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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of vsgiyi (dec.) 18-24 2024

## “Work hard for the right reasons”

### A year in review from Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief) and First Lady Hicks

By BROOKLYN BROWN  
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks is now a little over a year into his fourth term. Ugwiyuhi Hicks and EBCI First Lady Marsha Hicks sat down with the One Feather to reflect on this first year in office and look forward at the overarching goals of the administration.

Both Ugwiyuhi Hicks and First Lady Hicks emphasized cur-

see UGVWIYUHI page 4



Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks and EBCI First Lady Marsha Hicks (Photo by Sheyahshe Littledave, Public Information Officer for the Office of the Principal Chief)

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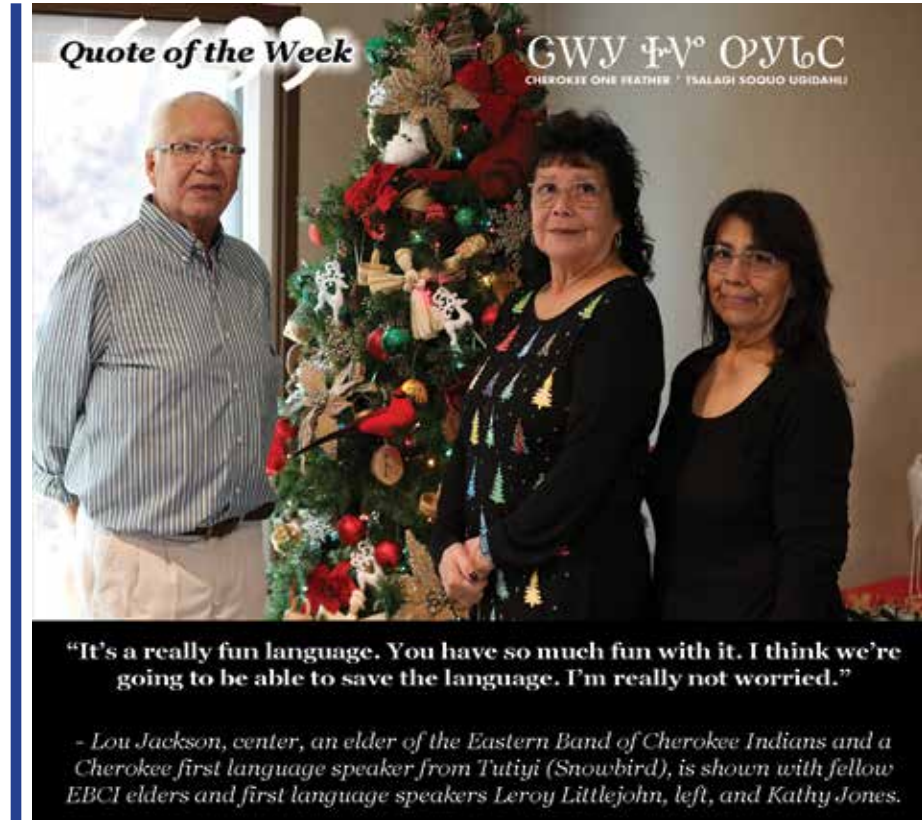


Winner of 10 North Carolina Press Assoc. awards in 2023-24, including: Community Coverage (third place)



### Image of the Week

Senior Miss Cherokee Kim Sneed Lambert is all smiles as she waves to the crowd during the annual Cherokee Christmas Parade held in downtown Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 14. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



### Quote of the Week

**"It's a really fun language. You have so much fun with it. I think we're going to be able to save the language. I'm really not worried."**

*- Lou Jackson, center, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a Cherokee first language speaker from Tutiya (Snowbird), is shown with fellow EBCI elders and first language speakers Leroy Littlejohn, left, and Kathy Jones.*

### Letters Policy

The Cherokee One Feather is available as a forum for opinions or points of view concerning issues of general interest. Letters should be typed and are preferred in digital form, exclusive to the One Feather. Letters must be authenticated and should include a name, address, email, and phone number. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Commentary submissions should not exceed 750 words. Letters and commentaries exceeding the word limit will be published at the discretion of the Editor or a majority of the sitting Editorial Board. Only the name and town/community will be printed. Letters critical of specifically named minor children will not be published.

Unsigned letters will not be considered for publication. The One Feather will not accept requests for pen pals or "Lonely Hearts"-type classified material.

Opinion material is subject to approval by the Editor who may deny publication without specified cause at their discretion. Submitters may appeal the Editor's denial to the Editorial Board. A majority of the Editorial Board may overturn an Editor's decision. The decision of the Editorial Board is final.

The Editorial Board of the Cherokee One Feather consists of: Brooklyn Brown, chairperson; Dawn Arneach, vice chairperson; Robert Jumper; Scott McKie Brings Plenty; and Indica Climbingbear.

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**UGVWIYUHI:** From front page

rent efforts in Cherokee language revitalization as a highlight of the year. “Where we’re at as a community with the evolving language initiative, if you just think about KPEP [Kituwah Preservation Education Program] and where that started with the nine kids over at Head Start years ago who just graduated here recently, and to see where it’s evolved to, it’s really amazing,” Ugvwiyuhi Hicks said.

“The tribe is continuing to fuel that energy with 21 new positions that were just approved here by the Tribal Council a little over a month ago.”

Ugvwiyuhi Hicks also highlighted Bo Taylor’s recent recitation of the late Beloved Man Jerry Wolfe’s prayer at the Tsali Care Center ribbon cutting ceremony as emblematic of how he wants to progress as a tribe. “When you think about the prayers and the recent events that we’ve seen, and I’m going to pick out Jerry Wolfe, and part of his prayer was just very unique in regard to how he did it, but it was always about sustaining and wanting the best for our kids as we move forward as a tribe and knowing that we’re making good decisions from that perspective.”

He cited EBCI recovery efforts during the recent tragedy of Hurricane Helene as representative of the Cherokee core values he wants the tribe to continue to practice moving forward. “Another highlight of this year for me is simply seeing how hard the community works for the people of this community. You can take the recent flood as an example. There was so much effort put into it and people were so willing to help.”

First Lady Hicks echoed the Cherokee core values and commu-

nity togetherness of the past year. “This past year has just felt different, and I don’t think anybody can really relate to what that means other than us having been in this position before and then being back in it now. That was 20 years ago now, and we’ve both grown a lot as individuals since then. It’s hard to put into words because it truly is a feeling for me personally,” she said.

“People reach out to me all the time. It’s really rewarding for me, and it means a lot to me to feel like people have confidence that they can come to me personally for help, even though I’m not a tribal employee or an elected official. I can help them get to the services that they need or the help they need for their families or their kids.”

First Lady Hicks wants the community to know that her position in the administration is one of service, “You should only be in these positions because it’s a position of service. For God to have put me in this position, it’s an honor and it’s something that I’ve always tried to carry myself in that manner and not take for granted.”

In governmental accomplishments, Ugvwiyuhi Hicks is pleased with the progress made in addressing the issues present at the beginning of the year in the Family Safety program.

“If you look at just the number of foster homes and how that’s grown over the last several months, that makes you proud. But bigger than that, we have an experienced Secretary [of Public Health and Human Services] in Sonya Wachacha. We had to make some hard decisions around how things were being managed. We’ve got the board of directors created, we’ve got the subcommittees cre-

ated, and, so, it was not easy work to get there, but it is somewhat settled now. It’s not perfect, but people are starting to trust it again and have confidence again. I think we’ve made a lot of progress.” Budgetary concerns were also a major issue for Ugvwiyuhi Hicks heading into the first year. “I knew we had to address the debt concerns as I got a better understanding of what the cash position of the tribe was. And again, it was a struggle. How do we come in and create a plan that solidifies and levels these things?”

“Figuring out the fiscal side, we are sitting on \$184 million worth of debt, and interest is significant. How do we rebalance those things to where instead of paying 12 million in interest costs, we’re now shifting that to 12 million in education or health or language, et cetera.”

Ugvwiyuhi Hicks was also invested in addressing tribal employment and hiring practices entering the administration. “If you look at just the overall 1,200 or so employees that the tribe has, how do we get more tribal members in employment pathways? Do we adjust job descriptions that absolutely require certain things and maybe, for the position, really, it’s not necessary? So, those adjustments have been made to give more employment opportunities,” he said.

“I think the initiative with T.E.R.O. [Tribal Employment Rights Office] and Human Resources around internships has been very successful. We’re struggling to get folks in some of these critical EMS slots, police slots, emergency management, just overall emergency services. Are we working hard enough in the schools to address that? I don’t

think we are. How do we tie that need into these internships, which could be a small avenue to help us to start getting more tribal members in these positions.”

“The tribal member employment was about 71 percent coming in. We’ve got it up to over 75 percent. Now, four percent doesn’t sound like a lot, but when you calculate that over 1,200 people, that’s a lot of tribal members that we are trying to find ways to get our folks in the system. And there’s still struggles, like environmental sciences; we struggle with getting folks to test water or to do those things around the environment, and we just aren’t seeing many of our people go into those areas. So, how do we fix these kinds of things? That’s what’s on my plate.”

First Lady Hicks believes education is an avenue for increasing tribal employment, especially in areas like environmental science or emergency services, and she is quickly addressing a recent hardship in education for the EBCI. Appalachian State University’s Gadugi Partnership with Cherokee Central Schools through Director Dr. J. Allen Bryant was dissolved. The partnership, which began in 2013, developed a curriculum for Cherokee High School students to take up to three college-level courses with Dr. Bryant to increase EBCI college readiness and enrollment. First Lady Hicks is concerned for her child, who is a student in Dr. Bryant’s courses, and other students who will be stripped of this direct pathway for education. “Just to all of a sudden not offer this is unacceptable. How can we make sure that our kids are provided the same opportunity?”

First Lady Hicks advocated successfully for Dr. Bryant to

continue teaching in the Spring semester, and then the future of the program may move forward at either Southwestern Community College or Western Carolina University.

“There’s so much power in knowledge that nobody can take away from you. I’m really passionate that there’s no reason that if going to college is what you want to do, that anything should get in the way of that happening,” she said.

Looking forward in the administration, Ugvwiyuhi Hicks wants to enhance the tribe’s strategic plan and capital plan. “I think one of the things that we were able to accomplish this year was we’ve got a pretty sound strategic plan in place. The secretary group works hard to make sure that we’re gathering community input, we’re

gathering input from the managers, supervisory level, et cetera. We want to continue to tweak that process,” he said.

“Having that defined strategy, which aligns with our Cherokee values, is critical. In addition, it is critical to have a formalized capital plan. So, back in 2018, the administration did an overall pretty good job of saying, ‘Okay, here’s the projects we want.’ The problem is that the capital plan was created, but there was lack of follow-up over the next several years. And so, things got out of balance.”

“Now, we’ve got a renewed capital plan. So, here’s the infrastructure projects we want to do. Mingo Falls, Soco Falls, the campground by Old Hungry Bear, the old high school. There’s a lot of things you’re getting ready to see come out of the ground that

are now aligned. They’re not only talked about in a capital plan, but there’s funding set aside as long as things hold with the resources we have. So those are, I think, big plays as we move forward.”

“We will continue to focus on the tribal entities that we created, the for-profit, whether it’s Qualla, whether it’s EBCI holdings, TCGE [Tribal Casino Gaming Enterprise] to make sure that we’re maximizing resources when the tribe makes an investment.”

“I said this coming into the election, if I invest a dollar, I expect a certain return on my dollar. Now, if we’re not achieving that expected return, we’ve got to evaluate and maybe, it’s not the right investment.”

Ugvwiyuhi Hicks also sees the need to fight moving forward regarding state and federal recognition issues in D.C.

“It’s a battle. We’re in a war right now, unfortunately. We’re in a war with Thom Tillis, but we’re going to win. We’re going to come out on top. I was recently put on the administrative team for the new governor coming in [Josh

Stein]. That’s a relationship that we’ve created over the last several months. I’ve met with him four times during this political process. You have to be at the table to have a conversation,” he said.

“People don’t realize how many millions of dollars state recognized groups are getting out of the federal system. And all it’s doing is taking away from federally recognized tribes. It’s a national problem. The definition of a tribe and sovereignty is being skewed, and it’s not good for federally recognized tribes. That’s where the fight is. We have to protect it.”

As 2024 wraps up and the EBCI heads into the New Year, Ugvwiyuhi Hicks and First Lady Hicks shared their New Year’s resolutions:

“I want to continue to be somebody that people feel that they can come to get the help that they need,” First Lady Hicks shared.

“If I had to set a New Year’s resolution, it would be just work hard for the right reasons, which in this position, is to work for the people,” Ugvwiyuhi Hicks said.

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This ensures your tree stays as green as possible during the holidays. – Brenda Weaver

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# Snowbird NEST Program opens new facility

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

**T**UTIYI (SNOWBIRD) – After raining all morning, the sun suddenly shone brightly through the clouds as the ribbon was cut on a building where youth are learning Cherokee language and traditions. The Snowbird NEST (Native Education Snowbird Traditions) Program opened a new facility on the morning of Monday, Dec. 9.

The new building, an upgrade from the single-wide trailer they were using, will allow the program to serve almost double the amount of youth as before. Funding for the building came from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians



Erik Oswald, second from left, speaks just prior to cutting the ribbon to open the new facility housing the Snowbird NEST (Native Education Snowbird Traditions) Program in Tutiya (Snowbird) on the morning of Monday, Dec. 9. His sister, Leslie Oswald, is shown at left. They are children of the late Shirley Oswald, Beloved Woman of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a Cherokee first language speaker, who founded the program in 2013. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./ One Feather photos)

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(EBCI) and a grant from the Cherokee Preservation Foundation.

The NEST Program was founded in 2013 as the Snowbird Cherokee Traditions Corporation by the late EBCI Beloved Woman Shirley Oswalt who was a first language Cherokee speaker and a staunch advocate for teaching the language and traditions. The new facility has four classrooms and a full kitchen.

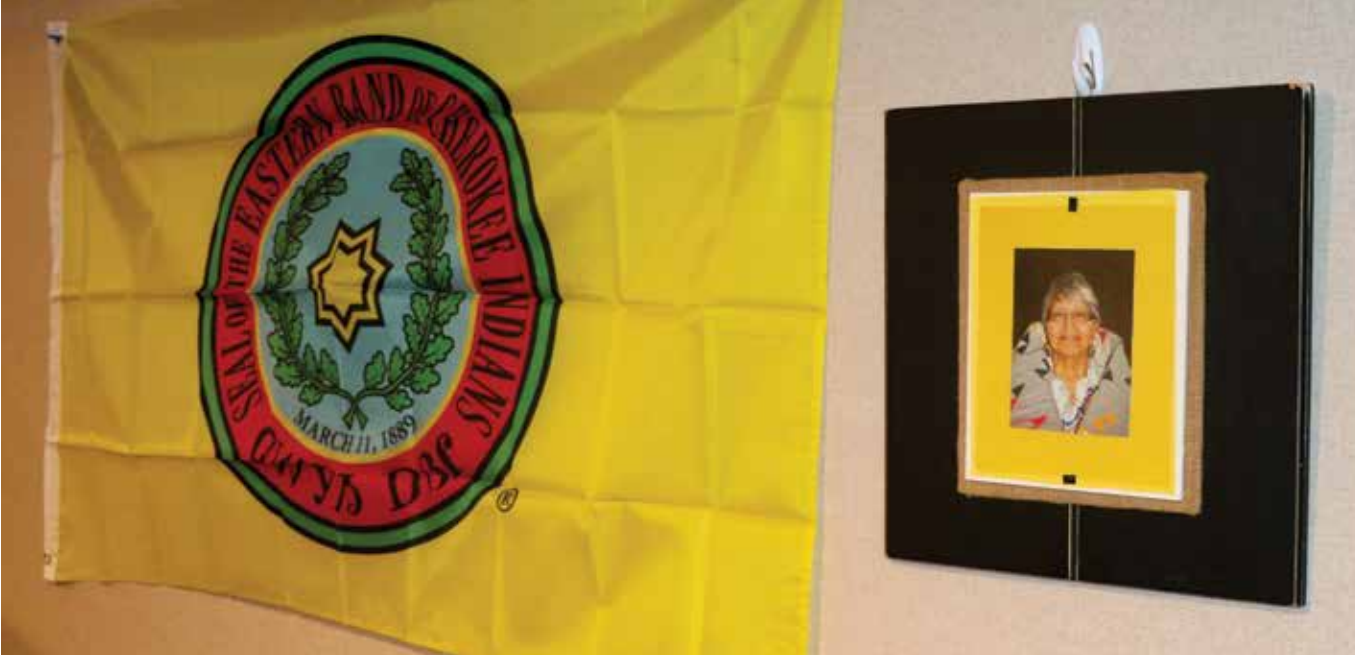
“When mom started this years ago, she didn’t want it to be called a school,” Erik Oswalt, Snowbird NEST director and son of Beloved Woman Oswalt, said at the event. “She wanted it more like a home than a school.”

He added, “Mom started teaching probably 35 years ago, somewhere around there. Her first student was Joel Turner, one of our teachers. I can remember as a little kid Joel coming to the house, sitting at the kitchen table and doing Cherokee language.

It just grew from there. We’ve quadrupled in kids and went from five staff to 12 staff. So, it’s really, really grown. The place we came from was a single-wide trailer to this. It’s really huge for us.”

The program is growing. Erik Oswalt noted they serve around 45 youth and have a total staff of 12 which includes three Cherokee first language speakers (Lou Jackson, Leroy Littlejohn, and Kathy Jones).

Leslie Oswalt, Beloved Woman Oswalt’s daughter, commented, “It’s like a home where they’re cooking and learning because basically, in a school setting, you’re teaching school words. Being a home setting, you’re getting all the other words - like immersion.” She said seeing the new facility opening is a feeling you cannot express. “My daughter (Jazlyn McEntire) is now teaching here.



The first wall you see as you walk into the new facility for the Snowbird NEST program has a photo of the program founder, EBCI Beloved Woman Shirley Oswalt, as well as an EBCI tribal flag.

She went to the adult immersion, but my mom started speaking to her when she was born. If you ask the fluent speakers now, they will tell you that you can tell a difference in Jazlyn versus other students who have gone through the program just because it was from birth.

“I know that one of my mom’s biggest dreams was to keep it alive... It’s more than an honor. I know right now that she couldn’t have even imagined this. She paid out of her own pocket - snacks, everything for the kids...she just had a passion for it.”

Leslie Oswalt said the family is very thankful for the help with the program. “It’s a blessing beyond words that it’s come this far. Thanks not just to the Tribe, but to the families, to the Preservation Foundation, to our staff, and to these kids for coming every day. All summer they give up their summer to come and learn Cherokee language.”

Tutiya (Snowbird) – Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee County) Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Rep. Adam Wachacha spoke at the event and noted, “She hand-selected a few of us to kind of move this

vision and this dream forward. Just because Shirley’s not here, doesn’t mean she isn’t here. She lives through her children. And, her children are carrying on the legacy of what she believed in. This is her dream.

“If you look around, it does feel like a home in here. It feels like something that these kids will come to, look forward to every day, and have to enjoy.”

Lou Jackson, an EBCI elder and Cherokee first language speaker, is an advanced language teacher at Snowbird NEST. “This way, we have more room...it’s going to be good.”

She went on to say, “I think not having enough space was the biggest thing. And, I think we’re going to outgrow this real quick. And it’s going to be a good thing. There’s so much besides just the language that we teach here. I do the food stuff. I teach a lot of other things that they need to learn like gardening, herbs, those kinds of things. Not a lot, just throw it in there.”

Jackson is optimistic about the future of the Cherokee language. “It’s a really fun language. You have so much fun with it. I think

we’re going to be able to save the language. I’m really not worried. I think the biggest problem is the parents. They need to take these classes.”

Brenda Norville, Snowbird NEST board member, said, “Before gaming was around, Shirley (Oswalt) did Cherokee language classes in Snowbird starting at the Little Snowbird Church...she’d offer free classes. So, even before gaming, she had seen that need that we were one day going to come to this where our language would be endangered. So, she saw that many years before she even started the summer youth program.”

She is proud of the new facility for the program. “This is a great facility. His (Erik Oswalt) dream and Leslie’s dream and Shirley’s dream, was actually to have a house type setting for language where the kids could come and it would be like a home.

“Leslie and Erik have just stepped up and to be able to get this facility where they can call home, for now, is wonderful.”

For more information on this program, visit: [www.snowbirdnest.org](http://www.snowbirdnest.org)

# Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) changes Minors Fund Distribution plan

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

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. – It has been nine years since Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) last amended the distribution plan for the Minors Fund for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). During their regular session on Thursday, Dec. 5, Dinilawigi passed Ord. No. 334 (2024) unanimously that changes the distribution plan from three staggered distributions to five.

The ordinance, which amends Cherokee Code Section 16C-6, was submitted by Brandi Claxton, EBCI Budget & Finance director. James Burns, EBCI Investment Committee, said during Thursday's discussion, "What we're

wanting to do here is give minors access to their money a little bit sooner as well as reducing their overall tax burden...this change would reduce their tax burden by over \$25,000 for that five-year term."

The distribution plan was last changed on Oct. 22, 2015 with the passage of Ord. No. 38 (2015), submitted by then-Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Patrick Lambert and the Junaluska Leadership Council. That legislation approved the three distribution plan at ages 18, 21, and 25 used from that point until the passage of this new legislation.

The legislation (Ord. No. 334 – 2024) passed on Dec. 5 states, "The EBCI Investment Committee and the EBCI Office of Budget

& Finance have determined that a new schedule of five staggered distributions, at ages 18, 20, 22, 24, and 25 will better meet the needs of Minors Fund participants and will decrease the tax burden participants experience with the current distribution schedule."

According to the ordinance, the distributions shall be in the following amounts:

- At age 18, "the first distribution shall be in an amount which is the lesser of \$50,000 or one-fifth the amount of the total amount"
- At age 20, "the second distribution shall be in an amount which is the lesser of \$50,000 or one-fourth the amount of the total amount remaining after the first distribution"
- At age 22, "the third distribution

shall be in an amount which is the lesser of \$50,000 or one-third the amount of the total account balance"

- At age 24, "the fourth distribution shall be in an amount which is the lesser of \$50,000 or one-half the amount of the total account balance"

- At age 25, "the fifth distribution shall be in an amount totaling the entire remaining amount"

One amendment was made to the legislation prior to passage stating that the new distribution plan "shall be implemented and effective Jan. 1, 2025, this applies to all applications received after 1/1/2025".

Ord. No. 334 was ratified by Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Mitchell Hicks on Tuesday, Dec. 10.



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# Wilnoty receives two counts of felony death by vehicle, murder charges dismissed

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**  
One Feather Reporter

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. - The trial in Jackson Co. Courthouse for second-degree murder in the deaths of Jessica and Ah-Yo-Ka Calhoun began on Dec. 3. The trial ended in just a few days with a plea agreement from defendant Jacob Wilnoty resulting in the dismissal of two second-degree murder charges.

Wilnoty was convicted of two counts of aggravated felony death by motor vehicle, carrying consecutive sentencing of 82-110

months for each count, as well as three counts of aggravated felony serious injury by vehicle, carrying a sentence of 29-47 months. Wilnoty's sentencing includes time served.

Jessica "Jet" Calhoun, 29, and her daughter, Ah-Yo-Ka "Yoki Bear" Calhoun, 5, both members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), were tragically killed in a car wreck on Jan. 9, 2021. Jessica was pronounced dead on scene, and Ah-Yo-Ka was pronounced dead while in EMS transport to Cherokee Indian Hospital. Jessica's other three

children, Elvis, Ataliana, and Jallen, were also in the vehicle and sustained injuries.

Jessica and Ah-Yo-Ka Calhoun are both listed on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) list produced by the Qualla Boundary MMIW organization of Cherokee.

Wilnoty was alleged to have purposefully wrecked the vehicle into a tree near the intersection of Olivet Church Road and Old Mission Road in Whittier. He was arrested and held in Jackson Co. Detention Center pending trial.

Wilnoty's defense attorney,

Frank Lay, took to his business Facebook account, "Frank Lay Law Firm, Aggressive Criminal Defense," to announce the dismissal of the murder charges. Several community members commented on the post in reproach.

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

## CIPD Arrest Report for Dec. 2-8, 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](http://theonefeather.com).*

Jenkins, James Derrick – age 33  
Arrested: Dec. 2  
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 9)  
Charges: Pre-trial Release Violation; Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor; Resisting, Delaying, or

Obstructing Officers; Possession of a Controlled Substance (two counts)

Wiggins, Ian Alexander – age 24  
Arrested: Dec. 2  
Released: Dec. 9  
Charges: Pre-trial Release Violation

Childers, Lucinda Faye – age 42  
Arrested: Dec. 3  
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 9)

Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

Monti, Dustin Lewis – age 34  
Arrested: Dec. 3  
Released: Dec. 3  
Charges: Possession Schedule II

Controlled Substance

Hamad, Khalid – age 45  
Arrested: Dec. 4  
Released: Dec. 5  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Tsatoke, Isaac David – age 21  
Arrested: Dec. 4  
Released: Dec. 7  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Conseen, Carrie Louise – age 25  
Arrested: Dec. 5  
Released: Dec. 5  
Charges: Possession Schedule II Controlled Substance

Lambert, Tammy Lynne – age 64  
Arrested: Dec. 5

Released: Dec. 5  
Charges: Criminal Contempt

Ledford, James Allen – age 58  
Arrested: Dec. 5  
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 9)  
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Davis, Camille Yvonne – age 34  
Arrested: Dec. 6  
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 9)  
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Taylor, James Algar Dean – age 35  
Arrested: Dec. 7  
Released: Not released as of report date (Dec. 9)  
Charges: Larceny

**Ugwyiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks serving on Gov.-Elect Josh Stein’s Transition Team**

CHEROKEE, N.C. – As Governor-Elect Josh Stein prepares to assume office, Ugwyiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

(EBCI) continues his role as a member of Stein’s transition team. Ugwyiyuhi Hicks’ appointment reflects the positive and ongoing relationship between the EBCI and North Carolina’s incoming administration.

Ugwyiyuhi Hicks’ presence on the transition team highlights the importance of Tribal voices in shaping policies that impact both Native and non-Native communi-

ties across the state. His extensive experience in governance, economic development, and Tribal sovereignty positions him as a key advocate for issues affecting not only the EBCI but all of Indian Country.

“Our working relationship with Governor-Elect Stein has been positive and productive,” said Ugwyiyuhi Hicks. “Serving on this transition team allows us to ensure

that the unique needs and priorities of the Tribal community are represented as decisions are made that impact all North Carolinians. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to equity, progress, and collaborative leadership.”

- Office of the Principal Chief  
release

**Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 is seeking contact information for active EBCI service men/women to provide aid and support.**

**Info: Gregory Hunt (828) 342-2024 or Gerard Ball (919) 805-2572**




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# CHRISTMAS BRUNCH WITH SANTA

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## PUBLIC NOTICE AND TESTIMONY

Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Cherokee Code Chapter 117 Article III-A

**Confirmation hearing for the following appointments to the**

**Cherokee Indian Police Commission:**  
**Regina Rosario (Painttown), Anita Lossiah (Yellowhill), Rick Queen (Wolftown), Buddy Johnson (Big Cove), Gene "Tunney" Crowe Jr. (Birdtown), Israel Rodriguez (Male at-large), Kym Parker (Female at-large)**

**Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025 at 1 p.m.**



These hearings are open to the public, and Tribal Council invites public testimony only in accordance with Cherokee Code Chapter 117, Article III-A. Anonymous comments will not be accepted.

Members of the general public who wish to participate in the hearing shall submit written testimony to the Tribal Council Chairman in care of the Tribal Operations Program: Attn: Kelly Sampson, P.O. Box 455, Cherokee, NC 28719. Written testimony shall be submitted to the Tribal Operations Program not less than five working days from the hearing date.

**The final date for public comment will be Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025.**

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--Bret Aquino Lopez  
2024 Karl and Peggy Taylor Scholarship

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*For all of your support, the SCC Foundation would like to say thank you.*

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# TSALAGI WORD FIND / DECEMBER

Use syllabary chart to match to phoentics for the puzzle.

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1- Christmas.....unadetiysgvi     | 12- Jesus.....Tsisa              |
| 2- Wealthy.....uwenai             | 13- Winter.....gola              |
| 3- Red.Nose.....gigage.kayvsoli   | 14- Stockings.....diliyo         |
| 4- Holly.....usdasdi              | 15- Toys.....dinine(hl)dodi      |
| 5- Season.....udetigvsadisv       | 16- Wal-mart.....wali-madi       |
| 6- Sled.....didanasinegi          | 17- Cookies.....gadu.uganasda    |
| 7- Parade.....anayilisv           | 18- Milk.....unvda               |
| 8- Family.....sidaneli            | 19- Decoration...danijiladadisgv |
| 9- Snow.....vtsi                  | 20- Ornament.....ajanvto         |
| 10- Angel/Wiseman..dikanowadidohi | 21- Grinch.....usganisada        |
| 11- Wreath.....ajilvdadodi        | 22- Santa Claus.....dihanulvhi   |

o	l	s	j	h	o	e	t	o	e	o	j	l	w	h	h	l
o	e	o	j	l	w	h	h	l	o	o	v	v	t	p	l	j
o	o	h	e	p	s	s	o	s	o	o	l	h	h	s	j	o
t	e	l	h	t	h	a	l	v	o	v	h	p	k	o	h	l
i	h	d	o	h	p	r	o	o	o	k	h	h	z	h	l	u
h	o	l	p	d	j	o	p	o	o	g	d	g	h	h	p	h
j	h	s	h	u	l	o	o	h	o	o	j	h	h	h	v	s
o	w	a	e	i	o	h	h	o	c	v	h	g	p	h	j	o
l	c	j	h	o	h	z	h	l	h	h	h	h	j	u	h	o
o	s	h	h	h	l	y	c	g	l	h	g	h	u	h	o	h
o	t	i	h	s	y	m	e	h	h	p	h	b	o	h	s	y

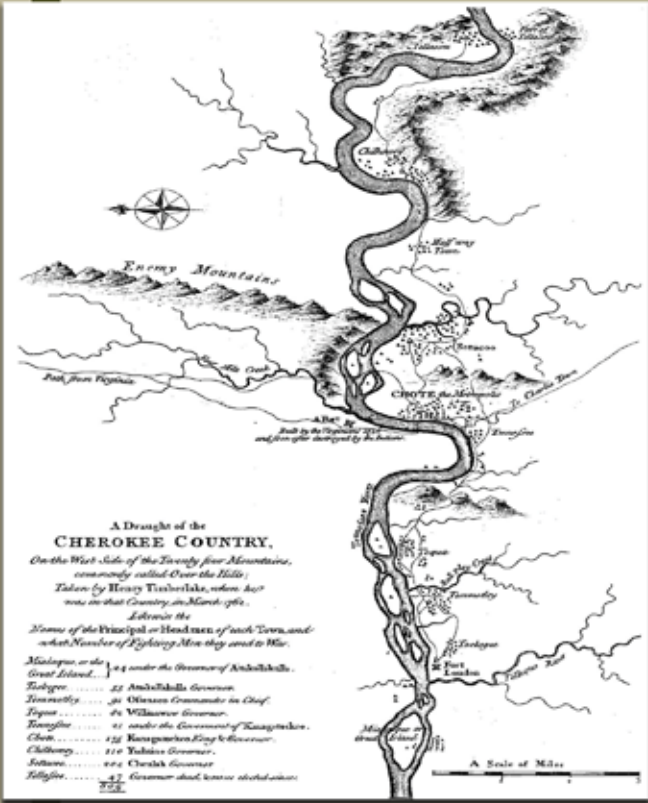
Submitted from Tsani Awohali / Kituwah Preservation & Education. Some of the words may differ from community to community and this is an example of how one may pronounce a word different from another community member so neither is right nor wrong just another way of saying a word or phrase.



## Chota

Throughout much of the 18th century, the Overhill towns of Tanasi and later Chota were recognized as “capitals” of the entire Cherokee nation. Chota or the mother Town Chote, during the 1750s was “the beloved town that all the other Towns in the Nation regards” a white town or peace settlement. In 1776 when the Virginia militia invaded the Overhill country, they spared Chota, the next expedition in 1780 Chota – Tanasi were destroyed along with all the other settlements in the lower Little Tennessee River Valley. In 1813 a wagon road was built through Chota along the warriors path passing the home of Old bark. In 1819 when Overhill land was ceded, Old bark and his son Mink Watts claimed two reservations that encompassed the old mother town. The few Cherokee families that remained, were driven out by white settlers by 1823.

Source - “Cherokee Heritage Trails Guidebook”,  
by Dr. Barbara Duncan and Dr. Brett Riggs



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QUESTIONS? CONTACT LAURA LAUFFER LWLAUFFE@NCSU.EDU 828 359 6936

## START THE NEW YEAR OFF WITH A LEAP!

### 2ND ANNUAL LUFTEE LEAP JANUARY 1, 2025

REGISTRATION STARTS @10:30AM, UNITY FIELD  
PLUNGE @ NOON  
TAKING DONATIONS FOR THE LEAP,  
ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO THE  
CHEROKEE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

# Thompson and CIHA Physical Therapy Dept. named 2024 Dr. Frell Owl Award recipient

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Jennifer Thompson, DPT, CLT, physical therapy manager at the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA), and the CIHA Physical Therapy Department were named the winner of the 2024 Dr. Frell Owl Award. The annual award ceremony was held at Granny’s Kitchen in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Tuesday, Dec. 10.

The Dr. Frell Owl Award, previously known as the Frell Owl Award, is given each year by the Cherokee Boys Club (CBC) and honors the memory and service of Dr. Owl, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Born March 1, 1899 on Rattlesnake Mountain in Cherokee, N.C., Dr. Owl graduated from Dartmouth College with a degree in English.

In 1969, he was honored by the school with an honorary doctor of humane letters. Dr. Owl retired from the Bureau of Indian Affairs after 33 years of federal service and received the Certificate of Honor for Meritorious Service by Steward Udall, then-Secretary of the Interior.

During Tuesday’s event, Greg Owle, Cherokee Boys Club general manager, said, “The Dr. Frell Owl award is given to those who best exemplify the character and accomplishments of the late Dr. Frell Owl, Cherokee educator, civic leader, and those who have significantly contributed to the welfare of Cherokee children and families.” He added, “Dr. Frell Owl’s accomplishments spanned his entire



Greg Owle, right, Cherokee Boys Club general manager, presents the 2024 Dr. Frell Owl Award to Jennifer Thompson, DPT, CLT, during the annual awards banquet held at Granny’s Kitchen in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Tuesday, Dec. 10. Thompson, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who is the physical therapy manager at Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA), was presented the award along with the CIHA Physical Therapy Department. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

lifetime, and it is a great honor to be nominated for this award for service to children, family, and community for our Cherokee people.”

After receiving the award, Thompson, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who also serves as the Cherokee Central School Board chairperson, told the crowd, “This community is my community. This family is my family. This is an extension of my family. We treat every single patient as if they are my family. That’s always been my motto - to treat every patient as if they were mine.”

She thanked the staff of the CIHA Physical Therapy Department for their work and comment-

ed, “Just the love that we share for all of our patients, I couldn’t ask for a better team. They’re an extension of me and I can’t thank them enough for all that they do.”

Thompson and the department were nominated for the award by the Jackson family who were grateful for the wonderful care their son, Kodesgi Jackson, received.

The nomination letter reads, “The unwavering support from Jennifer (Thompson) and the physical therapy team was proof that they had the same goal.”

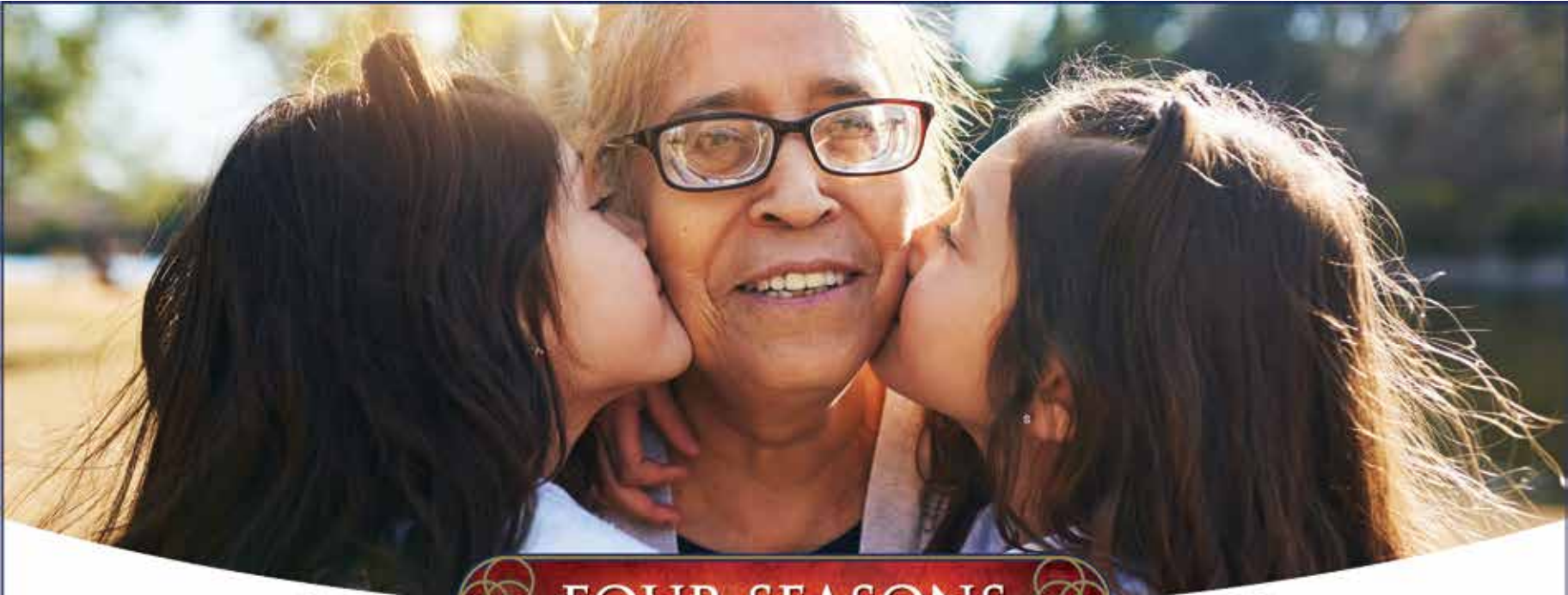
It continued, “Someone that displays that level of concern for your child when they’re not required to speak volumes... Frell Owl was a civic leader and an

educator. In many ways, Jennifer and the physical therapy team are a perfect example of both.”

The award winner is decided annually by the CBC Board of Directors which includes: Aaron Bradley (President), Donnie Owl, Tagan Crowe, Benny Graves, Tara Reed-Cooper, Doris Johnson, Brad Letts, Tayvin Bark (student representative), and Perry Shell – Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) representative.

Past recipients of the Frell Owl Award include: Principal Chief John A. Crowe (1983), Stella Kanott (1984), The Scar Crowe Family (1985), Ray Kinsland (1986), Pearl and John Reagan (1987), Betty Crisp (1988), Jerri Reagan Kinsland (1989), Mary Chiltoskey (1990), Dora Reed (1992), Marie Junaluska (1995), David and Sharon Crowe (1996), Ernestine Walkingstick (1997), Jody Adams (1998), Gary Maney (1999), Mary Sneed (2000), Mary Mantooth (2001), David McCoy (2002), Glenda Crowe (2003), Denise Ballard (2004), David McQueen (2005), Skooter McCoy (2006), Johnson “Booger” Arch (2007), Kathy Wolfe (2008), Carmaleta Monteith (2009), Roy Lambert (2010), Sandi Owle (2011), Lana Lambert (2013), Catherine Blythe Sanders (2014), Will Poolaw (2015), Lou Johnson and Wilbur Paul (2016), Alan and Mary Jane Smith (2017), Isaac “Ike” Long (2018), Michael Yalette (2019), Peaches Squirrell (2021), Lloyd Carl Owle (2022), and Butch and Louise Goings (2023).





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# Beautiful songs

The Cherokee Central Schools Vocal and Theatre Departments presented *Braves on Broadway: Traditions* at the Chief Joyce Dugan Cultural Arts Center on the evening of Friday, Dec. 13. The night featured students in Cherokee Middle School and Cherokee High School performing various Broadway songs.

Photos by Scott McKie B.P./One Feather





# Merry and bright

The annual Cherokee Christmas Parade was held on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 14. Winners are as follows:

- 1st Place - KOA
- 2nd Place - West Senior Center
- 3rd Place - Painttown Community

Best Decorated Jeep - Moira George/Lee Ann Panther  
Best Decorated Utility/Side by side - Rez Hope

Photos by Scott McKie B.P./One Feather





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**Happy  
Holidays**



**ANDY SHAW**



**(828) 586-0900**

Cherokee Choices and Nurse Family Partnership would like to say thank you to the EBCI Communities for your support in our 2024 programming and we welcome you and your family to join wellness program in the new year! Thank you to our partners and collaborators for your support in providing services, referrals, and support. Last but not least, thank you to the servant leadership and hard work of the Principal Chief Hicks, Vice Chief Ensley, Tribal Council, PHHS Programs, and Cherokee Choices and Nurse Family Partnership staff.  
SGI!



To the SHIP staff and Health Delivery Administration Receptionist.

*I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation for all your hard work and dedication. Your commitment and tireless efforts do not go unnoticed.*

*Thank you for everything you do to ensure the smooth delivery of services for the well-being of our community.*



**Siyo bfi!**

The EBCI Office of Fisheries & Wildlife Management would like to thank the community for their continued support in our efforts to conserve, protect, and manage wildlife this year. Special thanks to the landowners who have allowed us access to their property for various surveys, including, but not limited to, wildlife camera trapping, bear hair snares, and acoustic surveys for bats, birds, and frogs. In addition, thank you to our bear hunters who have submitted bear teeth. Your contributions will help the entire tribe understand and protect our biodiversity.



*We truly appreciate you! Gvyvlielitsi nigada!*

**Happy Holidays**

As the holiday season approaches, EBCI Public Health Programs would like to take this opportunity to extend our deepest gratitude to the community we serve.

Your unwavering support, trust, and commitment to health and well-being have been the foundation of our efforts this year. Together, we've made strides toward a healthier, stronger future, and we couldn't have done it without you.

This season, we reflect on the partnerships, connections, and shared successes that make our work so meaningful. Thank you for allowing us to be part of your lives and for supporting our mission to promote wellness and care throughout the community.

We wish you and your loved ones a joyful, peaceful, and healthy holiday season. We look forward to continuing this important work with you in the coming year.

**With heartfelt gratitude,  
EBCI Public Health Programs**

**Happy Holidays**

I would like to express my gratitude for the dedicated staff of Family Safety and Analenisgi who work tirelessly for the families of the community. They show up each day and I truly admire their resiliency and compassion they have for our families. Thank you for supporting our community!

**Kandee Parker,  
Family Safety  
Program Manager**

**Happy Holidays**

Thank you to this amazing WIC team! I would like to express my deepest gratitude for their incredible hard work this past year. Their positive attitudes and willingness to go the extra mile has made all the difference and helped the Program achieve tremendous recognition from NC WIC as well as USDA. Also, a BIG thank you to the community! All your support means a lot to us.

**Wellness Warrior Tips from Chrissy Owle Arch**

**Set boundaries with family obligations to reduce holiday stress.**

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### THANK YOU LETTERS

#### In Memory of Frank "Bubba" Reed

The entire family wishes to express our deepest appreciation to friends, co-workers, and everyone who continues to show caring support in our bereavement. Your prayers, thoughts, and messages of sympathy and condolences mean so much. A special thank you to Kathi Smith Littlejohn, Robert Martens, Dike Sneed, Lucille Wolfe, Jason Littlejohn and Jan Smith for sharing stories and memories throughout the celebration of life service. Thank you to those who brought food, visited, sent flowers and cards, made a monetary donation to a charity in Bub's name, to Carla Neadeau and staff, Crisp Funeral home, the Chief and Vice Chief's offices and staff, and council members, who are so kind, and helpful, their generosity is unmatched, Laura and Dee Smith and the Cherokee Methodist Church. We will always remember your kindness. Anybody reading this please say a prayer for people suffering from debilitating chronic pain. With sincere thanks the family of Frank "Bubba" Reed.

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Misty Millsaps - 828-359-6919; [mistmill@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:mistmill@ebci-nsn.gov)  
Michelle Stamper - 828-359-6904; [michstam@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:michstam@ebci-nsn.gov)

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EBCI Handicap apply at Family Support Services, October through March

EBCI Low-Income apply at Family Support Services, October through March

All others on Boundary, non- EBCI enrolled, apply through local county Department of Social Services.

-Family Support Services

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**OBITUARIES** ᏅᏍᏏᏁᏍᏔᏁ

**Ethelyn "Sis" Roberts**

Ethelyn "Sis" Roberts, a cherished member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, passed away peacefully on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, at the age of 104. She was a beloved mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend and will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Ethelyn's life was marked by a deep love for people, countless stories, and adventures. Whether surrounded by family, friends, or strangers, she had a remarkable ability to connect with others. Her heart was as big as the stories she loved to share, and her adventures in life were as varied and vibrant as the tales she told.

Ethelyn was born in Cherokee, N.C., and grew up alongside her

seven brothers and three sisters. In the 1930s, she moved to Pennsylvania, where she worked in a factory in Trenton, contributing to the production of bomber planes during World War II. Driven by a deep sense of duty to support her brothers who were serving in the military, Ethelyn worked tirelessly. After her time at General Motors, she met and married her husband Thomas J Roberts. Together, they had three children, and Ethelyn chose to leave her job to focus on raising her family. Later in life, she re-entered the workforce, continuing her career and dedication until her retirement.

As her children grew and started families of their own, Ethelyn devoted herself to her loved ones, later caring for her grandchildren with great affection. When her grandchildren were older, she

embraced the joy of traveling and creating memories with friends and family. In 2010, she returned to Cherokee, where she treasured the friendships she made at Tsali Manor. In 2023, she moved back to Pennsylvania to be closer to her beloved great-grandchildren, whom she adored and passed on her love of storytelling.

Ethelyn leaves behind a legacy of kindness, joy, generosity and a love for life's adventures that will continue to inspire those who were lucky enough to meet her. Ethelyn is predeceased in death by her loving husband of 50 yrs Thomas J Roberts; her parents, Samuel and Callie Owle; eight of her siblings, Dora, Sam Jr., John, Alfred, Benjamin, Charles, and Joseph Owle; a son-in-law, Robert Ellingsworth; and two grandsons, David and Jeffery Ellingsworth.

She is survived by her siblings, Betty Jane Crawford (Calif.) and Irvin Owle (N.C.); her three children, Fay Ellingsworth, Thomas Roberts (Debra), and William Roberts (Linda); five grandchildren, Diana Ellingsworth, Shaun and Caitlyn Roberts, Matthew and Jennifer Roberts; numerous great-grandchildren; as well as many beloved nieces, nephews, and the many who became family over the years.

A private memorial gathering for the family was held on Friday, Dec. 13 at James J. Dougherty Funeral Home, 2200 Trenton Road, Levittown, Pennsylvania 19056. Following the service in Pennsylvania another memorial gathering will take place in Cherokee, NC. Details will be forthcoming.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in memory of Ethelyn can be made to

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

**December 16-22, 2024**

WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
<b>Tuckasegee River</b>	Delayed Harvest Stocking Dec. 2-6	All day	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout	Egg patterns, midges, cahills, yellow stimulator, light colored Caddis, small nymphs, wooly bugger
<b>Chattooga &amp; Whitewater Rivers</b>	N/A	All day	Brown Trout	Egg patterns, midges, cahills, yellow stimulator, light colored Caddis, small nymphs
<b>Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River &amp; Small Streams</b>	N/A	All day	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout	Egg patterns, midges, cahills, yellow stimulator, light colored Caddis, small nymphs

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**BEST FISHING TIMES BASED ON THE LUNAR CYCLE**

MONDAY, DEC. 16	TUESDAY, DEC. 17	WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18	THURSDAY, DEC. 19	FRIDAY, DEC. 20	SATURDAY, DEC. 21	SUNDAY, DEC. 22
BETTER	GOOD	AVERAGE	AVERAGE+	AVERAGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
12:21 AM-2:21 AM 12:51 PM-2:51 PM	1:21 AM-3:21 AM 1:49 PM-3:49 PM	2:16 AM-4:16 AM 2:42 PM-4:42 PM	3:07 AM-5:07 AM 3:30 PM-5:30 PM	3:52 AM-5:52 AM 4:13 PM-6:13 PM	4:34 AM-6:34 AM 4:54 PM-6:54 PM	5:14 AM-7:14 AM 5:33 PM-7:33 PM

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the Cherokee Boys Club, NC. at [cherokeeboysclub.com](http://cherokeeboysclub.com)

#### **Russell Tooni Jr.**

Russell Tooni Jr., 73, passed away unexpectedly at his residence in Cherokee, N.C., on Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024.

Russell was a native and lifelong resident of Cherokee, N.C. He was the son of the late Russell and Geneva Cucumber Tooni. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Hookie Walkingstick. Russell was a Veteran of the US Marines and retired as a brick mason.

Russell is survived by his son Cecil (Junebug) Walkingstick of Cherokee, N.C., and daughter Crystal Davis, also of Cherokee. He is also survived by his brother, Norman Tooni; sister, Ruth Lossiah (Jack), all of Cherokee;

his nephew, Steven Armachain, also of Cherokee; his niece, Jessica Tooni, also of Cherokee; and he is also survived by his special friend, Graicia Walkingstick, also of Cherokee.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Dec. 11 at Straight Fork Baptist Church in Cherokee, N.C. Burial followed at Tooni Family Cemetery in Cherokee, NC. Pallbearers were Xavier Armachain, Malakai Tooni, Jayden Tooni, James Martinez, Cecil Walkingstick Jr. (Peanut), and Butch Hill.

Long House Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

#### **Terri Jo Beck**

Terri Jo Beck, 57, of Cherokee, went to her heavenly home on Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024.

Terri was a native and lifelong resident of Cherokee, N.C. and the

daughter of the late Guy George Jr. and Bernadine George (Hicks). She enjoyed trips to the casino and Sunday dinners with her family. Sitting on her porch, drinking her morning coffee, Terri loved riding through the parkway and looking at the scenery. She also enjoyed working on pottery, keeping traditions alive whenever she could. In addition to her parents, Terri was preceded in death by her daughter, Deanna Beck.

Terri is survived by her two daughters, Camille Davis and Amber Beck of Cherokee, N.C.; her sister, Denise George of Cherokee, NC; six grandchildren, Kaydence Davis, Xavion Davis, Benjamin Davis, Aaliyah (Ali) Davis, Alex Taylor, and Averie Taylor; uncles, Arthur Lee Hicks of Cherokee, N.C., and Steven Hicks of Gastonia, N.C.; her nephew, Dewayne G. Hicks; and special friend, Karla Winstead, of Cherokee, NC, along with many cousins and friends.

The funeral service was held on Thursday, Dec. 12 at Long House Funeral Home Chapel, with the Rev. Harley Maney officiating. Burial followed in the Hicks Family Cemetery. Pallbearers were family members.

#### **Justin Ray Queen**

Justin Ray Queen, 23, of Cherokee NC, had a change of address on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024. He no longer resides in Cherokee but is now living in his heavenly home with his Maker and King. Justin was born May 11, 2001, to Johnnie Queen and Anthony Dean Johnson in Jackson County. He was an avid music lover, enjoyed spending his time with his family and friends, and while he attempted to, he couldn't cook but he tried. He had a smile that would light up a room.

He is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Julia and

Tom Queen Sr; and aunts, Rebecca Toineetta, and Lena Annie Wilson. In addition to his parents, he is survived by his aunt and second mother, Tammy Wynette Queen, two children; three siblings, Ruby Queen, Sharon Teesatuskie, Gary Teesatusky Jr.; four nieces and nephews, Rashad Queen, Riot Queen, Felix Rickman, Maomi Effler; his sisters of the heart, Michele Bird and Makira Taylor; a very special brother of his heart, Anthony Ray Queen; two uncles, Jasper and Tom Queen; an aunt, Mary Sherrill; and a very special friend, Payne Rattler.

A celebration of Justin's Life will be held Friday, Dec. 20 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rock Springs Baptist Church.

The family requests house plants or a donation to be made to your favorite charity in Justin's Memory.

#### **Amanda Lee Beck Bevis**

Amanda Lee Beck Bevis, 82, of the Qualla Community, passed away Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024 at her residence. A native of Swain County, she was the daughter of the late Tilson and Bessie Bradley Beck and wife of the late Jason Bevis.

She attended Wrights Creek Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by brothers, Bob and Jim Beck; and sisters, Patsy and Betty Lambert, Zena Lawhon, Nell Crowe, and Peg Fortner.

She is survived by many nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Dec. 17 in the chapel of Crisp Funeral Home. Rev. Danny Lambert officiated with burial in the Towstring Cemetery.

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## COMMENTARY

### The best present is your presence

By ROBERT JUMPER

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

Make a point of visiting a rest home or nursing home during the holidays. I know that sounds like an admonition, but it isn't entirely. It should be a reminder and an incentive for compassion during this season of giving.

Visiting elderly family members who have been institutionalized is an emotionally draining experience. The feelings may range from fear to sadness to guilt. After all, this loved one might have been an integral, active part of a

family and now has lost the ability even to manage their personal affairs or physically navigate outside the walls and fencing of a care center. For the elderly, the sense of pride and dignity may be lost to a sense of depression. Those feelings of depression and sorrow can be deepened by loneliness and isolation.

Imagine being a thriving part of a family and community. You are in constant demand. You are engaged and contributing. But as you grow older, your ability to engage and participate begins to wane. You make fewer trips out of your home. You particularly curtail night activities because you don't see as well in the dark even with glasses and vehicle headlights. Your reaction time is not what it used to be, so you are fearful of

driving. As time passes, your mind and motor skills deteriorate to the point where you don't want to be out of your home unless someone picks you up and drops you off. Then, the time comes when even moving around the inside of your home is dangerous because of feeble limbs, lack of balance, and loss of memory. Every moment and movement bring fear of an injury or something worse. But it is next to impossible to give up the illusion of independence and the sense of freedom.

Then, after losing so much, the elderly face the choice of risking serious injury or death or being institutionalized. Many times, the choice is made for them either by their families or the government. The decision is a gut-wrenching one for elders and for the families involved in making the decision. Some families work with their family members to put off the decision for as long as possible, either moving their elders in with them or taking turns living with elders at their homes. My wife and her family would take turns staying over with their parent, who needed 24/7 care until his mental and physical condition deteriorated to the point of needing professional nursing care. Then, they made the heartbreaking decision to commit him to nursing home care. In this case, family members continued to make regular and frequent visits to the nursing home, along with members of his church family, to reduce the hurt and disorientation that he felt because he had to leave the life he had known for the better part of a century. Many elders are not so fortunate. When they reach the stage of being institutionalized, they are either alone or distanced from their families. As good and as attentive

as caregivers are in these facilities, they are no substitute for the feeling of love and familiarity that comes with relatives or long-time friendships. We have already heard the leadership of the hospital system talk about the staffing issues in our elder care facilities that have been a long-term challenge for our tribe and indeed across the region. Even if caregivers want to fill in the gaps that are left behind when elders don't have anyone else, they simply do not have the time and resources to do it.

So, we often hear in the holiday season, especially from our tribal leadership, about their visits to these elder care facilities. One vivid mental picture is the way they describe some of the residents. It is one that I have seen first-hand as I have visited nursing homes. There will be hallways spotted with elders in wheelchairs, sitting alone, many with blank stares as they see you come in. Others may be talking to themselves, weeping, or jerking in a fitful sleep. Still others will try to engage you, a stranger, in conversation, just to have a moment of contact and human interaction.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that 14.2 percent of U.S. adults aged 65 and older have depression. 1-5 percent of older adults in the general community have major depression. 11.5 percent of older adults in hospitals have major depression. And 13.5 percent of older adults who require home health care have major depression. Some of the risk factors for depression in older adults are substance abuse in family members, history of elder abuse, physical dependency, and financial dependency.

“Major depression” is defined

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by the Oxford Dictionary as “a mental condition characterized by a persistently depressed mood and long-term loss of pleasure or interest in life, often with other symptoms such as disturbed sleep, feelings of guilt or inadequacy, and suicidal thoughts”

One nursing home group further describes the risks for depression in seniors as loneliness, immobility, lack of independence, lack of purpose, fear of the future, and substance abuse. “Many seniors live alone, with limited means to get out and socialize. They have lost spouses, friends, neighbors, doctors, and other associates. As a result, they are highly susceptible to feelings of loneliness and isolation. While some have family nearby, perhaps even living with them, seniors often miss the people in their peer group with whom they shared past experiences and regular conversations. Even if friends are still alive, going out to see them can be increasingly difficult.” (Barclay Friends).

The CDC says, “Those who have chronic diseases are more prone to suffer from depression. According to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a type of seasonal depression that occurs only during a specific time of the year, such as the winter months and remits thereafter. SAD, also called winter depression or holiday blues, is now recognized as a common disorder among older adults. The following are some signs that a senior may be suffering from depression: persistent sadness, trouble falling asleep or sleeping too much, decreased socialization, loss of interest in usual activities, excessive worrying, irritability, feeling worthless, helpless, or hopeless, changes in

appetite, crying spells, and trouble focusing, remembering or making decisions.”

Among the top ways to combat the holiday blues; spending time and providing support, listening to your loved ones, avoiding isolation, and keeping holiday traditions. “Isolation is a cause of holiday depression in seniors, especially those who live alone or in an assisted living or skilled nursing facility. Valentin Bragin, psychiatrist and author of *Conquering Depression in the Golden Years*, said seniors need to feel connected to others during the holidays. Assisted living facilities usually have special events, meals, and entertainment for seniors. Those who live at home can spend the holidays with family or friends. “The key message is to not stay home alone during the holidays,” Bragin said. “Stay active and look for places where people celebrate holidays together.” Even if loved ones are far away, phone and video calls are a great way to feel connected.” (AMADA Senior Care).

The mission statement of Tsali Manor states, “To maintain our program to a level highly visible in our community where older persons can receive the assistance they need in order to live with dignity and choices in their homes and communities for as long as possible.”

From the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority website about Tsali Care Center, “Regardless of their physical condition, residents at the Tsali Care Center are offered a wide range of opportunities to enjoy life. Movies, parties, outings, and religious services are just some of the activities available. The joy of dining is not overlooked as our dietary staff prepares healthy meals and snacks designed to meet each resident’s nutrition-

al needs. Family and friends are always welcome at Tsali. Throughout the year, loved ones are invited to special events and outings. Families are also encouraged to personalize resident living areas with favorite items and belongings from home. We are a custom experience that promotes community, safety, and dignity for you and your loved ones.”

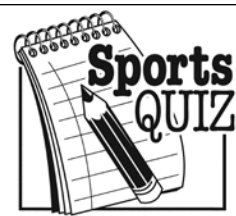
From the Mountain View Manor (Bryson City, NC) website, “We believe that quality extends far beyond an individual’s medical treatment or needs. Our commitment to provide quality care includes serving the physical, personal, spiritual, social, and recreational needs of our residents. To provide this service we assess the total needs of each individual and create a plan of care designed to meet those needs.”

From Skyland Care Center (Sylva, NC), “Our favorite aspect of Skyland Care Center is that we are all one family. We treat every one of our residents with the same love, kindness, and respect that you do. Whether a resident’s stay is short or long-term, we ensure quality care that you notice firsthand. The saying ‘Home is where the heart is,’ and at Skyland, our hearts are always right here.”

Our elders need us all the time, but especially at this time of year, that may be so dark for so many of them. Sending or bringing gifts to them is nice and appropriate, but the real gift that they are looking for is you. Spending time with family, friends, or anyone who will pay them attention is better than any material gift you may offer. Your presence is the best expression of love you can offer and it is the best present.

As we end 2024, I would like to thank the Ugwiyuhi, Taline Ugwiyu, and Dinilawigi for their

ongoing financial and governmental support of the Cherokee One Feather and for being advocates of free press. And special thanks and blessings to Scott and Sheena (they come as a set), Brooklyn, Dawn, and Indica, who are the heart of the newspaper and weekly provide the community with information that they wouldn’t see otherwise. And most of all, I appreciate you, tribal members, community, and readership, for your continued support and engagement. I hope all of you have a safe, happy, healthy, and blessed Christmas and New Year!



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Name the Miami Dolphins wide receiver who caught the final touchdown pass of quarterback Dan Marino’s NFL career in January 2000.
2. Quinn Buckner compiled a 13-69 record in his lone season as an NBA head coach of what team from 1993-94?
3. Nafissatou Thiam, who won gold medals in the women’s heptathlon in the 2016, 2020 and 2024 Olympic Games, competed for what country?
4. Hilda “Howlin’ Hilda” Chester (1897-1978), known for her cowbell and “Hilda Is Here” sign, was a famous fan of what Major League Baseball team?
5. Between Formula 1 rivals Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna, who won more drivers’ championships?
6. What former NFL referee was a colonel in the Army Reserve and won the Bronze Star for actions in the Persian Gulf War?
7. The Cy-Hawk Trophy is awarded to the winner of the rivalry game between what two college football teams?

#### Answers

1. Oronde Gadsden.
2. The Dallas Mavericks.
3. Belgium.
4. The Brooklyn Dodgers.
5. Prost, with four (Senna had three).
6. Jeff Triplette.
7. The Iowa State University Cyclones and the University of Iowa Hawkeyes.

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## EDITORIAL

# N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs unfairly attacks EBCI

By the Cherokee One Feather Editorial Board

Gregory A. Richardson, North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs executive director, stood on stage during the Cherokee Indian Fair Veterans Day on Oct. 4 in Cherokee, N.C. He received a Pendleton blanket, necklaces, and other gifts while there from the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 who hosted the event.

Richardson was happy to be there that morning. He spoke highly of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). He wasn't there to cast disparaging remarks. He was there as an invited guest, and he praised the EBCI's hospitality.

Now, two months later, he has written a letter to Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks, dated Dec. 6, which "strongly condemns the recent actions and statements made by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) that question the legitimacy of other tribal nations".

Richardson is talking about the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group seeking federal acknowledgment through the Lumbee Fairness Act (S.521 and H.R.1101).

The bulk of Richardson's letter states, "...the defamatory statements made by the EBCI regarding the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina are baseless and have been disproven on numerous occasions. These unfounded assertions not only tarnish the reputation of



Gregory A. Richardson, left, North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs executive director, stands on stage during the Cherokee Indian Fair Veterans Day on Oct. 4 in Cherokee, N.C. where he received a Pendleton blanket, necklaces, and other gifts while there from the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 who hosted the event. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

the Lumbee Tribe but also perpetuate unnecessary division."

Well, first off, the idea that the EBCI opposes Lumbee recognition is nothing new nor "recent". It has been going on for decades – back to when the Lumbee sought to be

recognized as the Cherokees of Robeson County.

So, the EBCI's opposition is not new, and it has not been quiet. Multiple EBCI leaders have testified in Congress on this issue over the years. Richardson had

to have known that when he came here for the Indian Fair in October. So, what has changed now? It certainly isn't the thoughts from the EBCI.

If you want to speak about "recent", then let's look at what

EBCI leaders have been saying on the issue recently. They've simply been saying that there is a federal acknowledgment process in place, and they feel the Lumbee are trying to circumvent that process by seeking acknowledgment through the Lumbee Fairness Act.

In a recent statement to the One Feather, Ugviyuhi Hicks commented, "On our recent trip to Washington, D.C., Tribal leadership joined with other Tribal Nations to address the dangerous precedent of the Lumbee Recognition Act, which would set bad policy by allowing groups to bypass the federal acknowledgment process. This process has been funded by the House and Senate since 1978. We remain focused and ready to defend the integrity of the federal recognition process and our sovereignty. Recognition is about historical truths and accountability. Attempts to shortcut this process not only threaten the EBCI but also undermine the sovereignty of all Tribal Nations in the U.S. We will continue to monitor this legislation and stand against groups who seek to exploit the system for personal or political gain."

EBCI leaders aren't the only ones opposing this issue.

Congressman Chuck Edwards (R-N.C.) spoke of the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives on Sept. 25 in opposition to the Lumbee Recognition Act and in favor of groups going through the OFA process.

"For over 40 years, the Department of the Interior has carried out a merit-based process, as set out by Congress and administered by the Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA), to make determinations on federal recognition of tribes. If the administration or Congress allows the Lumbee to

bypass the OFA, it sends a clear message that other groups with dubious claims for tribal recognition can also avoid the deliberation and scrutiny that the OFA petition is designed to provide." His remarks continued, "If there was actual merit behind the Lumbee case for federal recognition, they'd go through the OFA process as set out in the law. But, as they know, it won't hold up under a deliberative process, they've instead sought to get special treatment through other avenues, all in the face of credible opposition by multiple federally recognized tribes."

Cards bearing the logo of the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma were distributed during a General Assembly at the recent Annual National Congress of American Indians Convention and Marketplace. The cards rebutted the history and recognition efforts of the Lumbee and stated the following:

- Shifting claims of tribal ancestry
- Claims to Native ancestry rely on speculation, not historically or genealogically verifiable information
- Lumbee would be the only group to receive recognition without identifying any specific tribe from which they descend.
- Lower recognition standards will open doors for false groups and have profound consequences for legitimate tribes' cultural resources, sacred places, and ancestral remains.

The card distributed at NCAI contains a QR Code linking to a study on UINO's website. The study, by Jean M. Kelley, M.A., is entitled "Analysis of Lumbee Historical and Genealogical Claims". In the 19-page report, Kelley states, "The totality of Lumbee claims lacks properly attributed historical documentation and relies on speculative connections

rather than verified facts."

In a bizarre twist to this issue, Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), who introduced the Lumbee Fairness Act, has blocked legislation (S.2088 – Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial and Sacred Site Act) that would place around 40 acres of land on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota into restricted fee status for the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

Basically, when passed, the bill would guarantee that no commercial development nor gaming could occur at the site of a major atrocity where the U.S. Army killed over 300 (numbers vary on total killed) Lakota men, women, and children on the icy morning of Dec. 29, 1890, at Wounded Knee Creek.

OJ Semans, executive director of C.O.L.T. (Coalition of Large Tribes), wrote a commentary along with his wife, Barb Semans, which appears in Native News Online. They wrote, "As with many other bills that purport to help Indian Country, Tillis blocked it from proceeding, trying to force his colleagues to address his Lumbee recognition bill, circumventing the Department of the Interior's standard administrative tribal recognition process.

I do not believe Senator Tillis contacted the Lumbee prior to blocking the Wounded Knee legislation, but I would be interested in the Lumbee leadership's stance on his actions. It is our descendants who are negatively affected by his actions. We believe the Lumbee need to respond in support or opposition to Tillis's use of their issue - at the expense of another Tribe - to meet his own political agenda. The Lumbee's silence is tacit support.

Senator Tillis, decided to dishonor the memories of hun-

dreds of murdered and wounded Lakota for political leverage for Lumbee recognition. We wonder if he is ignorant of history, or worse, cognizant of it and believes the Medals of Honor were deserved. Either way, it was a horrible event to choose to make a point."

There is a lot of opposition to the way the Lumbee are going about seeking their recognition. It is incredibly unfair for the N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs to single out Ugviyuhi Hicks and the EBCI and give the tribe the moniker of defamers and troublemakers.

One last thing - it should be alarming that the Lumbee sit idly by and allow the Wounded Knee bill to be blocked for their own gain. Now, that is truly troublesome.



# The mystery and meaning of Bethlehem's Star

By DR. NICK SMITH

Sometime around Thanksgiving many of us decorate a Christmas tree. We raise our real or fake tree in our living rooms, decorated with ornaments and lights, with our wrapped gifts gently placed underneath as we await Christmas morning. What did you place on top of your tree? An angel or a star? Have you ever considered where the tradition comes from and what it means? In the past (though admittedly weird to me) the tradition was to place a fake baby Jesus on top of a tree. In 1848 a sketch of Queen Victoria and her family around a Christmas tree was published in the London newspaper and on top of the tree was an angel, thus beginning a new tradition. But somewhere along the way, people started placing a star on top of their tree to represent the Star of Bethlehem. I recently read somewhere that 22% of people in America place an angel on top of their Christmas tree, but 39% place a star on top of theirs. The star seems to be the popular way to go.

The Gospel of Matthew includes the part of the Christmas story detailing wise men from the east following a star. We know the story all too well. It is mentioned in more Christmas songs than one could count, and we see it in every decorative nativity scene. Matthew 2:1-2 states, "Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." The Wise Men studied the sky, saw the star, and made their way to Israel to worship a newborn king. It was the star that guided their way to the birth and arrival of Jesus Christ.

The star is mysterious. It is only mentioned in Matthew's account. It shows up and disappears. It was first observed in the east, appeared in the west, then, according to Matthew

2:9, it moved from north to south. Many have tried to identify the star. Some suggest it was a natural occurrence. Perhaps the Wise Men were following an alignment of planets and stars. Astronomers note there were such occurrences of the planets Saturn, Mars, and Jupiter in 2 and 6 BC. Maybe it was a comet. Comets do appear and move across the night sky. Did God use natural astronomical occurrences to guide the way to His Son? He could certainly do that. In the Old Testament, we read that God caused the sun to stand still for a day. Using His creation to fulfill His will is certainly possible for the Creator. Others suggest that the star was not natural at all. They theorize that just as God guided the Israeli people in their wilderness wanderings as a pillar of fire by night, He Himself guided the Wise Men.

Solving the mystery, however interesting, is not the point. The truth is God used something in the sky to guide the way. It was part of His plan. Many years before the birth of Christ, the Old Testament predicted in Numbers 24:17, "I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel." The meaning of Bethlehem's Star is more important than the mystery. The Star of Bethlehem guided the way to the Son of God. The star's light reminds us of the greater light that has come. Jesus is that light. The prophet Isaiah wrote in Isaiah 9:2, "The people who walked in darkness have seen

a great light." Later in Isaiah 9:6, we read, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

The Wise Men saw a light and they came to Jesus. Wise men still seek Jesus. Christ has come as the Light of the World. Into this dark world full of pain, suffering, loneliness, and despair, Jesus was born. He lived a perfect life and died on the cross to save sinners. After dying, He would rise from the dead three days later. Just as the Wise Men came to Him, you may also come. Any man, boy, woman, or girl, no matter their ethnicity, no matter their race, no matter their upbringing, no matter their status in life, and no matter their sin, may come to Christ. This Christmas celebrate Him. Rejoice in the one true light who has come. As the old Christmas song reminds us:


*"Oh, Beautiful Star the hope of rest  
For the redeemed the good and blessed  
Yonder in glory when the crown is won  
Jesus is now the star divine  
Brighter and brighter he will shine  
Oh, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on  
(shine on)."*

*Dr. Nick Smith is the Senior Pastor at Lake Junaluska First Baptist Church in Clyde, N.C.*



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.*

ISAIAH 11:1,2 



# Amber Waves

THERE YOU GO, BOY. MOM GOT YOU A NEW FANCY BRAND OF DOG FOOD.



IT SURE SMELLS WEIRD, BUT THE DOG ON THE LABEL REALLY LOOKS HAPPY.



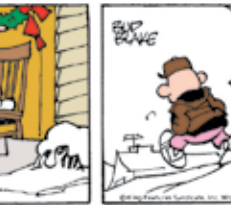
I GUESS THIS NEW STUFF WILL GIVE YOU A SHINY COAT AND FRESH BREATH.



I'M FIXED. WHO THE HECK AM I TRYING TO IMPRESS?



## TIGER



### The Spats



### by Jeff Pickering

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

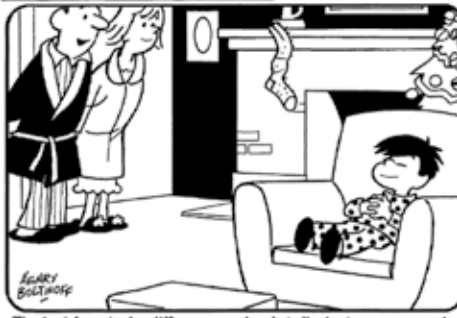
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1. Reykjavik, Iceland; 2. Nevada, with an average of 10 inches of rain a year; 3. Clarence Odbody; 4. Gore Vidal; 5. Transpiration; 6. The League of Nations; 7. "Community"; 8. Constellation; 9. "White Christmas" by Bing Crosby; 10. 1,000.

Trivia Test Answers

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Boy's legs are longer; 2. Tree is moved; 3. Stocking is shorter; 4. Woman's leg is moved; 5. Belt is shorter; 6. Robe collar is different.

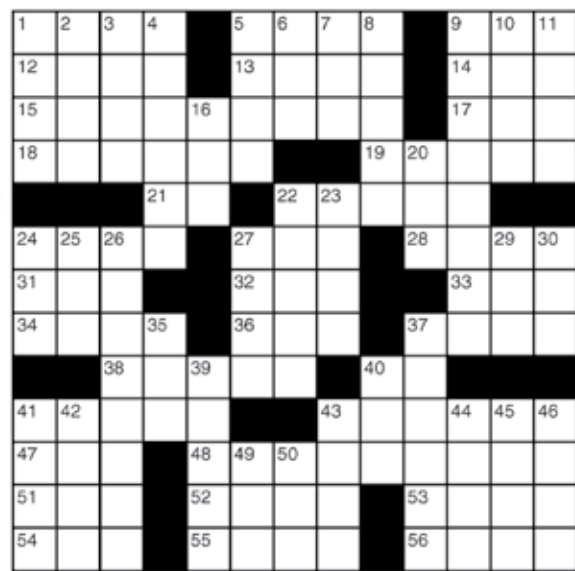
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Answers

# King Crossword

## ACROSS

- Nuisance
- Emmy winner Alan
- Blond shade
- Actor Epps
- -do-well
- Female rabbit
- Biscuit type
- Poetic tribute
- Big bargains
- Himalayan land
- Baseball's Cobb
- Meager
- Boxing arbiters
- Hasten
- Flintstones' pet
- Capote nickname
- Very long time
- Itinerary word
- Long tale
- Boring routine
- Superman's alias
- Alphabetized list
- Yours truly
- Lauder of cosmetics
- Tyke
- Marseilles monarch
- Relating to the intellect



- Calendar abbr.
- Sandwich treat
- Exploits
- Away from WSW
- Canine cry
- Section
- "Lion" star Patel
- Stadium
- Like some parents
- Fizzy drink
- Cad
- Devious
- Conclusion
- Crazy Horse, for one
- Penny
- ACLU concerns
- Time line period
- Escapée
- Roll call reply
- French diarist Anais
- Feedbag tidbit
- Hydrocarbon suffix
- Didn't lag
- Shill
- French pronoun
- Sea eagle
- Any time now
- L-Q bridge
- Tower city
- Always
- Try out
- Raw rock
- Solidify

## DOWN

- Seed holders
- Send forth
- Stuffing herb
- Goodies
- Picnic interlopers
- Maui memento

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

Answer

## Weekly SUDOKU


Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

## King Crossword



by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the northernmost capital city in the world?
2. U.S. STATES: Which state is the driest?
3. MOVIES: In the movie "It's a Wonderful Life," what is the name of the angel who saves George Bailey?
4. LITERATURE: Which American novelist also wrote under the pen name Edgar Box?
5. SCIENCE: What is the process called in which plants lose water through their leaves?
6. HISTORY: What was the name of the international group that was supposed to keep the peace after World War I?
7. TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom featured a holiday episode titled "Abed's Uncontrollable Christmas"?
8. ASTRONOMY: What is it called when a group of stars forms a pattern?
9. MUSIC: What is the top-selling holiday song of all time?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many years are in a millennium?

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# 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

**Turkey Shoots at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in Kolanvyi (Big Cove).** Good food, good fun, great prizes, great benefits.

- Jan. 1, 2025 at 3 p.m., sponsored by Norman Walkingstick

## Senior 2025 Fundraisers at the West Senior Center (formerly Tsali Manor).

Info: Annette Craig (828) 226-6703  
 - Jan. 18. Breakfast, Bake Sale, and 50/50 Raffle. \$15/plate  
 - March 15. Bingo  
 - April 14. Basket Raffle  
 - May 25-31. Silent Auction

## EBCI COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Mammal Mysteries.** Dec. 19 at 4:30 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center in Cherokee, N.C. Malia Skulski, from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and Dustin Tramper, Cherokee storyteller, will join North Carolina Arboretum's ecoEXPLORE team in teaching about mammals through hands-on science and art activities. Free food will be provided, and all youth attendees will receive a free pair of binoculars.

**Elawodi (Yellowhill) December activities at the Yellowhill Activity Center:**

\* Dec. 21: Christmas Dinner at 4 p.m., door prizes and treat bags will be given out. Community members, please bring side dishes or desserts. The club is providing ham, turkey, dressing and gravy.

\* Dec. 31: RezHope Recovery Winter Social for New Year's Eve from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

**2nd Annual Luftee Leap.** Jan. 1 at the Oconaluftee Island Park in Cherokee, N.C. Registration starts at 10:30 a.m. at the Unity Field. The plunge is set for 12 p.m. Donations are being taken for the Leap, and all donations will go to the Cherokee Cancer Support Group.

## EBCI COMMUNITY REGULAR MEETINGS

**Cherokee Storytellers** meet the fourth Tuesday of every month from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Ray Kinsland Leadership building in Cherokee, N.C. All ages are welcome. The group shares stories and resources.

**Cherokee storytelling and Cherokee history** in the Snowbird Community Library at 60 Snowbird School Rd. in Robbinsville, N.C., every fourth Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. All ages are welcome.

## TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

(All meetings are held in the Cherokee Tribal Council House in Cherokee, N.C. unless otherwise noted.)

**Health Board:** Dec. 18 at 8:30 a.m.

**Qualla Housing Board:** Dec. 19 at 8:30 a.m.

## POW WOW LISTINGS

**Annual Chasenah and Connahvichnah Pow Wow.** Dec. 21 in the Comanche Nation Community Center in Apache, Okla. Emcees: Eugene Blackbear and Edmond Nevaquaya. Head Singers: Kenneth Cozad and Howard Cozad. Info: (580) 986-9402

**Comanche Little Ponies New Year's Celebration.** Dec. 28 in the Watchetaker Hall Comanche

Nation Complex in Lawton, Okla. MC: JR Ross. Head Singer: Leonard Cozad Jr. Info: Lowell Nibbs (580) 583-5279, [lowellnibbs@yahoo.com](mailto:lowellnibbs@yahoo.com)

**Youth Mentorship Gourd Dance Organization Cheers to Sobriety "Dancing for Strength & Prosperity" New Year's Eve Gourd Dance and Social Pow Wow Celebration.** Dec. 31 at the National Guard Armory in Albuquerque, N.M. MC: James Edwards. Head Southern Singer: Edward Pacheco. Info: Milton Yazzie (505) 410-8475, [mel\\_yazz@yahoo.com](mailto:mel_yazz@yahoo.com)

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**Celebrate Recovery** meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Cherokee Baptist Church at 812 Tsalagi

## CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

ᏍᏅᏂ ᏗᏅ ᏲᏴᏴᏗᏂ ᏅᏅᏗᏴᏴ



**Loki** is the handsome boy on the left. He's a Plott Hound. **Raven** is the beautiful solid black German Shepherd on the right. They are both 9-years-old and living the good life! Their humans are Roger and Natalie Bivens in Wayohi (Wolftown).



*Sponsored by:*

**CHEROKEE**  
ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

828-497-3401  
1100 US 441N, Whittier, NC 28789

*How do you say that in Cherokee?*



DWᏗSG  
alsdulo  
Hat/tobagan

ᏗᏲᏅᏅ  
diliyesulo  
gloves/ mittens

ᏴᏴᏗᏴᏴ  
dagwisdagia  
my feet are cold

GWM FV ᏅᏴᏴ

Road, in Cherokee, N.C. This is a Christ-centered recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, hang-ups, and habits of any kind. All are welcome. Info: Chris Mc-Millan (828) 788-5410

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Analenisgi. Info: www.AAwn80.com

**Cherokee Cancer Support Group**, potluck dinner with a speaker the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Betty's Place, 40 Goose Creek Rd, Cherokee, N.C. Anyone is welcome

to attend the potluck. The group provides educational and emotional support to clients and families of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians members with cancer. The group can provide financial assistance for fuel, lodging, and transportation and also can assist with mastectomy items, nutritional supplements, wigs, and related products. The group can volunteer to take a client to their appointment if it is requested in a timely manner. Betty's Place is open Monday through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: (828)

see **EVENTS** next page



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) I know, dear Lamb, that you don't like anyone trying to take charge of your projects, but try to be a bit more flexible. A new idea could help hasten a positive result.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) I'm sure, being the time-thrifty Taurus you are, that you've done much of your holiday shopping. But don't relax yet! Wrap those gifts now to save yourself lots of unwanted pressure.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Be receptive when a family member or friend asks to confide in you. Your positive reaction could ensure that they have a happy holiday experience.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Don't be rushed into wrapping up a workplace problem. Consider leaving it be until after the holidays. This way, you'll have the facts you need to reach the right resolution.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) You'll get news that will make you glow brighter than the lights of the holiday season! Be sure to use what you learn both carefully and kindly in order to avoid giving the wrong impression.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) A frayed relationship could be mended in time for the holidays if you were more flexible. Give a little, and you could get back a lot more than you imagined.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Things might not seem to be set-

ting down as quickly as you would prefer, but it might just be a little "holiday time flutter." You'll soon get news that will lead to more stability.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Stop getting so involved in everyone's personal problems that you lose precious time with loved ones. Remember, even the Supreme Court closes for the holidays.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) All signs point to a bright holiday, with all of those pesky problems finally resolved in your favor. Share the good times with people you love and who, of course, love you.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Your plans should not be set in stone and cemented over. Leave some openings in case you need to make changes. Meanwhile, spend the holidays with your nearest and dearest.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Surprise! This holiday finds you on the receiving end of generosity from those who are usually the recipients of what you give so freely and lovingly.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) A piece of good news assures that you'll be swimming in clearer, calmer waters this holiday season. There might be a storm or two ahead, but you'll weather it all in fine style.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a flair for seeing things as you'd like them to be, as well as a gift for turning your perceptions into realities. Manifestation is your superpower.

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## VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

### Mistakes in PACT Act claims

It seems that when there are new rules and regulations to be followed, the Department of Veterans Affairs often needs time to get caught up and understand new procedures. The Office of Inspector General for the VA investigated whether veterans were given the correct benefits after the PACT Act expanded eligibility for toxin exposure. The news isn't good. What the OIG found was that service-connected claims were improperly handled before they were denied.

Processing staff made several errors as they handled the claims. They asked for medical opinions to see if there were service connections even though the PACT Act clearly designated certain illnesses as service connected. Staff asked for exams that weren't warranted, which delayed the processing of claims. Staff also made their decisions after examinations resulted in inconsistent results.

OIG investigators found that two veterans were denied \$56,700 in claims after their service connections were denied. The OIG discovered that there was \$1.4 million in costs (for a six-month period) for exams and medical opinions that weren't necessary and 870 potential benefits-related errors. It seems that staff didn't understand that presumptives don't need a medical opinion after it's already been established that a veteran was in a certain location at a certain time.

Mistakenly denying conditions covered under the PACT Act wasn't the only Act-related snarl. Under the PACT Act, survivors of service members who died in the line of duty or from service-related illness who'd had their expanded toxic exposure claims denied were allowed to refile and receive retroactive benefits. Survivors due benefits under Dependency and Indemnity Compensation didn't receive the correct payments when they refiled.

The OIG investigated two groups of claims over a six-month period: those that were refiled and denied a second time and those that were refiled and approved. Processing staff didn't have a clear understanding of how to do the math, it seems, resulting in \$33 million of underpayments to survivors.

If you're filing under the PACT Act, keep an eye on what's going on — and ask a lot of questions.

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### Holiday travel with a pet

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** We are bringing our new dog, "Mara," with us to visit relatives in Ohio this Christmas. They are aware and said that our guest room is prepared with a dog bed so that she will be comfortable. However, we've never traveled with a pet before, and Mara is an energetic Border Collie. Do you have any advice for a pleasant road trip? — Dave and Diane in Sarasota, Florida

**DEAR DAVE & DIANE:** The best advice is to plan, plan, plan around Mara's needs during your drive to Ohio. As an energetic dog, Mara needs frequent walk breaks to get out of the car and work off some energy. You'll also need to stay at a pet-friendly hotel if you're not driving straight through the night.

Here are some important tips as you prepare:

— Make sure your dog's vaccinations are up to date, and carry a copy of her records.

— Consider microchipping your dog before the trip if you haven't done so, and make sure an ID tag is attached to her collar.

— Pack a bag just for Mara with her preferred food, treats, toys, cold weather gear and medications. Add an extra leash and collar just in case.

— Install a sturdy crate big enough for your dog to turn around in — either in the back seat or, if you have an SUV, in the cargo area. This will be secure and comfortable for a big dog.

— Take Mara on a few short car trips so she gets familiar with the travel crate.

— The day of the trip, feed and walk Mara at least an hour before departing. She may get carsick if she eats too soon before starting off.

— Never let Mara off leash during your trip.

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

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497-0788

**Life Recovery** is a Bible-based 12-step small group meeting held Mondays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. held in the Rivercane Conference Room at Analenisgi. All material is provided. This small group is for anyone struggling in life with addiction, food, depression, anxiety, relationships, or spiritual struggles.

Info: Deb Conseen-Bradley at [kellideb@gmail.com](mailto:kellideb@gmail.com) or Scott Hill (828) 508-7836

**Life@WesternCarolina.** each Wednesday morning during the academic school year the Life@ group meets on the campus of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C. For those over

the age of 50 and looking for ways to engage with the community. To learn more or register visit [life.wcu.edu](http://life.wcu.edu) or contact Western Carolina University Educational Outreach (828) 227-7397.

**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>

**CHEROKEE COMMUNITY CLUBS**

**Big Cove Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month at the new community building at 6 p.m. Chair Butch Hill (828) 506-8936. For building rental contact any of the Officers.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:rogersmoker@yahoo.com)

**Tow String Community** meets

the second Tuesday of each month at the community building at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Jacob Long (828) 736-9128, [jacoblong19982@gmail.com](mailto:jacoblong19982@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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

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**1050 AM**

**The Smokies classic hits station**

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Weekdays

**JUST THE FACTS**

**teen marijuana use may increase risk for anxiety & depression**

Like other drugs, marijuana can impair the areas of the brain that control motor coordination, impulse control, memory, learning and judgment. (National Institute on Drug Abuse)

Talk with youth about the risks and impacts of Marijuana use.

**MOUNTAINSTRONGWNC.ORG**  
A Mountain Projects Program

**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 6 p.m. Pastor Tim Barker

**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 Max Cochran (828) 341-5801, Church number (828) 497-7770

**Big Cove Missionary Baptist Church.** 6183 Big Cove Road. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday morning service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday evening prayer meeting 7 p.m., Monthly business meeting is first Wednesday 7 p.m.

**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 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Adult Bible Study Wednesday 6 p.m. Pastor Ric Eddings 497-2761

**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 Rev. Owen Isaacs (828) 242-0754

**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 Church Service 11 a.m. Wednesday dinner at 6 p.m. followed by Bible Study. Pastor

Robert Griffin (828) 582-0564

**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 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

**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

**Grace Fellowship Church.**  
Great Smokies Center. Sunday Service 10 a.m. Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m.

**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 Wolfetown 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.com](http://www.macedoniabaptistcherokee.com).

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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.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.** 82 Lambert Branch Road. Sunday Mass at 8 a.m. Father Victor Ameh 736-5322

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

**Rock Creek Missionary Baptist Church.** 240 Sherrill Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday morning worship service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday evening service 6 p.m. Pastor Rev. Ned Welch. Check our FB Page "Rock Creek Baptist Church" for the latest updates.

**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 morning worship service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 7 p.m., Wednesday evening service 7 p.m., third Saturday singing 7 p.m. Pastor Ernie Cable. Email: sprucegrovebc.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. Interim Pastor - Harley Maney Jr.

**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

**Wright's 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

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Immanuel (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
  2. Which Old Testament prophet said the most about the birth of Christ? *Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah*
  3. From Matthew 1:18, when Mary became pregnant, she and Joseph were ...? *Married, Engaged, Just friends, Strangers*
  4. In Luke 2:8-11, how did the shepherds learn of Christ's birth? *Magi informed, Joseph announcement, Mighty wind, Angel appearance*
  5. Where did the wise men go first when they arrived in the Holy Land? *Nazareth, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron*
  6. What does the Bible record as to when Jesus was born? *Late September, Dec. 25, March 17, Does not*
- ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Isaiah, 3) Engaged, 4) Angel appearance, 5) Jerusalem, 6) Does not

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

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## Moments in time

• On Dec. 30, 1988, President Ronald Reagan and President-elect George Bush were subpoenaed to testify at the trial of Oliver North, a former White House aide implicated in the Iran-Contra affair, in which arms were secretly sold to Iran while profits from the sale were diverted to guerrillas attempting to topple the Nicaraguan government.

• On Dec. 31, 1781, America's first bank, the Bank of North America, received its charter from the Confederation Congress. It opened in Philadelphia on Jan. 7, 1782.

• On Jan. 1, 2008, Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins won the NHL's inaugural Winter Classic, the first regular-season game played outdoors in the U.S. in the league's history, at New York's Ralph Wilson Stadium.

• On Jan. 2, 2004, the NASA spacecraft Stardust collected dust grains from the Wild 2 comet, whose material was later revealed to contain glycine, an amino acid that is an essential building block of life.

• On Jan. 3, 1973, Congressman James Abourezk became the first Arab American to serve in the U.S. Senate, representing his home state of South Dakota.

• On Jan. 4, 1964, Mary Sullivan was raped and strangled to death in her Boston apartment, after which her killer, Albert DeSalvo (aka the Boston Strangler) left a card reading "Happy New Year's" against her foot. Sullivan would turn out to be the final victim of DeSalvo's notorious crime spree, in which he assaulted and murdered a total of 13 women between 1962 and 1964. Under a deal with prosecutors, he wasn't charged with or convicted of those crimes, but received a life sentence for a series of other assaults, and was stabbed to death by an unidentified fellow inmate in 1973.

• On Jan. 5, 1643, Anne Clarke, of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, was granted a divorce from her husband, Denis Clarke, by Boston's Quarter Court. Denis confessed to abandoning Anne and their two children for another woman, by whom he also had two children, and refused to return to Anne. It was the first record of a legal divorce in the American colonies.

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# THE TIRE SHOP



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# MISSING

We want to thank the readership for their attention, shares, and prayers during the year 2024 as we have provided information on the weekly missing person feature. It is our hope that we all, in some small way, brought awareness and in some cases closure to long suffering victims and their families. Our primary information provider, the U.S Department of Justice, diligently maintains the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NAMUS) as a tool and data repository for those searching and working cases. It is our hope that some day the database will be empty, that everyone will be reunited with their loved ones and that the unidentified and unclaimed inventory will be cleared to at least bring closure for suffering families.

**600,000**

Over 600,000 individuals go missing in the United States every year. Fortunately, many missing children and adults are quickly found, alive and well. However, tens of thousands of individuals remain missing for over a year-what many agencies consider "cold cases".

**4,400**

It is estimated that 4,400 unidentified bodies are recovered each year, with approximately 1,000 of those bodies remaining unidentified after one year. Medical examiner and coroner offices reported 11,380 unidentified remains on record as of 2018.

Source: Namus.gov

GWY ᏫᏍᏃ ᏆᏚᏗᏍᏔ  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

94.1FM  
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CLASSIC COUNTRY

Your #1  
**STATION FOR CLASSIC COUNTRY**

# TRAD O

12:30-1pm Weekdays

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To Download Our  
Mobile App!





## CLASSIFIEDS

**Enrolled Cherokee Member (EBCI) looking to buy one** to two acres of land with or without a home on the property. Please call Zachary Larson 865-315-0786. **12/18**

## LOOKING FOR

Wanted to buy, Pottery by Tiney Bigmeat Bradley. Good condition, no cracks or chips. Contact Teresa at Queen House Gallery 828-497-3272. **1/22/25**

## BRYSON CITY RENTALS:

3BR/2BA, \$1,800/mo. ,2BR/1BA, \$1,300/mo. ,1BR/1BA, \$1,200/mo. Call 828-736-0785. **1/22/25**

**Permanent Camper for Sale - at Smoky Mountain RV Park and Resort Lot 193.** Summer Va-

cation spot, lot rent is \$2,800 from May to October. \$300 for winter storage. 10 minutes from Harrahs Cherokee Casino. Serious inquires please call Charlene Wooliver at 865-740-3984. **1/29/25**

## FREE puppies to a good home

- 2 Akc Reg Male & female Yorkie puppies free to a good home if interested contact :danamorgan189@gmail.com **1/29/25**

**Land for sale -** \$28,700.00 total for 3 lots. #1-0.77, #2-1.10, #3-0.75 acre, Tax value \$60,670.00 Located in Whittier, NC, Jackson County, Upper Sawbuck Ridge. Easy access to Hwy 441 828-506-9364. **1/22/2025**

**2005 Dodge Caravan.** 163,000 miles, new caliper, new rotors, new

brake pads on front. Oil changed on regular schedule during the vehicle's life. Tires in excellent condition. \$2,700. No trades – cash only. Text (937) 657-1502 Dillsboro-Whittier Area. **12/18**

## LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee, North Carolina Estate File No. 24-091

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**DANIEL AARON 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

Naomi Swimmer / L. Shannon Swimmer P.O Box 2096 Cherokee NC 28719 **12/18**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee, North Carolina Estate File No. 24-088

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**Barbara Swimmer George**

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



**KITUWAH**  
Technologies

Kituwah Technologies, LLC Have the following jobs available

- IT Support Technician-Waynesville Office
- Security Systems Technician
- Technician II

Anyone interested should pick up an application and complete position description at the KG3 office building, 1158 Seven Clans Lane, across the street from Waffle House, between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm Monday through Friday, or email Maggie Toineeta at [maggie.toineeta@kituwahg3.com](mailto:maggie.toineeta@kituwahg3.com) or Chelsi Corpening at [chelsi.corpening@kituwahg3.com](mailto:chelsi.corpening@kituwahg3.com) Native American and Veteran preference does apply. Job applications must be submitted resumes and cover letters will be accepted with all applications. Deadline to apply is December 18,2024 by 4pm.



**Employment Opportunities**

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

- **Hairstylist and Nail Techs** - must have a current NC Cosmetology License

Competitive compensation and benefits packages available. EEOC

\*\*\*contingent on FT/PT and availability status

Apply in person or contact Angie Pugh at [angieh@mandaraspa.com](mailto:angieh@mandaraspa.com) or 497-8550.



fudiciary(s) listed below.

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

Dianna Brady  
P.O. Box 1738  
Cherokee, NC 28719

1/15/25

**Legal Notice**

State of North Carolina  
Department of Transportation  
Raleigh, N.C.

The Deadline for submitting Electronic Bids on the following projects as well as the public reading will be January 21, 2025, at 2:00 pm. The public reading will be held in Contract Standards and Development Unit Conference Room (Room 156 A/B), Building B, North Carolina Department of Transportation, Century Center Complex, 1020 Birch Ridge Dr., Raleigh, NC

27610. Please enter door B-2.  
JANUARY 21, 2025  
(C204992) HOKE;  
(C204835) BERTIE;  
(C204972) JOHNSTON;  
(C205007) DURHAM;  
(C205045) WAKE;  
(C204760) CUMBERLAND;  
(C205046) HOKE, SCOTLAND

A bid bond or bid deposit in the amount of 5% of the bid will be required.

These contracts are subject to all appropriate Federal Laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Plans, proposal forms, and specifications may be obtained at the Raleigh Office of the Department of Transportation, Telephone # 919-707-6925.

Department of Transportation  
Mr. Lamar Sylvester, PE  
Chief engineer

12/18

**BIDS, RFPs, etc.**

**Request for Qualifications**

Macon County Schools is looking for a designer/firm/engineer to submit their qualifications to design the following project for Macon County Schools.

To dewater, excavate, replace soils, and install artificial turf at the Highlands School Athletic field located at 545 Pierson Drive in Highlands, NC 28741. The full RFQ is located on Macon County Schools website: www.macon.k12.nc.us or by calling Macon County Schools at 828-524-3314 and ask for Mr. Todd Gibbs at ext 1029. Deadline for submissions will be January 6, 2025 at 4:00pm. **12/18**

**Request for Proposal**

Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort Back of House Flooring Replacement Project  
Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort is seeking proposals for the Harrah's Cherokee Casino Back of House Flooring Replacement Project, total square footage of flooring to be replaced is 63,291 sf. The Casino is located at 777 Casino Drive, Cherokee, NC 28719. Interested Flooring Contractors need to contact David Booth for the full RFP requirements. There will be a required site visit on Thursday Jan 2nd at 10am. The bids are due by Friday Jan 17th, 2024, at 5pm. Please note that a TGC Vendor License is required for this project to work for the Casino. Contact David Booth at dbooth@harrahs.com for additional information. **12/18**


**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS:**  
CHEROKEE CENTRAL SCHOOLS  
CLASSROOM PEMB  
Project will bid Thursday January 2nd, 2025 by 2:00PM.

**BIDDER PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUEST:** Vannoy Construction has been selected as the Design-Build General Contractor by EBCI Facilities & Cherokee Central Schools and is seeking TERO Pre-Qualified Contractors to submit bids for furnishing labor, materials, tools & equipment for the Cherokee Central Schools Classroom Pre-Engineered Metal Building. Tribal Business Preference (TERO) participation is encouraged.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The 9,500 SF Classroom PEMB will be a new ground-up pre-engineered metal building including grading, concrete flatwork and paving. The interior build-out will consist of classrooms, gang restrooms, offices, storage and back-of-house spaces. Interior finishes include ACT, LVT, hard tile, carpet tiles and standard painting. Exterior will include a masonry wainscot around the perimeter of the building.

Tribal Business Preference (TERO) participation is highly encouraged. **PREQUALIFICATION FORMS AND FURTHER PROJECT INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED** by contacting Kevin Aull kevin.aull@jrvannoy.com

**12/18**



**Cherokee Central Schools Job Openings**

Apply online at <https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/onlineapp/> or [www.ces-nc.org/apps/pages/human\\_resources](http://www.ces-nc.org/apps/pages/human_resources) 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

**Varsity Wrestling Assistant Coach**

**SAMHSA GRANT - PK-12 Mental Health Behavioral Support Specialist-Bachelors' Degree Required**

**SAMHSA GRANT - Mental Health Classroom Teacher Assistant - 48 Semester Hours or an Associates Degree**

**K-5 Cherokee Language Instructor**

**K-5 Special Education Teacher Assistant-3 positions**

**K-5 School Counselor**

**6-8 Special Education Pathseekers Teacher Assistant**

**9-12 High School Science Teacher**

**K-12 School Psychologist**

**K-12 Special Education Parent Liaison**

**Security (Part-Time)**

**Custodian (Fulltime, Evening Shift)**

**Substitute Food Service Workers**

**Contract Nurse (RN)**

**ADOPT A PET!**

**359-2380**

**CHEROKEE ANIMAL CONTROL**  
All adoptions must be spay/neutered  
Fees paid by adopter.



# CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY



# CHOOSE CIHA

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Masters Level Therapist - \$58,332 - \$72,915 **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 (Adult, Analenigsi Outpatient, Integrated Classroom, Family Safety, Dora Reed)  
 Inpatient Technician - Full Time & PTI - Analenigsi Inpatient - \$17.12 - \$19.26  
 Targeted Case Manager - Analenigsi - \$44,107 - \$55,134  
 Employment Specialist - Kanvwotiyi - \$44,107 - \$55,134  
 Behavioral Health RN - Analenigsi - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor - \$44,134.00 - \$66,161.00  
 Peer Support Specialist - Recovery Center - \$17.12 - \$19.26  
 Telemetry Nursing Assistant - \$19.66 - \$22.25  
 RN - Opioid Treatment Program/Medication Assisted Treatment Clinic Nurse - \$33.68 - \$38.72 = **\$5,000 hiring bonus**  
 Residential Support - Female - PTRWOB - \$17.12 - \$19.26

## NURSING

Specialty Services Nurse Supervisor - Procedure Suite - \$36.56 - \$42.11 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 RN Care Manager - \$351.06 - \$35.64 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus** (Primary Care, Diabetes)  
 LPN/CMA - Primary Care - \$21.13 - \$23.98 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 LPN - TJCC - \$22.76 - \$25.89 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 C.M.S - \$18.32 - \$20.67 (Diabetes, Pediatrics, Primary Care)  
 C.N.A. - Immediate Care Center - Part Time Intermittent - \$17.12 - \$19.26  
 C.N.A. - Emergency Room - \$17.12 - \$19.26 - **\$3,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Certified Medical Assistant - Primary Care - \$21.13 - \$23.98 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 ED RN - PTR - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Inpatient RN - PTI - \$33.68 - \$38.72  
 RN - ER - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 RN - Inpatient - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 RN Care Manager Extender - Primary Care - \$18.32 - \$20.67  
 RN Care Manager Float - \$31.06 - \$35.64  
 RN Care Manager Supervisor - \$33.68 - \$38.72  
 (Tailored Care, Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, Traumatic Brain Injury, Long Term Support Services, Children and Families Specialty Program)  
 RN - Immediate Care Center - \$31.06 - \$35.64 - **\$5,000 - Hiring Bonus**  
 Care Manager - \$31.06 - \$35.64 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 (Tailored Care, Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, Traumatic Brain Injury, Long Term Support Services, Children and Families Specialty Program)

## DIETARY

Food Service Supervisor - \$19.66 - \$22.25  
 Food Service Worker - \$15.00 - \$16.77

## EXECUTIVE/ ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Assistant - Nursing/Medical - \$19.66 - \$22.25

## FINANCE

Billing Analyst II - \$19.66 - \$22.25  
 Patient Access Specialist - \$17.12 - \$19.26  
 Patient Access Specialist- PTI - \$17.12 - \$19.26

## HIM

Certified Coder - Inpatient - \$24.55 - \$27.99

## IT

Business Applications Coordinator - \$50,723 - \$63,404  
 Information Security Technician - \$24.55 - \$27.99

## Maintenance

Electrician and Maintenance Mechanic - \$21.13 - \$23.98

## MEDICAL

Physician - \$157,686 - \$197,108 (Primary Care, Pediatrics)  
 Physician - Emergency Department FT - \$227,068 - \$283,835  
 Physician - Emergency Department - Part Time (up to 20 hours per week) - \$227,068 - \$283,835  
 Clinical Dietitian - \$50,723 - \$63,404  
 Mid - Level PA - Primary Care - \$91,254 - \$114,067  
 PA/NP - PTI Analenigsi Inpatient - Psychiatry - \$109,504 - \$136,880  
 PA/NP - Advanced Practice Provider - Emergency Department - PTI - \$109,504 - \$136,880

## OPERATIONS

Advanced Clinical Pharmacist - \$117,326 - \$146,658  
 Dental Assistant II - \$18.32 - \$20.67  
 Dentist - CIHA and Satellite  
 Dentist-Pediatrics  
 Diagnostic Radiologic Technologist II (2nd Shift) - \$24.55 - \$27.99 **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Clinical Pharmacist - PTI - \$102,023 - \$153,034  
 Pharmacy Technician I - \$17.12 - \$19.26  
 Pharmacy Technician II - \$18.32 - \$20.67  
 Pharmacy Technician III - \$21.13 - \$23.98

## RADIOLOGY

Diagnostic Radiologic Technologist II (2nd and 3rd shift) - **\$5,000 hiring Bonus** - \$24.55 - \$27.99

## THIRD PARTY RESOURCE

Medicaid Coordinator - \$22.76 - \$25.89

## Tsali Care Center

Certified Nursing Assistant - \$17.12 - \$19.26 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Certified Medication Aide - \$17.12 - \$19.26 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Licensed Practical Nurse - \$22.76 - \$25.89 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Registered Nurse - \$35.00 - \$40.22 - **\$10,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Registered Nurse Supervisor - \$45.00 - \$47.99 - **\$10,000 Hiring Bonus**  
 Registered Nurse - Part-Time Intermittent - \$35.00 - \$40.22  
 RN Staff Development Coordinator - \$67,082 - \$83,852  
 Social Worker - \$44,107 - \$55,134  
 Ward Clerk - PTR - 1 PTRWOB - \$16.01 - 17.95

CAREERS.CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



All applications and job descriptions are available at  
[www.ebci.com/jobs](http://www.ebci.com/jobs)

**Closing Sunday December 22, 2024**

1. Firefighter – Cherokee Fire Department / Operations (L11 \$19.13 - \$23.92 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Heavy Equipment Operator – Infrastructure / Housing (L10 \$17.58 - \$21.98 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
3. Utility Worker-Operator Assistant Infrastructure / Housing (L8 \$15.90 - \$19.88 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
4. Truck Driver-Operator / Housing Program – Housing Division (L9 16.21 - \$20.26 per hour)
5. Field Technician I – Water & Sewer / Operations (L9 \$16.21 - \$20.26 per hour)
6. Driver (Multiple) Transit / Operations (L8 \$15.90 - \$19.88 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
7. Project Monitor – Project Management / Operations (L12 \$43,441 - \$54,302)
8. Housekeeper I SB CC Housekeeping / Snowbird – Cherokee County Services (6\$15.30 - \$19.13 per hour)
9. Detective – CIPD / Law Enforcement (L15 \$27.87 - \$34.84 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
10. Patrol Cadet – CIPD / Law Enforcement (\$21.00 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION

**Open Until Filled**

1. Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$19.61 - \$24.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$25.79 - \$32.25 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
3. Bailiff – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$25.79 - \$32.25 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
4. FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Public Safety (L12 \$21.41 - \$26.76 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
5. Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L11 \$19.61 - \$24.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
6. Driver – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.29 - \$20.37 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
7. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L9 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour)
8. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L10 \$18.02 - \$22.53 per hour)
9. Legislative Legal Counsel – Tribal Council – Legislative Branch (L19 \$100,232 - \$133,643)
10. Family Safety Attorney – Civil Law – Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$73,927 - \$98,570)
11. Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In-Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (Starting rate of \$20.00/hour)
12. Certified Biological Waste Water Treatment Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L11 \$19.61 - \$24.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
13. Supervisor – Biological/Waste Water Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L14 \$25.79 - \$32.25 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
14. Maintenance Technician – HELP – Education (L9 \$16.21 - \$20.26 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
15. Registered Nurse – Tribal In-Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$28.57 - \$35.71 per hour)
16. Education Specialist – Higher Education – Education (L10 \$18.02 - \$22.53 per hour)
17. Transportation Facilities Coordinator – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start & Head Start – Public Health & Human Services (L9 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
18. Quality Inspector – Qualla Housing – Housing (L10 \$18.02 - \$22.53 per hour)
19. Part-time Early Childhood Language Specialist – Kituwah Academy/Education (L9 \$35,568 - \$42,144)



*Holly Jolly Job Fair*

*Thursday, December 19*

*10am - 3pm*

*Located in the  
 Employment Office*



...to change a coin, must be 21 or older to enter casino floor to gamble and must be with a valid state of North Carolina license. Know When To Stop Before You Start In Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. ©2024 Crosses License Company, LLC.



**PROPHECY:** "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this." Isaiah 9:6-7

**FULFILLMENT:** "In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

"So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

"Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

"So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them." Luke 2:1-18



## Cherokee Boys Club Job Announcements

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

The selected applicant must submit to a pre-employment drug screen and local, state, and federal civil and criminal background and sexual offender screens.

Payroll direct deposit is mandatory. Indian preference does apply in the filling of this position.

If claiming Indian preference, applicant must submit the appropriate certificate.

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

### AGELINK

- (5) FT Teachers (\$31,800-\$39,750/year with Benefits)
- (1) Behavioral Specialist (\$55,000 - \$75,000/year with Benefits)
- (1) Family Partnership Coordinator (\$55,000 - \$75,000/year with Benefits)

### BUS & TRUCK

- Seasonal Bus Drivers (August – May) (\$18.00/hour NO BENEFITS)
- PT Truck/Tractor Operator (\$20.00/hour NO BENEFITS)

### CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

- (2) FT- SKILLED WORKERS (\$31,800-\$39,750/year with Benefits)

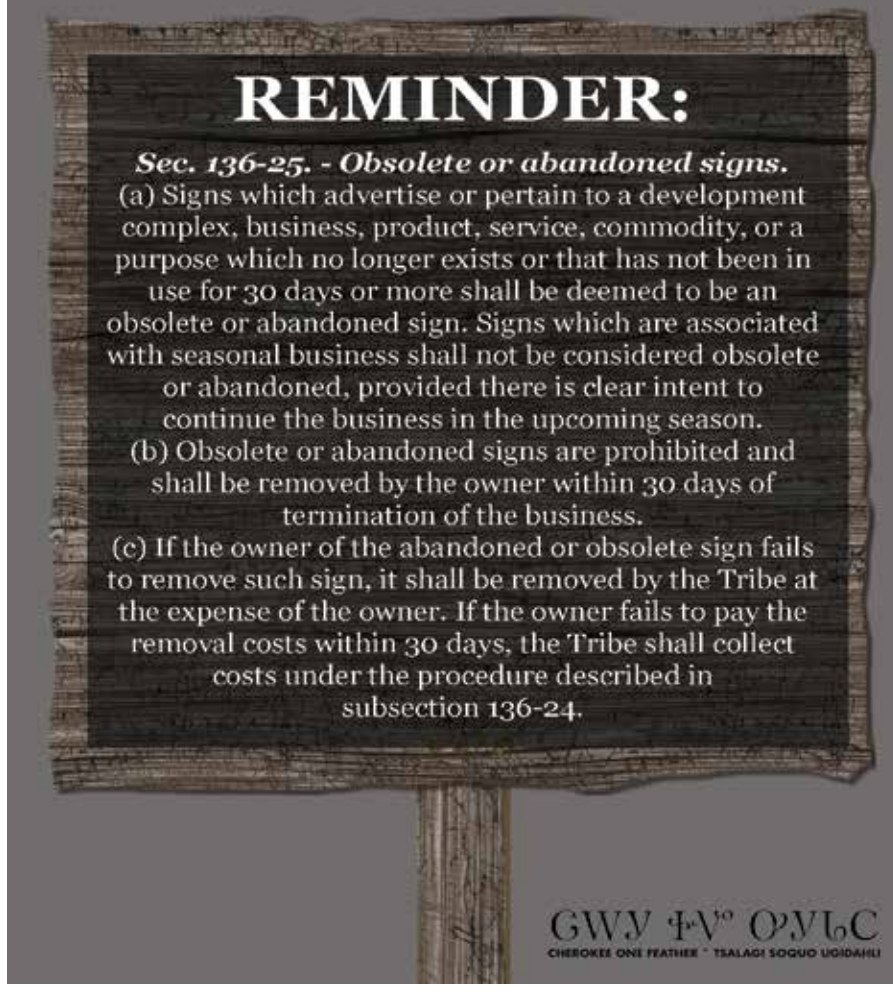
### CHILDRENS HOME

- (3) FT RESIDENT COUNSELORS (\$17.00/hour with Benefits) (work schedule : 2:30 pm – 10:30 pm)
- (1) PT RESIDENT COUNSELOR (\$17.00/hour without Benefits) (Flexible Work Schedule (Afternoon/Weekends) TBD based on availability to work)

### SHOP & GARAGE

- (2) Detail Technicians (\$31,800-\$39,750/year with Benefits)

\*\*\*ALL POSITIONS ARE SAFETY SENSITIVE\*\*\*



## REMINDER:

**Sec. 136-25. - Obsolete or abandoned signs.**  
 (a) Signs which advertise or pertain to a development complex, business, product, service, commodity, or a purpose which no longer exists or that has not been in use for 30 days or more shall be deemed to be an obsolete or abandoned sign. Signs which are associated with seasonal business shall not be considered obsolete or abandoned, provided there is clear intent to continue the business in the upcoming season.  
 (b) Obsolete or abandoned signs are prohibited and shall be removed by the owner within 30 days of termination of the business.  
 (c) If the owner of the abandoned or obsolete sign fails to remove such sign, it shall be removed by the Tribe at the expense of the owner. If the owner fails to pay the removal costs within 30 days, the Tribe shall collect costs under the procedure described in subsection 136-24.

GWY ᏆᏍᏉ ᏆᏍᏉ  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER ᏆᏍᏉ SOQUO UGIDAHLI

# **Are you scheduled for disconnection and need a little more time to make a payment?**

Here's a list of your options, that could buy you a couple of days courtesy of Haywood EMC.

**Request an extension.** Maybe you need a couple more days until Gen Well or you get paid. Only allowed 1 per quarter!

Get more proactive with these options:

**Third-party notification.** Designate a trusted friend or family member to get notified when the bill is past due.

**Equal Payment Plan.** A consistent monthly payment for most of the year.

For more information visit [Easy Ways to Pay | Haywood EMC](#)

**-Family Support Services**



## INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM SERVICES ON TRUST LANDS

**Site Inspection:** This process begins at Tribal Realty and is sent through the approval process to identify a buildable house site and road access.

**House Lot Survey:** Surveying requests for approved buildable house sites.

**Site Prep:** House site grading and driveway will be constructed on a buildable house site.

**Hydroseeding:** To help prevent erosion, hydroseeding will be done once site prep is complete.

**Block Foundation:** The foundation will be built for modular homes and stick built homes.

**Termite Spray:** This treatment is for block foundations for new homes.

**Concrete Footers:** Footers will be poured for single and doublewide mobile homes.

**Block Underpinning:** Block underpinning will be installed for doublewides.

**Vinyl Underpinning:** K-rock vinyl underpinning will be installed on single wide trailers.

**Trailer Transports:** Mobile home transports from trust land locations to be set up as permanent residence for enrolled members. We do not transport mobile homes from a mobile home company due the warranty on the home and liability.

**Gutters:** Gutter install is provided for new homes if needed, such as modulars, stick built and doublewides. We do not install gutters on singlewides. Gutter repair is done if they are causing erosion problems.

**Final Grade:** Drain lines are installed and the yard is graded to give positive drainage away from the foundation along with seed and straw to prevent erosion.

**Asbestos Assessment:** This assessment is performed on any home on trust lands owned by EBCI members and is being fully remodeled or demoed for replacement of a new home as the permanent residence.

**Asbestos Abatement:** The abatement is performed on any home that is positive for asbestos. The analysis is sent to Environmental, TCP and to the Land Fill for EBCI members replacing the old home with a new home as their permanent residence.



### Powerlifting winners

Nathaniel Solis, Nicholai Solis, Damian Solis, Isaiah "Ice" Littlejohn, and Carolyn West, all members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Cherokee Fitness Complex members, competed at the ISPF/SPF World Powerlifting Championships in Gatlinburg, Tenn. on Dec. 6-7. They placed as follows: Nathaniel Solis placed first in his division with a 115lb deadlift; Nicholai placed first in his division with a 360lb squat (sleeves), 205lb bench, and 410lb deadlift; Damian placed first in his division with a 700lb squat (sleeves), 405lb bench, and 715lb deadlift; Isaiah placed fourth in his division with a 500lb squat (sleeves), 325lb bench, and 555lb deadlift; and Carolyn placed first in her division with a 105lb squat (sleeves), 85lb bench, and 190lb deadlift. Shown, left to right, are Nicholai Solis, Nathaniel Solis, and Damian Solis; Littlejohn and West not pictured. (Photo courtesy of Reyna Solis)



The One Feather wants to hear your good news and/or accomplishments. Send us your "good stuff" such as:  
\* birth, engagement, and wedding announcements  
\* awards or other accomplishments (both civilian and military)  
\* and other areas of life such as finishing restoring an old car, building a new deck, etc.

Send your photos and info to us at:  
[Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com](mailto:Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com)



## January Birthdays

- 1/1 – Rambo Wildcat
- 1/3 - Nikki Ledford
- 1/5 – Wayne Church
- 1/5 – Aarika Shell
- 1/8 - Triniti Caley
- 1/9 - Rick Lossie
- 1/11 - Elias Littlejohn
- 1/12 - Jalyn Albert
- 1/14 - Peanut Crowe
- 1/17 – Kirk Reed
- 1/17 – Kalia Reed
- 1/22 - Christopher Larch
- 1/23 – Lacey Hopkins
- 1/24 - Josiah Teesateskie
- 1/26 - Violet Ledford
- 1/29 - Auron Taylor
- 1/29 - Jaye Panther
- 1/30 - Josie Owle
- 1/30 – Paige S. George
- 1/31 - Josh Gossett





**BELONG  
DISCOVER  
TRANSFORM  
SUCCEED**

**Enroll today!**

**Semester begins Jan. 13**

 **Southwestern**  
C O M M U N I T Y C O L L E G E

[www.SouthwesternCC.edu](http://www.SouthwesternCC.edu)