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Lumbee recognition efforts continuing in 2025
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Cherokee Preservation Foundation supports Hurricane Helene Relief
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week of
u-no-lv-ta-ni (jan.)
29 - ka-ga-li (feb.) 4,
2025

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Land back effort

Bill to place Tenn. lands into trust for EBCI introduced again

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

For the fifth Congress in a row, a bill that would place 76 acres of land, containing several Cherokee historic sites in eastern Tennessee, in trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has been introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives.

H.R. 226 was introduced into the 119th Congress on Jan. 7, 2025 by Congressman Charles J. “Chuck” Fleischmann (R-Tenn.).
Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief)

see TENNESSEE page 4



A bill that would place 76 acres of land containing several historic sites, such as the Tanasi Memorial (shown above), in eastern Tennessee in trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) has been introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



Cherokee Winter Social held in Tsisqwohi
Photos pages 16-17

BITES & BREWS

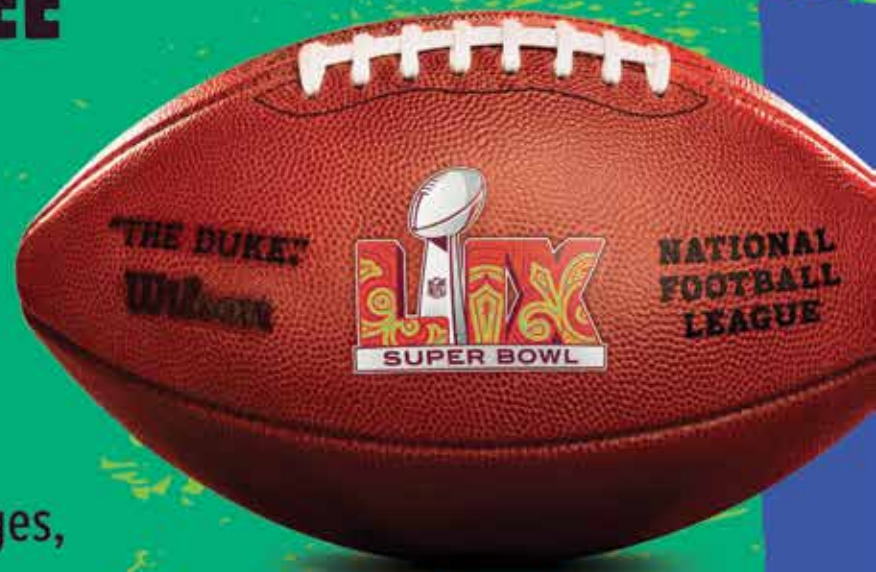
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Winner of 10 North Carolina Press Assoc. awards in 2023-24, including: Community Coverage (third place)



Image of the Week

Catcuce Tiger, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who works in the Cultural Department at Cherokee Central Schools, served as the emcee for the Cherokee Winter Social held at the Peaches Squirrell Sports & Recreation Complex in Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Saturday, Jan. 25. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Quote of the Week

“These lands that include the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, the Chota (shown in photo) and Tanasi memorials, and the Chota Peninsula in Tennessee are part of our ancestral homelands, where our ancestors lived, worked, and cared for the land for generations.”

- Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks commenting on a House bill that would place 76 acres in Tennessee into trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

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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TENNESSEE: From front page

Michell Hicks said in a statement to the One Feather, “The reintroduction of the Eastern Band Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Act by Representative Charles Fleischmann represents a long-overdue opportunity to restore what has always been rightfully ours. These lands that include the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, the Chota and Tanasi memorials, and the Chota Peninsula in Tennessee are part of our ancestral homelands, where our ancestors lived, worked, and cared for the land for generations. They hold immense cultural, historical, and spiritual significance to the EBCCI. For too long, these sacred lands have been outside of our stewardship, and this legislation will allow us to honor our responsibility to protect and preserve them for future generations.”

Previous versions of the bill included H.R. 548 (118th Congress) which passed the House by a unanimous voice vote, H.R. 2088 (117th Congress) which passed the House by a vote of 407-16, H.R. 453 (116th Congress) which passed the House by a unanimous voice vote, and H.R. 146 (115th Congress) which passed the House by a vote of 383-2. All of these bills died in the Senate.

According to language in the bill, the 76 acres includes approximately 46 acres at the site of the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, around 18.2 acres which includes



The Chota site is shown in this photo.

the Chota Memorial and the Tanasi Memorial, and another 11.2 acres known as “support parcel”. Also included in the bill are permanent easements for the Chota Peninsula, which includes 8.5 acres, and the Chota-Tanasi Trail which has 11.4 acres.

Charlie Rhodarmer, Sequoyah Birthplace Museum director, noted the importance of the area, “Tanasi was the first Cherokee capital in what is now this area of east Tennessee. It was set up by Moytoy of Tellico in the late 1720s/1730s. Moytoy was the first ‘emperor’ (spokesman) of the

Cherokee. By 1753, Chota had become the mother town of the Overhill. During the eighteenth century, Chota was the political and cultural capital of the Cherokee Nation. It was known as a peace town.”

He added, “Chota was the longest existing Cherokee capital in the east before the Removal. Chota is center stage for Lt. Timberlake’s visit. Timberlake wrote his memoirs of his visit to the Cherokee Overhill, which gives us an incredible insight into Cherokee life in the mid-eighteenth century. By 1788, the Cherokee had moved

their capital south to Georgia.”

The One Feather was unable to reach Congressman Fleischmann for comment on this current legislation, but he has said previously, “The Cherokee People have a long, rich history on these lands, and it is the place where Cherokees have honored the birth and life of Sequoyah, one of the most influential and important Native Americans in history. I am humbled and thankful to play a part in ensuring the story of the Eastern Band is preserved and taught to future generations.”

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NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

Lumbee recognition efforts continuing in 2025

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

The Lumbee Fairness Act (H.R. 1101), which would have granted federal recognition to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina – a state-recognized group, died in the 118th Congress. Now, two identical bills have been introduced into the 119th Congress, and President Donald J. Trump has entered the fray with a memorandum.

President Trump signed a memorandum on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025 regarding the issue. Information from the White House states, “The memorandum establishes that it is the policy of the United States to support federal recognition and full trib-

al benefits for the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. It directs the Secretary of the Interior to submit a plan to assist the Lumbee Tribe in obtaining full federal recognition through legislation or other available mechanisms, including the right to receive full federal benefits.”

Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks issued the following statement on Jan. 23, 2025 in response to President’s Trump’s memorandum:

“We understand President Trump’s desire to conduct due diligence in exploring federal recognition for the Lumbee. That instinct is correct - facts relating to tribal history and existence of Indian ancestry must be at the heart

of any federal recognition decision. Recognition is a profound act with far-reaching consequences, and it must be based on objective evaluations of provable historical and genealogical evidence to protect the integrity of tribal nationhood. While the President directs the Department of the Interior to develop a plan for exploring pathways to recognition - through legislative, judicial, or administrative processes - it does not grant federal recognition to the Lumbee Tribe. Nor does it override or bypass the established Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) process. Instead, it signals the need for a thoughtful and structured review of the Lumbee’s claims, which we believe must be conducted under

the rigorous standards of the OFA.

The Lumbees have a history of shifting claims, including claiming Cherokee ancestry and other historical tribes, and experts have repeatedly found that their claims cannot be verified through historical or genealogical evidence. Any process for evaluating the Lumbee’s claims must be rooted in objective standards and a thorough, evidence-based review. Self-identification and sincere belief of Indian ancestry, while meaningful on a personal level, cannot mean tribal nationhood and sovereignty.

We continue to believe that the OFA process is the proper venue to consider recognition for the Lumbee and any other group claiming to be a tribe. This process was



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established to provide a fair, transparent, and rigorous mechanism for determining whether a group comprised of Indian ancestry from historical tribes. By grounding decisions in demonstrable facts rather than shifting narratives or political considerations, the OFA protects the integrity of all tribes.

Federal recognition must be approached with seriousness and respect for facts and evidence. Anything less risks reducing recognition to a political tool, undermining the sovereignty of tribes with treaty and trust relations with the United States and the trust of the American people.

We urge the Department of the Interior to ensure that due diligence and factual analysis guide their recommendations to President Trump. Protecting the integrity of federal recognition is critical—not just for the American people but also for the hundreds of tribal nations whose sovereignty must not be put at risk.”

The legislation (S. 107) for the 119th Congress was introduced in the Senate on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025 by Senators Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) and Ted Budd (R-N.C.). An identical bill (H.R. 474) was introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressmen David Rouzer (R-N.C.) and Mark Harris (R-N.C.). S.107 was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and H.R. 474 was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

In a press release, Sen. Tillis commented, “There is clearly strong bipartisan support for this effort in Congress, and both President Biden and President-elect Trump firmly back recognition. This bill has passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support over the past three Congresses. I will continue to pursue

all options to finally achieve full federal recognition for the Lumbee Tribe.”

Rep. Rouzer said in a press release, “For far too long, the Lumbee Tribe has been wrongfully denied federal recognition – but now more than ever we are closer to that goal. Last Congress, members across the aisle overwhelmingly supported giving full federal recognition and rights to the Lumbee Tribe – and we can’t lose that momentum now.”

This issue has been before Congress before. Following are the results of Lumbee recognition bills from the past 10 Congresses alone. The bills passed in the House would subsequently die in the Senate.

- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 2758), in the 117th Congress, passed the House by a vote of 357-59 on Nov. 1, 2021.
- The Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina Recognition Act (H.R. 1964), in the 116th Congress, passed the House by a voice vote on Nov. 16, 2020.
- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 2352), in the 115th Congress, died in the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.
- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 184), in the 114th Congress, died in the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.
- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 1803), in the 113th Congress, died in the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.
- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 27), in the 112th Congress, died in the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.
- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 31), in the 111th Congress,

passed the House by a vote of 240-179 on June 3, 2009.

- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 65), in the 110th Congress, passed the House by a vote of 256-128 on June 7, 2007.
- The Lumbee Recognition Act (H.R. 21), in the 109th Congress, died in the House Committee on Resources.
- The Lumbee Recognition Act (S.420), in the 108th Congress, passed the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Nov. 24, 2003 but never made it to a vote in the Senate. There was no House companion bill in that Congress.

Congressman Chuck Edwards (R-N.C.) spoke of the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives on Sept. 25, 2024 in opposition to the Lumbee Fairness Act and in favor of groups going through the OFA (Office of Federal Acknowledgment) 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 Acknowledgment (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.”

The Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) is located within the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs. According to information from the OFA, “By applying anthropological, genealogical, and historical research methods, OFA reviews, verifies, and evaluates groups’ petitions for federal acknowledgment as Indian Tribes.”

As of Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025, there are 10 groups with petitions going through the OFA process including the following: Mattaponi Indian Tribe and Reservation (Va.), Tuskarora Nation of Moratoc Indians (N.C.), Salinan Tribe of Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties (Calif.), Tripanick Nansmond Family Indian Tribe (Kan.), Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico (N.M.), Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (Calif.), Butte Tribe of Bayou Bourbeaux (La.), Schaghticoke Indian Tribe (Conn.), Muscogee Nation of Florida (Fla.), and the Piro/Manso/Tiwa Indian Tribe of the Pueblo of San Juan de Guadalupe (N.M.).



To submit a missing or murdered indigenous people case for the W.A.R. team to research and bring to light, go to <https://war-podcast.com>

Cherokee Preservation Foundation supports Hurricane Helene Relief

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Cherokee Preservation Foundation (CPF) is proud to announce grants for ongoing disaster relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene. In response to the devastating impact of the storm, CPF has awarded funding to three organizations dedicated to providing critical assistance to affected communities across Western North Carolina.

MANNA FoodBank

MANNA FoodBank, a 501(c)(3) organization and a member of Feeding America, has been a trusted leader in hunger relief since 1983. Serving 16 counties across western North Carolina, MANNA delivers food and hope to individuals and families experiencing hunger.

Despite flooding that severely damaged its primary facility in Asheville, MANNA quickly mobilized to set up a food and water distribution site at the Asheville Farmer's Market just three days after the storm. The organization also established a donation and supplies drop-off to ensure immediate relief for those in need. MANNA's unwavering commitment to disaster relief and its 41-year history of supporting the region made it a natural recipient of CPF's funding.

Community Foundation of Western North Carolina (CFWNC)

The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina has been a vital resource for nonprofits since 1978, creating and managing charitable funds to support

public agencies across 18 counties, including the Qualla Boundary. In the wake of Hurricane Helene, CFWNC activated its Emergency and Disaster Response Fund on September 29 to coordinate regional response and relief efforts. Funds from this initiative ensure frontline nonprofits have the resources they need for immediate aid and sustained recovery. Administrative fees were waived so that all funds would directly support communities in need.

Grant guidelines were issued on Oct. 4, 2024 and the Cherokee Preservation Foundation began reviewing and approving grants the same week. Initially processed daily, grant approvals now occur weekly, maintaining an efficient flow of resources to the organizations on the ground. CPF is proud to support CFWNC's proven ability to quickly and effectively distribute funds where they are needed most.

BeLoved Asheville

Since 2009, BeLoved Asheville has been a vital part of the community, recognized for its dedication to movement building, human rights advocacy, and inspiring collective action. With over 15 years of experience creating visible change and building relationships, BeLoved has consistently demonstrated its dedication to community well-being.

When Hurricane Helene hit Asheville and surrounding areas, BeLoved was among the first organizations to respond. From organizing donations for delivery or pick-up and preparing free meals, to assessing ongoing community needs, BeLoved has been on the frontlines of relief efforts.

As the region transitions to colder weather, BeLoved assists

those displaced by the storm with securing heat and housing. Although rooted in Asheville, the organization has extended its support to surrounding areas impacted by the hurricane. CPF is proud to recognize BeLoved Asheville's tireless work and commitment to rebuilding the community by providing funds to bolster its efforts.

Supporting Resilience in western North Carolina

"We are deeply inspired by the resilience and commitment of many relief organizations, especially MANNA FoodBank, the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, and BeLoved Asheville," said Bobby Raines, Executive Director of the Cherokee Preservation Foundation. "Their efforts ensure that communities affected by Hurricane Helene have the resources and support they need to recover and rebuild."

The Cherokee Preservation Foundation's contributions reflect its mission to strengthen and uplift communities in Western North Carolina through collaborative and impactful initiatives.

Visit CherokeePreservation.org to learn more, or contact Jenea Taylor (828) 497-5550, jtaylor@cherokeepreservation.org with inquiries.

- Cherokee Preservation Foundation release

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MISSING

Gabriel Thor Crow



Enrolled with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Height: 5'10"-6' Weight: 170-180 lbs

Hair: Black Eyes: Black

Male Age: 28

Date of last contact: January 27, 2024

Last Known Location: Asheville, North Carolina

Circumstances of Disappearance: Gabriel "Gabe" Thor Crow was dropped off by his mother at Enterprise Car Rental (26 Tunnel Rd, Asheville, NC 28805) on January 25, 2024 to rent a vehicle. On January 27th, around 12:23 pm the Buncombe County Sheriffs Office located Gabe's rental car off in a field on Starnes Cove Rd, Asheville, NC 28806. All the doors were opened on the vehicle but no one was around. Gabe was located further down the road near Yosemite Trail. The Deputy spoke with Gabe about his car and asked what was going on with him. He stated that he was visiting a friend and found out things he did not like and did not want to be involved with them anymore. Gabe made the statement to the Deputy that he thought someone had put something in his car. The Deputy asked where the keys to the car were. Gabe told him that the friend he was visiting had thrown the keys in the field where the car was. Gabe told the Deputy that he was trying to get to a gas station. The Deputy pointed out the nearest gas station and offered him a ride, but Gabe declined and told the Deputy he was okay to just walk. The Deputy left the area as Gabe was walking down Starnes Cove Rd. Gabe was reported missing by his family on January 28, 2024. Last seen wearing a red t-shirt and dark pants.

If you have seen or have information about Gabriel Crow, contact Detective Adam Roach, Asheville Police Department (828) 252-1110.

Source: Namus.gov

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Buckner accepts Assistant DA position

By ROBERT JUMPER
One Feather Editor

WAYNESVILLE, N.C. - In the Haywood County Courthouse, on Monday, Jan. 6, Shelli Buckner who previously served as an interim lead prosecutor for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, was sworn in as an Assistant District Attorney for the 43rd Prosecutorial District of North Carolina. In requesting time from the presiding district court judge, the Honorable Monica Leslie, District Attorney Ashley H. Welch commented that she had been trying to add Buckner “to her team for a long time”. Buckner’s husband, Andy Buckner, has also served as an assistant district attorney for approximately six years.

For much of her career, Buckner has dedicated her life to serv-



In the Haywood County Courthouse, on Monday, Jan. 6, Shelli Buckner who previously served as an interim lead prosecutor for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, was sworn in as an Assistant District Attorney for the 43rd Prosecutorial District of North Carolina. Shown, left to right, are her father, Lamar Henderson; her mother, Judy Henderson; Shelli Buckner; and her husband, Andy Buckner. (Photo by Quintin Ellison)

ing the people of North Carolina and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. “Before coming to the Tribe in 2016, I lived in Raleigh for 14 years and practiced primarily employment and civil rights law in state and federal court, and before many administrative agencies. My husband, a native of Jackson

County, and I moved back to his hometown to be closer to his family and to serve the people of the Western North Carolina community. I joined the newly formed EBCI Legal Assistance Office in December 2016. In that role, I worked closely with the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault program to

assist victims of domestic violence in civil legal matters along with the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor on related criminal matters. I joined that office in September 2018. I felt a spiritual compulsion to apply for it like I was meant to serve the community in that capacity. I became Senior Tribal Prosecutor in May 2022 and interim Lead Tribal Prosecutor in January 2023.”

EBCI Attorney General Michael McConnell said in an email concerning Buckner’s appointment as an assistant district attorney, “We are sure that Shelli will work hard for the state of North Carolina and the people of the 43rd Judicial District and will serve them well and with dedication. We wish her the best.”

Buckner commented that she is excited to serve in this new role. She added that she loves the Cherokee people and community and sees this as an opportunity to continue to serve the Cherokee people as she takes on a broader responsibility in the district. The 43rd Prosecutorial District includes Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, Graham, Cherokee, and Clay counties.

The EBCI Tribal Member Information Portal

Preregistration required.

<http://wayvsdodi.ebci.gov>

For technical support, call the Office of Information Technology at 828-359-6800



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Let's Say It in Cherokee!

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Osigwotsu?
How are you?

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Osigwotsu?
How are you?

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Everyone say it

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Hadi. Tsilvsga.
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Tsisgai
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Tsilvsga
I'm sleepy

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Hadi. Tsisvga.
No. I stink.

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Nitsiwi.
Everyone say it.

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Osigwotsu?
How are you?

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Nitsiwi.
Everyone say it

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Tsinawoga.
I'm cold.

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Hadi. Tsisgai.
No. I'm afraid.



ᎠᎿᎿᎿ.
Tsisvga
I stink

Scan QR code to hear Cherokee language spoken by Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver

ogon udayolito agowatisguiga
taline kagali



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Cherokee Lady Braves 82 Murphy Lady Bulldogs 20 (#15) Tsuli Lossiah and (#32) Whitney Rogers lock in on defense in their 82-20 victory over Murphy on the evening of Jan. 21 in Charles George Memorial Arena. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)

GWY ᏫᎃᎠ ᏅᏍᏗᏁ

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Robbinsville Black Knights 57 Cherokee Braves 48

Cherokee's Ogana Swimmer (#2) shoots a ball in the first period of a game against the Robbinsville Black Knights in the Charles George Memorial Arena on the evening of Friday, Jan. 24. The Braves led 25-24 at the half, but the Black Knights came on strong in the fourth period outscoring Cherokee 13-6 to take the 57-48 win. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Cherokee Lady Braves 96 Robbinsville Lady Black Knights 30

Cherokee's Whitney Rogers (#32) goes for a shot in front of Robbinsville's Zaelyn Phillips in the first period of a game against the Robbinsville Lady Black Knights in the Charles George Memorial Arena on the evening of Friday, Jan. 24. The Lady Braves came out strong in this game leading 35-7 after the first period and taking a 64-16 lead into the locker room. With the 40-point advantage, the N.C. High School Athletic Association mercy rule was invoked, and the clock ran continuously for the second half. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

Social fun

The Cherokee Winter Social was held at the Peaches Squirrel Sports & Recreation Complex in Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Saturday, Jan. 25. The event featured songs and dances from several tribal cultures including Cherokee, Choctaw, Cree, Creek, and Seneca.

Photos by Scott McKie B.P./One Feather







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Volunteer Income Tax Appointments - VITA

February 2025 calendar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
First day of VITA 9am - 7pm	3	9am - 7pm	4	8am - 5pm	5
				10am - 7pm	6
					9am - 4pm
9am - 7pm	10	9am - 7pm	11	8am - 5pm	12
				10am - 7pm	13
					9am - 4pm
No VITA	17	9am - 7pm	18	8am - 5pm	19
				10am - 7pm	20
					9am - 4pm
9am - 7pm	24	9am - 7pm	25	8am - 5pm	26
				10am - 7pm	27
					9am - 4pm
					28

Appointments are available to everyone in the community at no cost. Located at the EBCI Cooperative Extension Office through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Call (828)-359-6001 to schedule an appointment, evening appointments are available too.

Tax Prep Checklist

Everyone:

- ID
- Social security numbers (yourself, spouse & dependents)
- Dates of birth (yourself, spouse & dependents)
- Bank Account/Routing #s

Income

- W-2s
- Pension/IRA/annuity income (1099-R)
- Social security/RRB income: SSA-1099, RRB-1099
- Interest, dividend income (1099-INT, 1099-OID, 1099-DIV)

- Income from sales of stock or other property (1099-B, 1099-S)
 - Gambling income (W-2G)
 - Any other 1099s received
- *If you are enrolled in GenWell you will not be issued a 1099

Health Insurance

- Form 1095-A if you enrolled in an insurance plan through the Marketplace (Exchange)

Educational Expenses

- Forms 1098-T from educational institutions
- Form 1098-E if you paid student loan interest

Misc.

- IP Pin issued by the IRS if you have previously been a victim of tax-related identity theft.

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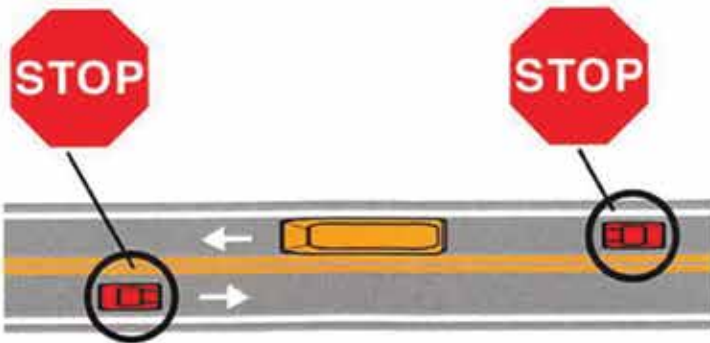


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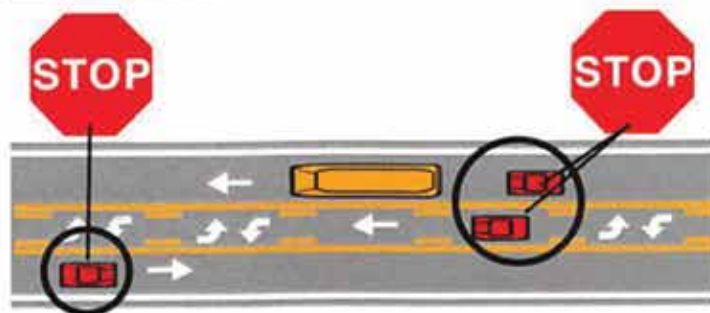
Geolink Nations has produced a feature-length movie and are seeking Cherokee speakers and language learners to dub the voices for this movie in Tsalagi. No acting experience necessary and language literacy is not required. All speakers will be paid for their time. Synopsis: "The Savior", a film about Jesus Christ featuring an all-Middle Eastern cast and globally released in 44 languages, is now being released in localized indigenous languages of North America. This extraordinary film takes an intimate and relational look at the man of peace, the Son of God, "The Savior". For the first time in cinematic history, Jesus comes home. His story is finally presented not by Hollywood but by the people who live in the lands He lived in. Taken directly from the Bible.

To audition please call or text Julie Ross at (918) 781-2446 for more information.

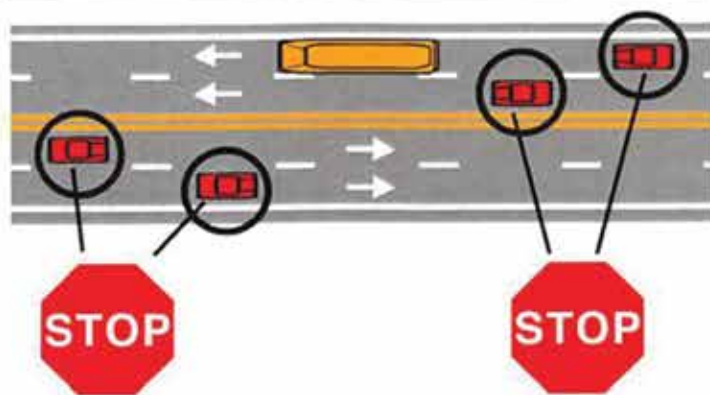
North Carolina SCHOOL BUS STOP LAW



Two-lane roadway: When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop.



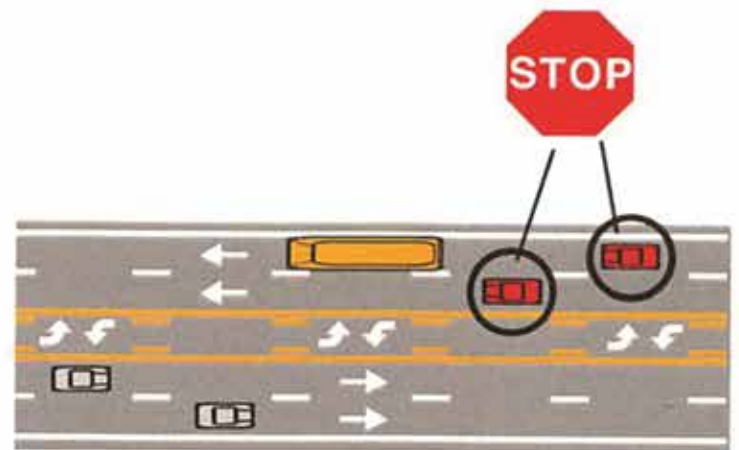
Two-lane roadway with a center turning lane: When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop.



Four-lane roadway without a median separation: When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop.



Any divided highway with a median separation: When school bus stops for passengers, only traffic following the bus must stop.



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THANK YOU LETTERS



Thank you

I first want to apologize for not putting this out sooner. My heart is broken, and my mind and body are numb. I'm going through the daily routines of living, but I'm not the same. Junebug took a huge part of my heart and part of me with him. But, I would like to say thank you to Cherokee EMS, Cherokee PD, and Fire Department for all your assistance on Jan 1; Crisp Funeral Home for taking excellent care of Junebug; Red Rum MC; Brothers in the Wind; my Campground Family; any other riders I didn't get to thank at the service for escorting Junebug to the church riding your motorcycle in cold wet weather - it meant so much to our family.

Thank you to Bigwitch Baptist Church, Scottie Chekelee for conducting the services, Vice Chief's Office for the food, all the singers who came to the visitation, and Dave Smoker and his father who sang during Sunday's funeral services. Phyllis Shell, your songs soothed our hearts. Zena Wolfe, thank you for the Georgia Bulldog-inspired flower spray for his resting place. Thank you to Denise McCoy, Connie Cooper,

Bobbi Bennett, Michelle Thompson, Tina Saunooke, Laura Davis, Laura Owl, Tooter Owens, Berdie Toineeta, my Casino family, Anna, Josh, and Debbie, thank you for showing what true friendship looks like. I love each of you.

Thank you Jill Lossiah for any assistance we needed. It was greatly appreciated - cousin love you. Lori Blankenship, thank you for being with us - he loved you sister and so do I. Thank you Auntie Melitia for the wonderful food after services. I love you Auntie. Thank you to everyone who came by or sent texts, or calls to our family. Thank you to Tribal Construction for helping with his resting place and Bo Crowe.

If I forgot anyone it is unintentional and was appreciated. To Junebug, I love you, my first and last love. Loving you forever baby, my Sexy Beast always. You will be missed baby.

Thank you from our family.

Ernestine Driver

EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tribal Foods Program implements higher deductions and expanded service area

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Cherokee Tribal Food Distribution Program (CTFDP) has announced several program updates to the community. The program is for anyone who lives on the Qualla Boundary. Clients who live off the boundary must have at least one member of any federally recognized tribe in the household.

Increased Shelter/Utility Deduction

The standard deduction has been raised to \$712 for clients and families with proof of at least one bill. Those bills include power, water, gas (propane), rent, or mortgage.

New Shelter/Utility Deduction Option

Clients and families may now choose the deduction that best benefits their household. These options include applying the standard deduction (\$712) or applying actual expenses up to 50% of your net income. Bills that can be used toward your actual expenses include power, water & sewer, telephone, internet, gas (propane), rent, mortgage, and property taxes.

New Service Areas

Cherokee Tribal Food Distribution is now approved to serve clients and families living in Buncombe or Macon counties. This is in addition to our current service areas of Cherokee, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, and Swain counties.

The previously mentioned updates are effective immediately. EBCI Per Capita, EBCI Per Capita Loans, and EBCI Genwell distributions are not counted as income. Start an application or review benefits for you and your family today. Info: Cherokee Tribal Food Distribution Program (828) 359-9751, (828) 788-7195, or visit the facility at 2266 Old Mission Rd., Cherokee, NC 28719.

- Cherokee Tribal Food Distribution release

WNC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for vendors for Greening Up the Mountains Festival

Artisans, crafters, and food and beverage vendors are invited to submit their application for the Greening Up the Mountains Festival to be held in Sylva, N.C. on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The festival, sponsored by the Town of Sylva, will once again take place in historical downtown Sylva. This year's festival seeks artisans and

crafters selling their own hand-made products. Arts, crafts, and food vendors from the expanded Appalachian area are encouraged to apply.

Visit the festival's website: <https://www.mainstreetsylva.org/greening-up-the-mountains/>. to review the 2025 Vendor Policies and download your application.

Applications will be accepted through March 15 although vendor capacity has been reached in mid-February each of the past two years. Info: Email the event coordinator at greeningupthemountains@townofsylva.org.

- Greening Up the Mountains Festival release

George H.V. Cecil Journey Scholarship now open

WNC Communities has opened this year's application cycle for the George H.V. Cecil Journey Scholarship. From now until March 17, qualifying high school seniors may apply for one of several scholarships available, ranging in amount from \$1,250 to \$2,500. Scholarships are renewable for up to four years.

The scholarship honors the legacy of George H.V. Cecil, who gave decades of service to our rural communities across western North Carolina. Mr. Cecil was among the founders of the WNC Honors program in 1949 and served the program for 71 years. In recognition of Mr. Cecil's lifetime contributions, and his dedication to higher education for all students living within the most rural geographies of western North Carolina, the governing board of WNC Communities renamed this scholarship program in his honor.

Scholarship applicants must live or participate in a community that is active in the WNC Honors Awards Program managed by

WNC Communities. Students must have their application signed by an officer from one of the community clubs listed on page 2 of the application to be eligible. Extra consideration is given to applicants who have previous involvement with their community center. All applicants are expected to demonstrate good character, strong academic record, dedication to community service, and leadership qualities. Additional eligibility requirements can be found on the application.

Applications are available through high school guidance counselors, community center officers, and found on WNC Communities' website at wnccommunities.org/scholarship/

Info: gailparker@wnccommunities.org or (828) 252-4783

- WNC Communities release

Frances Hess Scholarship Fund accepting donations

Smoky Mountain High School, in Sylva, N.C., is now accepting donations to the Frances Hess Scholarship fund. This scholarship is available to graduating seniors from Smoky Mountain High who plan to attend a postsecondary program in health science.

Hess taught health science for 17 years at Smoky Mountain High and for 13 years at Cherokee. She received her diploma from Mission Memorial's nursing school, and then managed the Emergency Room at Mission for some time. She then earned her BSN from WCU. Frances worked in a pediatrician's practice in Sylva before transitioning to her teaching career. She is an honorary member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

In honor of Frances' impact on schools and community, donations to the scholarship fund are being accepted. Interested persons can contact Kaila Day (828) 586-2177 ext. 2046 or kday@jcpsmail.org. Checks should be made out to SMHS HOSA with a memo "Frances Hess Scholarship." Donations are due by March 31.

- Frances Hess Scholarship Fund

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS Great Smoky Mountains National Park seeks help in identifying historic homesites

GATLINBURG, Tenn.— Great Smoky Mountains National Park is seeking help to identify and document former homesite locations within the park. Volunteer-In-Park Frank March, in conjunction with Park Archeologist Allison Harvey, is leading these research efforts which includes documenting field locations with associated historic records.

The public is invited to join park staff and volunteers at Wilderness Wildlife Week from Tuesday, Jan. 28, to Saturday, Feb. 1 to learn more about the project and to add copies of their historic records to the collection. Held at Ramsey Hotel and Conference

Center at 3230 Parkway in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., Wilderness Wildlife Week celebrates the abundance of wildlife, variety of plants, trees and wildflowers, and rich history of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee through a series of classes, seminars, demonstrations, guided hikes, panel discussions and workshops.

Some estimates posit that there are more than 2,800 former homesites in the park. Records associated with the purchase of approximately 1,200 farms between 1920 and 1940 for the creation of the park are preserved in the park's Collections Preservation Center. Others have been documented since, but many more remain, including homesites from before the 20th century.

The park encourages the public to bring historic photos of old homesites, hand drawn maps or other documents that will help the park identify these locations. Several additional volunteers who are familiar with homesites in specific areas of the park, such as Elkmont, Greenbrier, Sugarlands and the North Shore of Fontana Lake, will also be on hand. For additional information please contact Allison Harvey, allison_harvey@nps.gov.

- National Park Service release

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OBITUARIES 卂卂卂卂

Janice Carol Dugan Smith "Squeek"

Janice Carol Dugan Smith "Squeek", age 73, of Cherokee, N.C., passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family, on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother who found immense joy in watching her children and grandchildren play ball. Squeek never missed a game, always cheering them on with pride.

A retired nurse, Squeek dedicated her life to caring for others both professionally and personally. In her free time, she enjoyed sewing, quilting, camping, fishing, growing flowers, gardening, attending retreats, and traveling. She was a member of Antioch Baptist Church. Her warm heart touched everyone who knew her.

Squeek is preceded in death by her parents, Boyce Dugan and Jesse Owle Dugan; sisters, Jane Thomasson and Jackie Queen; and brothers, Jerry Dugan and James Todd Dugan.

Squeek is survived by her husband of 53 years, Sheridan "Sonny" Smith; her two devoted daughters, Cher Smith and Myra Smith; her grandson, Trae Bradley and his wife Kelsi; two great grandchildren she adored, Eli and Levi Bradley; sisters, Joyce Sneed (Pineknott), Judy Hyatt, Jewell Fischer; brother, John Dugan (Kathy); as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and honorary daughter and son-in-law, Chickie and Tee Trejo.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, Jan. 23 at Antioch Baptist Church on Cooper's Creek. The service was officiated by Tim

Barker and Danny Lambert. Pallbearers included family members and close friends. Burial followed in the Birdtown Cemetery.

Squeek's family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all who have offered support and love during this difficult time.

Janene Moyle Cooper

Janene Moyle Cooper, age 90, passed away in her home on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025. She was the second daughter of Wendell T. and Lucille W. Moyle. She was born and raised in Alpine, Utah, a place she often described as filled with learning, fun, family, and cherished friendships. She graduated from American Fork High School and later attended Brigham Young University, where she met her husband and eternal companion, James A. Cooper.

Janene and Jim were sealed in the Salt Lake City Temple on March 22, 1954, and began their life together in Provo, Utah, eventually taking them to Oregon; Hickory, N.C.; and Cherokee, N.C. She spent the last year of her life in Simpsonville, S.C. These years were a joyful and busy time as Janene dedicated herself to her many church callings, including Primary president, teacher, and pianist, all while raising five children and actively supporting their school and athletic activities.

For 48 years, Jim and Janene worked side-by-side in the hospitality industry in Cherokee, N.C. owning and operating three hotel franchises and various other entrepreneurial ventures. In 1977, they welcomed their sixth child, Jonathan, through adoption.

Janene was an avid reader,

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

Jan. 27-Feb. 2, 2025

WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
Tuckaseige River	Delayed Harvest Stocking last occurred Dec. 2-6	All day	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout	Egg patterns, midges, cahills, yellow stimulator, light colored Caddis, small nymphs, wooly bugger
Chattooga & Whitewater Rivers	N/A	All day	Brown Trout	Egg patterns, midges, cahills, yellow stimulator, light colored Caddis, small nymphs
Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River & Small Streams	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, JAN. 27	TUESDAY, JAN. 28	WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29	THURSDAY, JAN. 30	FRIDAY, JAN. 31	SATURDAY, FEB. 1	SUNDAY, FEB. 2
BETTER	BEST++	BEST	BETTER	GOOD	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
9:36 AM-11:36 AM 10:05 PM-12:05 AM	N/A 10:34 AM-12:34 PM	N/A 11:29 AM-1:29 PM	N/A 12:21 PM-2:21 PM	12:46 AM-2:46 AM 1:11 PM-3:11 PM	1:36 AM-3:36 AM 2:00 PM-4:00 PM	2:24 AM-4:24 AM 2:48 PM-4:48 PM

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often sharing books and articles with those she felt could benefit from them. She loved gardening, organizing, and ensuring her children embraced these values as well. Later in life, she discovered a passion for Korean dramas. Janene was also an accomplished athlete, excelling in track, basketball, tennis, and square dancing in her youth. She passed her love of sports and competitive spirit to her children and was always involved in their activities, her church, and her community, fully supporting

every idea Jim dreamed up.

A devoted member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Janene's relationship with her Heavenly Father and Savior, Jesus Christ, guided her life. She often said, "When all is said and done, that relationship is all that truly matters."

Janene was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jim; and their beloved son, Jonathan. She is survived by her children, Debra MacCourtney (Tim), Susan Spees (John), Laurel Cooper

(Dusty), James David Cooper, and Janene Jr. "Pooh" Lancaster (Todd). She is also survived by her three sisters, Meridee Smith, Kathleen Rasmussen, and Susanne Smith along with numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. She leaves behind 14 adoring grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren who were blessed to know her.

Janene's legacy of faith, service, and love lives on in the hearts of her family and all who knew her. The family would like to thank her caregivers, Darlene Waldroup,

Rahel Curth, and Elisa Mann.

The family was assisted by the Thomas McAfee Funeral Home in Simpsonville, S.C. and Warenski Funeral Home in American Fork, Utah.

Services will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1 at Warenski Funeral Home, 1776 N 900 E, American Fork, UT. The visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. followed by the funeral service at 11 a.m. Burial will be in the Alpine City Cemetery, Alpine, Utah.

Tsalagi MINUTE

Sponsored by the
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Historical Society



New Echota Council House

The original Council House was built in 1822 to serve as the National Council House for the Cherokee Nation. The Council consisted of 32 delegates and a 12-member National Committee elected from across the Cherokee Nation. The original building was lost to time but building started in 1994 of this reconstruction.

Construction was finished in early 1995 and an official open house was held in July of 1996 with representatives from the United Keetoowah Band, Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians participating in the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Torch ceremony. Today the building stands as a reminder of what the Cherokee Nation achieved prior to the forced removal that led to the 'Trail of Tears'.

*Source and Photo: Amanda McCollum-Williams,
Curator/Preservationist I, New Echota-Cherokee Capital SHS*



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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

COMMENTARY

Tribal Sovereignty: When exceptions jeopardize the rule

By **ROBERT JUMPER**

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

“We’re in a great battle across this nation and it’s around identity, it’s around this federal recognition process – something that, over the past couple weeks, we’ve spent a lot of hours meeting with our Congressmen and Senators and Department of Interior. Some of the ears that we’re talking to are hearing us and some aren’t. But it’s a battle. This thought of being a tribe versus being a group or a fake tribe is something that we can’t take lightly anymore. Just the thought of our language and making sure that we’re

progressing with culture and traditions, knowing who we are, and handing that down to these younger folks so that they can continue to educate and continue to make sure the traditions stay alive is extremely important. And, I think, more important today than it’s ever been. Our work is cut out for us. We must be stronger than ever. We must be united...we must find ways to protect our identity...we have a long history, but going back, less than 200 years ago, our history was threatened. As a tribe, as a group of tribes, we must continue to make sure that we’re heard.”
– Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief)

Michell Hicks

The way we count ourselves as Cherokee on the Qualla Boundary is a path to extinction. Grading ourselves based on blood quantum trailing from the Baker Roll will either need to be modified, replaced or we will end up with blood degrees so diluted that it will be impossible to maintain a legitimate tribe. There are other ways we define ourselves as Cherokee, even Eastern Band Cherokee, and we must address this as a people, or we will jeopardize our identity. Similarly, there is another effort by unaffiliated and state-recognized tribes to dilute what it means to be federally recognized as a tribe. Ironic as it is, the federal government, the conquering migrants who took the land of the indigenous peoples of America, set out a plan for reparations for native peoples in the federal recognition program. It was a way to codify and restore rights previously stripped from indigenous peoples. It was also meant to bring a level of sovereignty back to those tribes who occupied the land before the migration of the outside world into the Americas. Yes, I said a level of sovereignty. We try to believe and perceive that we are autonomous nations as federally recognized tribes, totally sovereign. But if we were truly sovereign, then we could make law on our land as we see fit. We cannot. We may only govern ourselves to the standard of the federal government and we may not make laws that are contradictory to theirs. Does that sound like sovereignty to you?

Allow me a personal example of the importance of reality over

presumption. When I returned to the Boundary to serve 23 years ago, I was blissfully unaware of a hard cultural standard of our tribe. You see, I presumed I had a clan for the first 30-plus years of my life. I wasn’t sure about my birth father, but I knew his father’s clan and I thought that was my clan. But, as many of you know, the Cherokee people are a matrilineal society. Clan affiliation is passed through the mother of the family. And my father’s mother was not a Cherokee and neither was my mother. The chain of clan affiliation was broken when my paternal grandfather partnered with a non-Indian woman. It wasn’t until I arrived at the tribe that a colleague told me, as I was expressing my pride as being a part of that clan, that since the chain of clan affiliation had been broken by my grandfather, I was not eligible and did not have a clan, even though I was on the roll of the Eastern Band.

Now this colleague told me this so that she could feel better about herself. In fact, I could characterize her behavior as “being a bully” because the only gain she achieved from telling me my error was to get pleasure from my disappointment and to feel superior because she did have a clan. I could stomp my feet and hold my breath because somehow that might change that cultural norm. I could gather support from all of those in the tribal membership who were in the same boat and petition the tribe to make a rule that we are accepted even though we don’t meet the criteria. I could call those who didn’t agree that I have a clan,

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bullies, and mean-spirited.

But I wouldn't and I won't. First, my fellow tribal members would think that I was the one who was trying to be a bully by attempting to change or bypass that centuries-old community standard. It is so ingrained into the culture that it is not a matter of law; it is an understood right of our culture. And I would be attempting to destroy a cultural norm that has been in place for centuries. Even if I succeeded, the clan system as we all know it as a tribe would be diluted so badly that it would be unrecognizable to our ancestors.

And so it is with federal recognition. If state tribes and others who have organized themselves into "tribal" entities, want to be federally recognized, there is a process and there is a criterion to be met. It is defined in the federal code as to what the U.S. government recognizes as an indigenous tribe of the United States. To the detriment of indigenous tribes and the stability of federal recognition, the U.S. government established criteria for recognition, then convoluted the process by allowing prospective tribes to petition Congress and the federal court system to make exceptions or exemptions to the rules that they themselves established. In the Lumbee Recognition Act (1956), for example, the law points out that "since the abolishment of treaty-making, the United States has recognized Indian tribes by executive order, legislation, and administrative actions by the Executive Branch. Additionally, federal courts may clarify the status of an Indian group, though in many cases, the courts defer to the Bureau of Indian Affairs). This convolution of process opens the door to error. With the sovereign rights of nations at stake, a uni-

form policy should be adhered to. And a prospective tribe's response to being required to adhere to basic identification criteria should not be "costs too much or takes too much time to gather". If it is worth having recognition, it is worth the effort (but only if you can meet the criterion).

Also in the 1956 ruling, "In 1955, the leader of the Lumbee Indians testified before the House of Representatives that the Indians of Robeson County were an 'admixture' of seven different tribes of Indians, including Cherokee, Tuscarora, Hatteras, Pamli, and Croatan." The word "admixture" stuck out to me. Admixture, as it relates to genetics, "occurs when previously isolated populations interbreed resulting in a population descended from multiple sources." This definition resides in Wikipedia and I found it ironic that one of the source materials backing up the statement was a 2014 article by M. Rius and J.A. Darling titled "How important is intraspecific genetic admixture to the success of colonizing populations".

Further in the 1956 legislation, "The uncertainty of origins of the Lumbee led past Administrations to oppose federal recognition of the Lumbee Indians as a tribe." And "Finally, while there appears to be no conclusive evidence of a relationship between the Lumbee Indians and a single historic tribe, there is support for the conclusion that individual members of the Lumbee are Indians." While the legislation specifically calls out that there is no definitive evidence, there is an ambig-

uous, circumstantial support for a conclusion of Indian-ness. I'm not sure who drafted this legislation, but I would have hoped for a more factual basis for a decision of this magnitude.

Included in the 1956 Act were these words, "Nothing in this Act shall make such Indians eligible for any services performed by the United States for Indians because of their status as Indians, and none of the statutes of the United States which affect Indians because of their status as Indians shall be applicable to the Lumbee Indians."

Because there are loopholes in the process of recognition that allow federal recognition without meeting the criteria set forth by the United States, they (the U.S.) have pit those who are recognized and those who seek to be recognized against each other. I am very sure that the federally recognized Cherokee tribes do not hate or want to bully anyone. And I am fairly certain that those of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina do not want to be at odds with any federally recognized tribe. But the federal government made a mistake with the Act of 1956. If they had only removed the conditions that blocked the Lumbee from pursuing the normal administrative process so that the Lumbee could simply apply and prove that they could meet the standards set forth for federal recognition, I believe animosity on both sides of the debate would have been avoided.

But now it is no longer about the security of either side. It has

become a political football game being played for constituent votes and bigger cuts of money from appropriations. And the game has serious consequences for the state of North Carolina and funding for indigenous projects in other states. Because when you eliminate or ignore the rules of recognition, you open the process up to political influence. And while the federal political lean may be in favor of one side, all it will take is a bigger carrot to switch their advocacy to the other side. And unfortunately for native peoples, the cost could be sovereignty itself.

Like blood quantum, the definition of what it means to be indigenous in the eyes of the federal government is currently being convoluted. The federal government hasn't forgotten its goal of making Indians conform to the "American" way of life. And if you'll remember, when the migrants came to America and took our lands and placed us on reservations and trust lands, they set up boarding schools with the expressed desire to assimilate us into the mainstream new American culture. They tried to take our language, our stories, our history, even the way we dressed. Wouldn't it be a sad note in our history if the federal government finally achieved their goal of assimilation that tribes have resisted for half of a millennium because they convinced us that they were trying to make us all one big happy indigenous family when they know that once they dilute our individual tribal identity, they are one step closer to assimilation?

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



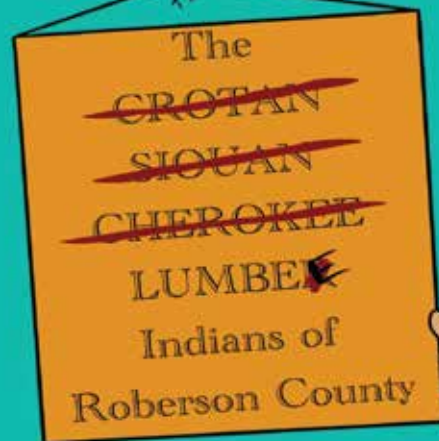
REASONS TO OPPOSE LUMBEE RECOGNITION

A Brief Report
By Jakeli Swimmer

Read and Share
w/!



They have continually
changed names for
recognition



Per 2010 Lumbee Recognition Act:

The Lumbees have been unable to trace their lineage back to any tribal group that had a treaty relationship with the United States. The name "Lumbee" comes from the Indians themselves and is a designation from the 1950's based upon the name of the Lumber River, on which the Lumbee Indians reside. Several reports were issued by the Department of the Interior between 1900 and 1935 regarding the origins of the Lumbee Indians and their status. None of these reports provide conclusive evidence of Lumbee origins. In fact, the reports indicate that the Lumbee Indians, at various times, have been considered to be Croatan Indians, Siouan Indians, Cherokee Indians, and Cheraw Indians.

AROUND THE BOUNDARY INK.

This series of political cartoons are by Jakeli Swimmer, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The series will run, one each week, over the next several issues. This is week three of four.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Lumbee should follow the OFA process

There is already an established, evidence-based process for a group to become Federally recognized as a "tribe". The Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Federal Acknowledgment's criteria to become Federally Recognized includes rigorous anthropological, genealogical, and historic research methods. This group who call themselves 'Lumbee' have not passed the process established by the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Federal

Acknowledgment because they cannot satisfy the required criteria. The Lumbee have repeatedly failed to demonstrate historic government-to-government relationships prior to 1900. The group has no tribal language, no tribal ceremonies, no tribal culture, they were not removed during the Trail of Tears, they were not enumerated on any historic "Indian" rolls, and the majority of individual genealogical results show individuals with a mixture of white and black roots. The Termination Era did not affect this group, so citing it as a reason to bypass the current process is irrelevant and offensive to the tribes that were affected.

The "Lumbee 'Fairness' Act" is neither "fair" nor is it ethical, it oppresses and disregards tribal sovereignty. Congress is not

the authority on tribal matters whatsoever. Congress has no evidence-based process to verify that Indigenous claims are authentic. The pathway to Federal recognition must ensure only legitimate tribes are granted the rights associated with it. Allowing a group of individuals to side-step the established process opens the door for non-Indian groups to become federally recognized without proper vetting, which ensures fairness, transparency, and legitimacy to qualify for rights and

privileges associated with Federal Recognition. Congress and Executive functions are well advised to leave tribal matters to the experts and not interfere with tribal sovereignty and its processes. Fairness is that the Lumbee and all groups seeking Federal Tribal recognition undergo the same established process through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Respectfully,
Nancy Taylor

Cherokee Nation citizen
who resides in Franklin, N.C.



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Cherokee and beyond.**

COMMENTARY

Staying healthy during flu season

By DR. RICHARD BUNIO

Medical Director, Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority

As we find ourselves in the heart of flu season, Cherokee Indian Hospital is seeing an increase in patients testing positive for respiratory illnesses, including the flu, COVID-19, and RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus). This surge serves as an important reminder to all of us to remain vigilant about protecting our health and the health of our community.

Respiratory illnesses can have a significant impact, particularly on our most vulnerable populations, including young children, elders, and those with pre-existing health conditions. While these illnesses may present as mild symptoms for some, they can lead to severe complications, including hospitalization and, in some cases, life-threatening conditions.

Key Tips for Staying Healthy

To help you and your loved ones navigate this flu season safely, here are some tips to reduce the spread of respiratory illnesses and protect your health:

1. Get Vaccinated

Vaccines are your best defense against severe illness. If you haven't yet received your flu shot or the latest COVID-19 vaccine, I urge you to make it a priority. Both vaccines are safe, effective, and available at Cherokee Indian Hospital. Vaccination not only protects you but also helps shield those around you.

2. Practice Good Hygiene

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in public spaces. Carry hand sanitizer for times when washing isn't possible. Avoid touching your face, particularly your eyes, nose, and mouth, where viruses can enter your body.

3. Stay Home If You're Sick

If you're feeling unwell or exhibiting symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, or fatigue, please stay home and rest. This simple action helps prevent spreading illness to others.

4. Wear a Mask When Necessary

In crowded or indoor settings, consider wearing a mask to reduce the risk of spreading or contracting respiratory illnesses. Masks are particularly effective when you're feeling unwell or in close contact with high-risk individuals.

5. Boost Your Immune System

Eating a balanced diet, staying hydrated, getting regular exercise, and prioritizing sleep all play a critical role in strengthening your immune system. These habits are important year-round but are especially vital during flu season.

6. Disinfect High-Touch Surfaces

Viruses can linger on surfaces, so make it a habit to clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in your home, workplace, and vehicles.

7. Watch for Warning Signs

If you or a loved one experiences difficulty breathing, persistent high fever, or worsening symptoms, seek medical attention promptly. These could be signs of a more serious infection that requires immediate care.

Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority remains committed to providing quality care and ensuring the health and safety of the community. However, we cannot do it alone. By taking these preventative measures, you can play an essential role in reducing the spread of these illnesses and easing the burden on healthcare resources.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bill Taylor for Painttown Tribal Council

I am taking the opportunity to continue my life's work to build our community and serve our Cherokee citizens. On Jan. 9, I resigned from my position to pursue this exciting chapter of continued service to you and this sacred community.

My goal is to continue great work to serve our Cherokee people to meet personal challenges and build and strengthen our Tribal sovereignty. The honor and pleasure has been mine to serve our Tribal nation as the Governmental Affairs Liaison in Principal Chief Michell Hicks' administration. I left on good terms with Chief Hicks' office and awesome staff. Our work, during my 15 months of

service, has been rewarding to create amazing resources and services for our Cherokee people. Now I want to return to service as Tribal Council Representative in Painttown.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians have great opportunity to many resources to help our people. However, we have many personal challenges to overcome, and we must remain in god service to help each other find jobs; access safe and affordable housing; overcome addictions; and continue to practice and preserve our Cherokee heritage, which is a precious reason for living. I have overcome my personal challenges and continue to build strength daily to 1) Remain sober; 2) be the best husband, father, and grandparent; and 3) To help my people gain the help that is deserved.

There is a lot of meaningful work our Tribe needs to accomplish in Washington, D.C., in Raleigh, N.C. and throughout Indian Country. We must continue to court our national senators and representatives to keep funding coming to our Tribe to help uphold long-term treaty agreements. We must work with our state to keep economic opportunities in our reach. During my time in Chief Hicks' office, I was able to rebuild the 4 original Tribes alliances; create amazing and productive working relationships with inter-Tribal organizations throughout Indian Country. Furthermore, I have been meeting with nearly 100 United States Senators and members of the House of Representatives.

It was a busy 15 months, and I intend for this work to continue for the remainder of my life. I am dedicated to working for you to meet our daily challenges as individuals and building our Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian Tribal government to be the best it can be to meet our future needs. I will use my life's career as a leader and public servant to do the best job for Painttown and our entire Tribe!

So, it is with great pride and Honor that I am announcing my intentions on filing for office in the upcoming 2025 election for Tribal Council. I look forward to getting by and sitting down and visiting with each and every one of you here real soon. Thank you and God bless each and every one of you.

Thanks,

Dennis Edwards (Bill) Taylor

Run away!

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

(author of "Preacher Spurs", Christian Faith Publishing, Meadville, Pa., 2022)

How many famous Christians have you been shocked to learn fell into infamous sin? I'm sure we can remember a name or two of solid Christians who fell into sexual sin, love of money, and types of idolatry or the pride of fame. It can happen to the best and most blessed of us. So keep your head on a swivel, and never underestimate how much Satan wants to see you slip and fall. Pray for Holy protection.

The Bible sometimes tells us to run from evil. Other times it tells us to fight evil through the strength of God so that we can stand against temptation. We are always supposed to stand for God and His righteousness. It can get confusing. It is evident in God's Word that when you find yourself trapped or consumed with sinful living, and the Spirit shows you should be uncomfortable with your surroundings, it's time to run and get out.

"Be not wise in thine own eyes; Fear Jehovah, and depart from evil." Proverbs 3:7

The three sins common to man that seem to be ones identified to run from are idolatry, love of money, and sexual sin. When you think about it, those are natural within men and women. Another one that you can't run from is pride; I think that's because you'd have to run from yourself.

What takes your time? What amuses you more than spending more time with God? Is the game on TV more important than going to Church on Sunday night? Is reading those tweets and checking your likes more important on the Twitter App than following God in His word? How about all those other distractions that draw you away from God? Check yourself to see if they haven't become your idols or self-aggrandizement to your ego and pride.

"Wherefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry." 1 Corinthians 10:14

Jesus and the Apostles relate parables throughout the New Testament about money, riches, and the love of anything above God.

Paul had his issues with money and described them to Timothy as a warning of the power money can have in the influence of our lives. It is a form of idolatry with the shine of silver and gold.

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil: which some reaching after have been led astray from the faith, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." 1 Timothy 6:10-11

Again, the Bible depicts many stories about sexual sin. That specific sin draws in many other sins, making it even more dangerous. Residing alongside sexual immorality is pride, idolatry, lying, murder, and different slippery slopes of all kinds of evil beyond the act of fornication. The love of sex pulls in all the sins in Leviticus of what are despicable uses of the body. It destroys our body as the temple created for the Spirit within us. The following stories and verses tell us specifically to run, as Joseph did when Potiphar's wife wanted him to stay and play. Read all about it in Genesis 39.

"And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out." Genesis 39:12

Paul tells Timothy to flee those youthful urges. Do you think Paul knew that hormones rage in youth, as most middle and high school teachers know? Our Youth Ministers must address the enormous potential human condition to guide our youths away from temptation.

"But flee youthful lusts, and follow after righteousness, faith, love, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." 2 Timothy 2:22

Paul takes the sinful acts of sex outside of marriage a step beyond the act itself. He tells us it is a sin against our own bodies. Engaging in sexual immorality with another joins our physical temple containing the Holy Spirit with sin. Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, the body is the Lord's, and we are members of Christ.

"Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body." 1 Corinthians 6:18

Draw closer to God and flee from sinful habits or things that distract you from what God wants to show and bless you. Run away. Put away. Uninstall. In Matthew 8:9, the concept of plucking out your eye before you end up in hell emotes the seriousness of this issue. Satan is out there to drag you into whatever keeps you from serving, worshipping, praying, or drawing nearer to God. Run away.

"Enter not into the path of the wicked, and walk not in the way of evil men." Proverbs 4:14.

Lord God, and Father, we ask for Your mercy upon us in our weaknesses to sin against You. Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Help us to find our feet and direct them straight and away from all sin that offends You. Show us where we need to repent and forgive us when we fail You. Amen.



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits.

❧ JAMES 1: 9-11 ❧

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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.

BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

Sweetheart Market. Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrel Sports & Recreation Complex in Cherokee, N.C. Shopping, food, and fun. Lunch by Melishia. Girl Scout cookies. Info: Denise Walkingstick (828) 508-2211

Sweetheart Bingo Fundraiser. Feb. 8 at the Yellowhill Activity Center in Cherokee, N.C. Concession opens at 5 p.m., games start at 6 p.m. 15 games for \$20 per pack, 5 kids games for \$10 per pack. All proceeds will go to travel costs for Savian Davis and Jack Teesateskie to play in the Vegas Madness Tournament of Champions in Las Vegas, Nev. in March.

Valentine's Dinner Fundraiser. Feb. 14 at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center in Cherokee, N.C. \$25 per person, up to 75 people per seating, take-out available. Dinner comes with salad, baked potato, steak, and dessert. Silent auctions will be available throughout the evening. This is a fundraiser for the EBCI Phantoms softball team. Info: Brandy Sequoyah (828) 736-5947 or Elizabeth Arch 736-0918

Senior 2025 Fundraisers at the West Senior Center (for-

merly Tsali Manor). Info:
- March 15. Bingo
- April 14. Basket Raffle
- May 25-31. Silent Auction

EBCI COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cherokee History & Stories. January through June 2025 on the first Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. in the TJ Holland Education Room at the Museum of the Cherokee People in Cherokee, N.C. Museum of the Cherokee People welcomes storyteller and historian Kathi Littlejohn, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, for Cherokee History & Stories. This free educational series will explore culturally significant places, stories, and key figures in Cherokee history. All are welcome to listen and learn; no registration is required.

"Wolf Wears Shoes: Standing in the Middle with Cherokee Storytelling" book signing and presentation by author. Feb. 4 at the Museum of the Cherokee People (book signing from 3 p.m. 5 p.m. at the Museum Store, lecture at 5:30 p.m. in the TJ Holland Education Room). Western Carolina University's annual James A. Cooper Memorial Lecture in Cherokee Studies welcomes Christopher B. Teuton, a Cherokee Nation citizen

and author of "Wolf Wears Shoes: Standing in the Middle of Cherokee Storytelling".

Sweetheart Market. Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrel Sports & Recreation Complex in Cherokee, N.C. Shopping, food, and fun. Lunch by Melishia. Girl Scout cookies. Info: Denise Walkingstick (828) 508-2211

"The Truth According to Ember" book discussion and Q&A with author. Feb. 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the Museum of the Cherokee People store. Books on the Boundary: A Museum of the Cherokee People Reading Circle will discuss its winter read, "The Truth According to Ember": A Chickasaw woman who can't catch a break serves up a little white lie that snowballs

into much more in this USA Today bestselling rom-com by critically-acclaimed author Danica Nava, a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.


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.


NAIA Daughters meetings.

CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK
Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida
SŌHi ႠD RVLTႠJ DႠႠYL



Ash, an 11-month-old Dachshund, lives in Tsisqwohi (Birdtown). Human is Jaylee Arch.

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Each meeting is from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Qualla Java in Cherokee, N.C. Meetings are scheduled for Feb. 16, March 20, April 16, and May 18.

HEALTH & SPORTS EVENTS

3-v-3 Co-Ed Basketball Valentine's Day Tournament. Feb. 12 at the Pam Taylor Gym in Cherokee, N.C. Must be 18-years-old or older to play. Sign-ups start at 4:30 p.m., games start at 5 p.m. Entry fee is \$20 per team. 5-man roster. There needs to be one female on the court at all times.

St. Patrick's Co-Ed Volleyball

Tournament. March 16 at the Pam Taylor Gym in Cherokee, N.C. Must be 18-years-old or older. 8-person roster, must be two males on the court at all times. Looking for the first six teams. Sign-ups start at 12 p.m., games start at 12:45 p.m.

3-v-3 Co-Ed Easter Basketball Tournament. April 6 at the Pam Taylor Gym in Cherokee, N.C. Sign-ups start at 12 p.m., games start at 12:30 p.m. 5-person roster. Entry fee per team is \$20. Ages 14-16.

see EVENTS next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) All that flattery and fawning shouldn't affect any decision you have to make. Keep your focus on the facts and ignore all the hyperbole, especially if it gets uncomfortably personal.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your Bovine instincts are on the mark about a "favor" that you're being asked to do. Agree to nothing unless you get a full explanation, which you would check out first, of course.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A somewhat-unsettled recent period should give way to a smoother time going through the week. Use this quieter time to catch up on matters that you might have had to let slide.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Feeling a little confused is understandable with all those mixed messages. Take time to list the questions you have. Then present them and insist on answers that make sense.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Cupid can be very helpful for Lions seeking a love connection. The chubby cherub also brings warm and fuzzy feelings to paired Leos and Leonas who already share a special love line.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Travel is favored this week, whether you'll be globe-trotting or taking a trip to a nearby getaway. You might be surprised (or maybe not) by the person who wants to be your traveling companion.

LIBRA (September 23 to October

22) Getting advice on your next business-related move is a good idea but only if your advisers are trustworthy. Get references you can check out before you make any decisions.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Getting a boost in your self-esteem is one benefit that comes with a job well-done. There are other plusses as well, including being noticed by all the right people. Good luck!

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Make time to deal with family matters, especially where they concern your elderly kinfolk. Being there for them from the start can help resolve problems sooner rather than later.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Getting a project started can often be difficult, but the good news is that you won't want for lack of assistance from colleagues who would like to work with you. So, let them!

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A lot of work-related issues might be raised this week, and you need to be prepared for whatever comes along. Things should be easier when it comes to matters in your private life.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) What might appear to be a very much unwanted change in your life right now could turn out to be a very welcome event after all. Give yourself a chance to see where it might take you.

BORN THIS WEEK: You exercise your strong leadership qualities well, which is why people believe in you and feel reassured by you.

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VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

New presumptives added to the list

In January the Department of Veterans Affairs added several illnesses to its list of presumptives, courtesy of the PACT Act. Done in two batches, the new additions to the list make it easier for veterans to get the care they need without the dragged-out process of proving that where they were stationed was the cause of their current condition. The illnesses are now considered service-connected, which gives veterans free health care for those conditions.

The first batch of conditions (in effect on Jan. 2) included urinary bladder, ureter and related genitourinary cancers. The second batch (Jan. 10) included acute and chronic leukemias, multiple myelomas, and myelodysplastic syndromes and myelofibrosis.

Locations matter, and these presumptives are covered for veterans who served in Somalia, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea or the Red Sea on or after Aug. 2, 1990.

After 9/11, the covered locations are for those who served in Afghanistan, Iraq, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen or Uzbekistan.

K2 veterans, you haven't been forgotten. In fact, those serving at Karshi-Khanabad have been recipients of a major push by the VA to get you the health benefits you should have. Too many K2 veterans have undiagnosed illnesses and multi-symptom illnesses, likely from what was in the toxic environment while you were there: jet fuel, asbestos roof tiles, volatile organic compounds, depleted uranium, open burn pits, and more. A recent VA news release says that of the 16,000 K2 veterans, 13,000 are enrolled in VA care. Of those, 11,800 have at least one service connected condition, with the average having 14.6 service-connected conditions.

If you're K2 — and even if you aren't — and haven't signed up for health care, call the VA at 1-800-MYVA411 (800-698-2411). Get the benefits you're supposed to have.

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It's up to you to keep pets safe from cold weather injury

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I hope you will warn your readers to take care of their dogs' paws during the winter. Recently, after a big snowstorm, I took my toy poodle, "Blake," out for his morning walk. Five feet from the door, he let out a yelp and started limping with his right front paw lifted. A big piece of rock salt had embedded itself in one of the pads! I took him back inside to clean the wound. Fortunately, it wasn't too bad, but I had to carry him outside for the rest of the week to do his business until it healed. — **Tired Momma in Buffalo, New York**

DEAR TIRED: Many owners are aware that ice and snow can cause frostbite injury to their dogs, but some don't realize that rock salt and other deicers are also dangerous. In addition to potentially cutting their paws, deicing mixtures that have low or no salt use chemicals that can poison pets.

Before venturing out in cold weather — even when it's above freezing — dogs of all sizes should have on booties and a warm vest (one that is water-resistant if it's snowing or raining). I know some owners will scoff and say that dogs survived thousands of years without booties. But they didn't have to contend with salt-strewn sidewalks!

A frostbitten paw is very painful, as well, and could mean your dog is sidelined indoors for several days as the injury heals. Getting too cold while outside — especially for small dogs — can cause hypothermia or reduce their resistance to illness. So remember, if it feels cold to you, it feels cold to them. Take heed and protect your dog from cold weather.

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

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EVENTS: *from page 33*

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

POW WOW LISTINGS

14th Annual Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirit Pow Wow. Feb. 1 at the Fort Mason Festival Pavillion in San Francisco, Calif. Info: <https://www.baaits.org/> or email to: admin@baaits.org

Seminole Tribal Fair and Pow Wow. Jan. 31 – Feb. 1 at the Seminole Hard Rock Event Center in Hollywood, Fla. Emcees: Juakin Hamilton and Ruben Little Head. Info: 1-800-683-7800 ext. 11468; Wanda Bowers (954) 444-9827, or Eugenia Osceola (954) 594-2992

Catawba Pow Wow. Feb. 7-9 at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds in Shelby, N.C. Emcees: JD Moore and Maya Littleturtle. Host Drums: War Paint, Southern Eagle. Info: No contact information provided

SUPPORT GROUPS

Celebrate Recovery meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Cherokee Baptist Church at 812 Tsalagi 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 McMillan (828) 788-5410

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Analenisgi. Info: www.AAwnc80.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) 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 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 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](http://analenisgi.com)

WNC and BEYOND EVENTS

Rick Childers to share debut novel. Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. at City Lights Bookstore at 3 E. Jackson St. in Sylva, N.C. He will share "Turkeyfoot".

Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society meeting. Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the Swain County Regional Business Education and Training Center at 45 East Ridge Dr. in Bryson City, N.C. Michael George will present "Cooper Mining in Western NC and Southeast TN". Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation. This is free and open to the public.

22nd Annual Maple Syrup Festival. Feb. 8 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site at 2620 South Roan St. in Johnson City, Tenn. See how sap is extracted from the maple trees located throughout the grounds of the site and then watch as the sap is boiled down over a wood fired furnace until it becomes the rich, flavorful maple syrup. Admission is \$6/adults and \$3/children under 12, and children 3-and-under are free. Admission with breakfast is \$10/adults and \$5/children. Tipton-Haynes members are free. Info: (423) 926-3631 or email tiptonhaynes@outlook.com.

Introduction to Digital Art. Feb. 8 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Stecoah Valley Center at 121 Schoolhouse Rd. in Robbinsville, N.C. Kevin Tafoya, Qualla Arts & Crafts artist, will teach the class. Tuition is \$20. Sign up by Feb. 6 at www.stecoahvalleycenter.com/classes. Info: (828) 479-3364, jennifer@stecoahvalleycenter.com

Georgia History Festival's Super Museum Sunday. Feb. 9 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Chief Vann House Georgia State Historic Site at 82 Hwy 225N in Chatsworth, Ga. Admission is waived and everyone can tour the historic Cherokee plantation home, Vann Kitchen/Workhouse Cabin, 1800s Cherokee Farmstead cabins, and the Visitor Center with a 15-minute film. Info: (706) 695-2598, vann_house_park@dnr.ga.gov

Ballet Hispanico. Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bardo Arts Center Performance Hall on the campus of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C. Info and tickets: arts.wcu.edu/ballet-hispanico, arts.wcu.edu/tickets

Solstice: A Winter Circus Experience. Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bardo Arts Center Performance Hall on the campus of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C. Info and tickets: arts.wcu.edu/solstice, arts.wcu.edu/tickets

Archaeology Day. April 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chief Vann House Georgia State Historic Site at 82 Hwy 225N in Chatsworth, Ga. See tools of an archaeologist, artifacts from the Vann's era, participate in a "digging" activity, and enjoy other archaeology-themed activities. No archaeological digging on this day. Info: (706) 695-2598, vann_house_park@dnr.ga.gov

Vann House Day. July 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chief Vann House Georgia State Historic Site at 82 Hwy 225N in Chatsworth, Ga. Demonstrations and activities like that of an 1800s farming family. Local craftspeople will demonstrate

19th century skills such as blacksmithing, quilting, weaving, blowguns, and more. The Vann Mansion, Cherokee Farmstead, Vann Kitchen, and Museum will be open for self-guided tours. Enjoy live fiddle music. Info: (706) 695-2598, vann_house_park@dnr.ga.gov

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

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

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

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

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

ersmoker@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

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

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

CHEROKEE HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Abundant Life Apostolic Church. 171 Johnson Br. Road, Bryson City. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Worship. 7 p.m. Pastor Kevin Linkinhoker 488-8937

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

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

see **EVENTS** next page

EVENTS: from page 35

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

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 Wolfstown Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship 11a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 6pm, Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6pm. Pastor Bro. Dan Conseen, 497-1611, mbccherookee@outlook.com, Website: www.macedoniabaptistcherookee.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 Mission. 82 Lambert Branch Road. Mass on Saturday (English at 4:30 p.m. and Spanish at 6 p.m.). During the winter months, between the beginning of Advent until Easter Sunday, the Mass is celebrated in the Kateri Center adjacent to the main Church. Pastor Fr. Victor Ameh MSP

The Peaks Church. Meets at Smokey Mountain Elementary School gym. Sunday services 10

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Joseph (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who led the Israelites over the River Jordan after they set out from Shittim? *Moses, Joshua, Aaron, Elijah*
3. Which Psalm begins, "O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee"? *60, 63, 74, 117*
4. From Proverbs 22, what is foolishness bound in the heart of? *Wicked, Poor, Child, Foolish*
5. What was the name of Samson's father? *Noah, Manoah, Jesse, Levi*
6. Who wrote the book of Proverbs? *Jude, Moses, Solomon, Isaac*

ANSWERS: (1) Neither, (2) Joshua, (3) 63, (4) Child, (5) Manoah, (6) Solomon

More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey's latest book "Quest for Bible Knowledge" available in bookstores and online.

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Moments in time

• On Feb. 10, 1957, Laura Ingalls Wilder — author of the best-selling "Little House" series of books based on her childhood on the American frontier, which later inspired a popular TV series starring Melissa Gilbert as the young Laura and Michael Landon as her father, Charles — died at age 90 in Mansfield, Missouri.

• On Feb. 11, 1878, the first organization for recreational cyclists, called the Boston Bicycle Club, was formed. The club organized rides ranging from tri-cycle races to 100-mile trips, and less than 20 years after its founding, more than 100 similar clubs had formed in Massachusetts as middle-class participation in cycling increased in popularity.

• On Feb. 12, 1947, French fashion designer Christian Dior launched his first collection, which he dubbed the "New Look." While some appreciated its exaggerated femininity as a departure from the more drab and boxy stylings of wartime austerity, others still living with rationing decried it as wasteful, and fellow French designer Coco Chanel declared that "Dior doesn't dress women. He upholsters them!"

• On Feb. 13, 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt, who had just won re-election, gave a speech to the New York City Republican Club about the state of American race relations and his plan for improving them. However, it was not until President Lyndon Johnson passed the Civil Rights Act in 1964 that government efforts to correct racial bias were actually set into law.

• On Feb. 14, ca. 270 A.D., Valentine, a priest in Rome, was beheaded for the crime of continuing to marry young lovers in defiance of Emperor Claudius, who had banned all engagements and weddings in the city due to his belief that Roman men were unwilling to enlist in the military because of their strong attachment to their wives and families.

• On Feb. 15, 1968, Henry Lewis was chosen over more than 150 other candidates as the first Black conductor of a major U.S. orchestra, the New Jersey Symphony.

• On Feb. 16, 2016, former French President Nicolas Sarkozy was placed under investigation over his campaign funds, related to spending in his unsuccessful 2012 bid for re-election when his campaign costs were more than twice the legal limit.

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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

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

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



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FOOD TRUCK BOOT CAMP

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EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GROWING AND STARTING A FOOD TRUCK BUSINESS

Space is Limited, please register at bit.ly/2025-ft-bootcamp

Cherokee Tribal Food Distribution
2260 Old Mission Rd

March 10 - 13, 2025




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



CLASSIFIEDS

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

FREE puppies to a good home - 2 Akc Reg Male & female Yorkie puppies free to a good home if interested contact :danamor-gan189@gmail.com **1/29**

For Sale: Two metal filing cabinets, 5 drawers, Steelcase brand that do not have locks on them (tan and medium green), has file folders with them. Good condition. \$75 each. Larry Stout (828) 400-1550.

1/29

For Sale: Sourwood Honey from 2024 crop, no comb in them, clear yellowish orange color. \$15/quart. Larry Stout (828) 400-1550. **1/29**

For Sale: Two Zenith color TV's 19" older model, works well, will need to use cable or DISH network to plug into. \$75 each. Larry Stout (828) 400-1550. **1/29**

For Sale: Consumer Cellular Iris Easy Flip Phone, brand new, never used, original paperwork comes with it, Black in color. \$50. Larry Stout (828) 400-1550. **1/29**

For Sale: Small Wormy Chestnut Table, small table that has

a wormy chestnut tabletop with pine wood legs and drawer. \$75. Antique item. Larry Stout (828) 400-1550. **1/29**

For Sale: Baseball/Softball Umpire Shirts, Ball Bag and Navy Hat, navy blue short sleeve shirts, two are size large and one is XXL, ball bag is a basic one with pockets for indicator and plate brush. Call for pricing. Larry Stout (828) 400-1550. **1/29**

For Sale: Beautiful wood cherry cabinet by Ethan Allen, glass shelves, lights, hardly used 50" wide 65" tall value \$1,900 selling for \$699. Call to see 828-226-0994 or (828) 497-9427 – Cherokee. **2/26**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee, North Carolina Estate File No. 24-100 **Notice to Creditors and Debtors of: MELISSA BELLE GARCIA**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below. Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
Marcela Garcia
P.O Box 1834
Cherokee NC 28719 **2/12**

LEGAL NOTICES



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@mandaraspaspa.com or 497-8550.



SUPER TEACHERS WANTED!

BENEFITS:

- Competitive salaries with annual raises*
- Health, vision, dental, life, and disability insurance**
- 401K with 5% employer match
- Pension plan (vested in 5 years)
- Sick pay and PTO accrued every two weeks
- 13 paid holidays + 12 admin leave days annually
- Paid childcare classes (COA or Associates)
- Merit awards for continued education
- Federal student loan forgiveness
- Learn Cherokee traditions & language

Visit ebci.com/jobs/ or Scan QR code to Apply



*Based on evaluations
**Employee coverage free, family coverage affordable

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
TINA SAUNDERS: (828) 359-5593 • AMY BOYER: (828) 359-3009

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-001

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

RUSSELL TOONI, JR

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

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

Jessica Tooni
P.O Box 2391
Cherokee NC 28719

2/12

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 24-095

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

KAREN LYNN 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 fudiciary(s) listed below.

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

Jordan E. Tranter
94 C Bradley Dr
Cherokee NC 28719

2/19

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

Request for Proposals

General Notice

Qualla Housing Services (QHS) of the Cherokee Indian Housing Division is requesting proposals from all interested qualified contractors for materials and labor to perform the following:

- Licensed plumbing company to install all plumbing components in new construction homes.
- Licensed HVAC company to install all components in new construction homes.
- Licensed electrical company to install all electrical components in new construction homes.
- Licensed General Contractor for a two-bedroom addition (mandatory site visit).
- Licensed General Contractor for a two-story home remodel (mandatory site visit).
- Exterior painting of five single

story rentals.

• Install metal roofing on five single story rentals.

QHS reserves the right to reject all submissions. QHS reserves the right to not award any contract to the lowest bidder. The work to be performed under this RFP is subject to TERO guidelines. TERO certified vendors will be given preference. Bid packages can be picked up at the warehouse or e-mailed to interested parties. Deliver sealed proposals to the QHS warehouse located at 2234 Old Mission Road, Cherokee, NC, 28719. Deadline for sealed proposals is February 14th, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. Please contact Robert Welch at robewelc@eb-ci-nsn.gov or by phone at 828-359-6344. 2/5



Kituwah Hospitality LLC (*Cherokee Inn*) has the following jobs available:

Part-Time Positions -

- Night Auditor - Friday and Saturday 11pm -7am
- Front Desk Clerk - 1st shift- Saturday and Sunday 7am-3pm

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



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)

CHEROKEE CHILDREN'S HOME

- (2) PT Resident Counselor Flexible (All 3 Shifts; M-F)(\$17.00/hour without Benefits)
7:30 AM - 3:30 PM / 2:30 PM - 10:30 PM / 11:30 PM - 7:30 AM

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

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

Service Department

- (1) Detail Technician (\$31,800-\$39,750/year with Benefits)

SAFETY SENSITIVE

Cherokee Cinemas & More

Cherokee Cinemas & More has the following job opportunities:

Floor Staff - \$10.00hr – Part Time

Job Description and Applications can be picked up at the offices of the Kituwah, LLC, 37 Tsalagi Road, Old Chestnut Tree Motel, or at the Theater, if you have any questions, please call Kristin Smith at 828-477-4553. **Open until filled.**



CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY



CHOOSE CIHA

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Masters Level Therapist - \$58,332 - \$72,915 **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**

(Analenisgi Outpatient, Analenisgi Inpatient, Family Safety, Family Intensive Treatment, Dora Reed)

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

Employment Specialist - Kanvwotiyi - \$44,107 - \$55,134

Residential Technician – Female - PTRWOB - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Residential Technician – Men - \$17.12 - \$19.26

EXECUTIVE/ ADMINISTRATION

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

FINANCE

Billing Analyst II - \$19.66 - \$22.25

IT

Information Security Technician - \$24.55 - \$27.99

Helpdesk Support Specialist - \$22.76 - \$25.89

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

THIRD PARTY RESOURCE

Medicaid Coordinator - \$22.76 - \$25.89

TRIBAL OPTIONS

Tribal Options Business Analyst - NOT REMOTE - \$67,082 - \$83,852

Healthy Opportunity Pilot Program (HOPP) Director - \$77,144 - \$96,430

NURSING

Specialty Services Nurse Supervisor – Procedure Suite - \$36.56 - \$42.11
Specialty Services Nurse RN – Procedure Suite - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**

RN Care Manager - \$35.64 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus (Primary Care, Diabetes)

LPN/CMA – Primary Care - \$21.13 - \$23.98 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus

C.M.S - \$18.32 - \$20.67 (Diabetes, Pediatrics, Primary Care, JVN)

C.N.A. - Immediate Care Center – Part Time Intermittent - \$17.12 - \$19.26

C.N.A./Medical Clerk – PTI - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Care Manager Extender – Primary Care \$18.33 – \$20.67

ED RN – PTR - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus

RN – ER - \$33.68 - \$38.72 – PTRWB - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus

RN – Inpatient - \$33.68 – \$38.72 – PTI

RN – Inpatient – Night Shift - \$33.68 - \$38.72

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

Care Manager Supervisor – \$33.68 – \$38.72

(Tailored Care, Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, Traumatic Brain Injury, Long Term Support Services)

RN – Immediate Care Center - Satellite - \$31.06 - \$35.64 - **\$5,000 - Hiring Bonus**

RN Supervisor – ED - \$35.56 - \$42.11

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)

Telemetry Nursing Assistant - \$19.66 - \$22.25

OPERATIONS

Advanced Clinical Pharmacist - \$117,326 - \$146,658

Dental Assistant II - \$18.32 - \$20.67

Dental Hygienist - \$67,082 - \$83,852

Dentist - CIHA and Satellite

Dentist-Pediatrics

Clinical Pharmacist – PTI - \$102,023 - \$153,034

Eye Clinic Assistant - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Pharmacy Technician II - \$18.32 – \$20.67

Pharmacy Technician III - \$21.13 – \$23.98

Certified Occupation Therapist Assistant I - \$22.76 - \$25.89

RADIOLOGY

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

TSALI CARE CENTER

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

Cook - \$17.12 - \$19.26

Cook Aide - \$15.00 - \$16.77

Licensed Practical Nurse - \$26.00 - **\$5,000 Hiring Bonus**

Receptionist - \$16.01 - \$17.95

Registered Nurse - \$35.00 - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus

RN Supervisor TCC– \$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



Cherokee Central Schools Job Openings

Apply online at
<https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/onlineapp/> or
www.ccs-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

- SAMHSA Grant - Mental Health Behavioral Support Specialist - Elementary
- SAMHSA GRANT - Mental Health Classroom Teacher Assistant - 48 Semester Hours or an Associates Degree
- CMS Gear Up Coordinator
- Varsity Baseball Assistant Coach
- Varsity Softball Assistant Coach
- Track and Field Assistant Coach
- Varsity Womens Basketball Head Coach
- K-5 Elementary Teacher Assistant
- K-5 Special Education Teacher Assistant - 2 positions
- 6-8 Science Teacher
- 9-12 Special Education Lifeskills Teacher Assistant
- K-12 Special Education Parent Liasion
- K-12 School Psychologist
- Substitute Food Service Worker
- Food Service Worker (6 Hour Full-Time)
- Contract Nurse (RN)



ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

OPEN DECEMBER 15 - APRIL 30



QUALIFICATIONS

- STEM Field of Study
- Full-time status
- AISES member
- American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, or an Indigenous person of Canada

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Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo ID. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians. Harrah's Cherokee Casino values diversity, inclusion, and are equal opportunity employers. Must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble, and must present a valid state or federal photo ID upon request. Know When To Stop Before You Start - Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. ©2025, Caesars License Company, LLC.

Businesses and Services

Last paper of the month listing,
email dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov for information on how to be added.



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Adam D. Griffith
Project Director
www.rtcarr.org




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adgriff5@ncsu.edu
828.359.6935

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Cherokee, NC 28719

Sequoyah Birthplace Museum
P.O. Box 69, 576 Hwy. 360
Vonore, TN 37885



Phone: (423) 884-6246
Fax: (423) 884-2102
E-Mail: seqmus@tds.net
www.sequoyahmuseum.org

Charlie Rhodarmer
Manager / Director

CHARLES ZIMMERMAN
ecoEXPLORE Coordinator

czimmerman@ncarboretum.org

100 Frederick Law Olmstead Way
Asheville, NC 28806

828-412-8560 X.628




Great Smoky Mountains
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Trevor Lanier
Curator

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tlanier@gsmheritagecenter.org

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Eastern band N.C.
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USQUETSIWO@yahoo.com

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WiseEarthWay@gmail.com
[@wiseearthway](https://www.instagram.com/wiseearthway)



Cycle North Carolina

Chris Wicker
Field Staff

614 West 2nd Street
Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

Telephone 252-365-2011
cpwicker@gmail.com
<http://cnc.ncsports.org/index.cfm>



Reginald Moody Jr
President / General Manager



o: 828.497.1408
m: 828.226.6248

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Cherokee, NC 28719
regmoody@lighthousefh.com

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Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
HUMAN RESOURCES

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

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

Closing Sunday, February 02, 2025

1. Durable Medical Equipment Eligibility Coordinator – Family Support Services – Public Health & Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
2. Manager – Construction – Qualla Housing (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,357)

Open Until Filled

1. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Child Advocate Coordinator – Child Advocacy – Public Health and Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
3. Case Manager/Forensic Interviewer – Child Advocacy – Public Health and Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
4. Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
5. Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
6. Bailiff – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
7. Sergeant - Corrections - EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
8. Sergeant (Patrol) - CIPD - EBCI Law Enforcement (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
9. Tribal Prosecutor II - Criminal Law - Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$76,877 - \$102,502)
10. Sr. Tribal Prosecutor - Criminal Law - Office of the Attorney General (L18 \$88,379 - \$117,853)
11. FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Public Safety (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
12. Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L12 L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
13. Dispatcher/Substitute Driver – Transit – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
14. Driver – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
15. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
16. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Head Start – Public Health and Human Services (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
17. Legislative Legal Counsel – Tribal Council – Legislative Branch (L19 \$104,229 - \$138,986)
18. Family Safety Attorney – Civil Law – Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$76,877 - \$102,502)
19. Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (Starting rate of \$20.00/hour)
20. Certified Biological Waste Water Treatment Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
21. Supervisor – Biological/Waste Water Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
22. Maintenance Technician – HELP – Education (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
23. Registered Nurse – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour)
24. Education Specialist – Higher Education – Education (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
25. Transportation Facilities Coordinator – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start & Head Start – Public Health & Human Services (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
26. Part-time Early Childhood Language Specialist – Kituwah Academy – Education (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
27. Supervisor - Adult Language - KPEP - CERS (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)
28. Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator - Emergency Management (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
29. Quality Inspector - Qualla Housing - Housing (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
30. Carpenter – Qualla Housing – Housing (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
31. Carpenter Assistant - Facility Management - Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION



BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WaterCorps Program

APPLY TODAY TO OUR WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM!

Interested in gaining water resources experience? The WaterCorps program - administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Stewards Individual Placements - is a 26-week long AmeriCorps service term that includes professional training and hands-on learning in the field of water resources. WaterCorps members are exposed to a broad array of subjects ranging from basic surface and ground water hydrology, hydropower, flood-control, data collection & analysis, population studies, and more!

Who can apply?

Applicants must be ages 18-34 and a member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe, Band, and/or Village (will need to complete a Form 4432), with a HS diploma or GED.

What are the benefits?

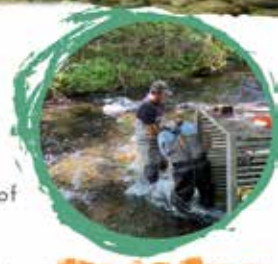
- \$600 living allowance per week
- \$3,447 AmeriCorps Education Award
- Professional Development Funds for site specific training
- Student loan forbearance during AmeriCorps service
- Educational and professional experience

Where is the program?

Open positions are located across the United States with host sites ranging from the Fish & Wildlife Service to Wildlife Refuges to the Forest Service & more!

When is the program?

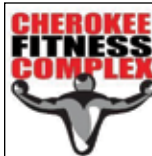
Positions will start between May-June 2024 and last 26 weeks



Stewards Recruiting Staff

CONTACT: watercorps@conservationlegacy.org

SEE OPEN POSITIONS HERE



NEW Hydromassage Chairs Room



New at the Cherokee Fitness Complex for members starting January 23, 2025. Drop by for a free demo session during normal business hours. **Price: \$20.00 per month** Please stop by the front desk to inquire or sign up for this new service or you may call (828)- 359-6494/6495 to speak to a member services representative.

What is Hydromassage®?

Hydromassage® is an unattended massage system that gives users the opportunity to get a massage every day. Hydromassage® delivers a powerful wave of water that spans the full length of the user's body providing a deeply relaxing and rejuvenating massage. Hydromassage® has been trusted for over 25 years by doctors, physical therapists, trainers and athletes to help relieve pain temporarily and assist in muscle recovery.

Why users love Hydromassage®

Convenient: It takes 10 minutes or less to get a powerful massage; anytime!
Comfortable: Clients don't get undressed. They can enjoy the massage fully clothed and comfortable.
Entertaining: With the Hydromassage® Touchscreen, clients can watch videos and listen to music during their massage. Those users who have a hard time sitting still will be completely satisfied with the entertainment features.
Affordable: Your clients can get regular massage at a substantially reduced cost, as compared to hands-on massage therapy.

Each session is 10 minutes and will loosen up muscles, increase oxygen and blood flow into muscles, remove lactic acid buildup, and deliver nutrients from your body to your muscles.



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.



CHEROKEE TRIBAL FOODS DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM



2266 Old Mission Rd. P.O. Box 1123 Cherokee, NC 28719
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PROGRAM UPDATES JANUARY 2025



INCREASED SHELTER/UTILITY DEDUCTION

The standard deduction has been raised to \$712 for clients and families with proof of at least one bill. Those bills include power, water, gas (propane), rent, or mortgage.

NEW SHELTER/UTILITY DEDUCTION OPTION

Clients and families may now choose the deduction that best benefits their household. These options include applying the standard deduction (\$712) or applying actual expenses up to 50% of your net income. Bills that can be used toward your actual expenses include power, water & sewer, telephone, internet, gas (propane), rent, mortgage, and property taxes.



NEW SERVICE AREAS

Cherokee Tribal Food Distribution is now approved to serve clients and families living in Buncombe or Macon counties. Apply for benefits today!

EBCI Per Capita, EBCI Per Capita Loans, and EBCI Genwell distributions are not counted as income. Start an application or review benefits for you and your family today!

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Exclusion List

The Tribe hereby declares that the power to exclude is an inherent and essential part of Tribal sovereignty. It is indispensable to the Tribe's autonomy and self-governance. Further, it is a natural right of the members of this Tribe, through their Tribal leaders and codified Tribal law, to exercise the power of exclusion to protect the Tribe's natural, economic, and cultural resources, and to protect the health, safety and welfare of Tribal members (Cherokee Code C 2.1.e). Anyone banished by the EBCI is excluded from all Tribal lands and must vacate all tribal lands. If an excluded person is found improperly on Tribal lands will be treated as a trespasser and appropriate legal action shall be taken against them.

Javaunte Keauna Ware-2025 (new)
Jerry Odell Perry Jr.-2025 (new)
Andrew James Henry-2025 (new)
Alan Nathaniel Rhinehart-2024 (new)
William Howard Smallwood-2024
Donald Jesse Cogdill-2024 (new)
Anayeli Vargus-Duran-2024 (new)
Maximilian William Peterson-2024 (new)
 Timothy "Tim" Richardshon-2024
 Mary "Penny" Richardson
 Charles M. Nash, Jr-2024
 Corey E. Diggs-2024
 Kelby Weldon Tomas-2024
 Charley Nicole Willard-2024
 Robert Earl Hutchinson-2024
 Michael James Johnson-2024
 Erick Cale McKinney-2024
 Devin Leigh Welch-2024
 Taylor Marie Clark-2024
 William Mozingo III-2024
 Lani Rodger Clark-2024
 Gustavo Ballesteros-2024
 Mark Arthur Owen-2024
 Denerio Rodrecus Robinson-2023
 Stephen Dale Eplin-2023
 Tammy Ann Hutchins-2023
 Keonta Monteecca Ardrey 2023
 Devin Rashawn Stewart-2023
 Stacey Cameron Lowe-2023
 Alyzandrya Kaylinn Bell-2023
 Anthony John Rienzo-2023
 Adam Joe Rayfield-2023
 Sharik Lamar Carruthers-2023
 Terry Lee Wolfe-2023
 Bartlett Eugene West-2023
 Terry D. Williams-2023
 Anthony Deshun Shivers—2023
 Natasha Jade Birchfield -- 2023
 Christopher Allen Mahan-2022
 William Jesse Garrett - 2022
 Angel Nicole Smith - 2022
 Tiffany Marie Ward - 2022
 Christopher Lee Johnson - 2022
 James Cassidy Smith - 2022
 Joshua Lawrence Bradley - 2022
 Brandon Lee Gibson - 2022
 Rachel Nicole Rogers - 2022
 Tella Antoinette Page - 2022
 Richard Allen Dickson - 2022
 Lori Ann Buchanan - 2022
 Johnathan Lee Newberry - 2022
 Evanna Ulexis Lee - 2022
 Eric Daniel Vaughn - 2022
 Crystal M. Swayney - 2022
 Paul Christopher Hampton Jr. - 2022
 Cheryl Dion Cole - 2022
 Lori Jane Cantrell - 2022
 Steven Joseph Veeck - 2022
 Boris Pesikan - 2022
 Autumn Lynn McCoy - 2022
 Ricci Weaber - 2022
 Elmer McCarter III - 2022
 Scott James Rossa - 2022

David Perry March - 2022
 Johnny Tran - 2022
 Dang Tien Tran - 2022
 Jonathan Malpass - 2022
 Christopher Ian Cotterman - 2022
 Scott James Ross - 2022
 Dontavius Juan Cox - 2022
 Bradford Lamar Martin Jr. - 2022
 Georgia Nicole Cape - 2022
 Kendra Marie Bowen - 2022
 Sawyer Arie Edwards - 2021
 April Nations - 2021
 Dustin James Kirkland - 2021
 Joseph Daniel Burton - 2021
 Eugene Murray Oocumma - 2021
 Seth Emmerson Tapp - 2021
 Robert Cody Gaddis - 2021
 Haley Lauren Jarvis - 2021
 Jessica Gail Conway - 2021
 Katrina Cook - 2021
 Avery Thomas - 2021
 Erik Messick - 2021
 Shane Christopher Holder - 2021
 Vernie Franklin Taylor - 2020
 Richard Sherman - 2020
 Christine Roach - 2020
 Thomas Lee Cook - 2020
 Arnold J. Calderon Mazariegos - 2020
 Tarrell Lawshawn Lee Williams - 2019
 Joshua Robert Hodock - 2019
 Juan Mendoza - 2018
 Benjamin Tyrone Willis - 2017
 Princeton Thomas - 2017
 Candido Martinez - 2017
 Carl Luke Harjochee - 2017
 Anna-Marie Elizabeth Birchmore - 2017
 James Michael Schmidt - 2017
 Shedrick Lavar James - 2017
 Howell Joseph Clinkscales - 2017
 Felipe Lee Saturnino Villafranca - 2017
 Kevin Michael Hart - 2017
 Devon Dakota Collins - 2017
 Marquis Gwan Ford - 2016
 William Kristopher Harris - 2016
 Wayne Nelson Harris - 2016
 Kenneth Thomas York - 2016
 Matthew Leon Dockery - 2016
 Ahmed Saeed Adam - 2016
 Andrew Tab Kilpatrick - 2016
 Chase Cecil Shafer - 2016
 Chelsea Dean Robinson - 2016
 Christine Marie Difabion - 2016
 Darian Dre'Von Smith - 2016
 Dennis Larry Dockery - 2016
 Erin Marie Haithcock - 2016
 Heather Kelly Hawkins - 2016
 Heather Nicole Ramsey - 2016
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 Shannon Leigh Woody - 2016
 Tyler Lee Gibbs - 2016
 Tosha Savannah Eller - 2016
 Dennis Allen McGaha - 2016
 Justin Lambert - 2016

Will Parsons - 2016
 Donovan Edward Coleman - 2015
 Matthew Adam Freeman - 2015
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 Javier Garcia - 2007
 Tamela Smith - 2005
 Debbie Everhart - 2005
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 Randy Blevins - 2005
 Drew Burrell - 2005
 Jefferson Clinton Burrell - 2005
 Wesley Burgess Young Jr. - 2004
 Ruth Ann Martin Taylor - 2001
 Polly Katherine Renfro - 2000
 Eddie Junior Robinson - 2000
 Buddy Powers - 2000
 Jennifer Powers - 2000
 Johnny Hartness - 2000

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