCI, and the Ute Tribe of Utah. An open debate was held at which EBCI Tribal Council Chairman Mike Parker presented the opening position of the EBCI in support of the proposed rule changes. In the debate, Big Cove Rep. Perry Shell and Yellowhill Rep. Tom Wahneta also argued in favor of the proposed changes. Several additional tribal leaders spoke alternating both for and against the rules change. Cherokee leadership and lobbyists were able

to address the Midwest, Eastern Oklahoma, and Alaskan Caucuses, to garner last minute support.

The following EBCI Tribal Council attended: Rep. Jim Owle, Rep. Boyd Owle, Rep. Tom Wahneta, Vice Chair David Wolfe, Chairman Mike Parker, Rep. Perry Shell, Tosh Welch (PR); and Principal Chief Michell Hicks and Paxton Myers, Chief of Staff, represented the EBCI Executive Office. A big thank you to Bill Taylor, governmental affairs Liaison, for helping coordinate this meeting.

The vote took place on Thursday with 55 percent of the membership voting “No” and 44 percent of the membership voting “Yes” in support of the rules change. A total of 1 percent of voting membership abstained. (Attached is Chairman Parker’s opening statement)

STATEMENT OF EBCI TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MIKE PARKER ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NCAI CONSTITUTION Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023

Good morning, members of the National Congress of American Indians. I am Mike Parker and I serve as Chairman of the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. I appreciate the NCAI Executive Committee and staff that has carried out the requirements of the NCAI Constitution to allow consideration of these proposed amendments and set aside time for this debate on the floor of NCAI.

Working in close partnership with Chief Ben Barnes and his Shawnee Tribe, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has co-authored and proposed the first amendment to the NCAI

Constitution that would clarify that only tribes with treaty and trust relations with the United States—the federally acknowledged tribes—would have the right to vote as tribal nations at NCAI. Groups recognized as tribes by states would continue to be a part of NCAI as Organization Associate Members but would not be able to vote as tribes.

In addition, we have worked with the Ute Tribe to support the second proposed amendment to the NCAI Constitution that would clarify that a person running for NCAI leadership must be a member of a federally recognized tribe. On behalf of the Eastern Band, we respectfully request your vote in favor of both of the proposed amendments to the NCAI Constitution. Let me tell you why we feel so strongly about these issues.

As one of three federally acknowledged Cherokee tribes—along with the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee and the Cherokee Nation—we continue to face the growing number of groups that falsely claim to be Cherokee, wrongly seek to appropriate Cherokee language and culture, and wrongly seek to exercise rights as Cherokee sovereigns. All three of the Cherokee tribal nations do not acknowledge these other groups as Cherokee. Many of these groups are inappropriately recognized by states as tribes. In fact, at least nine state recognized groups claiming in whole or in part to be Cherokee are full voting tribal members of NCAI. Many more state recognized groups falsely claim to be other established tribes.

These false claims are not without harm and consequence. As one example, in the Southeast Region of NCAI, the voices of the Eastern Band Cherokee and other

leaders of sovereign tribal governments have been drowned out by groups claiming to be tribes. In the Southeast Region, state recognized groups now are a majority of voting members of the region. In the NCAI Federal Recognition Task Force, the voices of established tribes that validly seek to discuss fairness in the recognition process, problems with fraud and appropriation, and the falsity of tribal identity through pan-Indianism and self-identification are quieted by those who only want to discuss ways to achieve federal recognition. We would like to discuss reacquisition of land, protection of our tribal resources, and new ideas about developing our reservation economies. But our sovereignty and our participation in NCAI are diluted by groups whose identity as tribes is, at best, in question.

We do not make these statements about tribal identity without considerable thought and experience. We understand that sovereignty is not delegated from the United States or a state. Indeed, sovereignty is inherent to a tribal nation that pre-existed the creation of the United States and whose current citizens descend from those persons who were a part of that pre-federal community. But self-identification as a tribe and acting like a sovereign are not enough. Certainly, state recognition as a tribe cannot be enough, particularly where we now know that that none of the state processes are rigorous enough to determine that a group's claims to U.S. pre-existence and Native ancestry are valid. Accordingly, state recognition has proven to be an entirely unreliable basis for determining

tribal identity. NCAI's validation of state recognition processes undermines tribal sovereignty.

We now know more about state recognition than in the 1970s when NCAI leaders established the existing definition of tribal membership. For example, the MOWA Band of Choctaw, a state recognized "tribe" and "tribal member" of NCAI with full voting rights, sought federal acknowledgment through the Department of the Interior's Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) process. The OFA determined that 99 percent of the MOWA Choctaw members could not demonstrate any Native ancestry. Similarly, the "Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe" is a tribal member of NCAI whose Chair served as the Southeast Regional Vice-President. The OFA found that the members of the Ma-Chis Creek could not demonstrate Native ancestry. The three sovereign Cherokee Tribal nations have disclaimed several alleged Cherokee groups, yet these groups possess full voting rights within NCAI.

While it is uncomfortable to discuss, the epidemic of fraudulent groups posing as tribes worsens each day. There are literally hundreds of groups claiming our identities, posing as Indian artists, and stealing our language

and ancestral remains. State recognized groups are submitting claims under NAGPRA to obtain the remains and ceremonial objects of ancestors from established tribes. There are ongoing nationwide initiatives aiming to enable groups comprised of non-Indians who falsely label their artwork as "Indian made" and gain access to sacred items like eagle feathers. Furthermore, federal grants, contracts, and funding originally designated for federally recognized tribes have been diverted to groups with uncertain tribal and Indian identities. NCAI should no longer support or endorse these actions.

These proposed amendments are a start to protecting and defending our cultures and identities. To be sure, the groups opposing these amendments acknowledge the existence of many fraudulent groups claiming to be tribes—yet they offer no other solution to this issue except to maintain the status quo. For NCAI to remain a leading voice in Indian country, it is imperative that we oppose fraudulent organizations claiming to be tribes.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed amendments and for your continued leadership on behalf of sovereign tribal nations.



**Monday, Jan. 1
at 12:30 p.m.
Oconaluftee River
Cherokee, N.C.**

**Everyone is invited to
this inaugural event.
Take a leap in the
Oconaluftee River on
New Year's Day
in Cherokee.**

*Meet at the Unity Field
at 12 p.m., and everyone will
leap at 12:30 p.m.*

**Vendors:
Nikki's Frybread
Glazed & Infused**

*All Cherokee stickball teams
are challenged to join.*



Cherokee man indicted in Jackson County grand jury on first degree murder, murder of an unborn child

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**
One Feather Reporter

SYLVA, N.C.—Billy Jack Hicks, 51, was indicted by a grand jury in Jackson County on Oct. 2, 2023, in the murder of his wife, Danielle Davina Brady-Hicks—an offense that occurred in October 2020. Hicks had a recent court appearance on Dec. 4 in Jackson County. The hearing was continued to Jan. 2, 2024.

Hicks is charged with first degree murder, murder of an unborn child, and possession of a firearm by a felon. Hicks is accused of murdering his pregnant wife, Danielle Davina Brady-Hicks.

Danielle Davina Brady-Hicks, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, passed away on Oct. 6 at the age of 34 from a fatal gunshot wound.

Hicks, then 48, was charged in Jackson County with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill or inflict serious injury on Oct. 7, 2020. He was arrested on the Qualla Boundary by Cherokee police and placed in the Jackson County Detention Center under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with no bond. He was later placed under a \$500,000 secured bond after a hearing on Oct. 9, 2020.

Cherokee funeral home owner indicted on child sex offenses

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**
One Feather Reporter

SYLVA, N.C.—Bruce Martin Jr., 51, owner of Long House Funeral Home in Cherokee, N.C., was indicted by a grand jury in Jackson County on Nov. 13, 2023, on six child sex offenses,



Billy Jack Hicks



Bruce Martin Jr.

including one count of statutory sexual offense with a child by an adult, four counts of indecent liberties with a child, and one count of statutory sexual offense with a person who is 15 or younger. Martin had a recent court appearance on Dec. 4 in Jackson County. The hearing was continued to March 18, 2024.

Martin, then 49, is charged with sexually assaulting two children between 11-12 years old and 12-13 years old at the time of the alleged offenses occurring between Jan. 1, 2021 and Nov. 30, 2021.

Martin was placed in Jackson County Detention Center on Nov. 14 under a \$700,000 secured bond.

One Feather staffer receives \$5,000 grant from International Women's Media Foundation

One Feather Staff Report



CHEROKEE, N.C.— Brooklyn Brown, a reporter for the Cherokee One Feather, recently applied for and received an individual grant of \$5,000 from the International Women's Media Foundation Fund for Indigenous Journalists: Reporting on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Two-Spirit and Transgender People (MMIWG2T).

Brown applied for and received this grant individually. There are no Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians matching funds or in-kind requirements. While she will be using the funds to enhance her work at the One Feather, this project, obligation, fund use, and reporting are solely Brown's.

The grant will support year one of Brown's 3-year reporting project to cover the first set of 35 documented Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Missing and Murdered cases. The first year of the project will include an in-depth monthly article on at least 12 cases, as well as weekly graphics to address the case and other MMIWG2T issues on the Qualla Boundary and beyond.

The International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF) is the only organization that provides safety training, byline opportunities, and emergency support tailored to women journalists and photographers around the world. The Fund for Indigenous Journalists: Reporting on Missing & Murdered Women, Girls, Two-Spirit, Transgender People (MMIWG2T) directly supports Indigenous journalists' reporting on violence that targets members of Indigenous nations, both on sovereign ground and in urban settings in the U.S. The fund, through IWMF, will provide the One Feather with resources for extensive reporting on the missing and murdered cases of the EBCI.

This reporting was supported by the International Women's Media Foundation's Fund for Indigenous Journalists: Reporting on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Two-Spirit and Transgender People (MMIWG2T).

CIPD Arrest Report for Dec. 4-10, 2023

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 theonfeather.com.

Bradley, Connie Lynn – age 40

Arrested: Dec. 4

Released: Dec. 4

Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance (two counts)

Taylor, Autrey Vincent – age 41

Arrested: Dec. 4

Released: Dec. 4

Charges: Second Degree Trespass

Brown, Monica Lynn – age 44

Arrested: Dec. 5

Released: Dec. 7

Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Savage, John Carlan – age 43

Arrested: Dec. 5
Released: Dec. 7
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Taylor, Carol Denise – age 52
Arrested: Dec. 5
Released: Dec. 6
Charges: Possession Schedule II Controlled Substance, Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Esquivel, Carlos Dale – age 46
Arrested: Dec. 6
Released: Dec. 6
Charges: Driving While Impaired

Johnson-Sequoyah, Imadeanne Arlouine – age 38
Arrested: Dec. 6
Released: Dec. 6
Charges: Temporary Hold

Bradley, Nichole Dominique – age

31
Arrested: Dec. 7
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 11)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Ramirez, Karina Bridget – age 40
Arrested: Dec. 7
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 11)
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedules I-V, Drug Paraphernalia, Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Wilnoty, Janice Gayle – age 52
Arrested: Dec. 7
Released: Dec. 7
Charges: Reckless Endangerment, Offensive Touching, Simple Assault

Climbingbear Jr., Henderson –

age 75
Arrested: Dec. 9
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 11)
Charges: Communicating Threats, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court, Filing a False Emergency Report

Queen Jr., Hugh Nolan – age 33
Arrested: Dec. 9
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 11)
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court; Manufacture, Sell, Deliver with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver a Controlled Substance; Possession of a Controlled Substance

Thompson, Tanya R. – age 53
Arrested: Dec. 9
Released: Dec. 10
Charges: Resisting Public Officer


Waldroup, Jessica – age 55
Arrested: Dec. 9
Released: Dec. 9
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

Gilcher, Patrick Alan – age 40
Arrested: Dec. 10
Released: Dec. 10
Charges: Temporary Hold

Hull II, Timothy Clark – age 34
Arrested: Dec. 10
Released: Dec. 10
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Rodriguez, Aletha Gail – age 49
Arrested: Dec. 10
Released: Dec. 10
Charges: Hold Until Sober


CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK
Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida
SŌHİ ʌD RVLŁŌJ D&ŌYL



Pixel and Zelda are 4-year-old Japanese Bobtail cats living in Johnson City, Tenn. with their humans, Hunter and Autumn Hill.

Pixel and Zelda are sisters, best friends, and the best little girls.

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TSALAGI WORD FIND / "Christmas"

1- Gifts - didanedi	12- Snow - vtsi
2- Joseph & Mary – Tsosuwā nōle Meli	13- Jesus Christ – tsisa galonedā
3- Winter - gola	14- Santa Clause – dinedi ayidoi
4- Holy - galvgwodiyyu	15- Christmas – ulihelisi tsisa udetiyisgv
5- Star - nogwisi	
6- Family - sidaneli	
7- Toys - dinelidodi	
8- Holly - usdasdi	
9- Christmas tree – uwodisihatvnv adasgvi	
10- Grinch - unegutsada	
11- Wisemen – anigatana anisgaya	

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Submitted by Kituwah Preservation & Education.
Words can be across, backwards, up, down, or diagonal



Glory to the New Born King!

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Houses of Worship

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 Acquoni Baptist Chapel 722 Acquoni Road Cherokee 497-7106
 Beacon of Hope Baptist Church 344 Whittier School Rd. Whittier
 Bethabara Baptist Church 1088 Birdtown Road Cherokee 497-7770
 Big Cove Missionary Baptist Church 6183 Big Cove Road. Cherokee
 Big Cove Pentecostal Holiness Church 7710 Big Cove Road. Cherokee
 Boiling Springs Missionary Baptist Church 924-964 Old Bryson City Road Bryson City
 Cherokee Baptist Church 812 Tsalagi Road Cherokee 497-2761
 Cherokee Bible Church 1112 Olivet Church Road Cherokee 497-2286
 Cherokee Church of Christ 2350 Old Mission Road Cherokee 497-3334
 Cherokee Church of God 21 Church of God Drive Cherokee 497-9241
 Cherokee Church of the Nazarene 72 Old School Loop Cherokee 497-2819
 Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church 135 Long Branch Road Cherokee
 Cherokee United Methodist Church 21 Echota Mission Dr. Cherokee 497-2948
 Cherokee Wesleyan Church 1660 Wolfetown Road Cherokee
 Christ Fellowship Church 1655 Acquoni Road Cherokee
 Ela Baptist Church 4450 Ela Road Bryson City 736-1155
 Embassy Christian Center Church of God in Christ 87 Vinewood Circle Whittier 835-2359
 Grace Community Church of Cherokee 1655 Aquoni Road Cherokee
 Jesus is the Light Full Gospel Ministries 1921 US 441 N Cherokee
 Living Waters Lutheran Church 30 Locust Road Cherokee 788-6455
 Macedonia Baptist Church 1181 Wolfstown Rd Cherokee 497-1611
 Old Antioch Missionary Baptist Church 2868 Wrights Creek Road Cherokee
 Olivet United Methodist Church 811 Olivet Church Road Cherokee
 Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church 82 Lambert Branch Road Cherokee 488-6766
 Rock Springs Baptist Church 129 Old Gap Road Cherokee 497-9455
 Sequoyah Sovereign Grace Church 3755 Big Cove Road Cherokee
 St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church of Cherokee 84 Old River Road Cherokee 225-6656
 Straight Fork Baptist Church Big Cove Road Cherokee
 Waterfalls Baptist Church 82 Waterfalls Church Road Cherokee
 Whittier United Methodist Church 150 Church Street Whittier. 497-6245
 Wilmot Baptist Church Thomas Valley Road Whittier 554-5850
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 Yellowhill Baptist Church 28 Yellowhill (Peavine) Road Cherokee 736-4872

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EBCI selects its 2024 Remember the Removal candidates

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.
One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) has selected seven tribal members to join riders from the Cherokee Nation this June on the annual Remember the Removal Ride (RTR). The ride will retrace the northern route of the Trail of Tears.

Unlike previous years, this year, the group isn't being called riders just yet. EBCI RTR officials noted that they are being called candidates until a certain date and metrics are met "to make sure that they are attending classes and are reaching a physical readiness".

The 2024 EBCI RTR candidates include: Josiah Lossiah, Cruz Galaviz, Nika West, Cassidy Galaviz, Kristy Maney Herron, Angelina Jumper, and Noah Hicks.

Cruz Galaviz, 26, from the Snowbird Community, said, "I grew up playing sports. I love the camaraderie and the team."

He and Hicks served as support staff for the 2023 ride. "Seeing that was inspirational to me. It kind of inspired me to do this. But, also, I grew up learning all about our culture, learning the language and the dances and the traditions. This just kind of ties it all together. It's a really nice way to tie everything together."

Hicks, 27, from the Painttown Community, said, "It's something that I've always wanted to do and now that I'm graduated and kind of in a place in my career where I can



The 2024 Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Remember the Removal candidates are, left to right, Josiah Lossiah, Cruz Galaviz, Nika West, Cassidy Galaviz, Kristy Maney Herron, Angelina Jumper, and Noah Hicks. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

take the time to put towards this event, I felt like it was just the right time for me to do it. My sister completed it in 2015 so I got to watch her go through it. And I've had a bunch of friends that went through it. I got to help as support staff last year, so I got to see it kind of from that side of things. So, I just felt like I was in a good place in my life to just go ahead and try to sign up for this and try to participate."

Josiah Lossiah, 23, from the Painttown Community, has family with the EBCI and the Cherokee Nation. "Really, my motivation for that (signing up) was for my grandma out in Oklahoma on my mom's side, Patsy Fourkiller. She always

wanted me to do it, just kept influencing me ever since I was 16 when you're eligible to do it. She said, 'you should do it. I'll be waiting out here for you.' She wanted me to come in and see my family tree. So, she wanted to learn a little more about that than what she knew on that side, and also on this side here. She was my inspiration on that and I have a couple friends and family members, close friends who have done it and were just like, 'you should try it. It's a great experience'. Then, I just decided I'm going to give it a try."

"It's an honor because I have some people that I'm riding for here...my ancestors on this side...

that don't know what it's like to be on that side. So, I'm riding for them, but also in remembrance of the family that had to go on the Trail as well. So, I feel like it's an honor in that sense. Hopefully I'll be able to come back and let people know how it was on both sides of the family and give them my experience. And maybe give them that motivation if maybe they want to do it someday as well."

Angelina Jumper, 26, from the Snowbird Community, said she was encouraged to apply for the ride by numerous people. "So, I had a lot of different people tell me that I should apply and that it was a really good experience. My current

boss, my manager, was an alumni, and he always talks really highly about it. I've never been able to talk about the Trail of Tears as easily as I would want to, and I felt like this was an opportunity to get closer to it and to heal whatever is in me that's unable to really take on that and talk about it. I know my great grandfather, seven times over, had gotten wrongfully removed and then escaped right above Knoxville. So, I always knew that that was something that he had come back and escaped from...I think about all the times that he had gotten as far as he did above Knoxville and then had to come back, then got sent again in chains. I think about that."

"Once I got the opportunity to see that there are people that actually bike this route, this is a real thing, I was like, 'wow, I think I want to do that'...just to be able to draw myself

a little bit closer to their experiences. I didn't have any direct ancestors that I know of, yet, that had gone on it...I know that there's Jumpers out in Oklahoma, too, so I'm hoping it helps me to kind of figure some things out."

Kristy Maney Herron, 44, from the Yellowhill Community, has applied for the ride numerous times and is elated at being selected as a candidate for the 2024 ride. "I've lost count how many times I've signed up for the ride. It's just something that I've been wanting to do. Every year it changes, my reason...every year it's always changed...I feel like it changes from year-to-year between something that you want to do to...you want to learn more about the Trail of Tears, because we only hear so much. And you don't really hear about it from their side of things. I want to learn

from them how it was for them, more in-depth on the history and actually seeing those places in person rather than just reading about it. But, it's also to try and push myself to complete something, be more motivated and feel more included in the culture and the history and things like that."

She added, "It's really just something that I want to accomplish. I guess, in some ways, it might be more personal and may be selfish for me to want to accomplish and feel involved in something... but also learning more about their side of things, more so than what we learn here because we came back."

Cassidy Galaviz, 29, from the Snowbird Community, commented, "I've always thought this was very interesting to be a part of, not just the ride itself, but the entire journey itself. I've heard from a lot of people that it's been a really incredible experience and I wanted to be a part of it."

"The entire journey itself I'm really excited about. I'm not too knowledgeable about it and I'm hoping to learn more throughout this entire process. Just a cool aspect is that my brother is a part of this ride with me so we will be able to share this experience, which I think will make it even better."

Nika West, 46, originally from the Big Cove Community, is starting training for the ride for the third time. The first time was derailed due to COVID-19, and last year he had a health issue weeks before the event. "I'm excited to have another opportunity to be able to participate with the RTR team. It's just been a string of bad luck, I would say."

"I was very heartbroken (last time) because the time that I had put into it, the training, the classes, and you get to build relationships with people that you're riding with. It's hard to go through all that and

not get to participate. It was tough on me. It was emotional for myself just knowing the sacrifices that my family had done to allow me to do this. Now we're doing it for a third time and hopefully third time's the charm."

West went on to say, "I'm just anxious to get to walk in the same path that our ancestors did through the Removal. Just to be able to see and witness the area and try to look through their eyes at what they saw when they were leaving...just the hardships along the way. I know what I've dealt with is nothing to what our ancestors dealt with, but I can say that I've had some hardships in trying to make this happen to honor our ancestors."

Prior to going on the ride, the participants will learn about their own family tree.

Cruz Galaviz is excited about that part. "I don't know how far back my lineage goes. I don't know that part. I know my great-great grandfather, but anywhere past that or what part that he played in the Trail of Tears - even if they did because I'm from Snowbird. So, a lot of Snowbird community hid out in the mountains. So, I don't know if I'll find anything, but it's going to be really interesting to see where my family went. That's what I'm most looking forward to."

Herron commented, "I know a little bit about my genealogy and my family history, but I don't know if any of my ancestors actually went. For my lineage on my grandma's side, Nimrod Smith was my great-great-great grandpa. I know he was involved in it and certain things, but I don't know if any of my family actually went on the Trail of Tears. I know a lot of them stayed here. I would like to learn if any actually went - especially direct lineage - and see if maybe I might have cousins out there."

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GDTBATH: Tsini McCoy

The first-year student from Cherokee is proud of her Native heritage and hopes to connect her career with it.

By Brennan Doherty

UNC- Chapel Hill

University Communications

(Reprinted with permission)

Ask Tsini McCoy about the stickers on her water bottle and she answers the way she does when leading tours at the Museum of the Cherokee People in her hometown.

She starts with the most prominent decoration on her bottle, the water spider, a central figure in the Cherokee story about the creation of fire.

According to the tale, a small but clever spider succeeds at capturing fire for warmth and light, a task many other animals had failed to do. It's an allegory that teaches lessons about looks being deceiving and how people have unique gifts and roles to play, McCoy explains.

"It speaks a lot to our culture of who we are and what we believe in," says McCoy, a first-year student from Cherokee, a 4.5-hour drive from Chapel Hill. The town in southwestern North Carolina serves as the capital of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Near the end of her first semester of college, McCoy calls being away from Cherokee and her Native community for the first extended time "a big adjustment." But it's also reaffirmed her decision to come to Carolina, the university that attracted her with its welcoming and inclusive environment and strong STEM programs. Majoring in biology and minoring



Tsini McCoy, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is a freshman at UNC - Chapel Hill. (Photo by Johnny Andrews/UNC-Chapel Hill)

in Native American and indigenous studies, McCoy began college planning to explore connections between Native medicine and plant biology and chemistry.

She's still interested in biology but is considering other potential career paths such as journalism and reporting on topics impacting Native communities like her own. "I know no matter what happens, I want my future career to deal with being Native American," says McCoy. "I want to come back and serve my community."

That desire came with age and increased community involvement. As a younger child, McCoy grew up in the Cherokee culture and learned about traditions but "had a bit of a struggle" with her identity because of her biracial background. (Her father is Cherokee, and her mother is part white

and part Puerto Rican.)

"I felt like I kind of had to choose, and I didn't really know where I was in that," she says.

Those feelings subsided as she grew older and became more involved with tribal pageants. McCoy was Teen Miss Cherokee from 2021 to 2022, a process and title that caused her to feel "a passion and identity that I never really felt as a kid."

Around the same time, she began working as a cultural specialist at the Museum of the Cherokee People. The role involved both honing her knowledge of the Cherokee heritage and sharing that information with a broader audience.

McCoy learned through trial and error. She observed more experienced colleagues and paid attention to which questions people

asked the most. When possible, she tried to connect information with stories from her own life.

"One thing I really loved about that job was I able to share personal experiences, pieces of my story, with people who were curious or had questions," McCoy says.

While the context has changed and is less formal, McCoy still encounters curiosity and questions about her Native heritage at Carolina from classmates and friends. She's glad to talk about it. To know McCoy is to know her heritage.

"My nativeness is a big part of who I am," she says. "It's a big part of my beliefs and values and how I hold myself as a person. They're always so interested in it, which makes me feel important and seen."

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Away in a Manger

“Away in a Manger”, a play by the New Kituwah Academy

Early Childhood students, was presented at the school on the morning of Thursday, Dec. 14.

(Photos courtesy of New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood program)





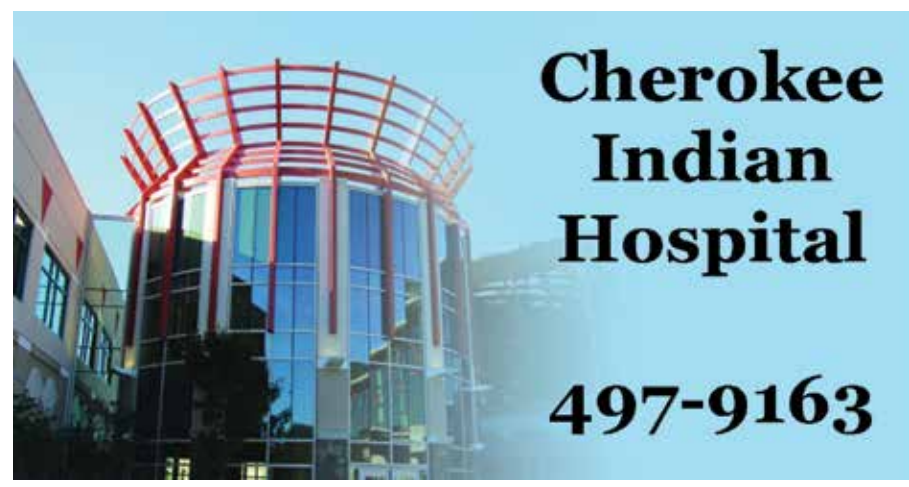
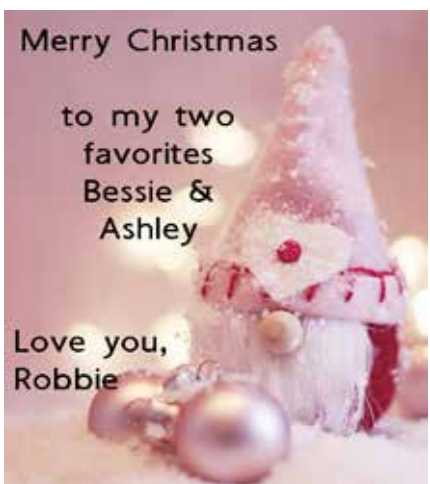
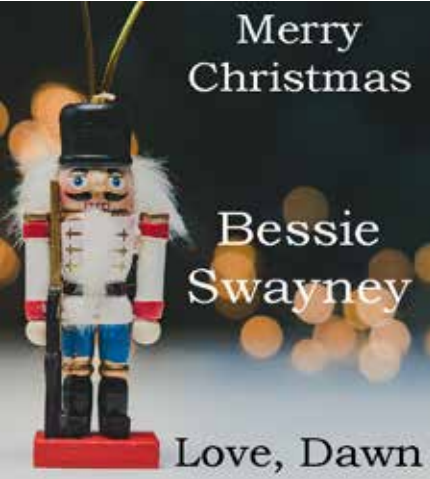
Merry Christmas

The Annual Tribal Employee Breakfast was held on the morning of Dec. 15 at Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Resort, featuring Christmas caroling from NAIWA, door prizes, and an ugly Christmas sweater contest.

(Photos by Brooklyn Brown/One Feather reporter)







Inner Monologue of Indigenous People

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By nurturing a connection with our culture and community, our medicine is strong and untouchable by those who seek to take our land and harm us.

Hope and perseverance have given my people a voice when we once were silenced and our language and culture stolen.

But just like the braids cut from our hair, our culture has recovered and was woven back into our lives, empowering our descendants.

While forgiveness sets your heart free, if we forget, then all the innocent voices will no longer be heard, buried in unmarked graves with no closure and justice.

No amount of apologies can restore or reverse the atrocities inflicted upon our women and children and our warriors.

So we continue to fight and resist for those who cannot.

We are survivors.

We are still here.

We are proud to be Indigenous.



Illustration by Brooklyn Brown

Lisa Young
Bella Garcia



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Happy Holidays



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EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 Cherokee Indian Fair Theme contest

Entries are currently being accepted for the 2024 Cherokee Indian Fair Theme contest. The winning entry will receive \$250. This contest is open to members of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of all ages. Entrants younger than 18-years-old must have a parent or guardian

co-sign the liability release form and submit it with a W-9 form.

The theme must be culturally-oriented. It must be seven words or less and must be submitted with a short paragraph describe the meaning of the theme. Last year's theme was "They Made the Way". Only one entry per person.

The deadline for entering the contest is Friday, Jan. 5, 2024 at 4 p.m. The entry forms are available

at the Cherokee Welcome Center (828) 359-6490 between the hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Forms can also be emailed to interested participants by emailing Lisa Frady at lisafrad@ebci-nsn.gov to request a form.

EBCI Destination Marketing Dept. and their immediate families are not eligible to enter the contest.
- EBCI Destination Marketing Dept.
release

REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mars Hill College Upward Bound Program. A planning team is working on putting together a reunion for all students who attended the Mars Hill College Upward Bound Program in the fall of 2024. If you are interested in getting more information, go to Facebook and search for Mars Hill University Upward Bound 1968-2013 Program and join. **1/31/24**



EBCI Tribal Offices will be closed Dec. 22 - Jan. 1



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OBITUARIES JH8FR

Clifton M. Owle

Clifton M. Owle, 75, of the Birdtown Community, passed away due to an extended illness, Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023. A native of Cherokee, he was born April 2, 1948, to the late Jack Clifton Owle and Pauline Lambert.

A strong and independent man, he was an outdoorsman, he enjoyed gardening, online shopping (Amazon), his alligator Jake the dog had a special place in his heart. He loved his family and truly enjoyed cooking and making memories with those around him.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his son, Gregory Allen Owle; daughter, Beth Ann Owle; son-in-law, Charles West; two brothers, Joey Owle and Sammy Owle; and a sister, Wanda

Faye Owle.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Patricia Owle; daughter Leigh Ann Owle; stepdaughter, Tara McCoy; sisters, Linda Kay Baxley (David), Peggy Dehart, Joyce Blankenship, Tina Owle; special sister, Nellie Washington; brother, Richard Owle; uncle, Joe Jr. Lambert; five grandchildren, Aisha Owle (David), Ayianna West "Annie", Philip West (Brittney), Brodie Owle, and Shiloh Owle; a great-grandchild, Lorelei Ray-Ann Owle "Bugg"; and his bonus great-granddaughter, Harper. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews; special friends, Candler Nations and Herbert "Chief" Partridge.

Clifton proudly served his country in the Army during the Vietnam Conflict. He walked with courage everywhere he went.

Tough as nails he was, no matter the circumstance, it never wavered. He filled his grandchildren's lives with nothing but happiness and love and loved them more than anything.

Funeral Services were held Thursday, Dec. 14 at the Chapel of Crisp Funeral home. Burial followed in the Birdtown Cemetery.

Larry Phillip "Phil" Allen Maney

Larry Phillip "Phil" Allen Maney, 82, of Fall Branch, Tenn., passed into the loving arms of his Savior on Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023. A native of Cherokee, Phil was born May 24, 1941, to the late Jesse J. Maney and Muriel Smith Maney.

An enthusiastic collector of everything Cherokee, Phil assembled a mini museum at his home in Fall Branch. He donated some of his most treasured items to the Museum of the Cherokee People. Phil enjoyed all sports particularly the ones in which his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren participated. He inherited a green thumb and grew several traditional and heirloom plants and trees. Fishing was another favorite pastime.

Phil was recruited by TVA while working at the BIA. While with TVA he worked on projects from North Carolina to New Mexico. After retiring he began to work with FEMA primarily in the Gulf Coast states during hurricane recovery. Highly regarded in his field, he was asked to consult and take part in several projects in North Carolina and Tennessee. Phil also volunteered his time and expertise. Locally he participated in the construction of the playground at the Dora Reed Center and the Junaluska Memorial among other projects. You could be assured whether a pinewood derby car or a billion dollar project the construc-

tion and attention to detail would be flawless.

In addition to his parents, Phil has been reunited with his brothers, Jim Smith, Jesse A., Manford, and Doug Maney; and great granddaughter, Mia Sutton.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Sharon Maney of Kingsport, Tenn.; brothers, Marvin (Edith) Maney of Cherokee, Cedric (Sandra) Maney of Weaverville; sisters, LaVonda "Utzie" Gregory, and Darlene Dover of Cherokee; his children, Barbara Sutton and Larry "Eddie" Maney both of Cherokee, Daniel "Red" (Lisa) Maney of Tuckaseegee, Nancy Arnold of Sylva, and Becky Miller of Kingsport; grandchildren, Meredith Miles, Christina Sutton (Mark Miller), Nathan Sutton, Danielle Vesely, Tyler Arnold, Daniel Maney (Frank Robles), Brandt Sutton, Jeffrey Miller (Destiny Starnes), Bradley Arnold, and Adrienne Miller; great grandchildren, Dathan Maney, Michael Miles, Maya Brabham and Chyanne Evitt; and friend of over 60 years, Susie Gibbs Maney.

The memorial service was held Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023, at Hamlett-Dobson Funeral Home in Kingsport, Tenn. with Chaplain Tom Edwards officiating followed by burial in Oak Hill Memorial Park. Pallbearers were Nathan Sutton, Frankie Robles, Daniel Maney, Brandt Sutton, Jeffrey Miller, Bradley Arnold, Dathan Maney, and Michael Miles. Honorary pallbearers were Eddie Maney and Red Maney. A celebration of life will be held in Cherokee at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Cherokee Childrens Home.



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the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration, opioid SRD/dues (Grant #1H791080257)
and SPH-401 (Grant #1U5SP022007).

COMMENTARY

Count your blessings

By **ROBERT JUMPER**
One Feather Editor

I resisted writing this for as long as I could. I argued with myself that it would be too sappy and that not everyone shares my belief system. Then I thought, some things are uni-

versal like love and peace, and the gratefulness that comes with it. Please know that I respect everyone's right to seek their own faith or religion, or in some cases, their privilege not to have a faith at all. I doubt anyone who is firm in what they believe will be swayed by a little commentary. So, my disclaimer is that my commentary is my own opinion, and I am not trying to convince or convert anyone. Like you, I am sharing my opinion and thoughts on a topic. My thoughts are not necessarily the One Feather's thoughts, individually or corporately, and they are not those of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. It's part personal therapy, part hoping a nugget

within it will resonate with you and bring you a better understanding and a happier life. A revelation if you will.

But I thought about 2023, the challenges and successes over the months, weeks, and days. In that thought, especially as it drew closer to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, a song kept coming back to mind. Songs are just poems put to music. Many songs are written to bring joy and have fun, while others tell stories about life and give life lessons. If you are of the Christian faith, you may have sung this song many times, maybe even learned it as a child. Written by Edwin O Excell in 1897, it is a song of thanks-

The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Presents The **WNC Fly Fishing Trail** **Weekly Fishing Report**



December 18-24, 2023



WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
Tuckaseigee River	Delayed Harvest began Oct. 1. Hatchery supported section also open to fishing	All day.	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout as well as smallmouth bass.	Microstreamers (slump buster, bunny flash jig), mop flies, girdle bugs, wooly buggers, squirmy worms, egg patterns, pheasant tails and Hares's ears
Chattooga & Whitewater Rivers	Wild Trout. No stocking.	All day.	Brown Trout	Stimulator, October Caddis, Parachute Adams, Stone Fly Nymphs, Sculpzilla, Wooly Buggers, BWO dry fly, BWO nymph, Crane Flies, Pheasant tails, Hares Ear Nymphs, Midges
Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River & Small Streams	Wild Trout. No stocking.	All day.	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout	Stimulator, October Caddis, Parachute Adams, Stone Fly Nymphs, Sculpzilla, Wooly Buggers, BWO dry fly, BWO nymph, Crane Flies, Pheasant tails, Hares Ear Nymphs, Midges

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BEST FISHING TIMES BASED ON THE LUNAR CYCLE

MONDAY, DEC. 18 AVERAGE+	TUESDAY, DEC. 19 AVERAGE	WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20 AVERAGE	THURSDAY, DEC. 21 AVERAGE	FRIDAY, DEC. 22 AVERAGE	SATURDAY, DEC. 23 AVERAGE	SUNDAY, DEC. 24 BETTER
4:33 AM-6:33 AM 4:57 PM-6:57 PM	5:21 AM-7:21 AM 5:40 PM-7:40 PM	6:09 AM-8:09 AM 6:32 PM-8:32 PM	6:56 AM-8:56 AM 7:19 PM-9:19 PM	7:44 AM-9:44 AM 8:08 PM-10:08 PM	8:34 AM-10:34 AM 9:00 PM-11:00 PM	9:27 AM-11:27 AM 9:54 PM-11:54 PM

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giving, and adopting a mindset that even in the darkest of hours of life, all is not lost, and hope is not gone. Like each of us in our faith, it is incredibly simple and, at the same time, infinitely complex.

***When upon life's billows you are
tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking
all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name
them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord
has done.
Are you ever burdened with a load of
care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are
called to bear?
Count your many blessings, every
doubt will fly,
And you will keep singing as the days
go by.
When you look at others with their
lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you
His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings; wealth
can never buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your home
on high.
So, amid the conflict whether great or
small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels
will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your
journey's end.***

We all face hurdles in life. Some tried to climb the ladder of success, their idea of success being power and financial gain. Some have attained high status, while others have been pulled down by their personal limitations or the avarice of others. Some have hoped for great romantic relationships or family, only to find themselves alone and in emotional darkness.

And everyone's darkness is different. What might be trivial to me might be of great importance to you and vice versa. Darkness in one life might be not having friends in school; another not attaining a pay increase or promotion; another might be the loss of a

treasured mother or father. Still, others may have found out in 2023 that they are facing a life-threatening disease. And then there might be someone who is struggling with knowing or being in their identity. All of us, if we'll admit, look at the dark side of life a little too long.

Blessing counting is super easy. For example, earlier in my life, I had predicted that I would probably come to life's end with no friends and very few if any family members around the grave. As life progressed, I have been blessed with many friends and family, many of whom are right here on the Boundary. When I was a teenager in high school, I was destined to meet Mr. Phillip Smith, who helped guide me through financial guidelines to the point of getting a bachelor's degree from Western. That led to, eventually a master's degree and over 40 years of managerial assignments, with 20 of those years in service to the tribe. In 1986, I found my life-mate during one of those managerial assignments. The blessings from that relationship continue to this moment. And I have had my ups and downs with health like everyone else, but I feel like it has been mostly up (at think at this point I am supposed to say "knock on wood"). That is the top line. To "count them one by one" would take up too much space, so much so that I am afraid the editorial board would insist on charging me for it.

I count as a great blessing my working relationship with the tribe. The Tribal Council and Executive have been very much pro-free speech and free press almost from the beginning of my service at the One Feather. They have been critical in putting laws in place to protect that vital line of communication between government and the governed, The Cherokee One Feather. The One Feather has, since its inception, focused on this community. That's 50-plus years. We are not the sporadic, drop-in for the "big" story kind of publication, but an outlet dedicated and focused on everything we do as a tribe. It is about the community of our tribe, and what we care about together. To us, the achievements of our people are as or more important than the court cases or the presumably bad behavior of some.

So, in that blessing count, I include Scott

and Sheena Brings Plenty. You will find no finer examples of dedicated community members than these two. They engage in every community activity that time allows and are a fixture at Cherokee sporting events. I once told Scott that he would be the finest editor for the paper that the tribe could have. He works his "job" passionately and with conviction. And Dawn Arneach, who came back to the One Feather after a several-year hiatus, just to hit the ground running and make the team stronger and better with every day that passes. And our newest member, Brooklyn Brown, who brings her passions to the paper and making our stories and ideologies stronger and encouraging community leadership and action. And then there are Jonah Lossiah and Sally Davis, who were with the One Feather for the better part of 2023 and contributed to what we are today.

Then there are those who support the One Feather, like Katie Cooper, who has stepped in many times to help guide us in the financial networks of the tribe, above and beyond her regular duties at another program. And the many folks in Tribal Finance, Facilities, Housekeeping, and those fine folks at the United States Postal Service who mail you your copy of the Cherokee One Feather. We work with Lee BHM Corp. and King Features who print the One Feather and supply content, respectively. And the many old and new advertisers who help us to lessen the needed financial support that the EBCI generously provides.

And then there is you. The elder at Tsali Manor reading tribal news. Or the EBCI master's degree candidate over in Amsterdam, pulling up the One Feather on his smartphone or tablet. Or the enrolled member reading the One Feather from her home in California. Thousands upon thousands are reading the One Feather today, many for the first time. Each of you is, in your own way, a blessing; again too many to number one by one. Thank you, tribal members, community, and readership, for the blessings. I urge you to think about your own life in the light, not the darkness. Have a Merry Christmas and a blessed holiday season. Let's all work for a 2024 that will be more light than darkness.

This isn't love

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**

One Feather Reporter

On the Dec. 12, 2023, Cherokee Court Domestic Violence docket, nine defendants were being charged with criminal domestic and dating violence, another 19 defendants were there to answer civil domestic violence charges. 28 in the weeks leading up to Christmas—the time of year when you're supposed to be cozied up indoors with the people you love the most. The holidays can be a scary time for people in domestic violence situations. Similar to the rise of domestic violence during the pan-

demic, being forced indoors with your abuser consequently exacerbates domestic violence.

In October and November, we've seen charges brought against husbands of two murdered women on our Missing and Murdered list. Two Cherokee men are accused of murdering their wives in the year end of 2023.

At the MMIW Walk in May, sentiments were shared broadly that we are killing our own people. Yes, jurisdictional issues and the devaluing of Indigenous people by colonialism feeds the MMIW crisis, but we are taking our own role in the killing.

What has happened to us, that we devalue each other, and especially our women and children?

In the onset of colonialism, the Cherokee Nation, like many other Indigenous nations, was matriarchal and matrilineal. Our

decision making, our kinship, our peoplehood was led by our Clan Mothers. This posed an immediate threat to the patriarchal systems of colonialism. Not only were women the decision makers, but women are the producers of generations. The quickest and most violent way to destroy a people is to violate and kill their women and children, the future of their nation. Cherokee women were raped, killed, kidnapped, and so were their children. Cherokee men were stripped of their title as protector, son, brother, and warrior. We were taught that Cherokee women were not to be War Women, Clan Mothers, or leaders of our nation as we once were. Cherokee women were simply property, objects of violence and brutality for the toxic masculinity that patriarchal society creates. This mentality, I believe, is a large part of why we

see such violence against women in our community from the people who are supposed to protect them and love them.

But domestic violence is not a gender specific issue. Men, and other gender-identifying people, face domestic violence as well. We have devalued ourselves altogether. We brutalize each other. We hate each other because we hate ourselves.

Self-hatred is the root of our violence. Violence is not love. Isolation is not love. Control is not love. Murder is certainly not love.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, contact the EBCI Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program: Hotline number: 1-800-264-9611, Local number: (828)554-6830.

For some, the holiday season won't be so merry and bright. Help stop elder abuse. Know the signs and report when you suspect it is happening. Don't wait until it is too late.

Abuse hurts at any age.

Elder abuse can be **emotional, financial, physical** or **sexual**. It can also result from **neglect**.



EBCI Domestic Violence

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National Domestic Violence Hotline

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Cherokee Boys Club Weekly Highlighted School Bus Driver

Bus #13
Bob Price

I started my job Thirty-Five years ago. When I am driving it's like you're watching the road and all the kids, to make sure they are in their seats and safe. I drive in a tourist town and share the road with visitors. It's like playing Defense. I have eighteen stops during the day, I travel around thirty-six miles per day, and I have forty-four kids on my bus and sometimes more.

I leave for my morning run around 6:45 a.m. and finish my morning run around 7:35 a.m. I leave for my afternoon run around 2:00 p.m. and finish the afternoon run around 4:15 p.m. Plus, I inspect my bus before my morning run, and I inspect my bus before my afternoon run. I clean my bus after my run and ensure no students are left on the bus.



Q: What does it mean to you to be a Cherokee Boys Club School Bus Driver?

A: I made a living driving a school bus. Do it for the kids, they need bus drivers to get them from home to school and back home safely. Just have a good attitude.

Cherokee Boys Club
P.O. Box 507, Cherokee, NC. 28719 828-497-9101



Cherokee Boys Club Weekly Highlighted School Bus Driver

Bus #14
John Smith Jr

I started my job in November 2023. When I am driving it's like you're watching the road and other drivers and all the kids, to make sure they are in their seats and safe. I do not care how loud they get, just as long as they stay safe in their seats. I drive in a tourist town and share the road with visitors. It's like playing Centipede, I am always moving my eyes from left to right, head left to right by looking in all my mirrors. I have thirteen stops during the day, I travel around thirty miles per day, and I have thirty kids on my bus and sometimes more.

I leave for my morning run around 6:10 a.m. and finish my morning run around 7:55 a.m. I leave for my afternoon run around 2:00 p.m. and finish the afternoon run around 4:45 p.m. Plus, I inspect my bus before my morning run, and I inspect my bus before my afternoon run. I clean my bus after my run and ensure no students are left on the bus.



Q: What does it mean to you to be a Cherokee Boys Club School Bus Driver?

A: I enjoy driving the school bus. I enjoy being around the children. For example, we took a trip to a shop with a cop, and all the children were happy and excited, and it made me emotional watching the children. I like driving children. I enjoy my job being around kids. I am a great grandfather, and they live away, so if I cannot be around them, I am around other kids, so I am happy. The young children are funny. You do not know what the children will say or do, and I enjoy it. It is a great job, and I love it.

Cherokee Boys Club
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Are you saved?

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

The nineteenth-century English scholar, Bishop B.F. Westcott, was a regius professor of divinity at Cambridge University.

On one occasion, he was approached by a zealous undergraduate who asked him, "Are you saved?" "Ah," said the Bishop, "a very good question. But tell me, do you mean...?" And then he mentioned three passive participles of the Greek verb "to save," indicating that his answer would depend on which of the three the student had in mind. "I know I have been saved," he said. "I believe I am being saved; and by the grace of God that I shall be saved" (Mejovial, 2017).

This story is an intellectual understanding of salvation. I pray Bishop Westcott has internalized the philosophical aspects of being saved, is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and accepts Christ as his personal Savior. It sounds like it.

I don't know that as a fact. No one does. God knows for sure, and I pray Bishop Westcott has not doubt he is saved. But you and I do not know and won't know until we meet him in heaven one day. See? This is the sticky part of our Christian understanding of salvation. Who is saved? Who is not? People say they are and then fall away. Others say they are but do not act like it very much. Some people live a life of sin and profess to repent and accept Jesus as their Savior on their deathbed. Judges look at those last-minute people facing death as fire escape salvations or fire insurance purchasers who say

they words but may not really get the indwelling Spirit.

I have heard preachers say that those who say the Sinner's Prayer in front of an audience, revival, or even some Christian events are not really saved. Some people see five, six, seven and up to twelve-year-old kids come forward and repeat what was told to them and get baptized under peer or youth pastor pressure to accept Jesus as not saved.

Some see older men and women live sinful lives only to come forward with tears in their eyes, pleading they are saved and need baptism. Some profess they are born-again Christians in prison only to be judged as a charlatan trying to get an early release on parole or better treatment inside. Can you believe that a murdering criminal as pathetic as Jeffery Dahmer accepted Jesus as Lord and was saved? Where do you fall in all that? As others have said, we will all be surprised to see who is in heaven and who is not.

To open this bucket of worms wider, let us discuss what it takes to be saved. If you want to get into a serious debate, here is a good one. Acts 2:21 says, "And it shall be, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Look that up in any translation you want. They all say the same. How about the second thief, who was pardoned by Jesus while on the cross in his last minutes on earth? What did he do to deserve what Jesus did for him? One day, I saw an advertisement on TV to order a free pamphlet from some televangelist on the seven things you must do to be saved. Seven? This kind of advertisement is a completely separate sermon from this one and would be an excellent follow-on to this.

You do not know. You cannot

see the soul or the Spirit indwelling in a person, young or old, good or bad. The best we can do is become fruit inspectors. Does the person who says they are saved show the fruit of the Spirit? That is tenuous in itself. We all work on our salvation and our sanctification. Have you ever seen a convert who gave their life to Jesus and from day one is changed, as the Bible says, into a new creature. The old person is gone, and a new life is born. Then again, others struggle to break old habits and fight with sin every day with faith they will be able to win again tomorrow. Some fail and then fight to get back. How often have you seen people fresh out of drug addiction clinics go back within days, weeks, months, years after time? Total failures, and I am confident God loves them.

The question of this devotion remains the same. Are you saved? We need not judge whether others are. We can bask in the light when it shines and help lift others from the ditch when they fall, but we will never know who is saved and

who is not on this side of heaven. To think like that is judging other as you feel and not as God thinks. He sees the soul. He tests our spirit; He dwells in those He chooses. His ways are far from ours. First and foremost, we should get credit for nothing. There is nothing we can do to earn salvation. We only accept it. Jesus paid it all. He paid for our salvation then He gave it to us to accept. We can do nothing to lose our salvation once He has sealed us with His Spirit. There is nothing we can do to make God love us more, and we can do nothing to make God love us less. When we consider how high God's love is, it is beyond our understanding. We do not know what all God's love is, and we will never know until we meet our Lord. It is a mystery of God and will remain one.

I know that God loves us; God loved us even when we were lost, and our lives chained down in sin. He loved us so much that He gave His only son to save us. Simple yet so complex. He will never leave us or forsake us.



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

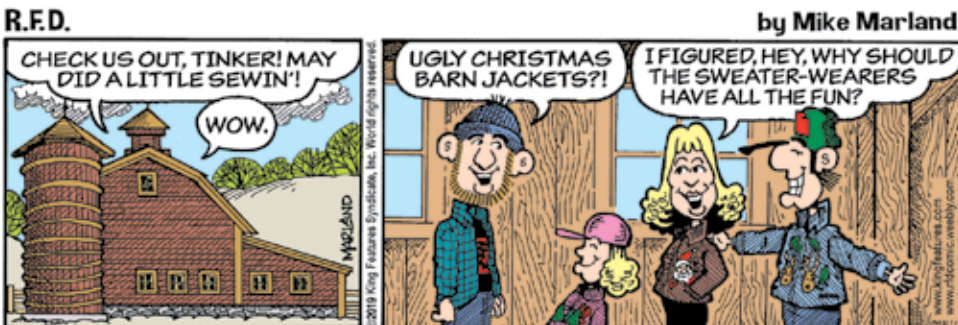
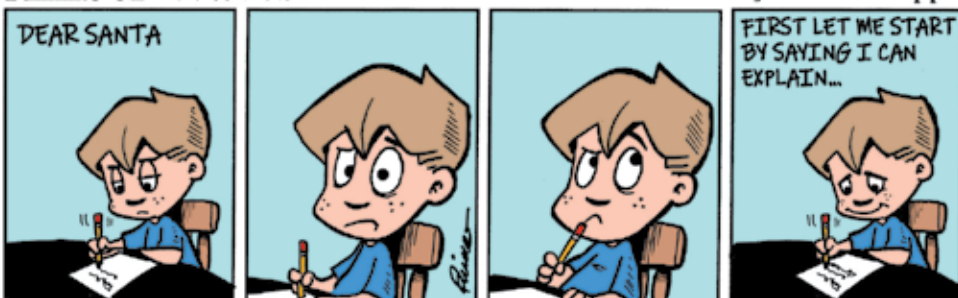


Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

LUKE 1:26, 27

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Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		5		4		7	
9				3			6
	2		8		3		
		4		5			1
	3		2			8	
7					9	2	
8				9			1
	1				5		7
		7	6			4	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Plant on mantle is missing. 2. Man has black. 3. Fireplace has more stones. 4. Mitten is missing. 5. Shirt zipper is gone. 6. Earmuff has added band.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Grill fill
- Easily split rock
- Give in
- Beer gut
- Fitting
- "Camelot" role
- First victim
- Bullets and such
- Big bother
- Director Kazan
- Unruly group
- Trouble
- Taj Mahal city
- "— Mis-behavin'"
- New Orleans neighborhood
- Criterion
- Yanks
- Sauce source
- That girl
- Send forth
- Raw rock
- Sheltered
- Capri, e.g.
- Swiss city
- Country
- TV's Superman portrayer
- Nasal qualities
- First-born
- Have a hunch

DOWN

- "— Your Enthusiasm"
- Reed instrument
- More than enough
- Whopper
- Unwavering
- Unwanted email
- Ricochet, in billiards
- Shack
- Occupies
- Gulf War missile
- "Comin' — the Rye"
- Masseur's workplace
- Theater canopy
- Fond du —, Wis.
- Scul need
- Sternward
- Anger
- Diminished
- Increases
- Ultramodernist
- Have a go at
- Ultimate
- "— was saying ..."
- Icicles' homes
- Saturn's largest moon
- Storybook baddie
- Stagger
- Survive
- Deadly septet
- Playgoers' box
- Type measures
- Previous night
- Shock and —

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CHRISTMAS BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

- Is the book of Immanuel in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- Which Old Testament prophet said the most about the birth of Christ? *Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah*
- From Matthew 1:18 when Mary became pregnant, she and Joseph were ...? *Married, Engaged, Just friends, Strangers*
- In Luke 2:8-11, how did the shepherds learn of Christ's birth? *Magi informed, Joseph announcement, Mighty wind, Angel appearance*
- Where did the wise men go first when they arrived in the Holy Land? *Nazareth, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron*
- What does the Bible record as to when Jesus was born? *Late September, Dec. 25, March 17, Does not*

Last-minute gift? "Test Your Bible Knowledge: 1,206 Questions to Sharpen Your Understanding of Scripture," by Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GOVERNMENT:** When was the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency founded?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What gift arrives on the 10th day in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas"?
- MOVIES:** What was the name of Shirley MacLaine's character in "Terms of Endearment"?
- PERSONALITIES:** At which sport did Babe Didrikson Zaharias excel in the 1940s?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** How do baleen whales eat?
- FAMOUS QUOTATIONS:** Which early American statesman once said, "A good conscience is a continual Christmas"?
- MUSIC:** Which singer was nicknamed "The Material Girl" in the 1980s?
- BIBLE:** What was Moses' wife's name?
- INVENTIONS:** Who is credited with discovering X-rays?
- MEDICAL:** What does the Ishihara test gauge?

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See answers on page 40

BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

Tsalagi Cougars Senior Games Cheerleader Frybread Fundraiser. Dec. 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Oconaluftee Island Park Open Air Market in Cherokee, N.C. Nikki's Frybread will be hosting.

Turkey Shoot. Jan. 1 at 10 a.m. at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in the Big Cove Community. Sponsored by Norman Walk- ingstick. Good food, good fun, great prizes, great benefit.

EBCI COMMUNITY EVENTS

Yellowhill Community Happenings.
- Christmas Cookie Exchange. Dec. 14 at the Yellowhill Activity Center. Time to be announced
- Christmas Party and Volunteer Recognition. Dec. 16 at the Yellowhill Activity Center. Time to be announced

EBCI Tribal Option "Nightmare Before Christmas"-themed Stocking Give-away. Dec. 19 from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Mountainside Theatre at 688 Drama Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. 800 stockings filled with goodies for children ages birth to 18 will be given out in the drive-thru. Random stocking will include

special tickets for large prizes such as bicycles.

Party Like it's 1998: A New Year for the Museum of the Cherokee People. Dec. 29 at 6 p.m. at the Museum. Take a final look at the Museum's current main exhibit, first opened in 1998, and "Disruption" before they take the first steps toward a renovated Museum. Have conversations with featured artists, entertainment, a cash bar, food trucks, and opportunities to learn more about the Museum's work in 2023 and beyond. Dress to impress in your '90s best for a chance to win a prize. Tickets are \$25 via motcp98.eventbrite.com. Admission is complimentary for members of the Museum of the Cherokee People and citizens of federally recognized tribes. Digital membership card or tribal enrollment card must be presented at event check-in. Museum members: enter code MEM90 at checkout. Citizens of federally recognized tribes: enter code EBCI90 at checkout.

Cherokee Winter Social. Jan. 27, 2024 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Painttown Gym in Cherokee, N.C. MC: Catcuce Tiger. Everyone is welcome. Traditional dress and ribbon skirts/shirts are encour-

aged. All Cherokee singers are welcome. Bring your rattles and drums. Food provided by Nikki's Frybread. Moccasins or sneakers only – no cowboy and/or work boots will be allowed due to the new floor.

WESTERN N.C. & BEYOND EVENTS

Lester Laminack presentation on picture books for children.

Dec. 12 at 6 p.m. at City Lights Bookstore in Sylva, N.C. Laminack is Professor Emeritus from the Department of Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary, and Middle Grades Education at Western Carolina University. He is now a full-time writer and consultant working with schools throughout the United States. Laminack is the author of such modern classics as "The Sunsets of Miss Olivia Wiggins"

and "Saturdays and Teacakes", as well as the recent laugh-along, "Three Hens, a Peacock, and the Enormous Egg". Info: City Lights Bookstore (828) 586-9499



EBCI Per Capita Information:

Devona Toineeta:
devophe@ebci-nsn.gov
(828) 359-7053

Jean Arlena Gomez:
jeangome@ebci-nsn.gov
(828) 359-7038

Puzzle Answers



ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Isaiah; 3) Engaged; 4) Angel appearance; 5) Jerusalem; 6) Does not



1. 1947
2. Ten Lords-a-Leaping
3. Aurora Greenway
4. Golf
5. Filtration
6. Benjamin Franklin
7. Madonna
8. Zipporah
9. Wilhelm Rontgen
10. Color blindness

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

C	O	A	L	S	S	C	H	I	S	T		
S	U	B	M	I	T	P	A	U	N	C	H	
P	R	O	P	E	R	A	R	T	H	U	R	
A	B	E	L	A	M	M	O	A	D	O		
	E	L	I	A	M	O	B					
A	I	L	A	G	R	A	A	I	N	T		
F	R	E	N	C	H	Q	U	A	R	T	E	R
T	E	S	T	T	U	G	S	S	O	Y		
	S	H	E	E	M	I	T					
O	R	E	A	L	E	E	I	S	L	E		
G	E	N	E	V	A	N	A	T	I	O	N	
R	E	E	V	E	S	T	W	A	N	G	S	
E	L	D	E	S	T	S	E	N	S	E		

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

3	8	5	9	6	4	1	7	2
9	7	1	5	3	2	8	4	6
4	2	6	8	1	7	3	5	9
2	6	4	3	5	8	7	9	1
1	3	9	2	7	6	5	8	4
7	5	8	1	4	9	2	6	3
8	4	2	7	9	3	6	1	5
6	1	3	4	8	5	9	2	7
5	9	7	6	2	1	4	3	8





INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S MEDIA
FOUNDATION

#VAWA

We deserve to feel
Safe Everywhere!



Justice
for MMIW

GWY ᏥᏍᏍᏁ ᏅᏍᏁ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

What is VAWA?

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a federal law passed in 1994 and recently reauthorized in 2022 that provides protections for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. There are 39 convictions of the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor made possible by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians exercise of jurisdiction of VAWA.

This reporting was supported by the International Women's Media Foundation's Fund for Indigenous Journalists: Reporting on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Two-Spirit and Transgender People (MMIWG2T).

EBCI BEAR HUNTERS!!

Win \$1,000!

Submit 2 PREMOLARS per bear and information (date, location, sex) to EBCI Fish & Wildlife for an entry in a drawing for \$1,000.

2023 Hunter Harvest
Bear Tooth Extraction

Bring submissions to:
Brad Building
1840 PaintTown Rd.
828-359-6110

CHEROKEE
FISH & WILDLIFE
DIVISION

CHECK OUT THIS TOOTH EXTRACTION VIDEO TO HELP US GET THE BEST DATA!

Scan with phone!




CLASSIFIEDS

Looking for - Wanted to buy, Pottery by Tiney Bigmeat Bradley. Good condition, no cracks or chips. Contact Teresa at Queen House Gallery 828-497-3272. **1/31/24**

EMPLOYMENT

HOME CARE AIDES NEEDED

EMPLOYMENT TYPE: HOME CARE AIDES NEEDED
Working Day- 5 DAYS IN A WEEK
Working Hour- DAYS FLEXIBLE
Salary is \$24 per Hour.

JOB DUTIES : Administering oral and topical medication under the supervision of medical personnel. Preparing and serving meals at the appropriate time.

For more details about the po-

sition, email me (emsaysanchez@gmail.com). **1/10/24**

BIDS, RFPs, etc.



Request for Quotes

Kituwah Technologies LLC is requesting quotes to do some minor construction tasks. Tasks consist of the following:

- install cabinets along the back wall with sink in the break room. demo other side and install the cabinets. New Counter tops
- Install hang/frame wall in office space. Include the door and

sound proofing, paint.

Please contact Kituwah Technologies LLC at 828-497-3315 to schedule a site visit. 180 Clearwood Dr. Whittier NC, 28789 Main point of contact will be John A Parker. Proposals are due December 22nd at 4pm EST. **12/20**

RFP Request

Project Title: Tribal Trout Hatchery Concrete Raceway Repair Project

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Natural Resources Department is requesting separate sealed proposals for the services of a qualified contracting firm with experience in concrete construction for the purposes of repairing and reconstructing concrete raceways at the EBCI Trout Hatchery. A mandatory pre-bid site visit is planned for January 4th at 9am at the EBCI Trout Hatchery (954 Straight Fork Road). Contact Mike LaVoie at (828) 788-3427 or by email at michlavo@ebci-nsn.gov to receive the RFP and for any further questions. Proposal packages should be emailed or delivered to Mr. LaVoie at the address provided in the RFP and must be received by 11:00 PM, January 15th, 2024, at which time bids will be opened in accordance with TERO procedures. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered. Please be advised that Indian Preference (TERO) regulations apply for award and execution of this contract. **12/20**

This is our last issue of 2023. The first issue of 2024 will come out on Wednesday, Jan. 10. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Good Housekeeping

Smoked Ham With Fresh Strawberry Sauce

We created this impressive glazed ham for winter entertaining, but it's perfect for a buffet any time of year.

- 1 (12-pound) smoked whole ham, fully cooked
- 3 pints strawberries
- 2 tablespoons dark brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 jar (10- to 12-ounce) orange marmalade
- Radish sprouts or watercress sprigs, for garnish

1. Remove skin and trim some fat from smoked whole ham, leaving about 1/4 inch fat. With knife, score fat covering on ham crosswise, just through to the meat, into 1-inch-wide strips. Place ham on rack in large roasting pan (about 17 by 11 1/2 inches). Insert meat thermometer into center of ham, being careful that pointed end does not touch bone.

2. Bake ham in 325 F oven 3 to 3 1/2 hours until thermometer reaches 140 F (15 to 18 minutes per pound). If ham browns too quickly, cover with a tent of foil.

3. About 30 minutes before ham is done, prepare strawberry sauce: Reserve 1 pint strawberries for garnish. Hull remaining strawberries. In 3-quart saucepan with potato masher or back of slotted spoon, mash strawberries. Stir in brown sugar, cornstarch, salt and orange marmalade; cook over medium heat until mixture thickens slightly and boils, stirring frequently.

4. To serve, place ham on warm, large platter. Arrange radish sprouts and reserved whole strawberries around ham. Serve with strawberry sauce. Serves 24.

• Each serving: About 250 calories, 12g total fat, 60mg cholesterol, 1,770mg sodium.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our Web site at www.good-housekeeping.com/food-recipes/.

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Employment Opportunities

Mandara Spa at Harrah's Cherokee is seeking applicants for the following positions:
***Signing Bonus up to \$2500.00

- Cosmetologist- must have a current NC Cosmetology License
- Senior Concierge for Front Desk and operations support – hospitality experience preferred
- Male Spa Host and Female Spa Host. – no experience required

Competitive compensation and benefits packages available. EEOC

***contingent on FT/PT and availability status

Apply in person or contact Angie Hill at angieh@mandaraspa.com or 497-8550.



Kituwah, LLC has the following job available

KITUWAH, LLC. Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

This position has oversight and supervision of a small team of employees and controls all strategic and business aspects of the company. The CEO is the first in command of the company and responsible for giving the proper strategic direction as well as creating a vision for success. The CEO must be a prudent manager and an inspiring leader. The CEO provides overall leadership, direction, guidance, and management of the functions, operations, programs, activities, resources, and staff of the Kituwah, LLC and all its subsidiaries, which is a component unit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Identifies opportunities for the EBCI to diversify its economy, leads and develops economic negotiation agreements. Advises the KEDB on various investment, corporate governance, and strategic planning issues as they arise, and facilitates the integration of a comprehensive strategy between the companies under KEDB control to effectuate a multi-company holistic strategy among them. The goal is to drive the company's development and guide it towards long-term success.

Anyone interested should pick up an application and position description at the Kituwah, LLC Office (Old Chestnut Tree Inn) between the hours of 9:00am - 4:00pm Monday -Thursday or email Kristin Smith@kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com

Open until Filled. Indian preference does apply, and a current job application must be submitted. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of application.

12/13



Museum of the Cherokee People

Now Hiring Manager of Finance, Registrar

The Museum of the Cherokee People is hiring for two roles. The Manager of Finance will provide financial oversight for all financial components of the museum, including but not limited to: accounts payable, payroll, grants, budgeting, accounting, etc.; serve as gatekeeper for financial and administrative transactions; and provide functional and supervisory oversight of the MotCP Finance Department. Total Salary Range: \$40,000—\$60,000. Hiring Range: \$40,000—\$52,000.

The Registrar will ensure archival and object collections are cataloged, maintained, documented, stored, and accessible in accordance with AAM standards, while following and maintaining Cherokee protocols. Total Salary Range: \$30,000—\$50,000. Hiring Range: \$30,000—\$42,000. The Museum of the Cherokee People offers a comprehensive benefits and retirement package.

Learn more and apply with cover letter and resume via mci.org/employment.

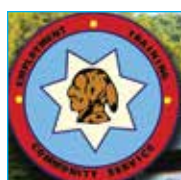
Harrah's CHEROKEE CASINO RESORT

**Is A New Job On Your Holiday
Wishlist?**

Actively Hiring For:
Sous Chef
Cook I & Cook II
Drop & Count Staff
Steward

**APPLY NOW AT
HARRAHSCHEROKEEJOBS.COM**

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, inclusion, and are equal opportunity employers. Must be 21 or older to enter 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. © Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, ©2023, Casino License Company, LLC.



Cherokee Boys Club Job Announcements

Application and job description can be picked up from the receptionist at the Boys Club information window between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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.

Cherokee Childrens Home

6 FT Residential Counselors

4 PT Residential Counselors

***2nd Shift - 3 pm - 11:30 pm**

***3rd Shift-11:00 pm - 7:30 am**

1 Assistant Manager

Child Development

3 Teachers

2 Behavioral Specialists

1 Family Partnership Coordinator

Construction

1 Skilled Carpenter

1 Carpenter Helper

Bus and Truck

1 Department Manager

Multiple PT Bus Drivers

Cherokee Boys Club
P.O. Box 507, Cherokee, NC. 28719 828-497-9101



CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

EXECUTIVE:

Performance Improvement Specialist - \$50,723 - \$63,404

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Employee Relations Specialist - \$50,723 - \$63,404

ENGINEERING:

EVS Supervisor \$21.13 - \$23.98

FINANCE:

Billing Analyst II - \$19.66 - \$22.25

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Master Level Therapist – Adult & Child - \$58,332 - \$72,915 -*

\$5,000 Hiring Bonus

Targeted Case Manager – Cherokee Central Schools - \$44,107 - \$55,134

Targeted Case Manager – Family Safety - \$44,107 - \$55,134

Targeted Case Manager – Analenigsi - \$44,107 - \$55,134

Residential Technician – Women's Home - \$17.12 - \$19.26

PTR Residential Technician – Men's Home - \$17.12 - \$19.26

PTR Residential Technician – Kanvwotiyi (Male & Female) \$17.12 - \$19.26

Inpatient Technician – FT and PTI - Analenigsi Inpatient - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Adult Outpatient Services Supervisor - \$67,082 - \$83,852

Behavioral Health Consultant Supervisor - \$67,082 - \$83,852

Medicated Assisted Treatment Program Supervisor - \$67,082 - \$83,852

Behavioral Health RN – Analenigsi - \$33.68 - \$38.72

Behavioral Health RN – Kanvwotiyi - \$33.68 - \$38.68

Peer Support Specialist – Analenigsi - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Peer Support Specialist – Kanvwotiyi - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwotiyi - \$44,107 - \$55,134

Behavioral Health Data Analyst - \$67,082 - \$83,852

OPERATIONS

Dentist – Dentures & Partial Dentures - \$131,405 - \$164,256

Dental Assistant II - \$18.32 - \$20.67

Dental Assistant I - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Diagnostic Radiologic Technologist II - \$24.55 - \$27.99

Medical Technologist - \$28.68 - \$32.85 - *\$5,000 Hiring Bonus

Medical Laboratory Technician - \$22.76 - \$25.89

Information Security Specialist - \$77,144 - \$96,430

Helpdesk Support Specialist - \$22.76 - \$25.89

Pharmacy Technician I - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Pharmacy Technician II - \$18.32 - \$20.67

Echocardiography Technologist - \$33.68 - \$38.72

MEDICAL

Clinical Dietitian - \$50,723 - \$63,404

Physician – ER –Part Time Intermittent \$227,068 - \$283,835

Physician – Pediatrics \$157,686 - \$197,108

Physician – Primary Care \$157,686 - \$197,108

Hospitalist - Inpatient – Full Time & Part Time Regular - \$227,068 - \$283,835

NURSING

Certified Medical Assistant – Immediate Care Center \$21.13 - \$23.98

Certified Medical Assistant / Licensed Practical Nurse - Primary Care \$21.13 - \$23.98 *\$5,000 Hiring Bonus for LPN

Licensed Clinical Social Worker Care Manager – Primary Care \$58,332 - \$72,915

Registered Nurse – Emergency Room \$33.68 - \$38.72 - *\$5,000 Hiring Bonus

Registered Nurse - Inpatient \$31.06 - \$35.64 - *\$5,000 Hiring Bonus (Night shift)

Registered Nurse (30 Hours per week) – Emergency Room \$33.68 - \$38.72

Registered Nurse Part Time Intermittent - Emergency Room \$33.68 - \$38.72

RN Care Manager – Primary Care \$31.06 - \$35.64

Telemetry Nursing Assistant – Inpatient \$19.66 - \$22.25

TSALI CARE CENTER

Certified Nursing Assistant - \$17.12 - \$19.26 - *\$5,000 Hiring Bonus

Certified Nursing Assistant – Part-time Intermittent - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Certified Medication Aide - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Cook Aide - \$15.00 - \$16.77

CNA/PCA – Part Time Regular - \$17.12 - \$19.26

CNA/PCA - \$17.12 - \$19.26 - *\$5,000 Hiring Bonus (C.N.A. only)

LPN—Part-Time Intermittent - \$22.76 - \$25.89

Licensed Practical Nurse - \$22.76 - \$25.89

Registered Nurse - \$31.06 - \$35.64 - *\$10,000 Hiring Bonus

Registered Nurse Supervisor - \$36.56 - \$42.11

Registered Nurse—Part-Time Intermittent - \$31.06 - \$35.64

Tribal Option

Tribal Option Business Analyst - \$67,082 - \$83,852

To apply, visit careers.cherokeehospital.org

If you have questions, contact the Cherokee Indian Hospital HR Dept. at (828) 497-9163 ext. 6343.

MISSING PERSON

Nakita Danielle Ritchie

Enrolled with Cherokee Nation

Height: 5'9" Weight: 130 lbs

Hair: Brown Eyes: Blue Age: 37 Female

Last contact: October 13, 2023

Last Known Location: Tecumseh,
Oklahoma

Circumstances of Disappearance: The last known location was in Tecumseh, OK. Was last seen by her mother. Ears are pierced. Left nose piercing that has healed with a noticeable bump. Beauty mark on her upper right lip. Mole on her neck near throat. Large butterfly tattoo on her back. Eeyore tattoo on one of her ankles unsure if on the inside or outside. Unknown tattoos on arms. Last seen wearing pink sweater with light blue jeans. Has prescription glasses.

If you have seen or have information concerning Nakita Ritchie, contact the Lt. Scott Hawkins, Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office (405) 273-1727.

Source: Namus.gov



GWY ᏊᏍᏍᏁ ᏍᏍᏁ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
HUMAN RESOURCES

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

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

Closing Sunday, December 24, 2023

1. Registered Nurse (Public Health Nurse) – Tsalagi Public Health – Public Health & Human Services (L15 \$27.87 - \$34.84 per hour)
2. Registered Nurse Supervisor – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health & Human Services (L16 \$31.05 - \$38.81 per hour)
3. Housekeeper I – SB & CC Housekeeping – Snowbird & Cherokee County (L6 \$15.30 - \$19.13 per hour)
4. Maintenance Technician – Snowbird & Cherokee County HELP – Snowbird & Cherokee County (L9 \$16.21 - \$20.26 per hour)
5. Office Administrator – Water Treatment – Operations (L10 \$17.58 - \$21.98 per hour)
6. Youth Sports Performance Coordinator – Cherokee Fitness Complex – Education (L9 \$16.21 - \$20.26 per hour)
7. Head Cook – Senior Citizens – Education (L7 \$15.60 - \$19.50 per hour)
8. Administrative Assistant – HELP – Education (L8 \$15.90 - \$19.88 per hour)

Open Until Filled

1. Detention Officer (Multiple) – Detention Services – Public Safety (L7 \$33,250 - \$41,574) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$20.89 - \$26.11 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
3. Community Response Officer – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$20.89 - \$26.11 per hour)
4. Detective – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L13 \$22.86 - \$28.58 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
5. FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Public Safety (L8 \$30,357 - \$37,946) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION (L11 \$19.13 - \$23.92 per hour)
6. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L9 \$16.21 - \$20.26 per hour)
7. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L10 \$17.58 - \$21.98 per hour)
8. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$25.17 - \$31.46 per hour)
9. Legislative Legal Counsel – Tribal Council – Legislative Branch (L19 \$97,792 - \$130,389)
10. Driver (Multiple) – Transit – Operations (L8 \$15.90 - \$19.88 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
11. Youth Development Professional – Cherokee Youth Center – Education (L6 \$15.30 - \$19.13 per hour)
12. Family Safety Attorney – Civil Law / Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$72,127 - \$96,169)

Get more for your trade and discover the difference at Andy Shaw Ford during our Year End Sale! and if you are lucky, you might catch a glimpse of a certain someone over....



2018 DODGE DURANGO LIMITED
\$17,942



Stock #
P4285

2022 FORD BRONCO WILDTRAK
\$59,599



Stock #
4284

4D Sport Utility 3.6L V6 24V VVT AWD 8-spd automatic Leather Seats Blu-ray compatible dual screen video, rear seat video system, power sunroof

4D Sport Utility 2.7L EcoBoost V6 4WD 10-Speed Automatic Leather Seats, 360-Degree Camera, Connected Built-In Navigation, Lux Package

Year - End Sale

2017 GMC ACADIA SLT-1
\$21,769



Stock #
V9127B

Odometer is 12006 miles below market average! Leather Seats, Local Trade, Non-Smoker, AWD, 2-Panel Power Sunroof, Navigation System Sport Utility 3.6L V6 3000 DOHC VVT AWD 6-Speed Automatic

2021 ACURA TLX A-SPEC
\$34,635



Stock #
4277A

Odometer is 3425 miles below market average! 4D Sedan 2.0L DOHC PWD 10-Speed Automatic Heated front seats, Memory seat, Navigation system: Acura Navigation System with 3D View, 22/30 City/Highway MPG

(828)586-0900 1231 E Main St, Sylva, NC 28779



Frell Owl Award recipients

The Cherokee Boys Club hosted the 2023 Frell Owl Awards Ceremony at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort, and the recipients were Butch and Louise Goings. CBC officials noted in a statement, "Butch and Louise are noted as Cherokee Crafts People. Butch is known for his wood and soapstone carvings. Louise is known for her basket making made from the white oak tree. They both teach their craft work to the students at Cherokee Central Schools and to individuals at their home. They both like to share their knowledge to the younger generation and encourage them along the way. They both have a peaceful approach to their artistry." (Photo courtesy of Cherokee Boys Club)



Parker-Thomas engagement

On the evening of Dec. 2, Roxanne Parker said yes to marrying Nicholas Thomas. They reside in the WolfTown Community with their four kids. (Photo contributed)



Sessions graduates from SCC

On Wednesday, Dec. 13, Ashley Sessions graduated from Southwestern Community College after earning a certificate and an associate degree in criminal justice technology. (Photo contributed)



Fuller graduates from University of Louisville

Miriam Fuller, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from the Birdtown Community, graduated from the University of Louisville on Friday, Dec. 15 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with a minor in sociology. (Photo contributed)



Shuler graduates from ETSU

Faith Shuler, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, graduated Magna Cum Laude on Saturday, Dec. 16 from East Tennessee State University with a bachelor's of science degree in nursing. (Photo contributed)



Paz-Chalacha graduates from UNC-Chapel Hill

Juanita Paz-Chalacha, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from the WolfTown Community, graduated with honors from UNC-Chapel Hill on Sunday, Dec. 17 with a bachelor degree (double major) in anthropology and Indigenous studies and a minor in social and economic justice. (Photo contributed)



Powers wins wrestling medal

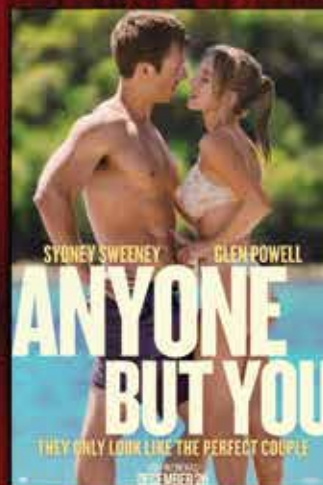
Blake Powers, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from the Snowbird Community, took first place in the 150lb JV division at the Great Smoky Mountain Grapple wrestling competition held in Asheville, N.C. last weekend. He wrestles for Robbinsville Wrestling. (Photo contributed)



91 Sequoyah Trail
Cherokeecinemas.com
828.497.7384

Tribal members, bring your enrollment card for discounts

Starting Friday



For tickets visit Fandango.com



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and anonymous
domestic and sexual
violence helpline for
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