



Cherokee One Feather website



**Cherokee comes up big in SMC tourneys**  
*Pages 8-11*



**Junior NAIWA Cherokee group breaking new ground**  
*Pages 14-15*

# GWY ᏆᏍᏍᏁ ᏆᏍᏍᏁ ᏆᏍᏍᏁ

**CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI**

**week of ka-ga-li (feb.) 28 - anvyi (march) 5 2024**

# Living her dreams

Tribal member passionate about representation, inclusion, and health

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

Inclusion, representation, and health – both physical and mental, are all passions of Dr. Natalie Welch who works daily to improve these in Indian Country. A member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Dr. Welch has worked with some of the tops in the sports business.

“Personally, I’ve always been fascinated with health and the connections between the mind, body, and spirit,” she said. “I was

see **DREAMS** next page



Inclusion, representation, and health – both physical and mental, are all passions of Dr. Natalie Welch, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and executive director of Rise Above, who works daily to improve these in Indian Country. (Photos contributed)



We publish governmental and community public service announcements free of charge. A public service announcement is a help or resource announcement for the purposes of supporting our community. These announcements are typically for and from non-profit entities. Public service announcements are different from advertisements. Those are typically from political businesses for personal or commercial financial gain. In short, we don't charge for public service announcements. We do charge for commercial advertisements. If you have a question as to what announcement category your message might fall into contact Dawn Arneach at 828-359-6489.



GWY ოზრს ოზრს  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

P.O. Box 501, Cherokee, N.C., 28719  
Located in Ginger Lynn Welch Complex  
theonefeather.com, (828) 359-6261

The Editorial Board of the Cherokee One Feather consists of: Robert Jumper, chairperson; Dawn Arneach, vice chairperson; Scott McKie B.P.; Brooklyn Brown; and Chris Siewers.

### One Feather staff

**Editor** - Robert Jumper  
robejump@ebei-nsn.gov, 359-6482

**Assistant Editor** - Scott McKie B.P.  
scotmcki@ebei-nsn.gov, 359-6263

**Reporter** - Brooklyn Brown  
broobrow@ebei-nsn.gov, 359-6264

**Ad Sales Coordinator** - Dawn Arneach  
dawnarne@ebei-nsn.gov, 359-6489

**Subscription Clerk** - Position open

### Letters Policy

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

**CONTENTS (c) 2023 CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER**  
Cherokee's award-winning newspaper since 1965.  
**Winner of 12 NCPA awards in 2022 including:**  
**Ad Sweepstakes Award for ad design/content**



Follow the One Feather on our social media.



Dr. Welch, standing center, talks to youth from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians at a recent basketball clinic held on the Qualla Boundary that was hosted by Rise Above.

### DREAMS: from front page

never a great athlete, but I fell in love with long-distance running because of its benefits to my mental health. I'm really passionate about using sport as a platform for solving bigger mental health and societal issues."

Dr. Welch was the valedictorian of the Cherokee High School Class of 2005. She followed that up with a bachelor of science degree in sport management from the University of Tennessee – Knoxville (UT) in 2009 and a master's of sport business management from the University of Central Florida in 2011. She completed her doctoral degree in sport management at UT in 2019.

"After grad school I interned with the ESPN Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Fla. Immediately following that I moved to Beaverton, Ore. to work with Nike N7 at the Nike World Headquarters. Following a year with N7, I transitioned to the agency side and worked for nearly five years at the worldwide creative powerhouse Wieden+Kennedy in Portland, Ore."

Her work ethic is strong and has a purpose.

"Honestly, I've always been driven, and I don't quite know what it is. I guess it's a combination of things, growing up with an extremely passionate and sup-

portive family has been huge. I think having Native representation is crucial, but I want to go beyond representation to where we feel like our people have a say in our futures. I've been able to live out my dreams and do so many amazing things, I feel like too many of our people have poverty of the imagination and I want to change that. I want every Native kid to know they can achieve whatever they can dream. Our ancestors sacrificed for us to be able to live our best lives."

Dr. Welch was named executive director of Rise Above on Thursday, Feb. 22 and is also an assistant professor at Seattle University where she teaches in the graduate Sport and Entertainment MBA program. "It is very similar to the graduate program I attended, with a focus on diversity, inclusion, and equity. I teach marketing, consumer behavior, and sport marketing as well as serve as faculty advisor to the Women in Business Club. I'll always be passionate about advocating for underrepresented groups' participation in sports, including the business side of sports."

She describes Rise Above as "a Native-owned and operated nonprofit organization that engages with Indigenous youth by exposing them to multigenerational and culturally oriented prevention programs". She adds, "Native basketball legend Jaci

McCormack co-founded Rise Above with the idea of using basketball to transform young lives—like it did hers. Jaci’s story—from growing up on the Nez Perce Reservation to overcoming adversity to play college basketball at Illinois State University—inspires hope, hard work and connection in Native youth.

Rise Above did a talk in Cherokee earlier this year entitled “Suicide Prevention & Mental Health Workshop” and also hosted a separate basketball clinic for children. The event featured McCormack as well as basketball star Lakota Beatty who is a member of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma and who also has Dakota and Gros Ventre heritage.

Dr. Welch commented, “Sports is such a great tool to not only reach kids but the entire community in Indian Country because of the

way it brings people together for a common purpose. We see the way our people pack the gym (field/court) and take so much pride in sport so it provides a great platform to reach kids (and parents) about other issues such as mental health, bullying, abuse, suicide, etc. I think for Indian Country sport is another form of cultural expression, just like language and arts.”

She says that middle school age is the most crucial in reaching youth. “It’s a time when kids are going through a lot of changes and figuring out who they are (or aren’t). Native kids have been hearing the same story about themselves for a long time, and we find at this age those stories start to really have an impact on their self-esteem and self-worth. Through our work, we conducted a youth survey and found that 30

percent of middle schoolers self-reported that they had attempted or thought about harming themselves. That’s self-reported so that number is most likely even higher. So basically at least 1 in 3 Native middle schoolers is considering self-harm. That’s completely unacceptable.”

Dr. Welch said that being honest with the youth is paramount. “I’ve learned that authenticity and relationships are everything. An organization isn’t going to do well if they aren’t truly focused on kids. Having no ego is a huge part of being able to have a meaningful impact. Our Native youth deserve the best and Rise Above works to give them that.

Any time you see a behavior change, even something as simple as a haircut or clothing change could be a sign of an underlying struggle. Who we surround our-

selves with is also very important and could be a sign of a bigger issue. It’s not usually as stereotypically obvious as it may seem. It’s never a bad thing to ask someone if they are ok.”

In talking about what can be done locally and nationally in Indian Country to improve overall health, Dr. Welch noted, “First, we have to be better about talking about mental health and our feelings. We’ve been conditioned to not talk about our feelings, especially the bad or negative ones and our communities think to be tough you have to set aside those tough feelings. We can only make progress if we talk about the struggles we are going through. On a larger level, there needs to be more resources for our people to feel like they can be heard, safe spaces and trustworthy people.”



INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S MEDIA  
FOUNDATION

### How do you feel about setting and maintaining boundaries in your relationships?

(A) I prioritize setting and respecting boundaries. ❤️

(B) I'm still learning. It's a work in progress for me. 🙋

(C) I find it challenging, but I'm open to improving. 😬

(D) I feel uncomfortable discussing or setting boundaries. 😞

## February Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

1 in 10 high school students face dating violence. If you're in a similar relationship, know this: You are not alone. You are deserving of a healthy relationship. Learn more at [loveisrespect.org](https://loveisrespect.org)

*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).*

GWY ƆV° OYLC  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER · TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

# CCS Board meets and greets with CBC Board

By **ROBERT JUMPER**  
One Feather Editor

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. - The Cherokee Central Schools School Board met on Tuesday, Feb. 20, in the Central Office Board Room of Cherokee Central Schools.

Those present at the meeting included Tara Reed-Cooper, co-vice-chairperson and Big-Y rep.; Micah Swimmer, Painttown rep.; Kristina Hyatt, Big Cove rep.; Melanie Lambert, co-vice chairperson and Birdtown rep.; Roberta Toineeta, Wolftown rep.; Michael Stamper, Tribal Council Representative; Consuela Girty, CCS superintendent; Dr. Beverly Payne, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Jo Ray, CCS director of human resources; and Diane Driver, executive administrative assistant.

Chairperson Jennifer Thompson was absent (Thompson was attending a Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSS-BA) Conference in Dallas, Texas).

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. Tara Reed-Cooper presided over the meeting. The meeting agenda, Feb. 5 meeting minutes, and a February 9 Email Poll were all approved by the board.

5th Grade Educator Corrie Coats addressed the Board to report on a project in her classroom that resulted in a published book written and illustrated by her students. She described the process, stating that the children voted on content and each part of the process. The book is about Cherokee heroes as selected by the students. School Board members were given two of the first print-

ing to examine. Coats said that some of the children's families had purchased books for their children who participated, but not all had, for various reasons. The School Board decided (voted) to fund the remaining children's books for all who had written and illustrated the book to be sure that they receive a copy.

Both CCS Finance Director Howard Wahnetah and CBC Finance Director Rhonica Via reported that the school system's finances are in order and spending is on-track. Wahnetah provided a copy of the school's report to the One Feather. No report was received from the CBC Finance Director.

Reed-Cooper, who in addition to being on the School Board is also a member of the CBC Board of Directors, introduced the Cherokee Boys Club Board of Directors and Executive Director. Additional members of the CBC Board are Aaron Bradley, Donnie Owle, Doris Johnson, Big Cove Tribal Council Representative Perry Shell who were in attendance. Tagan Crowe, Benny Graves, Doris Johnson, and Bradley Letts are also on the CBC Board. Discussion included the status of the CBC audit, which Executive Director Greg Owle explained was progressing with the CBC waiting on the audit firm to receive the report on FY2022 so that they may start on FY2023. The arrival times of the 15 new electric buses was also a topic, and Owle stated that the grant funding has not yet been released but CBC is already working on the electrical infrastructure building necessary to charge the incoming buses. Owle also made mention of the continuing practice of the CBC for distributing Bibles to students (a practice initiated by the late Ray Kinsland).

Kristina Hyatt applauded this continued practice, stating, "Thank you for giving the Bibles. It is the most important thing we can do for kids."

The School Board acknowledged the second reading of "Policy 7100: Recruitment and Selection of Personnel" which includes a detailed section regarding hiring parameters for persons with criminal conduct in their background. The Board also reviewed "Policy 5022: Registered Sex Offender". This was its first reading with revisions. The purpose of this review was to revise the school policy to be in line with the Cherokee Code, which has a stricter stance on sex offender restrictions than state guidelines.

The Board also approved the school year 2024-25 calendar, noting that the current calendar lists Elders' Day on Aug. 26, which is a Monday and Elders' Day is typically on a Thursday. The Board agreed that this could be corrected when an updated date is announced.

The consent agenda was approved unanimously except for one item, 24-120 concerning Matthew Martens approval as the Girl's Soccer Volunteer. This was held for discussion in closed session at the request of board member Micah Swimmer. The following resolutions were approved from the consent agenda:  
24-118: Jason McMillian is approved as the CCS Men's Head Golf Coach.  
24-119: Martha Ledford is approved for an increase to the Level 5 pay scale at her current step effective December 11, 2023 due to obtaining a Master of Art Degree in Elementary Education (K-6).  
24-121: Sebastian Brun is approved as the Goalie Coach/Volunteer.

24-122: Zac Crowe is approved as the Baseball Volunteer.

24-123: Nick Garcia is approved as the CMS Softball Volunteer.

24-124: Makayla Deel is approved as a Teacher for the Cherokee Elementary School.

24-125: Randi Lauren Tatham is approved as a Speech Language Pathologist for Cherokee Central Schools.

The School Board went into a closed session after public business to consider two employee appeals and one employee contract waiver request.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 4 at 4:45 p.m. in joint session with the Swain County School Board. The meeting location is East Elementary School, Bryson City, N.C. School Board meetings are open to the public unless they are in executive session.



**CIPD Arrest Report for  
Feb. 12-18, 2024**

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

Cucumber, Betty – age 70  
Arrested: Feb. 13  
Released: Feb. 15  
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Jackson, William – age 57  
Arrested: Feb. 13  
Released: Feb. 13

Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Locust, Robyn Lynn – age 39  
Arrested: Feb. 13  
Released: Feb. 15  
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance (two counts)

Tomas, Sergio – age 50  
Arrested: Feb. 13  
Released: Feb. 14  
Charges: Failure to Appear on a Misdemeanor

Frizarry, Octovio – age 64  
Arrested: Feb. 15  
Released: Feb. 16  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Reed, Tamara Ann – age 29  
Arrested: Feb. 15  
Released: Feb. 15  
Charges: Failure to Appear on

Misdemeanor

Wachacha, William Bill – age 45  
Arrested: Feb. 15  
Released: Feb. 16  
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Bradley, Johnny Lee – age 20  
Arrested: Feb. 16  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 19)  
Charges: Aiding, Abetting, Acting in Concert Accessory Before the Fact; Weapons Offense

Littlejohn, George Mitchell – age 61  
Arrested: Feb. 16  
Released: Feb. 16  
Charges: Misusing Tribal Money or Property (five counts); Fraudulent Use of a Credit, Debit, or Bank Card (five counts); Forgery

Hernandez, Luis Alfredo – age 36  
Arrested: Feb. 17  
Released: Feb. 17  
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Leyva-Palomo, Jesus Rafael – age 45  
Arrested: Feb. 17  
Released: Feb. 17  
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers; Intoxicated and Disruptive in Public

Rose Jr., James Victor – age 34

Arrested: Feb. 17  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 19)  
Charges: Resisting Public Officer, DWLR (Driving While License Revoked)

Settlemyre, Michael Jon – age 62  
Arrested: Feb. 17  
Released: Feb. 17  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Smoker, April – age 40  
Arrested: Feb. 17  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 19)  
Charges: Filing a False Emergency Report, Public Nuisance, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

Davis, Camille Yvonne – age 33  
Arrested: Feb. 18  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 19)  
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor, Providing or Possessing Contraband

Dickerson, Weston Chase – age 36  
Arrested: Feb. 18  
Released: Feb. 18  
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Leyva-Palomo, Jesus Rafael – age 45  
Arrested: Feb. 18  
Released: Feb. 18  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

**VITA-FREE TAX SERVICE  
MARCH 2024**

MON TUE WED THU FRI

Call to Book Your Appointment  
828.359.6001 or 828.359.6003

				1 NO VITA APPOINTMENTS
4 9am-12:00pm	5 12pm-5:00pm	6 9am-12:00pm	7 12pm-5:00pm	8 9am-12:00pm
11 9am-12:00pm	12 12pm-5:00pm	13 9am-12:00pm	14 12pm-5:00pm	15 NO VITA APPOINTMENTS
18 9am-12:00pm	19 12pm-5:00pm	20 9am-12:00pm	21 12pm-5:00pm	22 9am-12:00pm
25 9am-12:00pm	26 12pm-5:00pm	27 9am-12:00pm	28 12pm-5:00pm	29 GOOD FRIDAY VITA CLOSED

STARTING JANUARY 15, 2023  
828-359-6001 OR 828-359-6003

**Cherokee  
Indian  
Hospital**

**497-9163**

# THE LULA OWL GLOYNE PERSON OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Nurse | Veteran | Beloved Woman | Trailblazer

The Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation will present the annual Lula Owl Gloyne Person of Excellence Award during the 13th Annual CIHF Gala on June 15, 2024. This award will honor a deserving individual whose actions and contributions have improved the healthcare of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.



Lula came from humble beginnings, she valued education and a diversity of experiences. As the first member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to become a registered nurse, she possessed a vision for the future of healthcare for her people.

She served not only her people on the Qualla Boundary, but also tribal members of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and in WWI in the Army Nurse Corps. A nurse, veteran, and trailblazer in the field of healthcare she fought tirelessly to improve the standard of care for the Cherokee People.

Taking her fight to Washington, D.C., Lula was instrumental in securing the first hospital for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. For her resiliency, selflessness, advancement of her people, and her contributions to healthcare, she was named Beloved Woman of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in 1984.

**NOMINATION & SELECTION**

Nominations open in February 2024 and forms will be available through the OHA Administrative office or online at [www.cihfoundation.org](http://www.cihfoundation.org).

Nominations must be submitted to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation by March 30th, 2024. The CIHF Foundation Board will review all nominations and will announce the recipient on May 1st, 2024, with the recipient receiving special recognition at our annual gala in June.

**CORE VALUES**

Nominees should reflect significant contributions in healthcare on behalf of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and emulate the core values of:

**Contributions to Healthcare:** Nominee has made significant contributions to the advancement of healthcare on behalf of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians.

**Selflessness:** Nominee acts in the best interest of others and promotes health & wellness.

**Accomplished:** Nominee has risen above and beyond the call of duty to achieve results. This includes educational and professional achievements and serving as role model and mentor to others.

**Resilient:** Nominee is an advocate for healthcare to ensure the prosperity of the next seven generations of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

**Visionary:** Nominee has demonstrated forward thinking and a vision for the future of healthcare for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians - regardless of barriers.

# CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

ᏈᏍᏗ ᏗᏂ ᏂᏍᏗᏂᏍᏗ ᏂᏍᏗᏂᏍᏗ



My name is **Daniel**. I am a very handsome 4-year-old cat living in the Big Cove Community.

I currently allow three humans (Chris, Lavita, and Raven), two cats, and one dog to live with me in my house. I enjoy being fed at my request, coming and going as I require, and sitting in laps when I say so. The humans and other animals are lucky I keep them around.



Sponsored by:



828-497-3401  
1100 US 44LN, Whittier, NC 28789

# Tsalagi MINUTE

Sponsored by the Qualla Boundary Historical Society



## EBCI participates in the Remember the Removal ride

The Remember the Removal bicycle ride, retracing the Trail of Tears, began in 1984 and was organized by several Cherokee Nation citizens. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians began participating in the ride in 2011 with inaugural riders Casey Cooper, Blaine Parker, Sheena Lambert (nee Kanott), Tara McCoy, and Hugh Lambert. The 950-mile ride retraced the northern route of the Trail of Tears from Georgia through Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, and ending in Oklahoma.

At the time, McCoy noted, "This ride is an honor to our ancestors – the ones who had to walk, the ones who had to stay, the ones who died along the way, and the ones who survived the walk."

This year's ride marks the 40th Anniversary.

Source: Cherokee One Feather  
Photo: Courtesy of Hugh Lambert



EBCI cyclists selected for the Tribe's first participation in the Remember the Removal ride in 2011 are shown with the late EBCI Beloved Man Dr. Jerry Wolfe, fourth from left, and Principal Chief Michell Hicks, second from right. Shown, left to right, are Casey Cooper, Blaine Parker, Sheena Lambert (nee Kanott), Beloved Man Wolfe, Tara McCoy, Chief Hicks, and Hugh Lambert.



## EBCI EXCLUSION LIST (a.k.a. Bannishment List)

At [TheOneFeather.com](http://TheOneFeather.com)

"Tribal Council may exclude anyone from tribal lands, including exclusion from residing, visiting, and/or doing business." CC 2.1

"Tribal Court may impose fines up to \$5000 and 12 months in jail for harboring, hiding, or providing services to a excluded person."

CC 2.10

**JUST  
THE  
FACTS**

**teens who use  
marijuana  
have 4 to 7 times more  
risk for a substance  
use disorder**



**MOUNTAINSTRONGWNC.ORG**  
A Mountain Projects Program



The risk of developing a Marijuana Use Disorder is higher for teens than for adults, and young people ages 12 to 14 are hospitalized due to marijuana use more often than other drugs. Talk with youth about the risks and impacts of marijuana use.

(U.S. Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention)

**Leo J. Phillips  
Attorney at Law**

Are you having issues  
with your lawyer not  
calling you back?

You want to see your  
children?

You been charged with a  
crime and are not guilty?

**CALL LEO..... HE WILL  
RETURN YOUR CALL**

**FREE Initial  
Consultations**

**Call or Text...**

**828.835.4892**

**or**

**404.277.3253**

## BASKETBALL

# The 'ships are coming in!

## Braves, Lady Braves win SMC tourneys

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Charles George Memorial Arena was absolutely filled to the brim on Friday, Feb. 23, and fans of Cherokee High School basketball were treated to a show. The Cherokee Braves and Lady Braves both won the Smoky Mountain Conference tournament titles that night continuing their winning ways as both teams also won the regular season titles.

Following the game, Ann Gardner, Lady Braves head coach, said, “I think we’ve stayed consistent throughout the whole year, and we just keep working. We continue to try to get better and better and get prepared for the playoffs as we go. They’ve done a tremendous job and just enjoy playing the game of basketball and working together.”

When asked her thoughts on the upcoming 1A state playoffs, Coach Gardner noted, “At that point it’s one and done so you either come and bring it all or you’re doing inventory the next week. I think we’re prepared. I think we’re good to go and they’re excited about the opportunity, and just see how it goes.”

“I think it starts in practice. We prepare in practice every day by competing against each other first and then that allows us to be able to see the floor and be able



Cherokee’s Mike Driver goes for a shot inside while being defended by Hayesville’s Isaac Chandler during the championship game of the Smoky Mountain Conference basketball tournament held at the Charles George Memorial Arena on the evening of Friday, Feb. 23. Driver led Cherokee with 16 points as the Braves edged the Yellow Jackets 75-70 to take the title. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

to make the passes that we make successfully. It all comes down to what we do prep-wise in practice and to be able to do what we do on the court. That’s night-in and night-out, day-in and day-out. Just

come ready to work.”

The Lady Braves dominated their semifinal matchup on Monday, Feb. 19 with Swain Co. leading 29-9 after the first period and 63-17 at the half. Due to the

NCHSAA mercy rule, the clock ran the entirety of the second half, and Cherokee took the win 78-28.

The final on Friday, Feb. 23 was much the same for the Lady Braves as they defeated the Hayes-



ville Lady Yellow Jackets 82-27. Cherokee led 24-7 after the first period and had a commanding 52-17 lead at the half. The Lady Braves led 65-23 after the third en route to their victory and tournament championship.

Whitney Rogers led the way for Cherokee in the final with 17 points. Along with Whitney, four other Lady Braves were in double digits including Loshi Ward 14, Dvdaya Swimmer 13, Daisee Fourkiller-Raby 10, and Joscelyn Stamper 13. Other Lady Braves scorers included: Awee Walkingstick 6, Kyla Moore 3, Madison Rogers 1, Yvonne Saunooke 2, and Emilee Brady 3.

Scorers for Hayesville included: Ava Shook 6, Jasmine Brooks 7, Bryleigh Krieger 4, Briley Clampitt 3, Emma Ashe 5, and Brooke Graves 2.

Following a nail-biter of a game in the final, Braves Head Coach Raymius Smith said, "For the tournament, we played good. That's just an acumen to them, just a testament to the work those boys put in. Everything I've thrown at them, even the kitchen sink, they took it and ran with it. I can't ask for any better kids. They've sat there and worked their butts off day-in, day-out. They deserve everything they've gotten so far."

When asked his plan heading into the playoffs, Coach Smith said, "We're just going to continue our team chemistry. Like I tell the boys, it might not be your night tonight, but that's the reason we have 13 players...it's just about who's rolling when, who's rolling where. Just like tonight, Javan Garcia, a sophomore, stepped up big for us, gave us some big minutes right there in the fourth quarter and all the way into the finish. He's one of them that bought into



Cherokee's Whitney Rogers (#32) goes for a steal against a Hayesville player during the first half of the championship game of the Smoky Mountain Conference basketball tournament. Rogers led the Lady Braves with 17 points as they won big 82-27 to take the title.

everything that the coaching staff has asked of him. Just a great team win."

In the semifinal game on Monday, Feb. 19, the Braves had to come from behind in the second half. After trailing 37-29 at the half, Cherokee outscored Murphy 21-16 in the third period to only trail by three going into the final period. Strong shooting from the Braves in three-point land in the fourth period gave them the edge as they outscored the Bulldogs 28-17 to take the win by a final score of 75-70.

The tournament final on Friday, Feb. 23 pitted the Braves against the Hayesville Yellow Jackets. This one was close the

entire way with Cherokee leading 17-15 after the first period and 35-34 at the half. Hayesville got a 10-point lead early in the third period, but the Braves came back and actually led 50-48 going into the fourth. The lead changed hands multiple times in the final period, but the Braves held on for a 4-point victory (69-65) to take the championship.

Michael Driver led the way again for the Braves with 16 points followed by Jack Teesateskie with 14. Elijah Lineberry and Javan Garcia both had 10. Other scorers for the Braves included: Samuel Hernandez 2, Savian Davis 8, Spencer Moore Jr. 4, and Luke Smith 4.

Scorers for Hayesville included: Slade Crouch 22, Luke Lee 14, Isaac Chandler 24, Landon Hughes 3, and Jackson Sellers 2. The Lady Braves received the third seed in the West of the 1A women's basketball tournament, and the Braves received the sixth seed for the men's side. The first two rounds of the state tournament will be held Tuesday, Feb. 27 and Friday, March 1.

The JV Braves, who won the regular season title, also followed that up with a tournament title by defeating the Murphy Bulldogs 50-44 in the final on Thursday, Feb. 22.



Cherokee's Javan Garcia (left) goes up for a shot as Hayesville's Landon Hughes defends during the second half of the SMC final. Garcia came off the bench to provide 10 crucial points for the Braves in their win.



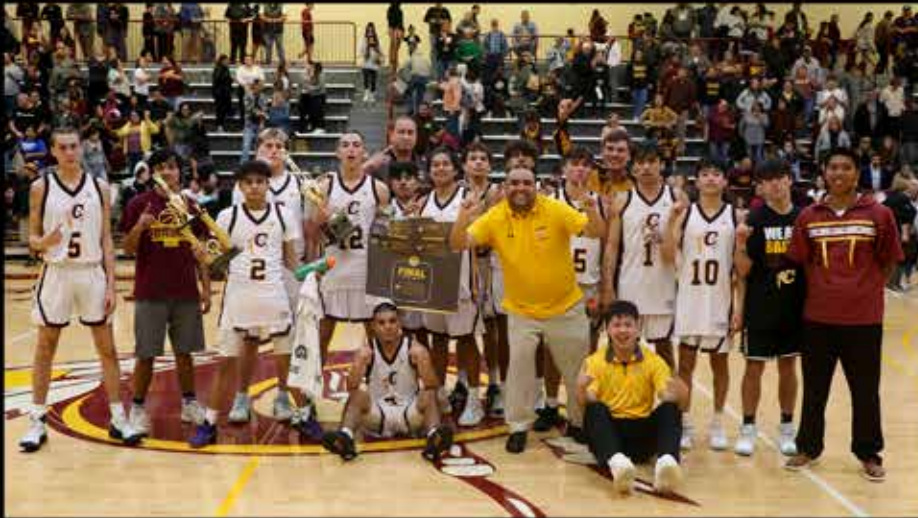
Cherokee's Jack Teesateskie lays one in during the first half of the SMC final. He finished the game with 14 points.



<< Cherokee's Loshi Ward (#12) looks to pass during the SMC final. She finished the game with 14 points - one of five Lady Braves players in double digits along with Whitney Rogers 17, Dvdaya Swimmer 13, Daisee Fourkiller-Raby 10, and Joscelyn Stamper 13.

# GWY ᏆᏍᏍᏁ ᏆᏍᏍᏁ

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



**SMOKY MTN.  
CONFERENCE  
BASKETBALL  
TOURNEY CHAMPS**

**Cherokee  
Varsity Braves**



**Cherokee  
Varsity Lady  
Braves**



**Cherokee  
JV Braves**

**Cherokee  
JV Lady Braves  
were runner-up**

# Climbingbear signs to play at Keiser University

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Luke Climbingbear, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a senior at Cherokee High School (CHS), signed a letter of intent on the afternoon of Wednesday, Feb. 21 to play football this fall at Keiser University in West Palm Beach, Fla.

“I think it’s a dream come true,” said Climbingbear. “I think anytime when you devote yourself into everything, you pour your sweat, your blood, your tears into a game, it’s kind of hard to want to stop after that.”

He plans to study kinesiology and is looking forward to playing football at the next level. “I think, first off, it’s just a bigger way to show my faith. It’s just a bigger stage to play on. I’m excited to show that I’m playing for God.

Really, I’m excited to be out there with people who have the same mindset as me, and the same work ethic. I know to play college ball you have got to have that mindset.”

Craig Barker, CHS assistant principal, said during Wednesday’s signing, “Today is truly a momentous occasion. We’re very proud of Luke and what he’s accomplished here at Cherokee High School. I look forward to this next phase in his life. It’s great that he’s going to go play college football, very proud of you for that. But, most importantly, that you’re going to further your education.”

“He has always represented our school, our Tribe, and his family with dignity and pride. He is an example for some of you young



Luke Climbingbear, center, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a senior at Cherokee High School, signed a letter of intent on the afternoon of Wednesday, Feb. 21 to play football this fall at Keiser University in West Palm Beach, Fla. He is shown with his parents, Christi and Travis Climbingbear. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

men. He is a tireless worker...in the classroom and on any athletic field.”

He added, “I’m extremely proud to have coached him. He has continued that long line of great linebackers we have had here at Cherokee High School and his name will be mentioned with those names, and let me tell you we’ve had some great ones.”

Climbingbear was selected for and played in the Blue-Grey All-American Bowl held Jan. 29 at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers’ Raymond James Stadium.

Tim Hawkins, CHS head football coach, said, “He did everything we asked him to do. I think he was one of our nine guys that made over 20 workouts in the summertime. I don’t think he

missed a workout unless it was to go to another camp or another combine.”

“He carried that on into the season by way of training and lifting in fourth period. He was usually the first guy in the weight room and the first guy ready to go. He had an outstanding season until he got hurt. We missed Luke when he wasn’t there. We missed his leadership in the weight room, on the field, and in practice. We missed the plays that he made and we had trouble filling that void.”

Coach Hawkins went on to say, “I know you’ll do well because you’ve got things that stand out about you. They’re going to notice how hard you work and that will go right into the coaches’ heads. So, keep doing that. I’m proud of

you.”

Dr. Debora Foerst, CHS principal, commented, “Just because you’re going to graduate from Cherokee High School...we’re not going anywhere. We’re right here. We’re here for you. If you need us at any time, you know how to get in touch with us. Just reach out. We’re here to support you.”

“You know that we’re always here and we’re here to support you. And we’re proud of you.”

The Keiser University Seahawks play in the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) Sun Conference. In the 2023 season, they went 12-2 (7-0 in conference) and defeated Northwestern College (Iowa) 31-21 to win the NAIA National Championship.



**Rogers hits a career milestone**

ABOVE: Whitney Rogers, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a junior on the Cherokee Lady Braves varsity basketball team, scored her 1,000th career point during a game against Swain Co. in the Smoky Mountain Conference tournament held at the Charles George Memorial Arena on the evening of Monday, Feb. 19. BELOW LEFT: Rogers hits her shot. BELOW RIGHT: Numerous fans such as Doris Johnson held signs honoring the event. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



**Clow signs to bash fish at Drury University**

Jackson Clow, seated center, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, signed to bash fish collegiately at Drury University on Friday, Feb. 16. The signing occurred at Bentonville West High School in Bentonville, Ark. Clow received the Presidential Scholarship for his academic accomplishments and an athletic scholarship. He will pursue a degree in finance. (Photo contributed)



**Fink places at FCAC Wrestling Tournament**

Aynsley Fink, right, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, placed second at 109lbs. in the KCAC (Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference) wrestling tournament on Saturday, Feb. 24. Fink, who wrestles for Ottawa University in Kansas, has qualified for the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) tournament coming up in Jamestown, N.D. (Photo contributed)



Members of the Junior NAIWA (North American Indian Women’s Association) Cherokee group, comprised of members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, had their quarterly cultural meeting on the afternoon of Monday, Feb. 19 at Three Sisters Design store located in Saunooke’s Village in Cherokee, N.C. The group learned Cherokee fingerweaving from Amy Postoak. Shown, left to right, are Kylana Sampson, Teen Miss Cherokee Kyndra Postoak, Jasmine Smith, Janee Smith, and Zailiana Blythe. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

# Creating a “A safe haven”

## Junior NAIWA Cherokee group breaking new ground

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is often at the forefront of Indian Country, and a group of enterprising young Cherokee ladies have another first for the Tribe. They have formed the Junior NAIWA (North American Indian Women’s Association) Cherokee Chapter which is the first such organization in the country.

“Our overall goal is to create a safe haven for Indigenous young women to come, and we really prioritize mental health,” said Jasmine Smith, Junior NAIWA Cherokee chairwoman. “We’ve done a few community service projects

already. We’ve picked up trash at the Island. We’ve created Christmas cards for Tsali Care. And we’ve also just attended our first NCAI (National Congress of American Indians) conference in New Orleans where we represented the EBCI.”

Smith, age 14, attends Knoxville (Tenn.) Montessori School and said the group has helped her with public speaking and creating relationships with other Cherokee girls. “I go to Knoxville Montessori School, so I don’t know a bunch of Cherokee girls. So, this has definitely been a place where I get to build friendships. And, I think getting out in the community has definitely been a big thing. We participated in the parade this year for the Fair so, just trying to get outreach.”

The group is for EBCI young ladies ages 10 to 15.

Teen Miss Cherokee Kyndra Postoak, age



Kylana Sampson lays her yarn out by color on the table prior to starting her project.

15, attends Shining Rock Classical Academy in Waynesville and said when she ages out of the group she plans to stay active and become a



Amy Postoak, an EBCI artist, top right, shows the young ladies the different patterns of fingerweaving and helps them select their colors.



Janee Smith measures her yarn. She selected orange and white – University of Tennessee colors.

mentor to the other girls.

“We do encourage the girls to join while they’re still pretty in their youth but also more mature so they can grow up in the group. Then, we want them to mentor girls who are just now coming in, just getting into it. Then, after that, we want to send them on to the NAIWA group.”

She added, “I’ve been able to talk to more people throughout our community. Without this group, I feel like we wouldn’t have as many girls who know about a lot of our traditions. Sure, a lot of them know about it, but they don’t actually participate. This group has given us opportunities, and I’d like to pass that on to girls my sister’s age in a few years.”

Kylana Sampson, a 13-year-old student at Cherokee Middle School, said of the group, “I like it because it’s really helping me be more confident when I speak and not worrying about what other people think. And just bonding, making new friendships from different schools because we all normally don’t go to the same school so knowing what they do at

different schools. And, we all want to be here, we’re all Cherokee. It’s cool.”

Along with a quarterly cultural event, the group does service projects such as picking up litter on the Oconaluftee Island Park and making cards for tribal elders. They also attended the NCAI (National Congress of American Indians) National Conference in New Orleans, La. last fall.

Janee Smith, an 11-year-old attending Knoxville Montessori School, said the group has around 11 total members. “We get to do a lot of cultural stuff and talk to speakers that we haven’t met and try a lot of new things. We’re trying to recruit more. We put up flyers on billboards and ask friends.”

Kimberly Smith, an EBCI tribal member and mother of Jasmine and Janee, serves as the mentor for the group. “NAIWA took them under their wing, and I offered to serve as the NAIWA mentor so that we can help them understand what the core of NAIWA is and help them start to grow as young ladies with that core concept. So, when they turn 18 they can

become NAIWA members. For NAIWA, we wanted to support this because we can see this as a way of growing our membership and getting more members younger to join NAIWA and really be more robust for us. So, I get to serve in the dual capacity.”

She said attending the NCAI Conference was inspiring for the group members. “They went to the NCAI conference in November and mental health was a thing that resonated with them. So, they’re trying to find ways now to provide support to the community, especially for young people, around mental health.”

Kimerly Smith added, “All the skill sets that my generation learned in high school and college, they’re doing at 10-15. They want to establish the chapter here and then go to the national NAIWA conference and present their group and what they’ve been doing to the national NAIWA so that NAIWA chapters across the country will set up their Junior NAIWAs and, in the future, they can do a national Junior NAIWA conference and bring all the young

ladies together. That’s their goal for the long term.”

She said the group provides a healthy space. “I’ve been happy to see that this has been a group where these girls can put aside differences. It’s kind of like a bubble - outside world stuff kind of dissolves away and in here there’s no issues or drama that they have to worry about. Here they can be themselves and feel comfortable with who they are and just interacting in that way...Having a shared understanding of cultural identity to boot, really makes it be a space where they can breathe without social pressures. For me, that’s a foundation that if Junior NAIWA can get more girls to experience, we’ll have a healthier community.”

Zailiana Blythe, a 13-year-old student at Cherokee Middle School, summed up the Junior NAIWA Cherokee group best, “We get out in the community and help one another.”

To learn more about the group and how to become a member, visit them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/juniorNAIWACWY](http://www.facebook.com/juniorNAIWACWY)

# Jackson Co. Chamber director honored

Special to the One Feather

The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce celebrated the 25th work anniversary of Executive Director Julie Spiro Donaldson on Thursday, Feb. 15. The Chamber staff treated her to a special surprise lunch before its board of directors, ambassador team, and many chamber friends, members, and former board members came by to celebrate her accomplishment throughout the afternoon. Everyone enjoyed some snacks and a celebratory cake in her honor. All three of Jackson County's townships (Sylva, Webster, and Dillsboro) gave her offi-



The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce celebrated the 25th work anniversary of Executive Director Julie Spiro Donaldson, center, on Thursday, Feb. 15. Shown, left to right, are Thom Brooks, a SCC executive vice president; Spiro; and Robert Jumper, Cherokee One Feather editor. (Photo special to the One Feather)

cial proclamations in her honor. Robert Jumper, editor of the Cherokee One Feather who also serves on the Jackson County

Tourism Development Authority's Board of Directors, said of Donaldson, "Julie has, for decades, advocated for tribal participation

on both the Chamber and County tourism boards. She has worked with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to promote Cherokee business as part of the overall Jackson County Chamber promotional strategy. In the tourism and economic development business, a strong network with regional leaders is a key element for success. Partners like Julie are invaluable to the tribe and to Jackson County. We need more like her. I congratulate her on reaching this milestone in her career."

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners signed a proclamation on Tuesday, Feb. 20 designating February as officially "Julie Spiro Donaldson Appreciation Month in Jackson County," for her 25 years of service as Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director.

## We have what you need:

- \* Lost Mary
- \* Orion Bars
- \* Elf Bars
- \* Geek Bars
- \* Razz
- \* Tyson Bars
- \* THC-A
- \* Pre-rolls
- \* THCA diamonds
- \* THCA wax
- \* CBD gummies
- \* Road Tripping Gummies
- \* Delta-8
- \* Delta-9
- \* Glass pieces
- \* Waterpipes and much more....

# NOW OPEN

**Monday – Friday 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.;**  
**Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.**



1760 Painttown Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719  
 828.269.6001

**Locally Owned and Operated**

**Special Drawing of 3 lucky winners on 4/20**



Find us on Facebook





## OBITUARIES ᏆᏂᏲᏲ

### John "Calvin" Waldroup

John "Calvin" Waldroup, 62, of the Birdtown Community in Cherokee, N.C., went home to be with Jesus and many loved ones before on Tuesday, Feb. 20 after a brief illness.

A Native of Cherokee, and an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, he was the son Eugene Waldroup of Virginia and the late Roberta Waldroup. Calvin was also preceded in death by his two nephews, Gilbert Dean Waldroup and Joshua "Cubby" Squirrel; and grandparents, Luther and Elnora Ledford Murphy.

He was a member of Bethabara Baptist Church and Lover of God's Nature. Calvin loved to cook native foods following his grandparents and mother's teachings and gathering Mountain Foods and Native Crafts. He loved his parents, his entire family, and loved hanging out with his cousins until the very end.

In addition to his father, he is survived by his sisters, Kathy, Helen, and Jessica; son, Patrick "Flea" George; daughter, Tonya Hensley; nine grandchildren; special nieces and nephews, Brandon, Ray, Lynsey, Daniel, Michael, Courtney, Forrest; a special friend, Sis Allison; and special eldest cousin, Irma Bradley and Elizabeth Cochran; and many friends.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Feb. 24 at Bethabara Baptist Church. Reverend Max Cochran officiated, and Joe Wolfe was the special guest speaker. Burial was in the Birdtown Cemetery. Pallbearers were Ray Stamper III, Tymius Allison, Daniel Myers, Daniel Waldroup, Mikey Allison; and a junior pall-

bearer, Channing Stamper. Flea George was an honorary pallbearer.

### John Calvin Standingdeer Sr. (John Bull)

John Calvin Standingdeer Sr. (John Bull), 86, of the Big Cove Community, went to his Heavenly Home Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024. A native of Cherokee, he was the son of the late Virginia Standingdeer.

He was a former Tribal Council member and a member of Big Cove Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Elizabeth Standingdeer; two daughters, Susie Standingdeer, Missy Standingdeer Bradley; grandson, Brandon Nune Standingdeer; and second wife, Carol Sequoyah Standingdeer.

He is survived by his two daughters, Sheila Standingdeer (Gary), Vickie Standingdeer; two sons, John Standingdeer Jr. "Bullet", Shan Standingdeer (Pat); many grandchildren and great grandchildren and great great grandchildren; good friend, Barney Youngdeer; his horse, Rider; two sisters, Mary Jackson, Joann Standingdeer; and one brother, Carl Tode Standingdeer.

Funeral services were held Friday, Feb. 23 at Big Cove Baptist Church. Rev. Dan Conseen officiated with burial in the Standingdeer Cemetery.

### Jordan Nicole Toineeta

Jordan Nicole Toineeta, age 30, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, at her residence. She is the daughter of the late Jonathan Toineeta and Janice Catolster.

She is survived by her children, Hayden, Caidyn, and Ava; sister, Victoria Toineeta; grandmother, Betty Toineeta; uncles,

Jesse Toineeta and Bruce Toineeta (Sunshine); great uncles, John Catolster and Dave Catolster; great aunts, Hazel Shell, Georgia Hunter, Gail Parker (Don), Brenda, Barbara, Tiny Toineeta, Nancy Catolster West, and Elsie Harris; special cousin/aunt, Cheryl Shell; and lots of cousins also survive.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 in the chapel of Long House Funeral Home beginning at 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. A formal funeral service will begin at 2 p.m. with Scott Chekelelee officiating. Burial will be in the Shell Family Cemetery on Rattlesnake Mtn. Pallbearers will be among family and friends.

Long House Funeral Home assisted the family with final arrangements.

### Dewayne Devon Harper

Dewayne Devon Harper, age 35, of Cherokee, N.C., passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024 at Cherokee Indian Hospital.

He is survived by his wife, Carmen Smith; children, Joseph, Lennox, Harlow, Bishop, Anias; mother, Mary Emma Harper; brothers, Rufus Harper, Deandre Harper, and Rider Sneed; and sisters, Barbara Haper-Hall and Autumn Smith.

Dewayne is preceded in death by maternal grandmother and grandfather Given and Emma Lee Donnell Harvey and uncle, James Harvey.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 2 at 12 p.m. in the chapel of Long House Funeral Home. The family will receive friends and visitors an hour before service time.

Long House Funeral Home assisted the family with final arrangements.



## Moments in time

• On **March 11, 2021**, England's Prince William made a public statement declaring that the British royal family was not a racist one. The announcement came on the heels of allegations from his sister-in-law, Prince Harry's wife Meghan Markle, that she had experienced racism from some of the Windsors.

• On **March 12, 1999**, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland formally joined NATO, endowing the nations with a level of political and military security that had been lacking for much of the 20th century. The move was said to signify the beginning of a united Europe.

• On **March 13, 1942**, the U.S. Army promoted Julia Otteson Flikke, who served as a nurse during both world wars, to the rank of its first female colonel. Her second-in-command, Captain Florence A. Blanchfield, was appointed lieutenant colonel by Dwight D. Eisenhower and became the first woman in American history to hold permanent military rank.

• On **March 14, 2022**, singer-songwriter, actress Dolly Parton initially refused a Rock & Roll Hall of Fame nomination. The Hall nevertheless kept the nomination in place, and she was ultimately voted in. Parton finally accepted her induction because it was something her fans were eager for.

• On **March 15, 1959**, Robert Foster created a new world record by holding his breath underwater in a California swimming pool for an astounding 13 minutes and 42.5 seconds. He would hold this record for the next 48 years.

• On **March 16, 1876**, 20-something variety show dancers Nelly Saunders and Rose Harland fought in America's first public women's boxing match at Harry Hill's gambling resort in New York, for a prize of \$200 and a silver plate. After Saunders won by a single point, the pair "left the stage arm in arm."

• On **March 17, 1905**, Albert Einstein submitted his first paper on the quantum theory of light to the journal *Annalen der Physik*. It was the only one of his papers that year that he himself described as "very revolutionary," and the theory would become a cornerstone of modern physics.

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

## EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship Fund UT fellowship

The University of Tennessee Graduate School will provide a \$10,000 fellowship for a graduate or doctoral student receiving a grant from the Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship Fund for academic year 2024-25. Applicants for the fellowship must make a request in writing to the Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship Fund Board of Directors, P. O. Box 892, Cherokee, NC 28719 or email [jans\\_28719@yahoo.com](mailto:jans_28719@yahoo.com) by March 1 to be considered. If more than one application is received, the Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship Fund Board of Directors will recommend a student to UT Graduate School to receive the fellowship.

- Yogi Crowe Memorial  
Scholarship Fund

### Bill Taylor Scholarship Endowment

Students who fit the following eligibility criteria are encouraged to apply for this scholarship from the North Carolina Community

Foundation. Members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians or their spouses, children, or other immediate family members pursuing a degree in business administration or a business-related curriculum are eligible. The deadline for applications is Friday, March 15. Scholarship awards are made in the late spring or early summer. Scholarship payments are made directly to the student's college or university. Info: Shari Williamson at [swilliamson@nccommunityfoundation.org](mailto:swilliamson@nccommunityfoundation.org) or visit [www.nccommunityfoundation.org/scholarships](http://www.nccommunityfoundation.org/scholarships)

- North Carolina Community Foundation

### CALL FOR COMMUNITY PHOTOS: Tsali Care Community Photo Display

TurningArt and the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA) are inviting the community to contribute their photographs for a captivating photo display to be housed at the new Tsali Care Center Facility, set to open this Fall. This initiative aims to represent the vibrant community served by the facility and

will be prominently featured in one of its main corridors. The Tsali Care Community Photo Display project aspires to spotlight and honor each EBCI township while fostering a sense of home within the healthcare facility.

This community-driven initiative is an opportunity for residents to share the beauty, culture, and pride of their EBCI townships with the Tsali Care Facility and its visitors. By contributing your photos, you can play an active role in creating a welcoming environment that honors the rich tapestry of the community.

Residents and community members are encouraged to participate by submitting their photos via a Google form before the deadline on Friday, March 1. Each person is limited to a maximum of five image submissions. To ensure the best quality for the final display, please make sure that the image files are large, high-resolution photos, with a file size not exceeding 10MB per image.

The final selection of images and the development of the display will be carried out by TurningArt in collaboration with the CIHA

**Thursday**  
**MARCH**  
**21ST**  
Noon-2pm  
(or until food is gone)

**NEW LOCATION!!**

**Wolftown Gym**  
27 Long Branch Rd Cherokee, NC 28719

**MANNA FoodBank**  
**COMMUNITY**  
*Market*

**FREE**

Stop by for free grocery staples, produce, and other perishables from MANNA FoodBank!

\*\*Please bring your own bags if you can!

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

For more information:  
[tammjack@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:tammjack@ebci-nsn.gov)  
828-359-6934

Logos for NC Department of Health and Human Services, Manna FoodBank, and other community partners.

Don't let anyone take what's yours.

Your Prescription  
Your Responsibility

**MOUNTAIN STRONG**  
MOUNTAINSTRONGWNC.ORG  
A Division of Mountain Projects

BE AWARE. DON'T SHARE.  
**LOCK YOUR meds**

[lockyourmeds.org/nc](http://lockyourmeds.org/nc)

Logos for National Family Partnership, NC Department of Health and Human Services, and other partners.

Steering Committee. Participants who have submitted images will be notified of their submission status on or around May 1, using their preferred contact method as provided in the application. The chosen images will be credited to the contributing community members and displayed alongside the installation on placards.

Submit your photos online at <https://content.turningart.com/ciha-photos>

- Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority release

## REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Vendors sought for Greening Up the Mountain Festival

Artisans, Crafters, and Food and Beverage Vendors are invited to submit their application for the Greening Up the Mountains Festival to be held on Saturday,

April 27 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Greening Up The Mountains Festival is the premiere spring festival for western North Carolina. The festival, sponsored by the Town of Sylva, will once again take place in historical downtown Sylva. This year's festival seeks artisans and crafters selling their own hand-made products. Arts, Crafts, and Food Vendors from the expanded Appalachian area are encouraged to apply. Visit the festival's website, [www.greeningupthemountains.com](http://www.greeningupthemountains.com) to review the 2024 Vendor Policies and download your application. Applications will be accepted through March 15. Info: [greeningupthemountains@townofsylva.org](mailto:greeningupthemountains@townofsylva.org)

- Town of Sylva

### CIHA Foundation accepting nominations for Lula Owl

### Gloyne Award

Nominations for the annual Lula Owl Gloyne – Person of Excellence Award are officially open.

Following the standard of excellence first set by Beloved Woman Lula Owl Gloyne, who worked as the first registered nurse of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), this annual award serves to honor a deserving individual whose actions and contributions have improved the healthcare of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

The inaugural Lula Owl Gloyne Award was presented in memoriam to Lula's daughter, the late Mary Wachacha in June 2022. Dr. Henrietta Victoria Harlan was announced as the 2023 award recipient in recognition of her leadership within the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority's Emergency Department. Dr. Harlan served as the Nurse Manager of CIHA's ER for 13 years. In addition to her genuine intuition, empathy, compassion, and leadership within the ER, Dr. Harlan advocated for self-care during the COVID19 pandemic and set an example by being the first tribal member to receive the COVID19 vaccine.

"The Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation is proud to be entrusted with the honor of extending the legacy and standard set by Lula Owl Gloyne through the annual award named in her honor," said Foundation Chairman Dj Robinson. "We believe that in order for us to continue advancing health care for the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians, we must show our gratitude to the individuals who have worked to pave the path

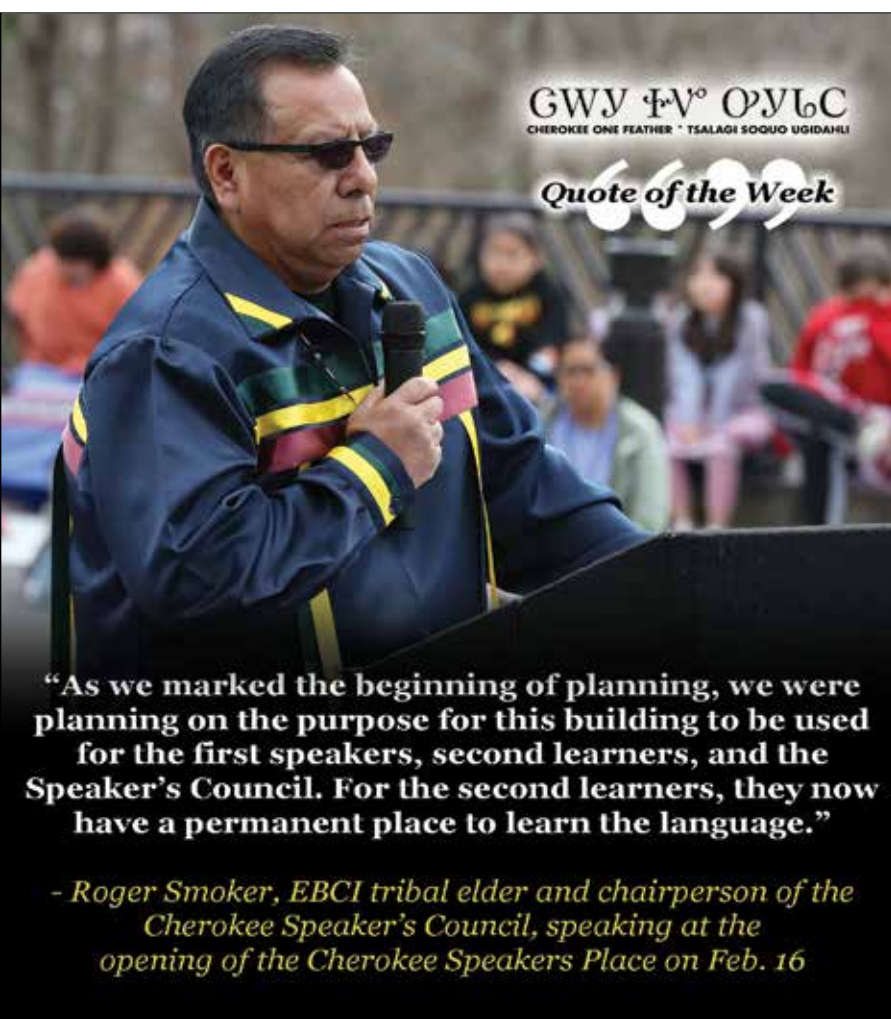
forward."

Nominees are expected to reflect the following core values: Contributions to Healthcare: Nominee has made significant contributions to the advancement of healthcare on behalf of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Selflessness: Nominee acts in the best interests of others and promotes their health & wellness. Accomplished: Nominee has risen above and beyond the call of duty to achieve results. This includes educational and professional achievements and serving as role model and mentor to others. Resilient: Nominee is an advocate on behalf of others to ensure the prosperity of the next seven generations of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Visionary: Nominee demonstrated forward thinking and a vision for the future of healthcare for the EBCI – regardless of barriers.

Nomination must be submitted to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation by March 30. The CIH Foundation Board will review all nominations and will announce this year's recipient on May 1. The 2024 recipient of the Lula Owl Gloyne – Person of Excellence Award will also be recognized at the 13th Annual Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation Gala scheduled for June 15 at the Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort.

Nomination forms are available through the CHIA Administrative Office or online at [www.cihfoundation.org/the-lula-owl-gloyne-award/](http://www.cihfoundation.org/the-lula-owl-gloyne-award/)

- Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority Foundation



# Join over 74,000

Follow the Cherokee One Feather Facebook Page.

## COMMENTARY

# Taking another swing at a Tribal Constitution

By **ROBERT JUMPER**  
One Feather Editor

Newly selected, government-approved, delegates have been selected from various segments of the community, including the appointees from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Executive Office and elected officials from Tribal Council. In case you missed the announcement, the delegates include Tribal Council Delegates Chairman Mike Parker and Painttown Rep. Michael Stamper; Pam Straughan representing the Executive Office;

Judges Brenda Pipestem and Barbara Sunshine Parker from the Judicial Office; Shannon Swimmer and Melvin Crowe from the Cherokee Community Club Council; Lloyd Arneach Jr. and Carmaleta Monteith from the pre-existing Constitution Committee; and a Young Adult Group selected Colby Taylor and Avery Maples.

Tommy Chekelelee for the Community Club Council, Peggy Hill for the Constitution Committee, and Jack Cooper for the Young Adult Group were selected as “alternates” which I presume is a position that will stand in should

one of the delegates from those categories not be able to attend meetings and votes.

All were selected by Jan. 25. At some point, this group will begin the process of making decisions about how to proceed in the quest for a tribal constitution. Some say it will begin anew. At this point, no one seems quite sure what the next steps are. Over the past few months since the sudden opposition of the tribal legal establishment to the constitutional draft approved by Tribal Council in 2023 to take to the people for a decision via referendum ques-

tion derailed a six-year effort to replace the tribal charter. While the legal establishment likes the Charter because of the flexibility it affords them when negotiating business deals with other governments and in business ventures, it is void of basic civil rights with the exception of a right to equitable representation (which is supposed to be secured with a census) and a reference to the right to vote. The rest of the rights that you would normally find in a constitution are not there.

Proposed term questions were also removed from the ballot in

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

February 26-March 3, 2024

WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
<b>Tuckasegee River</b>	None.	Mid-day	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout	Prince nymph, midges, wd40, soft hackles, girdle bugs, wooly buggers, eggs, frenchie, squirmy worm
<b>Chattooga &amp; Whitewater Rivers</b>	None.	Mid-day	Brown Trout	Black stimulator, parachute adams, prince nymph, midges, pheasant tail
<b>Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River &amp; Small Streams</b>	None.	Mid-day	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout	Black stimulator, parachute adams, prince nymph, midges, pheasant tail

COURTESY OF JOEY WALRAVEN/RIVERS EDGE OUTFITTERS

### BEST FISHING TIMES BASED ON THE LUNAR CYCLE

MONDAY, FEB. 26	TUESDAY, FEB. 27	WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28	THURSDAY, FEB. 29	FRIDAY, MARCH 1	SATURDAY, MARCH 2	SUNDAY, MARCH 3
BETTER	GOOD	AVERAGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE+	AVERAGE+
1:00 AM-3:00 AM 1:19 PM-3:19 PM	1:39 AM-3:39 AM 1:58 PM-3:58 PM	2:18 AM-4:18 AM 2:38 PM-4:38 PM	2:59 AM-4:59 AM 3:21 PM-5:21 PM	3:43 AM-5:43 AM 4:06 PM-6:06 PM	4:31 AM-6:31 AM 4:56 PM-6:56 PM	5:23 AM-7:23 AM 5:51 PM-7:51 PM

COURTESY OF [WWW.SOLUNARFORECAST.COM](http://WWW.SOLUNARFORECAST.COM)

Call 828-586-2155 or visit [www.mountainlovers.com](http://www.mountainlovers.com)

2023, right before the election. These questions had been in place for two years, introduced in 2020, and approved unanimously by Tribal Council that same year. At that time, members of the Council said it was way beyond time for this question (on terms) to be put to the people for their decision. One representative actually said that he was glad to see them being put forward. The questions were reworded early in 2021 to better clarify and to make it easier for the voters to understand the intent of the questions and again the sitting Tribal Council unanimously approved the questions for a referendum vote by the people, with no opposition to them until the opposition to the constitutional questions came up. And then, in one session, the Council eliminated all those governance questions from the ballot.

The struggle for a tribal constitution has been a thing for decades, not just the last six years. In a government where some or all of the representatives are up for election every two years, gaining consensus on an item like a tribal constitution is fraught with barriers. Well-meaning members of our tribe who know there is a need for a true constitution have been frustrated at every turn by government itself. Economic development suffers from a similar fate. It is the reason, in part, that the tribe opted for creating the Kituwah LLC Board to streamline the decision-making process to allow the tribe's economic development to move at the speed of business instead of government.

For the years that the most recent Constitution Committee had been at work, requests for legal consultation on the constitution drafts went unanswered. And yet it was our legal division that came

to the Constitution Committee and Community Club Council' after the Tribal Council had approved the referendum questions and announced that the sky was falling. They introduced competing legislation to dissolve and replace the referendum on a constitution, which ultimately led to the sweeping withdrawal of the people's opportunity to choose through referendum. Interestingly, the legal division is not represented in the new Constitutional Convention delegation.

I was and am an advocate for term reform for our tribal government. I believe our legislators are constrained by the system of representative musical chairs that they and we endure every two years. It forces an environment of perpetual campaign mode for those whose primary focus should be governance, not politicking. This is not an indictment of people, but the system. Our representatives make it work, but it could work better with longer terms, staggered terms, and reasonable term limits. The reasons have been hashed out over and over. This is something that should be a forefront discussion as the Constitutional Convention goes to work. Most of all, I am in favor of giving the people the right to make the choices on terms whether it is a stand-alone issue or as part of a constitutional question.

As I watched the last three years of the constitution creation process, I saw people putting heart and soul into creating a draft made by the people, for the people. I was there as they begged the community for input. I watched as they reached out for legal help in the language of the document. They went to community club meetings to educate and to solicit community input. They created

forums for community members to participate in. They engaged the Cherokee Community Club Council to review, approve, and endorse the constitutional draft, section by section, article by article. And one cannot help but wonder what awaits this new iteration of a constitution planning committee.

So far, there hasn't been public facing information coming from the Constitutional Convention. A couple of information sessions to probe for ideas from the community were held, one with an outside consultant from a tribe that had gone through the constitution creation process, although she admitted that our tribe's situation and circumstances were very different from the tribe she worked with. Since the last delegates were selected and announced, no more information has been made public. Even the selection process for the delegates has been done out of the public eye. Transparency must be more than a buzzword in the formulation of a people's governing document.

As I have said before, I enjoy reading the biography of Principal Chief Robert Youngdeer ("The Memoirs of Robert Youngdeer: Marine, Chief, and Proud American", 2012, Museum of the Cherokee Indian Press). He had a straightforward approach to his writing, and I believe many of his assertions and conclusions hold true today. Concerning the process in the mid-1980s Chief Youngdeer said the following in a section titled Still No Constitution:

"It is very disturbing to me that we can't come up with a constitution."

Go read the reasons for yourself. Pages 398 to 400. We need a constitution more than we know.

I pray that the newly formed delegation, charged through Tribal

Council resolution to develop a draft constitution will use wisdom and stay focused. I hope that our community engages like never before to build a governing document that will refer to us as citizens with sovereign rights and not members who have temporal privileges. This delegation may be one of the most important representative organizations in our tribe. They have the opportunity to make history and establish the blueprint for the tribe's future.



1. Name the last album recorded by the Beatles.
2. What is Graceland?
3. Name the group that released the album "Sunflower."
4. Which artist wrote and released "Chelsea Morning"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I can't sleep at night, I toss and turn, Listening for the telephone, But when I get your call I'm all choked up."

#### Answers

1. "Let It Be," in 1970. It was their 12th album and was released shortly after they'd broken up. Included on the album were three songs recorded in their rooftop concert at the top of Apple Corp headquarters.
2. Graceland is the mansion owned by Elvis Presley, in Memphis, Tennessee. He purchased the 13.8-acre property for his parents in 1957, paying \$102,500. The property is still in Presley's family.
3. The Beach Boys, in 1970. It didn't sell well (only reaching 151 on the charts), but many people rank it as one of their best albums. It even appears on Rolling Stone's list of "500 Greatest Albums of All Time."
4. Judy Collins, in 1969.
5. "Every Little Step," by Bobby Brown in 1989. Brown netted his first Grammy in 1990 with this song for Best Male R&B Vocal Performance.

© 2024 King Features Syndicate

# Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians fights back against groups falsely claiming Cherokee identity

By PRINCIPAL CHIEF  
MICHELL HICKS

As keepers of our traditions and sovereignty, we vehemently oppose any attempts to exploit or appropriate the rich cultural legacy of Cherokee people. Our identity is deeply rooted in our history and connection to our land. Yet, despite our resilience, we face persistent challenges from individuals and groups who seek to exploit our culture and history for their own ends.

We have sought for many years the return of historical Cherokee lands in Tennessee. With the support of the local community in Tennessee and Congressman Chuck Fleischmann from Tennessee, the federal legislation to return those historical lands is being blocked by Senator Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) because he objects to our protection of Cherokee identity in relation to the Lumbees in North Carolina, a group that continues to claim Cherokee ancestry as a basis for federal recognition. In fact, the Lumbee legislation would enshrine into federal law that all persons on the Lumbee “source documents” would be considered full blood, 1/4, Indians, despite genealogical evidence that demonstrates that Lumbees have a difficult time

showing Indian ancestry.

Senator Tillis also is blocking the return of sacred land in South Dakota. The Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial and Sacred Site

federal recognition by attempting to bypass the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA). Senator Tillis has outsourced his position on the Wounded Knee Massacre

**“It is imperative to recognize that protection of Cherokee land and identity is not a trend - it is a sacred part of who we are as a people.”**

Act seeks to safeguard 40 acres of land on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota—a significant historical site commemorating the victims of the Wounded Knee Massacre. This legislation aims to prohibit commercial development on the site and grant increased authority over it to the Oglala Lakota and Cheyenne River Sioux tribes, that have recently gained ownership of the land outlined in the bill. However, progress on this bill has halted due to opposition from Tillis. His insistence on linking its advancement to legislative recognition of the self-identified Lumbees as a tribe has caused the bill to be held up indefinitely.

The fate of this bill, which aims to protect and honor the site of the massacre and burial ground of our Indian relatives, now rests in the hands of the Lumbee as they seek

bill to the Lumbees.

Apart from the Wounded Knee Memorial Bill, the Senate is gearing up to examine the U.S. Truth and Healing Commission bill. This proposal seeks the establishment of a commission tasked with investigating and recognizing historical injustices and abuses experienced by Indigenous peoples, particularly those stemming from Indian boarding schools. We urge the Senate to support the passage of two crucial bills that profoundly impact Indigenous communities.

We will continue to urge policymakers and regulatory bodies to enact stringent measures to maintain the federal recognition process and prevent the exploitation of Indian identity for personal and political gain. We must uphold the integrity of the federal recognition process and ensure that it

remains a fair and just mechanism for acknowledging the sovereignty and rights of true Indigenous nations. Right now, state groups are beginning to dictate to federal politicians’ issues impacting federally recognized tribes including the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, on important policy issues.

For generations, our ancestors have resisted oppression and fought for our rights and dignity. Today, we must carry on their legacy by speaking out against injustice and advocating for our communities’ well-being and sovereignty.

This isn’t just about defending ourselves; it’s about defending what’s right.

It is imperative to recognize that protection of Cherokee land and identity is not a trend—it is a sacred part of who we are as a people. Falsely claiming Cherokee and other Indian identity and culture not only dishonors our ancestors but also perpetuates harmful stereotypes and erases the lived experiences of genuine Native communities.

We will continue to stand vigilant in North Carolina and across all regions of the nation in our efforts to protect Indigenous culture and sovereignty for future generations.



Free rabies shots are available for pets of tribal members at the Cherokee Animal Care Clinic! Call the clinic at 497-3401 for more information and to make an appointment.

# Rep. Edwards: We must investigate Indian boarding schools, promote healing

By U.S. REP. CHUCK EDWARDS  
(R-N.C.)

Americans tend to take for granted today that schools are places of learning and cultural enrichment for students from all walks of life regardless of race, religion or national origin.

But there is a black mark on our nation's history that resulted in untold suffering and trauma that resonated across the decades in tribal communities throughout the nation: the Indian boarding schools that operated in this country during the 19th and 20th centuries.

More than 500 Indian boarding schools were established across America, in which young children were forced to leave their families,

cut their hair and speak English only, and were subject to extremely strict disciplinary standards.

Traditional religions were replaced with Christianity, and many of the lessons taught to students held a common theme – that Indian culture was inferior to that of the rest of America, and that Indians should be ashamed of their heritage.

While studying resources published by the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, I learned that many of the American Indian Code Talkers – famed for their heroic service in WWII – reminisced that the militaristic nature of the schools they were forced to attend made adapting to life in the U.S. military easier.

This is a perfect example of the

simple irony that served as the foundation for these schools: Students were severely punished for speaking their native languages while at school, but ultimately, it was the use of their native languages that helped the Allies defeat the Japanese in the Pacific.

There were four Indian boarding schools established in North Carolina, two of which were in WNC – the Cherokee Boarding School in Cherokee, and Judson College in Henderson County. In a 2005 report on this issue to the State Board of Education, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) tribal member Jerry Wolfe, who attended the Cherokee Boarding School in the late 1920s, recalled his experience below:

“You really got punished for speaking the Cherokee language... even being suspected of speaking Cherokee. You really got a whipping ... I felt tight in my shoulders for so many years (because of the experience). It was like walking on eggshells. I was a grown man before I let the tenseness go away, before I could open up.”

These traumatic experiences can have ripple effects across generations.

As the congressional representative of those living in the Qualla Boundary, I want to make sure I am doing whatever is possible to right these wrongs and help to bring closure to families whom Indian boarding schools affected in a consequential way.

That is why I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 7227, the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act. This important legislation, introduced by House Native American Caucus co-chairs Reps. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.) and Tom Cole (R-Okla.),

would establish a commission to investigate, document and report to Congress on the history of Indian boarding schools and the long-term impacts on tribal communities.

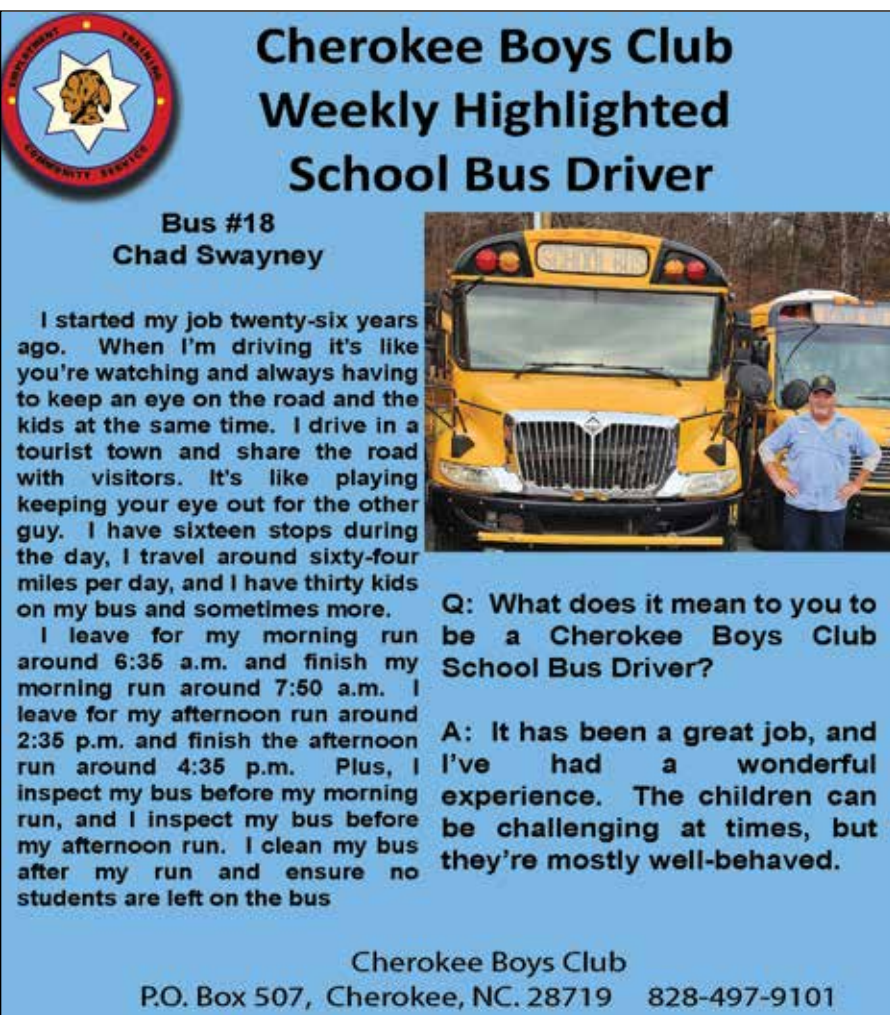
It is painful to even put these words onto paper, but under the full inquiry into Indian Boarding School policies provided under the bill, identifying locations of unmarked burial sites for children is prioritized. This is the level of barbarity that was committed at these schools.

This legislation represents how Washington should work – two members of Congress with a shared heritage (both Reps. Davids and Cole are enrolled tribal members, of the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, respectively) put partisanship aside and produced serious well-crafted legislation.

My support for this legislation came about in the best way possible – the week the bill was introduced, members of the EBCI Tribal Council were in Washington and let me know of its introduction. I am grateful that my staff and I maintain such a productive working relationship with the tribal council members and the EBCI community at large, and this instance of collaboration is just one of many since I took office last January.

We've come quite a long way from the horrific abuses of Native children of decades past, but we must fully understand that the history of these schools and the policies that led to their establishment ultimately point back to Congress. It's now up to Congress to try and right these wrongs.

*Congressman Chuck Edwards represents North Carolina's 11th District in Washington.*



**Cherokee Boys Club  
Weekly Highlighted  
School Bus Driver**

**Bus #18  
Chad Swayney**

I started my job twenty-six years ago. When I'm driving it's like you're watching and always having to keep an eye on the road and the kids at the same time. I drive in a tourist town and share the road with visitors. It's like playing keeping your eye out for the other guy. I have sixteen stops during the day, I travel around sixty-four miles per day, and I have thirty kids on my bus and sometimes more.

I leave for my morning run around 6:35 a.m. and finish my morning run around 7:50 a.m. I leave for my afternoon run around 2:35 p.m. and finish the afternoon run around 4:35 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: It has been a great job, and I've had a wonderful experience. The children can be challenging at times, but they're mostly well-behaved.**

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

# A close call

(Part 1 of 3)

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed. D.  
*excerpt from "Preacher Spurs",  
 Christian Faith Publishers, 2022*

Before and since I met my wife, I was a motorcycle enthusiast for fifty-some years. Back then, that is what you would have called me unless you saw me riding on the street with my colors, and then you would probably call me a biker.

For 14 years, until as recently as 2018, I was a Christian Biker, and I belonged to a group called Heaven's Saints Motorcycle Ministry. I am no longer a biker. I have quit riding, and though I still desire to ride, I cannot ride safely for reasons resulting from a motorcycle accident I sustained in 2005 and my age.

One week while studying the book of James for Sunday School, I became convicted by God's Holy Spirit. As a teacher in Sunday School, the blessing is learning more than your students because you must be prepared to teach and answer questions. All teachers and preachers know this. James and the Holy Spirit inspired me, and I felt the call to go out on faith to work as a home missionary to a lost world of bikers. I felt then, as I do now, that we are all called as Christians to GO OUT as written in (Matthew 28:19) and spread the gospel.

I felt drawn to the motorcycle biker ministry because most of those sinners do not come looking for Jesus or seeking Him in buildings or sanctuaries like most of our churches, and I lived closely in that circle of bikers. Bikers have

a code that is lived by and understood only by other bikers. It is a code I knew well and respected. Luke 14:23 says, "Those He invites are found out there on the highways and the hedges, and we must compel them to come in so God's house might be filled."

Heavens Saints is a 35+ year motorcycle ministry founded by a former Hells Angel, Barry Mason. Because of a praying mother and his trials and tribulations, he became a new man when Jesus came into his Life (Mayson & Marco, 1982). As a result, he founded a motorcycle ministry, and it is this organization I joined those many years ago that ordained me as a minister. Since then, I have actively served alongside other Christian biker organizations sharing our faith in Jesus with those who will not set their foot in a church to hear His Word.

Ten years ago (at the time of this writing), I was called to another ministry named BikerDownLiftedUp. BDLU is a 501c3 – non-profit organization. The mission of BikerDownLiftedUp is dedicated to prayer, ministry, and financial support of motorcycle accident victims and their families. Psalms 118:17- 29

"I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of Jehovah. Jehovah hath chastened me sore; But he hath not given me over unto death. Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will enter into them, I will give thanks unto Jehovah. This is the gate of Jehovah; The righteous shall enter into it. I will give thanks unto thee; for thou hast answered me, And art become my salvation. The stone which the builders rejected Is become the head of the corner. This is Jehovah's doing; It is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day which Jehovah hath made; We

will rejoice and be glad in it. Save now, we beseech thee, O Jehovah: O Jehovah, we beseech thee, send now prosperity. Blessed be he that cometh in the name of Jehovah: We have blessed you out of the house of Jehovah. Jehovah is God, and he hath given us light: Bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar. Thou art my God, and I will give thanks unto thee: Thou art my God, I will exalt thee. Oh give thanks unto Jehovah; for he is good; For his loving-kindness endureth for ever." After someone has survived a severe motorcycle accident, visiting them allows me to witness to the victims and sometimes to family members who have just experienced a 'Close Call.'

I, too, have had motorcycle accidents, and though none have been as severe as the victims I visited in the hospital, each accident I endured was, no doubt, also a 'Close Call.'

Many people we meet in our lives have had Close Calls. Have you ever said or heard others make statements like...IF only I had been...a minute earlier, or a second later, or IF we had gone left instead of right...IF it had come a half an inch closer. IF I had taken that ride or got on that boat. IF I had not looked that split second in that direction, or IF, IF, IF – I know we all have IF stories like that. At the end of the story, IF we have a mind to think of it, we amaze ourselves and wonder, by the grace of God, that person could have been me, or God kept me from the worst of what it could have been. IF you are not thinking and thanking God like that, you should.

HE SAVED YOU!

Everyone can identify and know what you are talking about with these statements. These

examples are universal life experiences.

I can assure you I heard many of those stories after being in a ministry for downed bikers for several years. So many reports include statements like if that nurse had not been there driving along the same road on vacation, or if I had crashed ten more feet down the road, or if we would have left just one minute before. If I had not looked in my rear-view mirror at that very moment...IF, IF, IF... and I believe every Word from those survivors. Some stories I can explain as God's providence, but others were absolute miracles. I see miracles all the time, and I never take away from God what no one can explain.

Western North Carolina is a type of Mecca for motorcycle riders from all over the United States. Being so popular, it is also "Accident Central." Mission Memorial Hospital in Asheville, NC, is one of the South East's biggest and best trauma centers. The reason there are so many accidents in Western North Carolina is simple. The area is some of the most beautiful country in the world. Because of all the beautiful mountains and twisty roads, people come from around the United States to challenge their skills. They ride Deal's Gap and the Dragons Tail, the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Rattler, Rabbit Skin, Cherohala Skyway, and many other named stretches of road that bikers love to ride and test their skills, or sadly search their limits. Usually, nine guys come to the area from some flat land country called Florida or Pennsylvania. Eight go back home to work and family. The other rider is laid up in Mission Hospital, wondering that big question. WHY ME?



# Super Crossword

INTERESTING  
ALL THE SIGNS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Friendly and cheerful
  - 7 Custard apple relative
  - 12 Peevish state
  - 16 Air gun ammo
  - 19 With no secrecy
  - 20 Caribbean resort island
  - 21 Physiques, for short
  - 22 Suffix with east
  - 23 Door-bashing device
  - 25 Working hard
  - 26 Grazing field
  - 27 Politician Alexandria — Cortez
  - 28 Bud Light mascot Spuds MacKenzie, for one
  - 31 A verb often follows it
  - 34 Vex
  - 36 Winning tic-tac-toe row
  - 37 "Hoarders" channel
  - 38 "Full House" acting pair
  - 41 Sideways-moving arachnid
  - 43 Judo teacher
  - 44 Test taker
  - 46 Sailors, informally
  - 47 "The Villain" actor Jack
  - 50 Gain's offset
  - 51 Ignited
  - 53 "If I Only Had the Nerve" singer
  - 59 "Ka-POW!"
  - 60 Me, in Lyon
  - 63 On — with (equal to)
  - 64 One of the Kennedys
  - 65 Org. with merit badges
  - 67 Leaning
  - 69 Mother of Jesus
  - 71 Things to step on in washrooms
  - 73 Moon that's home to the Ewoks
  - 74 Top-secret U.S. org.
  - 75 Dialect of Aramaic
  - 76 Ad biz award
  - 77 French article
  - 78 CEO's deg.
  - 80 Flashy, diving soccer move
  - 82 Put a flaw in
  - 83 Dog in "The Thin Man"
  - 85 Hockey's Phil, to fans
  - 86 Manufacture
  - 89 Leaned back
  - 93 Negev's land
  - 98 "Fatal Attraction" Oscar nominee
  - 100 Feta, for one
  - 103 Official order
  - 104 Prevarication
  - 105 Spiral-shelled mollusk
  - 106 Rep on the street
  - 107 Luxury writing implement
  - 110 Eye ring
  - 113 Rhinoplasty doc
  - 114 Nastase of tennis fame
  - 115 Halibut, sole and flounder
  - 120 Beatified Mlle.
  - 121 Madams' counterparts
  - 122 Eldest of the Musketeers
  - 123 1998 Masters champ Mark
  - 124 One of the Kennedys
  - 125 Hug's partner
  - 126 Century's 100
  - 127 All 12 of its symbols are featured in this puzzle
  - 3 Court divider
  - 4 Chants
  - 5 Actor Baldwin
  - 6 Vega's constellation
  - 7 Grill-marked sandwiches
  - 8 French forest region
  - 9 Brand of faucet filters
  - 10 Cry like —
  - 11 Bank bought by Chase, for short
  - 12 Govt. advances for mom-and-pops
  - 13 Opposite of destined
  - 14 "And When —" (1969 hit)
  - 15 Certain high-heel feature
  - 16 Go-Go's singer Carlisle
  - 17 Offspring producer
  - 18 Ones entrapping
  - 24 "Vidi," in English
  - 29 "Slow" primate
  - 30 Bonnie of blues rock
  - 31 Antis' votes
  - 32 Corrida cry
  - 33 Sailor's org.
  - 35 It runs on a 52-Down
  - 39 — -do-well
  - 40 Bill of tennis
  - 41 "Hurry it up!"
  - 42 Actress Ward
  - 45 Balm additive
  - 48 Female grad
  - 49 Chatty birds
  - 52 Apple buy
  - 53 Went spelunking
  - 54 Think aloud
  - 55 Prison units
  - 56 2012 Ben Affleck thriller
  - 57 Turkish money unit
  - 58 Bitterly cold
  - 59 Adherents of an Iranian religion
  - 60 Thousand: Prefix
  - 61 — acid (fat product)
  - 62 "There, there"
  - 65 Georgia politician Bob
  - 66 Michael of the band R.E.M.
  - 68 Small nail
  - 70 "— la Douce"
  - 71 Drink-related party abbr.
  - 72 Suffix with micro- or kaleido-
  - 75 Read quickly
  - 79 "I'm c-c-cold!"
  - 80 Start to wake
  - 81 Light snack
  - 82 Small rodents, jocularly
  - 83 Sore feeling
  - 84 Slumber
  - 86 Star of "I'm No Angel"
  - 87 Slower than allegretto
  - 88 Like bootees
  - 90 Cream-filled pastries
  - 91 Big head
  - 92 Contributor
  - 94 Covered anew, as a book
  - 95 — Lingus
  - 96 Suffix with Senegal
  - 97 Guided
  - 99 In harm's way
  - 101 Transversely
  - 102 Those people
  - 105 100-buck bill
  - 108 Roman 1,052
  - 109 Auction website
  - 111 "The Wizard —"
  - 112 Celeb's ride
  - 116 Radio host Charlamagne — God
  - 117 "Bali —"
  - 118 Epoch
  - 119 Small pouch

- DOWN**
- 1 Dollop
  - 2 Clean air org.

See answers on page 26

# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

## Trivia

test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. Is the book of Simon (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. How many chosen men of Israel did Saul take with him to the wilderness of Ziph to search for David? 12, 100, 200, 3000
3. From 1 Samuel 3, whose voice did Samuel think it was when he first heard God calling him? *Jonathan, Saul, Abiah, Eli*
4. The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any ...? *Tongue, Knife, Two-edged sword, Wit*
5. From Genesis 26, where did Isaac stay when there was a famine in the land? *Gerar, Endor, Sychar, Lydda*
6. What insect was a plague on the Egyptians? *Wasp, Locust, Flea, Cockroach*

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscribersite at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy).

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

1. LITERATURE: In the children's book, what is Doctor Dolittle's special talent?
2. ART: Who painted the work titled "Starry Night"?
3. FOOD & DRINK: Which vegetable is commonly used to make pickles?
4. MUSIC: What is pop singer Taylor Swift's favorite number?
5. MEDICAL: What is a common name for lachrymation?
6. BUSINESS: When was the Chia Pet invented?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first American to win a Nobel Prize?
8. HISTORY: The Aztec civilization emerged in which modern-day country?
9. TELEVISION: Who played the character Michael Scott on TV's "The Office"?
10. GEOGRAPHY: The volcano Mount Vesuvius overlooks which modern-day Italian city?

# HAPPENINGS

Event listings are free of charge. Send your event name, date and time, location, and contact info to [scotmckie@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:scotmckie@ebci-nsn.gov).

## BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

**Dine & Donate event supporting the Jackson Swain Qualla Boundary Support Group (Autism Society of North Carolina).** March 2. Dine at Mabel's Kitchen (9 a.m. to 11 a.m.), All Fried Up (12 p.m. to 3 p.m.) or Wise Guyz Grille (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and a percentage of the proceeds will be used to raise awareness and conduct events that support families and children with autism. Info: Candy Ross (828) 359-2203 or Amanda Bradley 359-2204

## EBCI COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Cherokee Town Hall Meeting.** March 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Chief Joyce Dugan Cultural Arts Center on the campus of Cherokee Central Schools in Cherokee, N.C. Elected officials of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians will make up the panel for this open discussion with assistance from secretaries from each EBCI division. This event will be live-streamed via EBCI Communications.

## March Madness Market.

March 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center. Lots of vendors, lunch by Melitia, and Girl Scout cookies. Info: Denise Walkingstick (828) 508-2211

**MANNA Foodbank Community Market.** March 21 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Kool-Aid Queen Wolftown Gym in Cherokee, N.C. Stop by for free grocery staples, produce, and other perishables from MANNA Foodbank. Please bring your own bags if you can. This event is free and open to all community members. Info: (828) 359-6934 or [tammjack@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:tammjack@ebci-nsn.gov)

**Cherokee Community Easter Event.** March 25 at 1441 Acqoni Road (old Cherokee High School site) in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-7007

**Rainbows & Ramps Festival.** March 30 at the Peaches Squirrel Sports & Recreation Complex in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-6471

**8th Annual Spring Garden Fair.** April 19 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and April 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center in Cherokee, N.C. Featuring seeds, plants, yard art, education, and a Re-Purpose It contest for youth ages 5-17. Vendor tables available for \$20 for two days or a door prize donation. Vendor tables are free for information-

al, educational, and activities for children. EBCI/NC Cooperative Extension Garden Kits will be given out at this event on Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. NAIWA will be serving breakfast and lunch. For more information, or to reserve a table, call Lucille (828) 736-5285 or Tammy Jackson 788-0878

**Cherokee Spring Rod Run.** April 26-27 at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Convention Center. Info: (828) 226-6853

**Fire Mountain Inferno.** May 3 and 5 at the Fire Mountain Trail in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-6702

**Cherokee Customer Appreciation Day.** May 25 at the Cherokee Welcome Center in Cherokee, N.C.

Info: (828) 359-6490

**Eastern Band of Cherokee Annual Pow Wow.** July 5-7 at 1441 Acquoni Road (old Cherokee High School site) in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-6490

**4th of July Fireworks.** July 6 at 1441 Acquoni Road (old Cherokee High School site) in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-6490

**Talking Trees Children's Trout Derby.** Aug. 3-4 at the Oconaluftee Island Park in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-6471

**Cherokee Indian Fair.** Oct. 1-5 at 1441 Acquoni Road (old Cherokee High School site) in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 788-1708

## Puzzle Answers

### Super Crossword

#### Answers

GENIAL	PAPAW	SNIT	BBS
OPENLY	ARUBA	BODS	ERN
BATTER	INGRAM	ATIT	LEA
OCCASIO	BULLTERRIER		
NOUN	ANNOY	OOO	AANDE
OLSEN	TWINS	CRABSPIDER	
SENSEI	EXAMINEE	TARS	
ELAM	LOSS	LIT	
COWARDLY	LION	BAM	MOI
APAR	EUNICE	BSA	ATILT
VIRGIN	MARY	BATHS	CALES
ENDOR	NSA	SYRIAC	CLIO
DES	MBA	SCORPION	KICK
MAR	ASTA	ESPO	
MAKE	RECLINED	ISRAEL	
ANNE	ARCHER	GOAT	CHEESE
EDICT	LIE	CONCH	CRED
WATER	MANPEN	AREOLA	
ENT	ILIE	BOTTOM	FISHES
STE	SIRS	ATHOS	OMEARA
TED	KISS	YEARS	ZODIAC

### Weekly SUDOKU

#### Answer

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

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) 3000, 3) Eli, 4) Two-edged sword, 5) Gerar, 6) Locust

## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

### Answers

1. He can talk with animals.
2. Vincent van Gogh.
3. Cucumbers.
4. 13.
5. Tears or crying.
6. 1977 (Chia Guy).
7. Theodore Roosevelt, the Nobel Peace Prize.
8. Mexico.
9. Steve Carell.
10. Naples.

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

*How do you say that in Cherokee?*

DSPH  
agaliha  
Sun is shining

DSODS  
agasga  
It is raining

JJA  
gutiha  
It is snowing

**Cherokee Fall Rod Run.** Oct. 11-12 at 1441 Acquoni Road (old Cherokee High School site) in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 226-6853

**Scareokee.** Oct. 31 at 181 Tsali Blvd. (old Cherokee Elementary School site) in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-6490  
**Cherokee Christmas Parade.** Dec. 14 in downtown Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-6490

### HEALTH/SPORTS EVENTS

**Fly Fishing TEAM USA National Championship.** Feb. 26-29 in the general fishing waters of

the Qualla Boundary. Info: (828) 359-6110

**NAYO Basketball Tournament.** March 28-30 in Cherokee, N.C. Team entry fee is \$150 and is due by Friday, March 1. Rosters are due by Friday, March 22. Boys and Girls divisions (14U ages 12-14, 18U ages 15-18). Info: Shannon Bark (828) 736-9538, 359-3345, shanbark@ebci-nsn.gov, or Kelsey Jackson 788-4732, 359-6894, kels-jackson@ebci-nsn.gov

### Trout Fishing Opening Day

see **EVENTS** next page

weekend to loved ones.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A Taurus offers comfort and advice as you deal with an upsetting event. Use this as a learning experience that will help you avoid similar problems in the future.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) A romantic situation creates some chaos for single Scorpions, but it's well worth the effort to work things out. A trusted friend can offer some helpful advice.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Expect to make new friends as your social circle expands. Also, remember to tell a certain family member how proud you are of their achievements.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) New ventures continue to be favored. And with your self-confidence rising all the time, you'll want to see how well you can do with a new challenge. So, go toward it.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) This is a good time for the usually serious-minded Aquarian to let loose and enjoy some fun times. Expect to get good news about a workplace issue.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Changed plans might upset some people, but your needs should be respected. Offer explanations when necessary. But don't let yourself get talked into changing your decisions.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a gift for bringing people together. You would make a fine judge or counselor.

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

## VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

### \$5 Million in Housing Grants for Special Needs Veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs has done the final math for 2023, and the number of homeless veterans who found permanent housing has passed the initial goal. The total now stands at 46,000 veterans who were helped.

At the same time, the VA hooked up with 40,000 veterans to get them the resources they need to find housing and worked to ensure that 95% of housed veterans can stay that way.

All this is part of the Housing First program. The theory is that getting a veteran into a home first is crucial, then to be followed up with the services needed to ensure the continued housing. Part of that includes education, legal help, health care and jobs training. Veterans who are part of the Housing First program generally find housing more quickly, in 35 days as opposed to 223 days on average.

Now, having the final 2023 number of 46,000 veterans put into housing, the VA has announced funding in the amount of \$5 million in grants (renewable for a second year) to help the special needs group of homeless veterans (mentally ill, the elderly, women, the terminally ill and those with children). The Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program gives the cash to community groups that handle both temporary transitional housing and case management, hooking them up with services, permanent housing and access to VA benefits.

There are only 16 of the special needs grant recipient groups that can apply for a share of that \$5 million. The list of grantees indicates that each group concentrates on only one category of the special needs list, with the Chronically Mentally Ill group having a slight edge over the other categories. The actual awarding of the funds will run from October 2024 to September 2026, with applications needing to be received by April 15, 2024.

Veterans who are either homeless or in danger of becoming homeless can go online to [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless) or call 877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838) to get help.

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.



### Cat Walking — Beneficial or Not?

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** I have a neighbor who puts both of her cats on leashes and walks them through the neighborhood each day. Shouldn't they be outside on their own, prowling and doing cat stuff? Sign me — Concerned Cat Mom in Providence, Rhode Island

**DEAR CONCERNED:** As long as the cats aren't distressed by the leash, I don't see a problem.

Some cats are completely uninterested in exploring the world outside, and some are downright fearful of it. And that's totally fine. Others, however, want to be outside every chance they get.

Letting cats wander outside puts them at risk of being struck by a car, attacked by wildlife or feral cats, or contracting an illness. Cats can be a menace to other creatures, so much so that there's evidence they are impacting the bird population. Songbirds are already under threat from climate change and bird flu (which spreads just as easily among wild birds as it does on chicken farms), so adding another predator to the list is not a good thing.

Putting a cat on a leash (and in a harness, rather than a collar) is a great way to help them explore while keeping them safe. It's also helpful when taking your cat on long car trips — they can stretch their legs safely at rest stops.

For those who'd like to try walking their cat, buy a harness that fits your cat. Cats won't like the harness at first; put it on and just let them get used to it while you hold the leash loosely. Make it a positive experience with lots of treats. Once they start exploring comfortably with the harness on, walk around with them, guiding them. Don't tug on the leash or drag them. Pick them up if they won't move, but always keep it positive.

Send your tips, comments or questions to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com).

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

**EVENTS:** from page 27

**Tournament.** March 30-31 in the general fishing waters of the Qualla Boundary. Info: (828) 359-6110

**Memorial Day Fishing Tournament.** May 25-26 in the general fishing waters of the Qualla Boundary. (828) 359-6110

**Qualla Country Fishing Tournament.** Aug. 24-25 in the general fishing waters of the Qualla Boundary. Info: (828) 359-6110

**7 Clans Rodeo.** Aug. 31-Sept. 1 at 181 Tsali Blvd. (old Cherokee Elementary School site) in Cherokee, N.C. Info: (828) 359-64711

**WESTERN N.C. & BEYOND EVENTS**  
**Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society meet-**

**ing.** March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Swain County Regional Business Education and Training Center at 45 East Ridge Drive in Bryson City, N.C. Don Casada will do a presentation entitled "Big Bear (aka Yonah Equah): Our Early Forebear". Attendance at the meetings is free of charge, but donations are appreciated. Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation.

**Memorial for Larry "Phil" Maney.** March 10 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Qualla Community Club Building. All that knew him are welcome to attend.

**WCU Organic Gardening Workshop series.** Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. from Feb. 20 to March 26 on the campus of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C. The series is

entitled "Getting the Most Out of Organic Gardening" and will be facilitated by local garden and native plant expert, Adam Bigelow, through Western Carolina University's Division of Educational Outreach. The cost is \$89 per person and spots are limited. To register, visit [www.learn.wcu.nativeplant101](http://www.learn.wcu.nativeplant101) or call WCU Educational Outreach (828) 227-7397

#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

**Celebrate Recovery** meets every Friday night at 6 p.m. at 1 Hospital Road in Cherokee, N.C. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, hang-ups, and habits of any kind. All are welcome. Info: Chris McMillan (828) 788-5410

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets

every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Analenisgi. Info: [www.AAwnc80.com](http://www.AAwnc80.com)

**Cherokee Cancer Support Group** meets the first Thursday of each month at Betty's Place at 40 Goose Creek Road in the Birdtown Community. A potluck is held at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting is open to all. Betty's Place is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They provide counseling and support services to cancer patients that may include supplies, travel, and meals. Info: 497-0788

**MARA (Medication-Assisted Recovery Anonymous)** meets Thursdays at 5 p.m. in the Rivercane Room at Analenisgi. Info: Analenisgi (828) 497-9163 or visit: <https://cherokeehospital.org/locations/analenisgi>

**TOWN HALL MEETING**

Join us for an  
**Open Forum Discussion**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 4TH**  
**6PM - 8PM**

**LOCATION:**  
**Chief Joyce Dugan**  
**Cultural Arts Center**

Elected Officials will make up the panel with assistance from Secretaries from each EBCI Division.

This event will be live-streamed.

**CHEROKEE Rod Run**  
**Youth MODEL CAR SHOW**  
**April 26-27**  
**777 Casino Dr.**  
**Cherokee NC**

First Ever KIDS ONLY Model Car Show at the Cherokee Rod Run!! No Cost to Enter Youth Division (<12) & Junior Division (13-17)

- \*Unlimited Entries in each Category
- Cars - Trucks - Racing Kits ONLY
- Trophies for each category
- Cash Prizes for Best of Show and Runner Up

Official Rules available on our Facebook Page Cherokee Rodders

**SPRING '24 Categories**

- \* Box Stock
- \*Custom
- \*Theme Build
- \*Favorite Movie Car

Registration Open 11am Friday thru Saturday Noon  
Judging begins 1pm Saturday

## **CHEROKEE COMMUNITY CLUBS**

**Big Cove Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month at the new community building at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Venita Wolfe (828) 554-1199, venitawolfe@gmail.com

**Big Y Community** meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community gym at 6:30 p.m. Info: Chair Bunsey Crowe (828) 788-4879, bunsey.crowe@kituwahllc.com

**Birdtown Community** meets the second Monday of each month at the community building; potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Joey Owle (828) 508-2869

**Cherokee County Community** meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community building; potluck at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Joe Palmer (828) 361-9219, joepalmer1013@yahoo.com

**Painttown Community** meets the last Monday of each month at the old community building across from the casino at 5:30 p.m. Info: Chair Shannon Swimmer (828) 736-3191, swimmer.shannon@gmail.com

**Snowbird Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month, or the Tuesday before Tribal Council, at the Jacob Cornsilk Complex, at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Roger Smoker (828) 479-8678 or 735-4959, rogersmoker@yahoo.com

**Tow String Community** meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community building at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Raymond Matthews (828) 506-8572

**Wolftown Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month at the community building; potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Dwayne "Tuff" Jackson (828) 788-4088, dwayne4251@gmail.com

**Yellowhill Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Yellowhill Activity Center at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Virginia Johnson (828) 788-8659, virginia.shell52@gmail.com

## **CHEROKEE HOUSES OF WORSHIP**

**Abundant Life Apostolic Church.** 171 Johnson Br. Road, Bryson City. Sunday Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Worship. 7 p.m. Pastor Kevin Linkinhoker 488-8937

**Acquoni Baptist Church.** 722 Acquoni Road. 497-7106. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m., Sunday Choir Practice 5 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6 p.m. Pastor Merritt Youngdeer (828) 788-6614

**Antioch Baptist Church.** Coopers Creek Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Sunday Night Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m. Pastor Danny Lambert

**Bethabara Baptist Church.** 1088 Birdtown Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m and 7 p.m. Wednesday Service 7 p.m. Youth Meeting Wednesday 7 p.m. Pastor Logan Parton.

**Big Cove Missionary Baptist Church.** 6183 Big Cove Road. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Morning Service 11 a.m., Sunday Afternoon Service 3 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting (bi-weekly) 7

p.m., Monthly Business Meeting is first Wednesday 7 p.m. Pastor - James Esser

**Big Cove Pentecostal Holiness Church.** 7710 Big Cove Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor Roberta French 497-6918

**Bigwitch Baptist Church.** 2290 Bigwitch Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday service 6 p.m. Pastor James "Jimbo" Sneed. All are welcome.

**Boiling Springs Missionary Baptist Church.** 960 Old Bryson City Road in the 3200 Acre Tract. 488-9202

**Cherokee Baptist Church.** 812 Tsalagi Road. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m. Youth Classes Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Worship 6:30 p.m. Pastor Percy Cunningham 497-2761, 497-3799 (fax)

**Cherokee Bible Church.** Olivet Church Road. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Service 7 p.m. Pastor Randy Miller 497-2286

**Cherokee Church of Christ.** 2350 Old Mission Road and Hwy. 19. Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 6 p.m.

**Cherokee Church of God.** 21 Church of God Drive. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Night Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. 21 Church of God Drive. Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Every third Sunday they have a fellowship meal to celebrate all the birthdays throughout that month. Everyone is cordially invited for any of the services and meals. Pastor, Aaron Bridges (704) 466-1394 Pastor, Aaron Bridges (704) 466-1394

**Cherokee Church of the Nazarene.** 72 Old School Loop off Big Cove Road. Sunday Morning Service 11 a.m. Continental Breakfast served Sunday 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Prayer Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. Food and Clothing Ministry M-Th 4-8 p.m. Pastors Lester and Lisa Hardesty 497-2819

**Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church.** Located behind the Wolfetown Gym. Sunday School: 10 a.m, Sunday worship: 11 a.m, Sunday evening worship: 5 p.m. Wednesday night worship: 6 p.m. Pastor Tim Melton 674-2690

**Cherokee United Methodist Church.** Hwy 19 – Soco Road. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday night family night starting with dinner at 6 p.m then Bible classes for all ages. Pastor Rob Griffin (828) 582-0564, www.cherokeemission.org

**Cherokee Wesleyan Church.** Hwy 19 across from Happy Holiday Campground. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Interim Co-Pastors Lester and Lisa Hardesty 497-2819

**Christian Acts Church at the Crossroads.** 3501 Hwy. 441, Whittier, N.C. (near Mountain Credit Union). Sunday School and

see **EVENTS** next page

**EVENTS:** from page 29

Continental Breakfast 10 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m., Wednesday service – music practice at 5 p.m. and Bible Study at 6 p.m., Saturday Prayer Service 6 p.m. (828) 556-0115

**Christ Fellowship Church.** Great Smokies Center. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m. Pastor P.D. Hampton, Assistant Pastor Branton Loftis

**Echota Baptist Church.** 1274 Birdtown Road. Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Morning Service: 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service: 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening Service: 6 p.m. Pastor David Hall (828) 508-1906

**Ela Baptist Church.** 4450 Ela Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday morning service 11 a.m., Wednesday 6 p.m. Pastor Justin Hunt (828) 736-1155

**Embassy Christian Center Church of God in Christ.** 87 Vinewood Circle, Whittier, located on the campus of Church of God Gateway Campground and Conference Center. Full season starts Aug. 4. Sunday School 10 a.m. and Morning Worship 11 a.m. Year-round services – church online live streamed from the 24/7 church channel, Embassy TV <https://embassytv.net> Tuesday Night Bible Study 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Will Chambliss, Thursday Night Women's Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Brenda Miller-Chambliss (828) 835-2359 or [embassymediagroup@gmail.com](mailto:embassymediagroup@gmail.com)

**Goose Creek Baptist Church.** Sunday School – 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m., Sunday Evening Services 6 p.m. Pastor –

Bro. James Gunter 631-0331, Info: John and Linda George 497-3512

**Grace Bible Church.** 344 Whittier School Rd., Whittier, N.C. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday services 6:30 p.m. Pastor Brent Stewart. Search Grace Bible Church NC on Facebook. Check the page as some Wednesdays there are no services. Also, Sunday worship service is live-streamed.

**Grace Community Church of Cherokee.** Yellowhill Activity Center on Acquoni Road. Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m. Pastor Scott Hill 508-7836

**Jesus is the Light Full Gospel Ministries.** 1921 US 441 N. Sunday service 10 a.m. Thursday service 7 p.m. Pastor Margie Hall 736-9383

**Living Waters Lutheran Church.** 30 Locust Road. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Pastor Jack Russell (918) 868-4166

**Macedonia Baptist Church.** 1181 Wolfstown Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship 11a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 6pm, Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6pm. Pastor Bro. Dan Conseen, 497-1611, [mbccherokee@outlook.com](mailto:mbccherokee@outlook.com), Website: [www.macedoniabaptistcherokee.church](http://www.macedoniabaptistcherokee.church)

**Newsong Church.** 3548 Wolfetown Rd. Sunday morning service 11 a.m., Sunday night service 6:30 p.m., Tuesday Night Prayer 7 p.m., Wednesday night service 7 p.m. Pastor Eric Moore

**Old Antioch Baptist Church.** 2868 Wrights Creek Rd. Sunday morning service 10 a.m., Sunday

evening service 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service 6 p.m.

**Olivet United Methodist Church.** 811 Olivet Church Road. Sunday School 9am. Sunday Service 9:45am. (336) 309-1016, [www.YouTube.com/user/OlivetUMC](http://www.YouTube.com/user/OlivetUMC), [www.Olivet-UMC.org](http://www.Olivet-UMC.org)

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.** 82 Lambert Branch Road. There are currently no services. Pastor Peter Shaw 736-5322

**The Peaks Church.** Meets at Smokey Mountain Elementary School gym. Sunday services 10 a.m. Pastor Aaron Langston

**Rock Springs Baptist Church.** 129 Old Gap Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m. Pastor Greg Morgan 497-9455, 736-1245 (cell)

**Sequoyah Sovereign Grace Church.** 3755 Big Cove Road. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Sunday Bible Study 1 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m. Pastor Tim James 497-7644

**Shoal Creek Baptist Church.** 184 Shoal Creek Church Loop Rd., Whittier, NC 28789. Sunday Continental Breakfast 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m., Wednesday evening Fellowship Meal 6 p.m., Wednesday evening Prayer Service 6:30 p.m., Choir Practice 7 p.m. Dr. Mickey Duvall, Pastor

**Spruce Grove Baptist Church.** 780 Lands Creek Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 7 p.m., Wednesday evening service 7 p.m., third Saturday singing 7 p.m.

Check the church Facebook page for updates/increment weather updates. Email: [sprucegrove-bc.1920@gmail.com](mailto:sprucegrove-bc.1920@gmail.com)

**Straight Fork Baptist Church.** Big Cove Loop. Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening worship 6 p.m. Wednesday night prayer service 7 p.m. Youth group meetings also.

**Waterfalls Baptist Church.** 82 Waterfalls Church Rd., Sunday School 10 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 5 p.m., Wednesday evening service 6 p.m. Scotty Chekelelee, pastor.

**Whittier United Methodist Church.** 150 Church St., Whittier, N.C. 28789. Sunday worship service 10 a.m. Pastor Rob Griffin (828) 582-0564

**Wilmot Baptist Church.** Thomas Valley Road. Sunday school: 10 a.m., Worship: 11a.m., Sunday night worship: 6 p.m., Wednesday prayer service: 7 p.m., every other Thursday night (Youth night) singing, bible study and crafts: 6 p.m. Pastor: Johnny Ray Davis

**Wrights Creek Baptist Church.** Wrights Creek Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 p.m. Visitors welcome. Pastor Eddie Sherrill 488-0363

**Yellowhill Baptist Church.** Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor Foreman Bradley 506-0123 or 736-4872



**Your Prescription  
Your Responsibility**



BE AWARE. DON'T SHARE.

**LOCK YOUR meds**

[lockyourmeds.org/nc](http://lockyourmeds.org/nc)



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**  
Division of Mental Health,  
Developmental Disabilities  
and Substance Abuse Services

Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Opioid STRCures (Grant #1A1791880257) and SP4-RI (Grant #1H9SP027087).

87284

CALL FOR COMMUNITY

# PHOTOS



For Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority's new long-term care facility, Tsali Care



**EXAMPLE OF PHOTO DISPLAY AT CIHA**

TurningArt and the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA) are seeking submissions from the community for a photo display in the new Tsali Care Facility. The goal of this display is to showcase and celebrate each EBCI township adding to the feeling of home in the space.

\*Accepting photos of people, objects, historical images and places

\*Submissions due **March 1, 2024**

\*To submit photos visit:

[content.turningart.com/ciha-photos](http://content.turningart.com/ciha-photos)



**Custom Jewelry • Rock Shop**

**Pan for GOLD, EMERALDS, SAPPHIRES, RUBIES & MORE**

**Smoky Mountain GOLD & RUBY MINE**

*Free* **JEWELRY CLEANING**

**Hwy. 441 Downtown Cherokee**

**828-497-6574** [www.smgrm.com](http://www.smgrm.com)



## LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 24-011

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**James Wesley Long**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Jamie Sutton  
23 Rathbone Dr  
Bryson City, NC. 28713

**3/6**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 24-016

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**Charles Thomas Lambert**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Billy R Lambert  
128 Sycamore Dr  
Whittier, NC. 28789

**3/6**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 24-019

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**Sandra Maples Bradley**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Barbara Lorraine Lambert  
P.O. Box 801  
Cherokee, NC. 28719

**3/13**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 24-015

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**Sarah Lou Swayney**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Lillie Tolley Cline  
418 Johnny Allen Rd  
Cherokee, NC. 28719

**3/13**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 24-021

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**RONALD TAYLOR**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against

this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Jessica Dawn Santos  
325 Meeting House Cove Rd  
Cherokee, NC. 28719

**3/20**

### BIDS, RFPs, etc.

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PRESENTER – FINANCIAL LITERACY

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO)

The Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) is looking for a presenter to provide financial literacy training and discussion to both young people and adults during the coming months. TERO is requesting proposals from qualified and experienced financial literacy educators to provide financial training including short term financial planning and long-term financial planning. Candidates are expected to provide group activities and exercises that teach

basic budgeting, recordkeeping, investing, saving, and independent financial management skills. Preference will be given to qualified Indians with demonstrated knowledge and experience in financial fields. The presentations will include two teenage groups and two adult groups.

Persons or firms wishing to request a proposal package should contact Gerri W Grady at (828) 359-6365 or by email at gerrigrad@ebci-nsn.gov.

Proposal packages must be submitted in accordance with the instructions included in the RFP to Terri Henry, Director-TERO. Proposals must be received by 03/15/2024 @2:00 PM at which time they shall be opened and evaluated in accordance with tribal procedures. Any proposal received after this time will not be considered. Be advised that Indian preference (TERO) regulations apply to this solicitation. **3/13**

### Bid Proposals

Robins & Morton will be accepting bid proposals from Subcontractors and Vendors for the projects noted below:  
Davita Renal Treatment Center in The Long Term Care Facility, Cherokee, NC.

The following scopes of work

## JOIN OUR TEAM

### WE ARE HIRING

Open Positions

- Cashier
- Drive-Thru Attendant
- Finance Director
- Order Fulfillment
- Picker

Apply Online  
[www.quallallc.com/careers](http://www.quallallc.com/careers)

More Information  
828.589.8285

**All Applicants Must be 21 or older, Tribal Hiring Preference will apply**





are available to bid: Demolition, Cast-in-place Concrete, Masonry, Metal Fabrications, Woods and Plastics, Thermal and Moisture Protection, Doors and Windows, Framing, Drywall. ACT ceilings, Resilient Flooring, LVT tile, Resinous Flooring, Tile Carpeting, Painting, Specialties, Roller Shades, Countertops, Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, Communications, Fire Alarm. Proposal due date for Davita Renal Treatment Center is : March 04, 2024 at 5:00 PM CST.

Please contact Bob Legler at bob.legler@robinsmorton.com or 205-803-0178 office or cell 808-349-2209 for further information regarding this request for proposal.

Every bidder is responsible for reviewing all contract documents and including all costs associat-

ed with the contractor's scope of work. Any questions regarding discrepancies, conflicts or insufficient information are to be directed to Bob Legler bob.legler@robinsmorton.com. The project is to be bid per plans and specifications. Voluntary alternates, methods and/or substitutions are encouraged, but must be identified and quoted separately from your base bid. **2/28**

### Request for Proposals

The EBCI Legal Assistance Office seeks competitive proposals for licensed attorneys to provide a detailed and comprehensive analysis of current EBCI documents and processes related to Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction and provide specific deliverables, including updates to current forms and workflows, and proposed amendments to the Cherokee Code related to

domestic violence. This is part of a grant-funded initiative to continually analyze and enhance the EBCI's ability to exercise Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction under the enhanced tribal jurisdiction provisions of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

Qualifications include:

1. Applicant must be a licensed attorney admitted to practice in the Cherokee Court of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.
2. Applicant must have demonstrated experience with statutory revision, grant compliance, and delivering written work product according to the specifications and timeline of a grant-funded initiative.

Interested individuals should submit a brief letter proposal including the following information:

- Name and contact information
- Relevant education and experience in this type of work
- Proposed contract terms, including cost to the EBCI
- Professional references

Proposals may be submitted at any time, but those received on or before March 15th will receive priority over later submissions. Please email proposals to Hali Jenkins at the EBCI Legal Assistance Office, halijenk@ebci-nsn.gov

This is a solicitation of proposals and not an offer to contract. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians reserves the right to decline any proposals received. **2/28**

### Request for Proposals General Notice

Qualla Housing Services (QHS) of the Cherokee Indian Housing Division is requesting proposals from all interested qualified contractors to perform services and labor on new residen-

tial homes, the following scopes are available:

- \* Complete HVAC system installs for new construction, subcontractor will provide all materials and equipment.
- \* Installation of drywall with knock down finish on ceiling and walls. Prime and paint walls and ceilings.
- \* Installation of LVT flooring.
- \* Installation of all interior doors and interior trim (must set nails, putty, caulk, and paint).
- \* Installation of kitchen cabinets, vanities, and countertops.
- \* Installation of electrical components, rough-in and trim-out.

QHS reserves the right to reject all submissions. QHS reserves the right to not award any contract to the lowest bidder. The work to be performed under this RFP is subject to TERO guidelines. TERO certified vendors will be given preference. Bid packages can be picked up at the warehouse or e-mailed to interested parties. Deliver sealed proposals to the QHS warehouse located at 2234 Old Mission Road, Cherokee, NC, 28719. Deadline for sealed proposals is March 21, 2024, at 4:00 P.M. Please contact Robert Welch at robewelc@ebci-nsn.gov or by phone at 828-359-6344. **3/13**

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Guardrail Installation / Repair

#### CDOT-GR-2024

Project Guardrail Installation & Repair on the Cherokee Indian Reservation

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians CDOT office is requesting sealed bids for Guardrail Installation & Repair. Date and time of bid is listed in the RFP (Request for Proposal). Please have bids submitted to the CDOT office by



**MANDARA SPA.**

## 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@mandaraspaspa.com or 497-8550.

March 15, 2024 by 10:00 am

Be advised that all Tribal Procurement Policies, applicable State and Federal Rules, Regulations and Laws shall apply to the performance of any work awarded pursuant to this solicitation and to the procurement of work solicited through this advertisement.

You may request the full RFP and bid requirements for these proposals through the CDOT Office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Maceta Bradley at 828-359-6531 or mbradley@ebci-nsn.gov. 3/6

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**Guardrail Installations /**  
**Repair**  
**CDOT-STRP-2024**  
Pavement Markings (Striping) on roadways of the Eastern Cherokee Indian Reservations

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians CDOT office is requesting sealed bids for Pavement Markings (Striping) on Roadways. Date and time of bid is listed in the RFP (Request for Proposal). Please have bids submitted to the CDOT office by March 15, 2024 by 10:00 am

Be advised that all Tribal Procurement Policies, applicable State and Federal Rules, Regulations and Laws shall apply to the performance of any work awarded pursuant to this solicitation and to the procurement of work solicited through this advertisement.

You may request the full RFP and bid requirements for these proposals through the CDOT Office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Maceta Bradley at 828-359-6531 or mbradley@ebci-nsn.gov. 3/6

# GWY ᏆᏍᏍᏍ ᏆᏍᏍᏍ ᏆᏍᏍᏍ


**CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI**

## Use of Cherokee language in One Feather

In an effort to increase the amount of Cherokee language in the Cherokee One Feather, we will start using the Cherokee language version for community names. For those readers who are learning, we will still have the English version in parentheses. We will use this only when referring to a person's community or where a Tribal Council representative is from. If a community name appears in an official name such as Yellowhill Activity Center, we will not translate the community into Cherokee language but leave it with the official name.

The listing below is what we will use. This list was provided to the One Feather from the Cherokee Speakers Council and is the official list for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

- Kolanvyi (Big Cove)
- Widagalinidisgv (Big Y)
- Tsisqwohi (Birdtown)
- Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee County)
- Aniwodihi (Painttown)
- Tutiya (Snowbird)
- Usdi Tutiya (Little Snowbird)
- Wayohi (Wolfstown)
- Elawodi (Yellowhill)
- Tso Iyagayvli Tali Sgohits(v) Sgwa Itsutsiloda (3200 Acre Tract)



**Cherokee Central Schools**  
**Job Openings**

Apply online at  
<https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/onlineapp/> or  
visit: [www.ees-ne.org](http://www.ees-ne.org) for more information.

Cherokee Central School is currently taking applications for employment for the following job opportunities, all jobs are open until filled unless otherwise indicated

**Cultural Department Coordinator**

**Elementary Teacher**

**K-5 Lifeskills Special Education Teacher Assistant (Self Contained Classroom)**

**K-5 Special Education Teacher**

**K-5 Special Education Teacher Assistant**

**K-12 School Psychologist**

**9-12 Student Support Specialist**

**9-12 Lifeskills Teacher**

**9-12 Special Education Teacher Assistant**

**6-8 Special Education Teacher**

**6-8 Lifeskills Special Education Teacher Assistant (Self Contained)**

**Substitute Security**  
**Substitute Teachers**



**Harrahs**  
**CHEROKEE**  
**CASINO RESORT**

**Your Dream Job**  
**Probably Looks like**  
**Our Real Ones.**

Fun & fast-paced environment.  
Interact with new people every day.  
Flexible scheduling.  
Diverse workforce.

**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. Harrahs 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. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. ©2023, Casino License Company, LLC.

PROPERTY IS ONLY PURCHASABLE BY  
ENROLLED MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN  
BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS



A peaceful rustic cabin nestled in the mountain oasis with 29.602 untouched acres, boosting a stream flowing down the mountain. A paved driveway makes this cabin easily accessible. The home will be sold as is.

3689 Joe Brown Hwy, Murphy, NC. 28906  
Listing Price \$200,000

Contact Joey Reid 828.361.3439 sjreidinc@gmail.com

# MISSING

**GABRIEL THOR CROW**

Last Seen Saturday January 27, 2024  
Starnes Cove Road, Asheville NC

Date of Birth: 1/21/97

Age: 27

Sex or gender: Male

Race: Native American

(Eastern Band Cherokee)

Eyes: Brown

Hair: Black

Height: 5'11"

Weight: 170

Identifying tattoos:

Neck: Green Claw, Skull & Crossbones

Hands: Blocks on knuckles



IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT GABRIEL PLEASE CONTACT:  
Asheville Police Detective Adam Roach (828) 271-6127 or  
Cherokee Indian Police Investigator Wayne Dover (828) 497-4131



The Smokies  
classic hits  
station

**Tell It & Sell It**  
9 a.m. to 10 a.m.  
Weekdays

# MISSING

**Kyliona Brackett**

Enrolled with Cherokee  
Nation

Height: 5' 3" Weight: 125 lbs

Female Hair: Black

Eyes: Brown Age: 16

Date of last contact: January  
14, 2024

Last Known Location:  
Tahlequah, OK

Circumstances of

Disappearance: Kyliona was last seen on 1/14/2024

If you have seen or have information about Kyliona Brackett,  
contact James Poffel, Criminal Investigator, Muskogee Police  
Department (918) 683-8000.

Source: Namus.gov



**GWY ƆV° O'YLC**  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



# CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## EXECUTIVE:

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

## HUMAN RESOURCES:

HR Generalist - \$50,723 - \$63,404

## ENGINEERING:

Dietary Services Supervisor - \$19.66 - \$22.25

EVS Supervisor \$21.13 - \$23.98

EVS Technician \$15.00 - \$16.77

## FINANCE:

Certified Coder - \$24.55- \$27.99

PRC Customer Service - \$19.66 - \$22.25

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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

**-\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**

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

Targeted Case Manager – Analenisgi - \$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 – Kanvwtiyi (Female) \$17.12 -

\$19.26

Inpatient Technician – FT and PTI - Analenisgi 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 – Analenisgi - \$33.68 - \$38.72

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

Outpatient Nurse Supervisor – Analenisgi - \$36.56 - \$42.11

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

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

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

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

BFA Event/Training Supervisor – Analenisgi - \$58,332 - \$72,915

Integrated Classroom Skill Builder - \$17.12 - \$19.26

## OPERATIONS

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

Dental Assistant II - \$18.32 – \$20.67

Dental Assistant I - \$17.12 - \$19.26

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

Medical Laboratory Technician - \$22.76 - \$25.89 **\*\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**

PTR Phlebotomist - \$17.12 - \$19.26

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

Clinical Pharmacist - \$102,023 - \$127,528

Operations/PR Administrative Assistant - \$19.66 - \$22.25

Diagnostic Radiologic Technologist II (3rd Shift) \$44,107 - \$55,134

## MEDICAL

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

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

Physician – Immediate Care Center - \$157,686 - \$197,108

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

Psychiatrist – Analenisgi - \$227,068 - \$283,835

## NURSING

Case Management Support – Primary Care \$18.32 - \$20.67

Certified Medical Assistant/ Licensed Practical Nurse – Immediate

Care Center \$21.13 - \$23.98 **\*\$5,000 Hiring Bonus for LPN**

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

**Hiring Bonus**

Registered Nurse – Part Time Intermittent – Emergency Room

\$33.68 - \$38.72

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

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

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

Diabetes Educator - \$31.06 - \$35.64

## TSALI CARE CENTER

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

**Bonus**

Certified Medication Aide - \$17.12 - \$19.26

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

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

Licensed Practical Nurse—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

Social Worker-Tsali Care-- \$44,107 - \$55,134

## Tribal Option

Tribal Options Computer Programmer - \$58,332 - \$72,915

**To apply, visit [careers.cherokeehospital.org](https://careers.cherokeehospital.org)**

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



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](http://www.ebci.com/jobs)

**Closing Sunday, March 03, 2024**

1. Education Specialist – Higher Education – Education (L10 \$18.02 - \$22.53 per hour)
2. Office Administrator - Facility Management - Operations (L10 \$18.02 - \$22.53 per hour)

**Open Until Filled**

1. Corrections Officer (Multiple) –Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L10 \$18.02 - \$22.53 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$21.41 - \$26.76 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
3. Community Response Officer – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$21.41 - \$26.76 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
4. Detective – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L13 \$23.43 - \$29.29 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
5. Juvenile Officer – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$21.41 - \$26.76 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
6. School Resources Officer – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$21.41 - \$26.76 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
7. FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Public Safety (L8 \$30,357 - \$37,946) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION (L11 \$19.61 - \$24.52 per hour)
8. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L9 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour)
9. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L10 \$18.02 - \$22.53 per hour)
10. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$25.79 - \$32.25 per hour)
11. Legislative Legal Counsel – Tribal Council – Legislative Branch (L19 \$100,232 - \$133,643)
12. Driver – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.29 - \$20.37 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
13. Youth Development Professional – Cherokee Youth Center – Education (L6 \$15.75 - \$19.70 per hour)
14. Family Safety Attorney – Civil Law – Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$73,927 - \$98,570)
15. Registered Nurse (Public Health Nurse) – Tsalagi Public Health – Public Health & Human Services (L15 \$28.57 - \$35.71 per hour)
16. Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L9 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour)
17. Registered Nurse Supervisor – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health & Human Services (L16 \$31.82 - \$39.78 per hour)
18. Certified Biological Waste Water Treatment Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L11 \$19.61 - \$24.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
19. Environmental Compliance Specialist – Environmental & Natural Resources – Operations (L12 \$21.41 - \$26.76 per hour)
20. Education Tutor/Grades 3-5 – Graham County Indian Education – Snowbird & Cherokee County (L8 \$15.90 - \$19.88 per hour)



91 Sequoyah Trail  
 CherokeeCinemas.com  
 828.497.7384

Tribal members bring your enrollment card for discounts



**New Movies Start Friday**  
 For tickets visit [Fandango.com](http://Fandango.com)



**JOHN HIGHSMITH, DDS**  
Cosmetic, General, Implant & Laser Dentistry

**DR. SYLVIA PECYNA JERNIGAN**  
*Now Accepting New Patients*

**\$95**

**NEW PATIENT  
COMPREHENSIVE  
EXAM & XRAYS\***

*\*New Patients Only*

*Proudly Serving  
the Community  
in Which I Live*

*Painless General Dentistry*



Crown & Bridges • Invisalign® Orthodontics • TMJ

**DRHIGHSMITH.COM • 828.634.7813**

78 Nelson St. | Clyde, NC



2/15



**Winter Special**

**\$5 off any new tire for  
enrolled members**

**The Tire Shop**

**2661 Governors Island  
Bryson City, NC 28713**

**828-488-2005**

**Wilson Family**



**Chiropractic**

Dr. Katie Wilson • Dr. Jeffrey Goldwasser • Dr. Steve Maniscalco

Gentle, Thorough Chiropractic Care for Patients of All Ages

Accepting new patients, complimentary consultation!

Conditions We Treat:

- Hip Pain & Sciatica
- Sports Injuries
- Bulging Discs
- Headaches & Migranes
- Neck & Back Pain
- Ear Infections
- Pregnancy

Services We Offer:

- Laser Therapy
- Massage Therapy
- X-Ray
- Dry Needling
- Cupping
- Spinal Decompression
- Insurance Accepted

**828.587.CARE**

[www.wilsonfamilychiropractic.net](http://www.wilsonfamilychiropractic.net)

73 West Main Street, Sylva NC 28779



*Your #1*  
**STATION FOR  
CLASSIC COUNTRY**

**TRAD**  **O**

12:30-1pm Weekdays

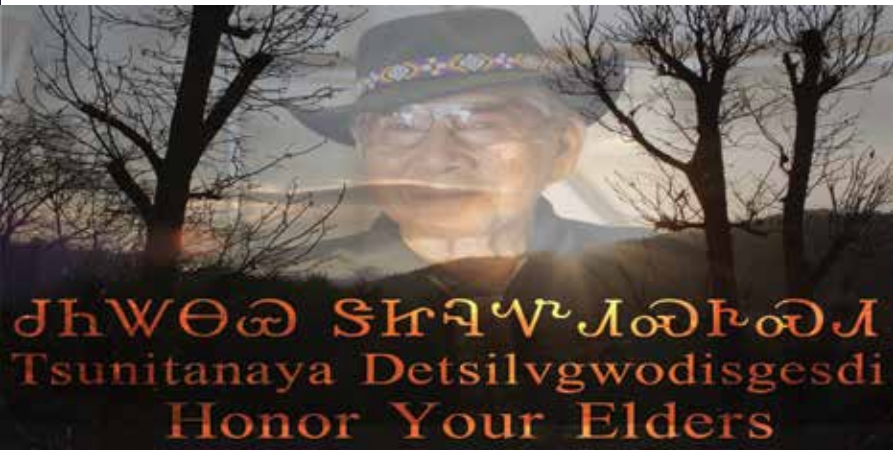
**Scan The QR Code  
To Download Our  
Mobile App!**





### Hyatt receives UNC Asheville's Order of Pisgah Award

Kristina Hyatt, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, has been named a 2024 recipient of UNC Asheville's Order of Pisgah Award for Alumni Achievement which "recognizes alumni for outstanding achievement in their fields of endeavor". She is shown at the recent award ceremony talking with Michael McNamee, UNC Asheville director of engagement/Alumni & Friends in the Office of University Advancement. Information from UNC Asheville states, "Kristina Hyatt is passionate about bringing healthy dental hygiene education to her community and the nation. She is a former Miss Native American USA and used her national platform to promote healthy dental habits. This included traveling extensively and speaking to young audiences about the importance of taking care of their teeth. She has also written a children's book, 'Shelby Goes to the Dentist', to help children feel more comfortable in that setting and has been affectionately dubbed the 'Native Tooth Fairy.' Hyatt is active in her local community and serves on the Cherokee Central Schools Board of Education." (Photo courtesy of UNC Asheville/Jensen McDonald)



Sunrise Community  
for Recovery & Wellness



## Siquo Danvhna



The Siquo Danvhna "They are living again" re-entry team is made up of certified peer support specialists that have lived experience with substance use and/or mental health challenges and works collaboratively with the Eastern Band Cherokee Indians (Tribe). The team provides supportive services to individuals returning to the community from incarceration and/or involved in the EBCI court system.

Our peer supports work with these individuals by supporting their sustained recovery and health needs through provision of system navigation, engagement support, as well as providing social determinants of health resources.

**Call to speak to a  
Peer Support Specialist**



**Male staff: 828-507-0541**  
**Female staff: 828-506-6330**

*We are Certified Peer Support Specialists with lived experience managing and overcoming substance use and mental health challenges and justice system involvement.*

[www.sunriseinashville.org](http://www.sunriseinashville.org)



CHEROKEE INDIAN  
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY



# Analenisgi

## Behavioral Health: Child & Family Services

**Local Mobile Crisis Hotline Numbers:**

**828.736.9797 -Child Hotline**

**828.269.0301- Adult Hotline**

CIHA's Child and Family Crisis line is monitored when other Analenisgi departments are closed such as holidays and Monday to Friday 4:30 pm to 8:00 am and every weekend beginning at 4:30 on Friday until 8:00 am on Monday.

The Child & Family Services walk-in services are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm at the Child and Family Outpatient office located at 75 Painttown Road in Cherokee.

**Regional Mobile Crisis Hotline: 1.888.315.2880**