







THE GOOD STUFF:
Onita Bush,
always happy
and sharing
knowledge
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week of ka-ga-li (feb.) 5-11, 2025

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Shop local for Valentine's Day

By BROOKLYN BROWN

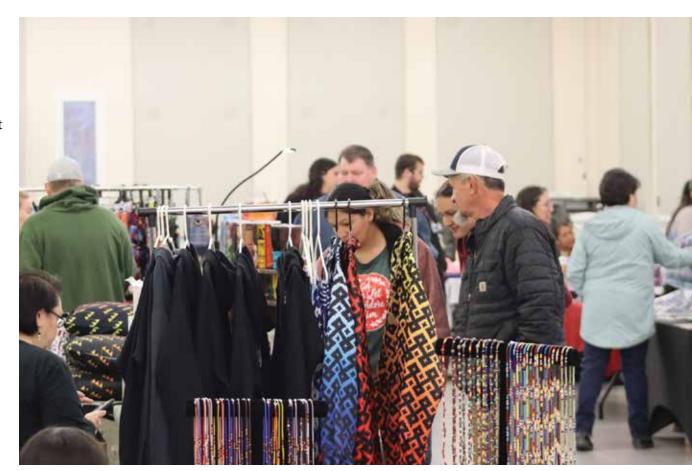
One Feather Reporter

HEROKEE, N.C. - The Sweetheart Market is coming soon on Friday, Feb. 7 at the Peaches Squirrell Sports and Recreation Complex in Tsisqwohi (Birdtown). The market, which is part of a monthly series of local markets hosted by Denise Myers Walkingstick with Chase the Wind event management, will feature several local artists and businesses. Below is a sneak preview of some of the products you can shop for your sweetheart.

Reagan Miller, Sparked With Love

Reagan Miller is the founder of Sparked With Love Permanent Jewelry. "Permanent jewelry is an unremovable accessory, lacking traditional closures as its components are seamlessly welded

see **SHOPPING** page 4



The Sweetheart Market is coming soon on Friday, Feb. 7 at the Peaches Squirrell Sports and Recreation Complex in Tsisqwohi (Birdtown). The photo shows shoppers at the 2023 event. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photos)



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The Cherokee One Feather is the official multi-media outlet for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and operates as an independent free press under Cherokee Code Chapter 75.

P.O. Box 501, Cherokee, N.C., 28719 - Located in Ginger Lynn Welch Complex theonefeather.com, (828) 359-6261 - **Cherokee's award-winning newspaper since 1965.**

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

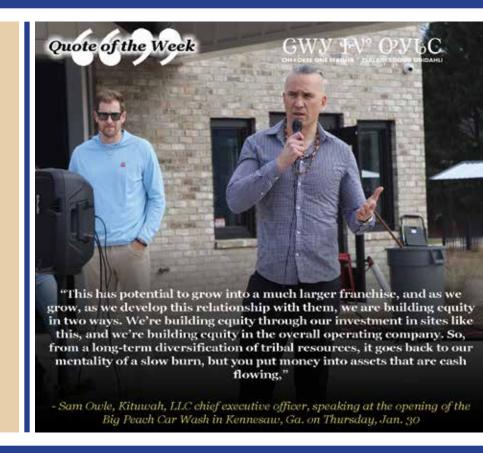
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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Please email all flyers and photos to us at:

Cherokeeonefeather1966 @gmail.com

We can not accept either via Facebook Messenger due to the resolution of those images. Also, please do not tag us in Facebook posts as we do not receive notification of these.



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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NEWS DZPL

SHOPPING: From front page

together. Designed for daily wear, it becomes a lasting part of your personal style, meant to be worn indefinitely. Each piece is custom to each and every person, from the fit, to the style of chain and added charms," Miller shared.

Miller says permanent jewelry serves a special purpose. "Permanent jewelry, such as bracelets, necklaces, and anklets, serves as a beautiful testament to the bonds we share with loved ones. Unlike traditional jewelry, which can be removed, permanent pieces symbolize enduring connections, marking significant dates and milestones in our lives. Whether it's a celebration of friendship, a romantic commitment, or a family legacy, these pieces act as constant reminders of the moments that shape us. Each piece can be personalized to represent shared experiences, making them not just accessories, but cherished tokens of love and connection. As we wear these symbols, we carry the essence of our relationships with us, intertwining our stories in a visible and meaningful way."

Follow Sparked With Love on Facebook or Instagram.

Adrienne Pollack, Razzle Dazzle Cards by Adrienne

Adrienne Pollack is a retired ER nurse of 39 years who started creating hand stamped greeting cards over five years ago. "Each card is individually created with stamps, die cuts, or embossing folders. Providing customers with cards that have heartfelt greetings lets others know that they are thought of or appreciated," Pollack said.

"Shopping locally, whether it be a store or craft vendor is important to support our community economically and create a sense of community pride. Local vendors and crafters create unique items for special occasions like Valentines' Day, Easter, Mother's Day, etcetera, which is much nicer than a mass-produced product that is sold at larger stores."

Razzle Dazzle Cards by Adrienne also provides card classes for crafting your own card in their studio.

You can follow Razzle Dazzle Cards by Adrienne on Facebook or learn more on their website.

Laura Walkingstick, Rez Dog Art Studio

Laura Walkingstick, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), is a full-time artist and owner of Rez Dog Art Studio. "I create all kinds of art from ceramics, beaded to acrylic jewelry, and doll making. I'm known for my cornhusk dolls. I offer my services for hire for private and public cornhusk doll workshops."

"It's important when people shop locally because they help support their community's local businesses. When we support local businesses, we keep the economy going. In turn, these local businesses contribute to their community initiatives, and it preserves a unique character to our area by offering diverse local products and services," Walkingstick said.

"I enjoy when buyers wear my merchandise and get compliments. They tell others where they got their jewelry. When customers buy my dolls, they own an heirloom to pass down in the family. I do take commissions to create one-of-a-kind dolls. I also enjoy providing cornhusk doll workshops to the public and to our local tribal programs incorporating our Cherokee

stories in with the doll making."

You can follow Rez Dog Art Studio on Facebook and Instagram.

Traci Simpson, Read Me Unconditionally

Traci Simpson started Read Me Unconditionally, a "blind date with a book box," in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene. "The affects were devastating to our community and our economy. I needed a creative outlet and an income. There was help after the storm of course, but so many people were still hurting. I wanted to find a way to support small family-owned businesses in our area. I wanted to succeed with others long term," "Each box features a beautifully wrapped book paired with additional goodies including at least one item from a local, Asheville area artisan. I hope that my boxes provide happiness, escape, and relaxation!"

Simpson says shopping local is critical for rebuilding after the hurricane, "Our area is still recovering and will be for a long time. Shopping locally not only allows our economy to rebuild, but it also supports families. I source from amazing small businesses. For example, Open Hearts Art Center supports adults of all abilities in their creativity (they provide amazing paper flowers), The Sweet Pea Pantry (scrumptious caramels) is owned by a sweet family with the happiest baby in the world, Hemlock Pointe (luxury soaps) is owned by a friend of mine who has worked hard to build his business from the ground up, Clydescope Creations lost many of her pieces in the flood and has spent months rebuilding."

"Shopping local positively affects families and individuals. We

invest right back in our families and communities. When I make a sale, I can use that money towards my child's tutor (another small business), and it just continues its ripple effect. It's beautiful!"

For Simpson, shopping local also builds community. "Since starting Read Me Unconditionally, my community has expanded. I've met so many amazing people, artisans, business owners, customers, and people just walking by my table. This business has totally opened up my community in the most amazing way."

Visit the Read Me Unconditionally website.

Bernice Bottchenbaugh

Bernice Bottchenbaugh is an elder of the EBCI from Kolanvyi (Big Cove). She creates beadwork, leather work such as medicine bags, pucker toe moccasins, and ribbon skirts.

"I feel so honored and appreciated to fill a request, to teach my gifts, and to provide to our people. I use the best materials for my gift because our people deserve the best at a reasonable price. This way we all can enjoy and appreciate,"

"I have created several beautiful earrings, rope necklaces, bolo ties, key rings, and wristlets for your special valentine. Our people have amazing artists and the Sweetheart market is providing some of the best."

Angie Garcia

Angie Garcia sells Tupperware, specializing in kitchen products from cookware, to food storage, freezer containers, microwave cooking, and organization. "I aim to provide people with unique, high-quality items that bring joy and a personal touch to their

special occasions. Whether it's a Tupperware bowl set as a gift for a loved one or decorative pieces to enhance their table, I hope to help create a kitchen that supports my customers emotionally and helps celebrate life's moments."

Garcia said shopping local is crucial, "It fosters community connections and supports local artisans and businesses, ensuring that the character and culture of our area thrives. When people choose local shops and vendors, they not only find one-of-a-kind gifts, but also contribute to the local economy, creating jobs and sustaining our vibrant community. Plus, local businesses often offer personalized service and unique products that larger retailers can't match."

Garcia enjoys providing a service to her community. "Seeing customers light up when they find the perfect gift or hearing their stories about how Tupperware fits into their daily lives is incredibly rewarding. It's fulfilling to know that my work can bring people together and enhance their celebrations, making those moments even more special."

Kevin and Denise Jackson, Piney Grove Beach Freezers

Kevin and Denise Jackson own and operate Piney Grove Beach Freezers. "It is a freeze-drying system that extracts all liquids. With the liquid gone, it helps enhance the flavors and gives it a different look and texture. When all the liquid is taken out of the candy, it expands. We hope to provide a new look and flavor."

Denise described shopping locally as a staple of Cherokee. "The more people that do shop locally is helping boost the economy around us. I have caught myself saying there's not much here to do. I remember Minnie Feather walking us down through Wonderland to let us watch the chicken dance or the monkey do tricks. As long as we had our enrollment card, we got to go through and look at all the snakes at Snakes Alive, and back up the road was the Bear Zoo. Or, we would venture down to the Ceremonial Grounds and watch Charlie Cucumber's band play music. She would go to the Qualla Supermarket across the street to shop. She would always say, 'As long as there is something to do, people will come.' So, we as locals need to keep our money here, support our people, and support our own businesses first."

Piney Grove Beach Freezers enjoy watching people try their products. "We love to watch the first-time expressions on their faces. It lets us know that we are doing our job. We love to see everyone strive and enjoy coming together and shopping amongst our own."

Megan and Joshua Price, Suspended Daydreams

Megan and Joshua Price own Suspended Daydreams. "We make suncatchers, wind spinners, and unique fiber arts gifts. We hope to add a little sparkle to people's lives and inspire them to dream big always! We enjoy sharing our creativity with others, and all of our works are made with love and good energy in hopes to pass that to our customers."

The Prices emphasized the people and communities behind the need to shop locally. "Shopping locally is a great way to support the community you live in. You know your hard-earned dollars are going to people like you and I, not to giant, mega corporations or chain retail stores. By shopping locally, you are making a big dream turn into a big reality

for someone in your community!"

Amy and John PostOak, Three Sisters Design & Supply

Amy (EBCI) and John (Mvskoke Creek) PostOak own Three Sisters Design & Supply, where they sell their own Indigenous-made jewelry and clothes and provide supplies for other creators. Their work has been featured in the annual Kananesgi Fashion Show. "About 85 percent of our stuff is handmade. We started out selling supplies for beadwork and things like that, and it's just kind of grown from there," Amy shared.

The PostOaks are unique in that they sell their art, and they sell supplies to other artists. "I love to see what people come up with. I really like to create my own, and I really love to see what other people can come up with because there are some things that it's like, 'I would've never thought of that,' you know?" she said.

As full-time artists, the PostOaks travel with their daughters to various shows and markets. "It's just fun. Our family loves to travel, so we have a good time whenever we go anywhere, and we get to meet people. It's always fun to share a little bit of Cherokee with them. We do a lot of the cold hammered copper, we do bead work, we do things that would traditionally be Cherokee, and kind of throw that in with the more contemporary acrylics or wood grain cuts, and it just kind of works out that way."

Amy said her favorite part of their business is sharing Cherokee cultural art practices with her children. "I love it. I really think that's what this whole business has been about. It's their learning. My oldest is learning how to finger weave. They all like to draw and paint. My eight-year-old has asked me about when she gets to learn how to bead. She loves pottery. So, just things like that—just getting them to create and see that we can do this. This could be your job. You can go into art."

You can follow Three Sisters Design & Supply on Facebook.

Denise Myers Walkingstick, Chase the Wind

Walkingstick, a member of the EBCI, is one of several community members who host local markets throughout the communities in Cherokee. The markets have become an efficient marketing tool for many local artists and a fun place to shop for the community. "I love hosting these markets for our local people, both shoppers and vendors. It helps everyone out, and it is fun getting to see everyone and catch up," she said.

Save the date for the Sweetheart Market: Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Valentine's Day is just around the corner!





Members of Kituwah, LLC and founders of Big Peach Car Wash hold a ribbon cutting for the eleventh Big Peach Car Wash on the afternoon of Jan. 30 in Kennesaw, GA. Shown, left to right, are Ronny McClendon; Jon Shepherd; Wesley Cone; Mike Conard; Sam Owl, CEO; Jason Lambert, KEDB; Jason Ainsley, CFO; Chris Greene, COO; Cameron Cooper, VP Special Projects; Chris McCoy VP Operations. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photos)

Starting a fun journey

Kituwah, LLC holds ribbon cutting for Big Peach Car Wash

By BROOLKLYN BROWN

One Feather Reporter

KENNESAW, Ga.—On the afternoon of Thursday, Jan. 30, members of Kituwah, LLC met with the founders of Big Peach Car Wash to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new location on Cherokee St. in Kennesaw, Ga. Kituwah, LLC has majority ownership of the Big Peach Car Wash in Kennesaw, sharing ownership with Atlanta Braves outfielder Ronald Acuña Jr.

The car wash is one of 11 in the growing franchise. Co-Founder Wesley Cone says Big Peach Car Wash is a community-centered business, whose values they believe align with Kituwah LLC. "We're in business, but we feel community first. Take care of your people, blessings will come at the end. And that's how we've always operated. We take this partnership very seriously. We don't take it lightly. We want to make Kituwah proud, and the 16,000 members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) proud," he shared.

"We're already in the top 100 largest car wash chains in the country, and we have no plans on stopping soon. I think alongside Kituwah, and with what we've talked about, it's going to be a fun journey." Sam Owl, chief executive officer of Kituwah, LLC, said Kituwah, LLC began bird-dogging Big Peach Car Wash in late 2023, early 2024. Now in 2025, Kituwah LLC is cutting the ribbon for a three- to five-year partnership that may turn into outside acquisition of their equity.

"The way we look at this opportunity is it's a community-based company, which we can definitely identify with. They focus on their people, they focus on customer service, and that is what has differentiated them in the markets that they're operating. This has potential to grow into a much larger franchise, and as we grow, as we develop this relationship with them, we are building equity in two ways. We're building equity through our investment

in sites like this, and we're building equity in the overall operating company. So, from a long-term diversification of tribal resources, it goes back to our mentality of a slow burn, but you put money into assets that are cash flowing," Owl said.

"And then ultimately, you look for that exit valuation when it's the optimal time to sell. So, this is exciting and it's an interesting concept. Our equity stake in this is small from a broad perspective. In this particular site, it's a nice majority ownership, but this is another long-term play."

Owl is looking at short- and long-term goals for the partnership.

"Long term, it's going to be based on growing this company to the 25 sites in the pipeline, continuing to develop relationships with other master franchisees, develop relationships with other tribes, and continue to look at multiple ways to get economic activity through this entity,"

"Short term, it'll be cashflow back to Kituwah and then it'll go through distributions, which we did our first annual distribution last year, and that first annual distribution was roughly 20 percent of our net income."

Owl said Big Peach Car Wash is moving dirt for a location in Asheville. When asked about a Cherokee location, Owl said Kituwah, LLC would be interested, but the Big Peach Car Wash founders' priority is getting the other 25 sites finished first.

Owl also shared about other upcoming projects for Kituwah LLC, starting with developments of the Exit 407 site in Tennessee, "It has a lot of visibility with Buc-ee's. We've got a pad that's ready to be leased. We have the Courtyard that's finished. We just finalized the terms of a master planning agreement. We're getting ready to sign that, but we'll have a group come in that's going to help us with the master plan for the 407 site. This entity has experience, and it has professionals that worked with Universal, worked with Disney, they're based out of Orlando. So, it's exciting," he said. "Over the course of the next year, we'll be working on that master plan. When the time comes that there are benchmarks or milestones that we can share, we're certainly going to share that with the public because it's still an exciting project. We've had to adapt to the



Dallas Bennett, a member of the EBCI and constituent services representative in the Office of the Vice Chief, drives a tribal vehicle through the new car wash.

economic constraints and the environment nationally and locally. And in doing so, I can certainly see where folks will say it looks like things are not progressing, but things are progressing. There's a new sewer line over there. They've finished raising the roadway a little further so they can get the sewer line into that pad by Courtyard. Once we get this master plan agreement rolling, it's a good momentum, and then eventually we can figure out what to do with the land across the road."

He said there are some local projects coming up soon as well. "Locally, I think there's a lot of good things to share. The local projects are small returns, but they're really for the community. We took over the theater maybe six to eight months after Kituwah was formed. We just had the best financial year that the theater has ever seen. We continued to focus in and improve operations at the theater," Owl shared.

"Next week, we're going to implement seat reservations at the theater. We've been working through our internal system and how those reservations are made, and then looking at those third parties like the Fandangos and others that you can use as well. For it to be such a nice theater, probably the nicest west of Asheville, which I think everyone should be proud of, it's going to add efficiency and a better customer experience."

In the next few weeks, there will also be construction for deferred maintenance at Cherokee Cinemas, including fixing water damage to the roofing around the entrances.

Owl also addressed upcoming plans for the old Hampton Inn site. "When the tribe purchased that property and the other properties, the change of ownership did not allow for that to carry the Hampton Inn flag any longer. So, we had to find a new flag and that was a process. I'm happy to say that just this past week or two, they started on the second floor, going floor by floor to do the internal improvements. Once those are finalized, it's going to be a Clarion Pointe,"

"Once it goes back to Choice Hotels and they approve it, then we can take down our temporary sign, and it can be flagged as Clarion Pointe. It's never going to be like a cash cow, but it is a local project that we were able to rehabilitate an old property, and it could be utilized for some of the shortages that we see in hotel inventory when there are big events in town."

Acuña Jr. joined the crew later for the grand opening in Kennesaw, but the One Feather was unable to stay for photo opportunities.

Dollar amounts on this venture were not disclosed to the One Feather.

Several renovations ahead at New Kituwah Academy

By BROOKLYN BROWN

One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - New Kituwah Academy (NKA), the early childhood to sixth grade Cherokee language immersion school located in the old Boundary Tree Lodge, is readying for several renovations in 2025.

Many of the renovations are already underway, including new flooring in all hallways, replacing the flooring in their multi-purpose room and cafeteria, and new playground equipment for the early childhood wing. Coming soon is new flooring for early childhood and new playground equipment for the elementary school. New HVAC units have also been installed throughout the school.

The One Feather inquired as to the total cost of the project and was told that the renovations are fully funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) but dollar amounts would not be provided.

NKA operates in one of few buildings in Cherokee with "adaptive reuse architecture", utilizing



NKA Early Childhood Language Specialist Assistant Tamara Sampson dances with her students at the 2022 NKA Powwow held on the afternoon of April 8, 2022. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

a historic place for new functions. The sustainability of adaptive reuse requires regular building maintenance, hence the 2025 renovations, which NKA Superintendent Kylie Shuler is excited to unveil for her students and staff, "The safety and satisfaction of our students and staff is top priority. We are looking forward to seeing our students enjoy the renovations and sharing those new memories with their families and community."

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



Morman's Story: Hospice on His Terms

Four Seasons provides hospice care based on what's most important to you. We work with you and your family to co-create a care plan and provide support and care along the way. Norman Gordon embraced this time of his life and he was actively involved in his Palliative and Hospice Care.

"Norman taught our whole family a lesson in how to handle this part of your life. We were so blessed with the strength that he had. That's not to say that he didn't want to live; of course he did. But he was a smart man and made peace with what he knew was happening in his body.

After he passed, I thought okay, he showed us how to handle [dying]. So now, I've got to show my children how to handle grief. This is an inevitable part of life. You realize that you're always going to miss the person when they're gone, and you have to learn to live with it. But once you come to terms with that, hospice shouldn't be a scary thing. It's something you do for yourself and for the people you love."

- Marilyn, Norman's



To Read More, Scan the Code or Visit Us Online: FourSeasonsCare.org

Request Care: 866.466.9734





February Is

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month



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Volunteer Income Tax Appointments - VITA

February 2025 calendar

Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		
First day of VITA gam – 7pm	3	gam – 7pm	4	8am - 5 pm	5	10am - 7pm	6	gam – 4pm	7
gam – 7pm	10	gam – 7pm	11	8am - 5 pm	12	soam – 7pm	13	gam – 4pm	14
No VITA	17	gam – 7pm	18	8am - 5 pm	19	10am - 7pm	20	9am – 4pm	21
gam – 7pm	24	9am – 7pm	25	8am - 5 pm	26	soam – 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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Monday - Friday for more information.



Cherokee Cinemas & More introduces reserved seating

Submitted by Kituwah, LLC

CHEROKEE, N.C. – In an exciting step forward for Cherokee Cinemas & More, the theater is proud to announce the introduction of reserved seating, a new service aimed at enhancing the moviegoing experience for its customers. Starting Thursday, Feb. 6, patrons will now have the ability to select their seats in advance, ensuring a stress-free and more enjoyable visit.

Reserved seating is a first for the theater and a significant shift for the community, where general seating has been the standard for years. While change often comes with an adjustment period, Cherokee Cinemas is confident this new system will bring long-term benefits for its loyal customers.

"Reserved seating has been one of the most requested features from our guests," said Nate Burrell, manager for the theater. "We believe this change will create a more convenient and personalized experience for everyone. Whether you're planning a family outing, a date night, or just a solo trip to catch the latest blockbuster, you'll now have peace of mind knowing your seat is ready and waiting for you."

What Reserved Seating Means for You

Reserved seating ensures that groups can sit together, eliminates the need to arrive early to secure a good spot, and enhances the overall comfort of watching movies at Cherokee Cinemas.

Kituwah, LLC officials noted, "However, the theater acknowledges that introducing such a significant change may not come without some challenges. We will be posting signage at the entrance and have ushers assist with seating until the new service operates smoothly."

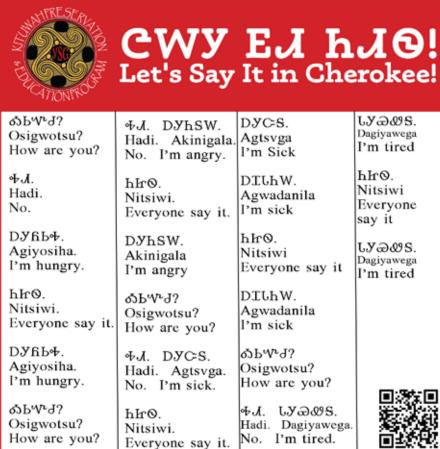
Online ticket purchases made through www.cherokeecinemas. com (not currently through Fandango) will feature the ability to select seats for all shows after Feb. 6.

What to Expect

To make the transition as seamless as possible, Cherokee Cinemas is rolling out social media posts, and user-friendly tools to help customers select their seats when purchasing tickets online or at the kiosks. Upon arrival, purchase seats first at the kiosks and sales registers to the right, and then proceed to the concession side on the left to pick up your food and drinks for the show. To speed this up, consider purchasing tickets online and save time. Discounted ticket purchases will require valid ID upon entry.

For more details about reserved seating or to book your tickets, visit Cherokee Cinemas & More in person or online at www.CherokeeCinemas.com.





Scan QR code to hear Cherokee language

spoken by Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver

CIPD Arrest Report for Jan. 20-26, 2025

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

Calderon, Arnold – age 32

Arrested: Jan. 20 Released: Jan. 20

Charges: Temporary Hold

Ellis, James Cole – age 21

Arrested: Jan. 20 Released: Jan. 21

Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or

Obstructing Officers

Gloyne, Jimmie Clifton – age 26

Arrested: Jan. 20 Released: Jan. 23

Charges: Domestic Violence

Mayo, Javien Alexander – age 20

Arrested: Jan. 20 Released: Jan. 23

Charges: Sexual Abuse of a Minor or a Ward; Child Abuse in the First Degree; Contributing to the Delinquency, Undiscipline, Neglect, or

Abuse of a Minor

Young, Connor Jonathan – age 21

Arrested: Jan. 20 Released: Jan. 21

Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or

Obstructing Officers

Climbingbear Jr., Isaac – age 35

Arrested: Jan. 21 Released: Jan. 21

Charges: Escape from Imprison-

ment and Custody

Welch, Anthony Dirk – age 54

Arrested: Jan. 21 Released: Jan. 23

Charges: Public Nuisance (two

counts)

Driver, Charaya Deshayne – age

30

Arrested: Jan. 22 Released: Jan. 23

Charges: Failure to Appear on

Misdemeanor

Sequoyah, Verlin – age 66

Arrested: Jan. 23 Released: Jan. 23

Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor, Probation Violation

Wolfe, Victor Jason – age 52

Arrested: Jan. 23 Released: Jan. 23

Charges: Second Degree Trespass

Ross, Cassandra Dawn – age 38

Arrested: Jan. 24

Released: Not released as of report

date (Jan. 27)

Charges: Failure to Appear on

Misdemeanor

Teesateskie, Steven Douglas – age

41

Arrested: Jan. 24

Released: Not released as of report

date (Jan. 27)

Charges: Breaking and Entering

Thompson, Clara Wachacha – age

49

Arrested: Jan. 24 Released: Jan. 24

Charges: Simple Assault, Assault

and Battery, Simple Affray

Blaylock, Joseph Cody - age 35

Arrested: Jan. 25 Released: Jan. 26

Charges: Hold Until Sober

Hailey, Rebecca Gail - age 58

Arrested: Jan. 25 Released: Jan. 26

Charges: Hold Unti Sober

Locust, Timothy Jefferey - age 40

Arrested: Jan. 25 Released: Jan. 25

Charges: Driving While Impaired,

Weapons Offense

Sutton, Stevi – age 29

Arrested: Jan. 26 Released: Jan. 26

Charges: Grand Larceny

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One Feather Poem of the Week

Tsali's Sacrifice

By Shanette Cross

Beneath the Smoky Mountains' crest, A tale of courage came to rest, Of Tsali, Cherokee and brave, Whose life the land would not enslave.

The winds whispered of marching feet, Of trails where pain and sorrow meet. The people torn from sacred ground, Their cries, a mournful, haunting sound.

The soldiers came with ruthless hand, To drive them from their cherished land. But Tsali saw his people's plight, And vowed to rise, to stand and fight.

With heart afire, his choice was clear— To shield the ones he held so dear. In shadows deep, they struck with will, Defying orders meant to kill.

But freedom's price was steep to pay, And Tsali faced the judgment day. He gave himself, his life, his all, To halt his people's bitter fall.

Take me, let others go,
To stay upon the soil they know.
This earth is more than rock and tree—
It holds our soul, our destiny.

His sacrifice, a flame that burned, Ensured the chosen few returned. Though trails of tears would stain the years, His spirit triumphed through the tears.

O Tsali, hero of the land, Your courage guides each heart and hand. The mountains echo with your name, Your sacrifice, eternal flame.

So as the rivers carve their way,
Through hills where ancestors still pray,
Your story lives, a testament—
To love, to strength, to bold descent.

Cross is a member of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians who works at Tsali Care Center and resides in Sylva, N.C.

GWY TW OYIGC CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGE SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Honored for swimming career

Tribal member to be inducted into North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame

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

Rebecca Wolfe Damas, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is a member of the Class of 2025 inductees into the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame (NAIAHF). She will be officially inducted during a ceremony on June 7 in Green Bay, Wisc. at the Onedia Conference Center.

"I am extremely honored to be a part of the group and have so much respect for all of the inductees," said Damas. "I look forward to meeting fellow inductees and their families at the induction events this summer."

Damas started her swimming career at the age of six. Seven years in, she won the U.S. Swimming Junior National Championship for the 200M butterfly race – her signature event.

She swam collegiately at the University of Missouri where she was a two-time Big 12 Conference Champion in the 200M butterfly as well as receiving All-American and Academic All-American status. Damas was chosen to be on the Big 12 Conference Swimming and Diving 10th Anniversary Team in 2006. She also swam at the U.S. Olympic Swim Team Trials in 2000 in Indianapolis, Ind. and 2004 in Long Beach, Calif.

Swimming at the Olympics trials was the highlight of her career,



Rebecca Wolfe Damas, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is a member of the Class of 2025 inductees into the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame (NAIAHF). She is shown in this 2023 photo after her induction into the Clear Creek Independent School District (League City, Texas) Athletic Hall of Honor. (Photo contributed)

Damas noted.

When asked if she thought she would gain such notoriety for swimming when she started at age six, she said, "Definitely not! I knew I enjoyed swimming, and I was told I had talent, but in those early days, I mostly struck with it because that's where my friends were and I hadn't found anything else I was good at."

Damas said her accomplish-

ments are due to the support around her. "My parents were the ultimate supporters, driving me to and from early morning practices and spending very long days in the Texas heat at swim meets, along with my brother and extended family. I was fortunate to have several very influential coaches: my first swim coach, Barbie Morris; my club coach, John Little; and college coaches, Doug Humphrey and Anne Kampfe Sievers. And most importantly, my grandfather, Dale Wolfe, who prioritized keeping our connection to the EBCI culture and community both relevant and important."

Damas graduated cum laude from the University of Missouri in 2004 with two bachelor's degrees – communications and psychology.

In 2023, she was inducted into the Clear Creek Independent School District Athletic Hall of Honor in League City, Texas. While swimming in high school at Clear Creek, she was a High School All-American and was named All-State in the 100-yard butterfly and the 200-yard individual medley. Damas lives in League City, Texas with her husband, Colin, and two sons, Renner and Hutton, who are both EBCI tribal members.

Information from NAIAHF states that the organization was founded in 2022 by Dr. Dan Ninham, a member of the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin, and his wife, Susan Ninham, a member of the Red Lake Ojibwe Nation, and recognizes "outstanding leadership and achievement in individual and team athletics".





Lise it or lose it Widow Do John Do JGht4P

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CWY IV OYIC

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Center for Native Health receives \$500K grant to start Doula Program

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Center for Native Health (CNH) has been selected to receive a \$500,000 grant, provided by the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors and supported by the Spirit Aligned Leadership Program, to establish a doula program for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI).

According to WebMD, "A doula provides emotional and physical support to you before, during, and after your pregnancy and childbirth. Doulas aren't medical professionals. They don't deliver babies or provide medical advice or medical care. Doulas assist and advocate for the birthing parent."

Kristina Hyatt, an EBCI tribal member who is the CNH maternal and child health program officer, commented, "Our goal is to create a cohort of doulas of at least seven EBCI women. We would provide the doula training and some additional trainings for them basically to help provide support for our Cherokee moms because we understand the importance of that. Then we'll also have a Moth-

er's Council that will be composed of seven EBCI elder women to help guide and direct this doula project...to give them the opportunity to share their knowledge with the doulas. That's a way to pass down that information."

She added, "The training that we're looking into bringing here is actually a full-spectrum Indigenous doula training. We're looking at the beginning of May and it would be a four-full-day training. We're excited about that because it would be taught by Indigenous doulas and midwives. So, I think that's very important."

Hyatt is proud to be working on this program with Onita Bush, an EBCI tribal elder and first language Cherokee speaker. Hyatt noted, "One of the overall goals is to really help amplify the dreams and voices of our elders."

Bush commented, "From the beginning, on, they get to learn back in history of the medicines, and the plants, and different things that they used - what they used for pain...if the mother's legs were swelled up, what they used to lotion the legs with to keep her as comfortable as she can because that's bringing a life into the





world.

The doula project is going to be amazing. And I can't wait to get it started because once it gets started it's going to be bringing that to our culture, our traditions - foods and different stuff, and the plants and what was used, that's going to be amazing."

Hyatt said the CNH is looking forward to bringing this program to the community. "One of the overall goals of the Center for Native Health is to work with the hospital programs and other tribal programs. So, we really want to harp on collaboration efforts with these different programs. We just want to make sure, also, that our doulas are able to work with our moms to make sure that they're fully aware of what resources are available here for our enrolled members. We have lots and lots of resources but sometimes our people may not be aware of what's there.

The Center for Native Health wants to make it very clear that we're open to working with partners like Cherokee Choices and different programs across the Boundary."

Hyatt said there are no prerequisites for people to sign up for the upcoming program, and program participants will receive a stipend. Information regarding registering



The Center for Native Health (CNH) has been selected to receive a \$500,000 grant, provided by the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors and supported by the Spirit Aligned Leadership Program, to establish a doula program for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). Shown are Onita Bush, EBCI tribal elder who will be working with the program, and Kristina Hyatt, an EBCI tribal member who is the CNH maternal and child health program officer. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

for the program will be available soon she said.

Bush is looking forward to learning from a Mohawk midwife legend who will be involved in the initial training of the doulas – Sherrill Elizabeth Tekatsitsiakawa "Katsi" Cook.

"She has delivered hundreds and hundreds of babies and she is one of the best-known midwives there is," Bush said of Cook.

Hyatt noted, "We would also plan on taking a couple of trips. One, at least, to Mohawk territory to visit model doula and midwife programs to learn and bring that information and knowledge back here. Another one is to hopefully visit the 'Little Cherokee Seeds'

program out in Oklahoma to learn more about that program and to help us work on revitalizing the Cherokee language and Cherokee mothering practices."

Bush said that a doula is just one part of the birthing team. "A doctor will always be involved, too That's part of the team. A doctor will be involved because if there's a problem that should arise that a doula couldn't handle, the doctor would be right there. It's up to the woman if she chooses to have it at home. Even in a hospital, a doula would be involved there. They can follow the mom all the way to the hospital and help deliver and have the doctor simply be right there in case his help was needed. That's going to be wonderful to bring it back to Cherokee, to bring it back to our people."

Hyatt spoke of the importance and need for the program, "Maternal health is a key indicator for the health of a community. So, once we get this going, I think that we'll see a lot of positive outcomes just across the board."

CNH was established in 2009 and focuses on four main areas including: land and wellness; education and training; language, art, and health; and maternal and child health. For more information on the Center, visit centerfornativehealth.org.



EBCI tribal members to shine on the runway at Santa Fe Native Fashion

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Cherokee designer
Faith Long-Presley is making waves in the fashion world with her upcoming showcase at Santa Fe Native Fashion Week. Representing her community with pride, she has selected 11 models from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) to model her designs during the event.

The EBCI models are Lucian Davis, Danica Hill, Hope Huskey, Kai Huskey, Hope Long, Shelby Maney, Gaby Nagel, Erika Wachacha, Rebecca Welch, Julianna Welch, and Lindley Wyatt - all of whom have previous experience modeling in the Kananesgi Fashion Show.

In addition to these talented local models, Long-Presley has chosen four additional models from the event organizer's model pool to complete her lineup for the 15-look showcase.

"My goal has always been to feature Cher-

okee people and culture as much as possible," said Long-Presley. "From the models to the designs, every element reflects who we are as a people. I love and deeply appreciate the support I've received from the community—it's their encouragement, help, and support that makes this all possible."

She is currently seeking financial support to bring her vision to life. You can help by donating directly via PayPal @FaithLong647 or visit www.ganvhidadesigns.org or by attending the St. Patrick's Day themed "Golden Clover Fundraiser" on March 15 at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort Council Fire Ballroom from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets for this event can be purchased at: Kananesgi Clover Fundraiser.

- Submitted by Kananesgi Planning Committee



Cherokee designer Faith Long-Presley is making waves in the fashion world with her upcoming showcase at Santa Fe Native Fashion Week. (Photo by Raven's Eye Media)

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Cherokee Elem. School Honor Roll 2024-25 - 2nd 9-weeks Grading Period

Submited by Cherokee Elementary
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3rd Grade Principal Honor Roll: Aaron Beach, Addi Martens, Alena Wade, Analee Garcia-Armachain, Avaleena Teesatuskie-Taylor, Berklee Hicks, Blair Owle, Carter Smith, Cassia Crowe, Dallas Ricks, Jessilyn Tipton-Lambert, Jourine Armachain, Julian Santos, Kason Bradley, Keedan Lossie, Kiona French, Lyla Thompson, Mikah Ledford, Nevaeh Teesateskie, Raylyn Watson, Tucker George, Vaelyn Owl, Venus Diaz, Waylon Walkingeagle, William Wolfe, Zaiden Armachain

3rd Grade Beta Honor Roll:

Adacynne Arch, Alfred Brady, Ayla Wildcatt, Caiden Tortalita, Carleetoe Maye, Chanton Reynolds, Damiyn Squirrel, Declan Junaluska, Erik Treadway, Harper Walkingstick, Ian Lopez, Izabell Taylor, Jeremiah Read, Joe Long, Kain George, Kamryn Saunooke, Lawson Davis, Leoyni Frady, Makenzy Welch, Mattie Moore, Meleah Rickman, Melody Torres-Medford, Michael Trotter, Noah Hall, Nya Queen, Osley Blankenship, Preston Wright, Remedi Bark, Remington George, Shane West, Spencer Taylor, Tobius Williams, Warrick Jones

4th Grade Principal Honor Roll: Ahnewake Streets, Alaina Smith, Amaye Bradley, Bradley Allison, Cecilia Armachain,

Cheydon Calhoun, Chloe Rivera, Clarence Thompson, Cooper Stamper, Dominic Cline, Henry Ensley, Isabella Conseen, Ismael Martinez, Izley Bell, Jaiva Brown, Jenisis Diaz, Julyssa Ramirez-Sequoyah, Kaia Crowe, Krezdon West, Kylee Teesateskie, Linus Freeman, Maylynn Walkingstick, Nathaniel Solis, Penelope Stamper, Preston Tramper, Taelen Arch, Tehya Lincoln, Tinley Ross, Truitt Lambert, Xerena Locust, Yona-Uweluga Swimmer

4th Grade Alpha Honor Roll: Aubrey Arch

4th Grade Beta Honor Roll:

Alana Swayney, Alex Holiday, Amiyah Brown, Andre Williams, Anna Jackson, Charles Maney, Demetri Taylor, Faith Torres-Medford, Gracelynn Sanchez,

Sponsored by the

Qualla Boundary

Historical Society

Isaiah Read, Jax Panther, Kayden French, Kimee Crowe, Lawson Martinez, Maddox Pheasant, Nikola Thomas, Olivia Sampson, Reichen Mahan, Roman Saunooke, Roxanna Rattler, Sebastian Cruz, Travis Bautista, Xaiden Bigmeat, Zendiah Bradley

5th Grade Principal Honor Roll: Addison Sherrill, Alex Rodriguez-Davis, Ariyana Hornbuckle, Ataliana Calhoun, Braylon Squirrell, Camden Standingdeer, Clarice Smith, Coleesia Maye, Colt Miles, Daaed Climbingbear-Esquivel, Dayla Luna-Martinez, Elijah Milholen, Henry Turner, Huxley Blythe, Jerald Davis, Koa Grant, Kyden Crowe, Leah Walkingstick, Leighton Myers, Liam Maney, Lula Ramirez-Sequoyah, Marcella Wolfe, Neveah Rhinehart, Penelope Watty, Riley Solis, Taiquan Driver, Tivelle Slinkey, Warner Jones, Xander Long 5th Grade Alpha Honor Roll: Gia Crowe-Taylor, Kyle Wahnetah

5th Grade Beta Honor Roll:

Alavia Owle, Annastasia Hull, Aubree Reed, Benjamin Collins, Brodie Smith, Cullen Bradley, Dennis Littlejohn, Elias Teesateskie, Elijah Lopez, Evard Bradley, Hayleigh Bowman, Isabela Crowe, Jaden Lambert, Jaden Shelton, Jonah Biddix, Joselina Crowe-Wilnoty, Kylexandra Pheasant, Lake-Van Garcia, Leighton Bryson, Maria Garcia-Armachain, Mitchell Littlejohn, Mosiah Brady, Nylah Teesatuskie, Pepper Hoyle, Rose Arch, Sakira Otter, Taleah Arch, Taylah Ingram, Theodore Squirrel, Tolden Thomas, Tyran Parker, Zaiden **Bradley**

Tsalagi MINUTE

Red Clay State Historic Park

The present-day Red Clay State Historic Park was part of the Cherokee Nation until their forced removal to Indian Territory in 1838. Beginning in 1828, the state of Georgia began passing laws intended to force the Cherokee out of their territory within the state's borders, including a law that made attending political meetings a jailable offense. Red Clay's location, just inside the Tennessee border, made it a safe place for the



council to meet. 11 National Councils were held at the Red Clay Council Ground between 1832 and 1837. Although the majority of the Cherokee wished to stay on their ancestral land, a small faction argued for removal. In December 1835, this faction signed the Treaty of New Echota, which gave the tribal lands in the east to the United States in exchange for land in Indian Territory, \$5,000,000, and other concessions. Delegations were sent to Washington, D.C., to try to nullify the illegal treaty; however, the United States ratified it. The Cherokee people learned of their fate at one of the Red Clay Council.

Source: Red Clay State Historic Park

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

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 ben-

efits 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

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS

Missing hiker Ann Houghton found deceased in Great Smoky Mountains National Park

GATLINBURG, Tenn. - Missing hiker Ann Houghton, age 73, was found deceased in Great Smoky Mountains National Park on Sunday, Feb. 2 at approximately 1:53 p.m. She was found roughly a quarter mile off of Enloe Creek Trail.

Houghton was reported missing to the park on Feb. 1. She had planned to hike in the park Jan. 28-29. Her vehicle was located at the Smokemont Campground. Law enforcement and search and rescue staff began a search for her on Feb. 1 in the Smokemont area, focusing efforts along Bradley Fork, Chasteen Creek, Hughes Ridge and Enloe Creek trails. Several local agencies assisted the park with search operations, investigations, and emergency services including Cherokee Fire and Rescue, BUSAR, Macon Volunteer Fire Department, Cowee Volunteer Fire Department, Appalachian Mountain Rescue Team and Jackson County Sheriff's Office.

Houghton was a resident of Jackson County, N.C. She volunteered in Great Smoky Mountains National Park for more than 20 years. In 2022, Great Smoky Mountains National Park nominated Houghton for a National Park Service George and Helen Hartzog Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

"Ann was an enduring and beloved member of our Smokies Community. She was a dedicated volunteer and avid hiker who shared her passion for the park with many visitors," said Charles Sellars, Acting Superintendent of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. "Great Smoky Mountains National Park offers condolences to her family and friends."

- National Park Service 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 handmade 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



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MISSING

Freida Sharon Okoomealingok

American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 5'2" Weight: 130 lbs Female Hair: Black Eyes: Brown Age: 43

Date of last contact: November 20, 2024

Last Known Location: Anchorage, Alaska

Circumstances of Disappearance: Freida was last seen near Walmart on A Street in Anchorage. She is currently experiencing homelessness.



If you have seen or have information about Freida Okoomealingok, contact Anchorage Police Department (907) 786-8900 and Malia Miller, Missing Persons Clearinghouse Manager, Alaska State Troopers (907) 269-5511.

Source: Namus.gov

GWY 4V OYLC

OBITUARIES Jhfir

Lottie Raby Beck

Lottie Raby Beck, 83, of the Towstring Community, went home to be with the Lord, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025. A native of Whittier, she was the daughter of Ted and Evelyn Queen Raby.

She was a member of the Church of God of Easley, S.C.

She was a loving mother and faithful wife.

She was preceded in death by three children, Ted Beck, Terry Beck, and Jackie Beck.

Lottie is survived by her husband of 68 years, Jackson Beck; two children, Patricia Ann Beck, Teresa Lorraine Beck; two grand-children; several great grandchildren; and her siblings.

A graveside service was held Friday, Jan. 31 at Towstring



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Cemetery. Rev. Eddie Stillwell and Raymond Mathews officiated.

Shirley Rose Greene

Shirley Rose Greene, 91, of the Sweetwater Community in Robbinsville, N.C., passed away, Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, at her residence.

She was a native of Mitchell County and the daughter of the late Claude Bowman and Nora Rose. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Greene in 2012. She was also predeceased by her granddaughter, Adriana Duncan and by all of her brothers and sisters.

She is survived by her children, Jim Greene (Patricia) of Bryson City, N.C., Gloria "Gogi" Griffith (Tom) of Seagoville, Texas, Patty Hutto (Michael) of Rock Hill, S.C., Van Greene (Deb) of Robbinsville, N.C., and Marilyn Greene of Robbinsville, N.C.; grandchildren, Tracy Couch, Jennifer Greene, Chris Greene (Jennifer) Cayce Webster (Matt), Cody Gee, Rachel Duncan, Heather Webster (Mark), and Amber Greene; 24 great grandchildren; and eight great great grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held on Saturday, Jan. 25 at the Townson-Smith Chapel. The Reverends Patrick Breedlove and G.D. Phillips officiated. Burial followed the service at the Greene Family Cemetery.

Townson-smith Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Greene Family.

Henrietta L. Sampson

Henrietta L. Sampson, also known by many as "Aunt Zette", Beloved Cherokee Matriarch, passed away in her home in the presence of her loving daughters on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025 at the age of 70.

Remaining here are her children, Tyson Sampson, Quedi Sampson, and Donovan Sampson; grandchildren, Tysha, Ryanne Braeleigh, Jason, Braison, and Baylor Rue, and Ama and Ezekiel, with their mother and very special daughter, Sheeni. She is also survived by her siblings, Tinker Sampson, Babe Sampson, Teetsie Sampson, DD Sampson, and Leon Sampson; many nieces and nephews; and an exponential number of great nieces and nephews.

Henrietta is preceded in by mother, Mickey Sampson; sister, Cheryl Garner; grandmother, Leauna Crowe Sampson Littlejohn; several aunts and uncles; niece, Aniyah Sampson; and nephew, Star Sampson.

Her cherished friends were the gals and workers at Granny's Kitchen and her childhood best friend, Marion Wolfe.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in the chapel of Long House Funeral Home with Ben Reed officiating. A private graveside service followed in the Crowe-Littlejohn Family Cemetery. Pallbearers were among nephews, family, and friends. Long House Funeral Home assisted the family with final arrangements.

Mary Jane Bigwitch Ferguson

Mary Jane Bigwitch Ferguson, 74, passed away Dec. 20, 2024 at Cherokee Indian Hospital surrounded by family and friends after an extended battle with Multiple Myeloma.

She was born Sept. 23, 1950, to the late Loyd and Savannah Sneed Bigwitch. She was a graduate of Swain County High School, where she was inducted into the Hall of Fame as a member of the 1967-68 Girls Basketball Team. She earned a two-year degree from Bacone College in Oklahoma, then her Masters Degree in Education from Western Carolina University.

She enjoyed successful careers as a teacher, small business owner, and hotel manager and operator before retiring as Director of Travel and Tourism for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, She enthusiastically served as a board member for the Southwestern Community College, the Museum of the Cherokee People, the Cherokee Historical Society, the Cherokee Preservation Foundation, the NC Governors Western Manor, the **Executive Committee of the NC** Association of College Trustees, the Southeastern Tourism Society, was a founding member of the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, as well as many others. She enjoyed her retirement by travelling with her grandchildren, and puppysitting the family dogs during the day.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her brother, Jeff Arneach

Mary Jane is survived by her loving spouse of 54 years, Donald (Hoppy) Ferguson; two daughters Savannah Ferguson and Samantha Ferguson; two son-in-laws, Gregory Gilleland and Charles Bryson; two grandchildren, Justin Alexander Gilleland and Milli Tae Bryson, and two brothers, Lloyd Long and Clint Arneach.

Mary Jane was a beloved member of the community and will be greatly missed.

The family received visitors Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024 at the Olivet United Methodist Church.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, charitable donations be made to the Museum of the Cherokee People, or Olivet United Methodist Church in Mary Jane's Memory.

Solomon David Owl "Sonny Boy"

Solomon David Owl "Sonny Boy", 82, of Cherokee, N.C., passed away peacefully on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Cherokee, N.C. on Sept. 3, 1942 to the late Quincy Adam Owl and Winne Mae Junaluskie Owl.

Solomon was a great man of faith and family. He loved his daily devotions, taking daily communion, and watching Dr. David Jeremiah. He was a NASCAR fan, one of his favorite drivers being Mark Martin. He actually traveled to Talladega 17 years in a row to enjoy watching the sport he loved. He loved his Florida Gators, and made sure to watch them play every week. Lastly, he loved being outdoors, finding something to do or someone to help.

Solomon was very proud of his military service, serving as a dental assistant during his time in the Navy. He was also very proud of his church, being a long-time member of Cherokee Bible Church. He joined in 1994, helping to build the building where the church currently worships.

Finally, Solomon loved his family. His greatest joys being his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was a gentle and kind man, caring for everyone with whom he came in contact. Most importantly, his love for his sweetie was unmatched. Their love was their own "Unchained Melody" saying "God speed your love to me"!

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by three brothers, Robert Stanley Owl, John Quincy Owl, and Thomas Jay Owl. He is also preceded in death by a grandson Jeremiah Thomas Taylor and Jamie Bloodworth.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Judith Elaine Owl; chil-

dren, Kimberly Owl Taylor (Joey), Gregory Wright (Sherry), Sonya Edwards (Charlie); a brother, William "Gene" Owl (Donna), Shirley Bloodworth, Linda Lewis, Sheila Bloxom; 12 grandchildren, Kasey Jo Taylor (Mandy), Zachary Taylor (Laura), Kassie McMahan (Ryan), Trent Wright, Zane Edwards(Josie), Easton Edwards, Jason Bloodworth, Stephen Lewis, Joey Lewis, Joshua Howard, and Justin Barrow; five great grandchildren, Liza Taylor, Harrison McMahan, Baker McMahan, Lainey Taylor and Landen Taylor; nieces and nephews, Tracey Gourlay, John Owl, Jason Owl, DJ Wiggins and boys: Jalon, Jamyus, and Jarron, Tristen Owl, and Valencia Cucumber; and a very special sister, Patricia Welch. He is survived by a group of friends whom he cherished, Steve, Kim, Katy Walls, Scotty, Kayla, and Knox McMahan, and Don and Linda Simonds. He is survived by a host of extended family as well.

Funeral Services were held Sunday, Jan. 26 at Cherokee Bible Church with the Rev. Randy Miller officiating. Private graveside services followed in the Sonny Boy Owl Family Cemetery.

Hugh Branner Hall Jr.

Hugh Branner Hall Jr. (Buddy), 92, of Waynesville, N.C., passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025. Mr. Hall was born in Waynesville on July 5, 1932 to the late Edith McKay Hall and Hugh Branner Hall, Sr.

Mr. Hall served in the U.S. Army from 1951-53, married Bobbie Ruth James Hall and settled in Waynesville where Mr. Hall worked for the USPS for 35 years. Mr. Hall was very friendly and enjoyed meeting all the people on his mail routes. He also had a small farm where he raised pigs and cattle.

He is survived by his son, Daniel Hugh Hall of Del Rio, Tenn.; his grandson, John Daniel Hall (Jessica Messer) of Dandridge, Tenn.; his great grandchildren, Travis K. Hall of Cherokee, N.C., Rachel K. Hall, and Andre C. Hall of Dandridge, Tenn.; three great great grandchildren, Lydia Leach of Dandridge, and Noah and Bronson Hall of Cherokee; a brother, Jerry (Peggy) Hall of Mt. Holly, N.C.; and nieces and nephews.

Mr. Hall was preceded in death by his parents and a sister Patsy H. Dean.

A graveside service was held on Saturday, Jan. 18 and internment was in Green Hill Cemetery, Waynesville, N.C.

Edith H. McMillan Maney

Edith H. McMillan Maney, 82, of Cherokee, died peacefully on Friday, Jan. 31, 2025. A longtime resident of Cherokee, she was the daughter of the late Ray and Edna Owle McMillan. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded

in death by her granddaughter, Brooke Ashley Maney.

Edith was a member of the Living Church of God for 42 years.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Marvin Maney; two sons, Gary Maney and wife Katrina, Bill Maney (Bridget Ross), and one daughter, Patricia Little and husband Mark all of Cherokee; 7 Grandchildren, Natasha, Uriah (Mary), Zacchaeus, Kara (John), Melody, Phinehas, Bobby; 8 great grandchildren, Adeline, Everleigh, Ezra, Eira, Awee, Kennedy, Rylee, Jude all of Cherokee; one sister, Velma Hemphill of Whittier. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Funeral Services were held on Sunday, Feb. 2 at Crisp Funeral Home Chapel. Her son Gary Maney officiated with burial at Maney Family Cemetery. Pallbearers were Bill Maney, Uriah Maney, Zacchaeus Maney, Bobby and Phinehas Little, Darrell, and Brett Robertson.

When's the last time you paid your power bill? Did you know you can pay ahead on your power bill? That's right.

Paying ahead is a small sacrifice that reduces the stress of managing regular monthly payments. Especially, those on a fixed income or those with no income outside of per capita or Gen Well.

Family Support Services recommends you use December/June percapita and GenWell to reduce your burden. You can pay by phone, enroll in auto-payment, pay in person (local sites around Cherokee for Haywood EMC accounts, Bryson City or Sylva for Duke Energy) or enroll in equal payment plans for predictable bill throughout the year.

-Family Support Services

The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Presents The



WNC Fly Fishing Trail Weekly Fishing Report





	Februai	ry 3-9,	2025
ALL REPORT OF TAXABLE			

WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
Tuckaseigee 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

COURTESY OF SHANNON MESSER/TUCKASEEGEE FLY SHOP

MONDAY, FEB. 3 AVERAGE+

3:47 AM-5:47 AM 4:12 PM-6:12 PM TUESDAY. AVERAGE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5 AVERAGE++ 4:37 AM-6:37 AM 5:30 AM-7:30 AM 5:04 PM-7:04 PM 5:58 PM-7:58 PM

BEST FISHING TIMES BASED ON THE LUNAR CYCLE THURSDAY, AVERAGE

FRIDAY, AVERAGE+ 6:27 AM-8:27 AM 7:26 AM-9:26 AM 6:56 PM-8:56 PM 7:56 PM-9:56 PM

SATURDAY. 8:26 AM-10:26 AM 8:56 PM-10:56 PM

SUNDAY, 9:25 AM-11:25 AM 9:53 PM-11:53 PM

Call 828-586-2155 or visit www.mountainlovers.com





Cherokee Veterans: We want to share your stories. The Cherokee One Feather would like to share your stories in a column we call "Veteran's Corner". Send your written

stories to Robert Jumper, editor, at robejump@nc-cherokee.com. Or, if you prefer to sit down for an interview with one of our reporters, call 359-6482 (Robert), 359-6263 (Scott), or 359-6264 (Jonah).

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

СМХ ФЛ ОХРС



Trying to sell a couch, a lamp, etc.?

Advertise your item in the Cherokee One Feather classifieds. All items under \$25,000 are **FREE** of charge. Send your listing up to 30 words to Indica Climbingbear at indiclim1@ebci-nsn.gov or Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com.

OPINIONS

COMMENTARY

When it rains, it drops from goose to elk droppings.

By ROBERT JUMPER

Tutiyi (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

Cince (I am assuming) most Of you don't read the One Feather while at the dinner table, I think we are safe to discuss a less-than-appetizing topic. I have written many commentaries on the unsanitary situation that comes from having so many Canadians on the Qualla Boundary. Of course, I am talking about Canadian geese. EBCI Fisheries and Wildlife Management has made great strides in luring many geese out of more populated places. It was a great step forward when the tribe removed the feeding stations from the Oconaluftee Island.

As a refresher, It was a very challenging thing a few years ago when these feathered migrants oversaw the Oconaluftee Island Park. Especially during the mating months of the geese, you might experience a gaggle attack if you didn't heed the hissing warnings of the momma geese as they escorted their young along the park's sidewalks. Sidewalks were typically covered not only with geese but also with what the geese would leave behind (pardon the pun). And what they left was everywhere, so you typically had two choices when walking at the park, you could play "dodge pile" or you

could find a stick to clean off your shoes. And don't get me started about what you might be drinking in if you submerged your head in the river while frolicking in the Oconaluftee. As the old saying relates, "it" does float downstream. Aviancontrolinc.com states, "Goose poop is more than just a nuisance; it can have significant health implications for humans, dogs and other animals. While it's a natural byproduct of these birds, the droppings can harbor harmful bacteria and parasites that pose risks to those who come into contact with them. Goose poop can be toxic to humans as well as pose a significant issue for dogs, particularly because many dogs are tempted to eat it. There isn't a clear answer as to why dogs might be doing this, but many speculate that it could be due to nutrient deficiency, or simply because they like the smell and taste. This behavior can lead to health problems, as goose droppings can carry parasites and bacteria that can cause digestive upset, vomiting, diarrhea or even more serious infections in dogs.

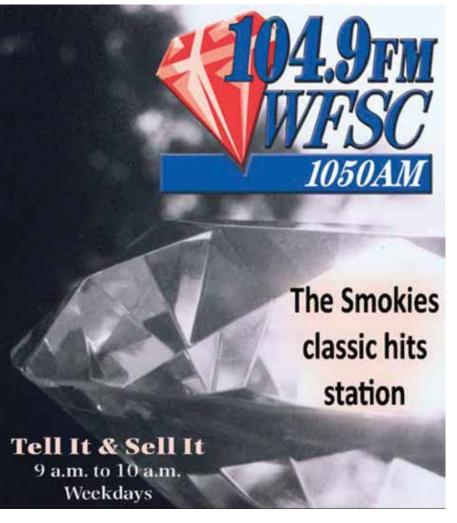
Goose poop can be dangerous to other animals as well, particularly those that graze or scavenge on contaminated grass or water. Farm animals like cows and sheep can ingest harmful bacteria or parasites from goose droppings, leading to infections or illnesses. These diseases can affect both humans and animals, making it crucial to clean up goose droppings quickly and avoid direct contact. Several diseases are commonly associated with goose poop. These include: Histoplasmosis: A fungal infection

that affects the lungs, caused by inhaling spores from contaminated droppings.

Giardiasis: A parasitic infection caused by giardia, leading to severe gastrointestinal symptoms. Cryptosporidiosis: Another parasitic infection that can cause diarrhea, stomach cramps, and nausea."

And if that is not enough to make you a little suspicious of that goose pile, now the Bird Flu is making a resurgence.

According to health.wusf.usf. edu, "The bird flu that has been growing more pervasive during the last few years has infected more than 500 species, including 485 avian and at least 70 mammals. The outbreak is being described as the fastest spreading and largest ever, posing a significant threat to biodiversity worldwide. The avian invader is pushing the boundaries of what we thought we knew about animal diseases. The highly transmissible bird flu, also known as H₅N₁, has been sweeping across the United States leaving a trail of dead chickens and empty egg cartons, and worried public health officials. The virus has infected over 138 million birds across all 50 states and Puerto Rico, and spread to millions more on five more continents. What started as a typical bird flu outbreak four years ago has evolved into a cross-species threat that's ruffling far more than feathers. As 2025 gets underway, the avian flu is ramping up. Jumping species. Dolphins and polar bears have it. So do smaller mammals such as wild foxes, skunks, and seals, leaving many dead or with neurological



symptoms. The progression of the bird flu in America since 2021 has been unprecedented, including the first-ever cases of infections in dairy cattle and raising heightened pandemic risks. Chris Walzer is the Wildlife Conservation Society's director of health and a board-certified veterinarian who has been warning of avian influenza's devastating and worldwide impact on wildlife for more than a year." And just when you thought it was okay to step (or use the five-second rule) on that Milk Dud you saw on the sidewalk, I also discovered the following about elk droppings:

"Yes, elk poop may be dangerous, and no, it may not be. It all depends on the reason/circumstance behind the question. For example, elk poop is good for plants as it contains vital nutrients that can help them develop properly. However, elk poop may be harmful to humans. Scientists have discovered enteric bacteria in elk scat. Enteric bacteria are commonly present in animal and human intestines. While many enteric bacteria are harmless, some are pathogens that can cause illnesses. E.coli is a perfect example of such bacterium that can cause life-threatening diseases, including urinary tract infections. The progression of the species-jumping disease has been unprecedented, including the first-ever U.S. cases of infections in dairy cattle and heightened pandemic risks. Since elk poop may contain enteric



Elk droppings may be found in any area of the Cherokee Cultural and Business District, including walkways and streets. (ROBERT JUMPER/One Feather photo)

bacteria, humans who drink water contaminated by elk poop may develop severe health challenges. So, it's always a wise idea to take extra precautions when handling elk scat. That's not all—elk poop may also threaten other animals. Elk and deer populations are prone to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). Experts believe this deadly disease can spread to other animals through an infected elk's poop. Although it's not clear if this contagious disease can spread to human populations, it remains a possibility". (a-z-animals.com)

Yes, doctors and scientists are now concerned that CWD may be adapting to the point it could infect humans. More about CWD: It is a "fatal neurodegenerative disease caused by misfolded proteins, called prions, and can spread among cervids like deer, elk, and moose, and through environmental contamination. The disease isn't known to infect people, but experts fear it could cross the species barrier". (Mary Van Beusekom, Elk becomes first CWD-positive case of its species on a Wyoming feeding ground, January 16, 2025)

This is my plea. Every legislative session and administration have had some level of concern about the curb appeal of our native land. Curb appeal is simple. For the community and those traveling through our Boundary, we make things look nice. We maintain our roads and buildings. We clean up our greenways and The Long Man (our creeks and rivers). Or we should. We do it individually at our homes. The space we live in reflects who we are. Likewise, as a community, our Qualla Boundary reflects on who we are. Beyond the dire health considerations, what does it say about us when goose and elk dung proliferate our walkways for days on end, not just at our walking trails but at some of our main attractions?

I ask that we, as a tribe, redouble our efforts to address the issues with curb appeal, particularly those that create a public health risk. Like the geese, the elk have, for the most part, free reign and range on our land. And I, as much as anyone, enjoy the beauty of these majestic animals. Those of native blood have a special connection and desire to be close to them. But we must temper our emotions with reason and ensure safety. We should have laws and plans that help curb the number of environmental hazards caused by animal droppings on the Qualla Boundary. We shouldn't wait until people have negative health impacts to address it. We all bear some responsibility. The government's is to act on our behalf. Ours is to make them publicly aware of our concern. So please let your representatives know that you want them to help you by making laws and enforcing them concerning curb appeal, including harm reduction from biohazards like animal droppings.



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THE GOOD STUFF

Onita Bush, always happy and sharing knowledge

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

few years ago, I had the idea of starting a new feature for the Cherokee One Feather called "The Good Stuff" where we'd highlight whatever people deemed as good stuff. Starting this week, I'm going to start a weekly column where I'll highlight a person, group, or program that embodies the spirit of "The Good Stuff", and I'm starting with Onita Bush who is always happy, always smiling, and always sharing knowledge.

Onita, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) from Tutiyi (Snowbird), is a first language Cherokee speaker. She frequently shares her knowledge of the language with others and encourages everyone to learn. She is also an incredible resource in the area of traditional Cherokee plant knowledge.

In 2019, she was presented the Community Treasure Award by One Dozen Who Care, Inc. The award is given annually to "tear down walls that divide and build bridges within our far western counties", according to ODWC Founder Ann Miller Woodford. Building bridges is exactly what Onita does with her knowledge and pleasant demeanor. She shares much as a member of the organization, Spirit Aligned Leadership (SAL).

Information from SAL states, "Onita's knowledge of native plants for medicinal purposes and nutrition has made her an invaluable resource in her community. She teaches others how to use native plants to complement modern medicine to improve



Onita Bush, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from Tutiyi (Snowbird), is shown at the Annual Fading Voices event in Tutiyi on May 25, 2024 where she was sharing her Cherokee traditional plant knowledge. (SCOTT MCK-IE B.P./One Feather photo)

overall health and wellness. Onita is deeply connected to the traditions of her Cherokee heritage and home. Known locally as a root doctor, Onita is recognized for her knowledge of community heritage and medicinal plants."

Onita has presented at the Rooted in the Mountains symposium hosted by Western Carolina University. In a press release on the event from WCU in 2018, she noted, "We didn't take medicines from a doctor," she said of growing up in remote Snowbird in the 1950s and 1960s. "We didn't have a doctor. Doctors were far away. The only medicine we got was from plants."

In that same release, Onita gave some great advice. "I got here

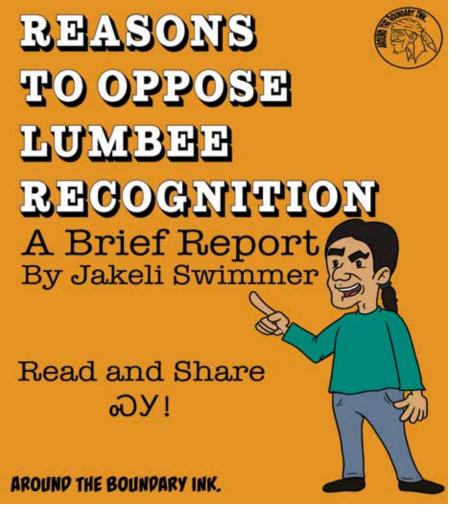
by listening to what my parents and elders said. They walked the walk before you and know the path."

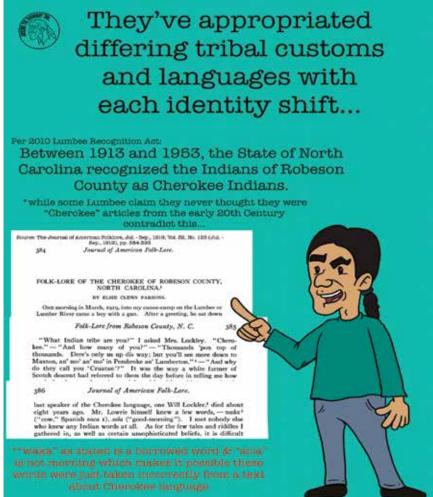
In 2019, she was selected as one of SAL's Legacy Leaders. Gail Small, SAL program director, was quoted in an article at that time in the National Observer (Canada), "These Legacy Leaders are a gift of knowledge who carry teachings which could impact the trajectory of the world - knowledge relevant to climate change, human rights, environmental justice, and international peace movements."

Last week, I was able to interview Onita which is always a pleasure. She is working with the Center for Native Health (CNH) to help establish a doula program

for the EBCI. The Center received a \$500,000 grant recently, and Onita will be working with Kristina Hyatt, CNH maternal and child health program officer, and others to get the program going. In our interview, Onita said, "The doula project is going to be amazing. And I can't wait to get it started because once it gets started it's going to be bringing that to our culture, our traditions – foods and different stuff, and the plants and what was used, that's going to be amazing."

Onita is a shining example of the importance of sharing knowledge and a shining example of being an outstanding elder.





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 four of four.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

EBCI needs a constitution

Robert,

Thank you for your excellent commentary about the Cherokee Constitution in last week's One Feather. I moved to Cherokee in 1978 and, shortly thereafter, became involved with the writing of a constitution while working at Legal Services. Over the years until recently, I worked with various committees in order to write and hopefully pass a constitution. It has been very discouraging and frustrating to me, as I know it has been for you, that no progress has been made in passing a constitution. I firmly believe that the

EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) needs a constitution to protect and strengthen its sovereignty.

I hope the current committee will diligently pursue drafting a constitution for tribal members to vote on in coming years. I don't know what more can be done than what you, Lloyd Arneach Jr. and others did the last time to inform people.

Thanks for all you are doing to promote a constitution and to educate tribal members about the importance of having one.

Keep up your good work!

Mary Herr

Elawodi (Yellowhill)



SPEAKING OF FAITH

Layaway plan

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

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

"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him, the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God. Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come." 2 Corinthians 1:20-22 NIV

Small business stores and department stores still use layaway plans. It is better than going into debt, and no interest is required. Sometimes you can take advantage of excellent deals when you find what you want on sale, but you don't have the money to pay for it. There are worthy comparisons and contrasts to salvation.

Have you ever put a sale item or an expensive purchase on layaway at a store? Maybe you didn't have the money needed to buy it outright. Perhaps you wanted a place to keep it until it was needed. Sometimes mistakes happen. The store might lose or break what you purchased, and they give you your money back. Sometimes they might make the mistake of putting it back on the shelf and reselling it to someone else. Maybe their accounting gets mixed up, and they don't have your purchase record or matching layaway ticket, and you must find those receipts and the payments made.

What happens when Jesus saves you? A layaway plan is when you make payments for something someone else is keeping for you until you pay in full. They usually keep your purchase in the back room or storage bin. God's layaway plan is better. If anything, it's the opposite of the typical store plan. Jesus has already made the deposit and paid for your eternal future by dying on the cross many years ago in Jerusalem. His one-time sacrifice was for the sins of the world, your sins, and mine. When you earnestly accept His payment by

calling on His name to save you from death and sin, He gives you a deposit of the Holy Spirit. You take away the gift of eternal life instantly. Not when you die, but immediately. It's almost like a reverse kind of mortgage. You not only get to live blessed with an eternal deposit, but you get the whole gift to take with you forever. If it sounds too simple and unbelievable, it almost is.

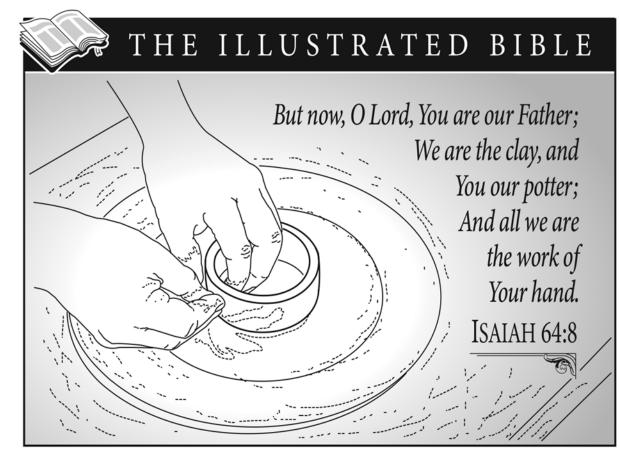
A layaway plan is when you give money as a down payment to get something reserved that the store keeps as you continue to pay for it. Then, when it is all paid for, you will get it sometime in the future.

God's plan is that Jesus already paid for it. His gift is waiting for you, sitting on the shelf until you accept it. When you accept His gift of love and forgiveness, the additional benefit is eternal life and blessings from the moment the Spirit enters you. It's not only a future blessing; it's an immediate blessing because He changes your life. The Spirit begins to clean your thoughts and actions; He restores you with love for others. The benefits are now, for each day, forever because He is in you - forever. And He promises you that He will never leave you,

never forget you, never lose your ticket, never let you go. He will always be with you, beside you, as your defender, comforter, healer, and friend. A friend better than a brother, a father who provides for your needs with mercy, grace, and rewards of heaven greater than anything you can imagine. You will never die. You will live forevermore with Him in all His glory in heaven.

He made the full payment with His life on the cross so you can live forever with Him. You get the whole gift; all you need to do is believe in Jesus, believe He can save you from your sin, and have faith that He is the only One who can and will do this for you. Take the gift home right now.

Lord God and Father, I ask today that this simple idea might be used to Your glory. I ask that someone will see and understand how simple accepting Jesus is and how permanent the results are. Lord, You have no limits in that You can make Your Word come alive and, with Your Spirit, capture the hearts of those You call unto Yourself. Use this message to gather those unto You for Your glory and honor. Amen



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Weekly SUDOKU

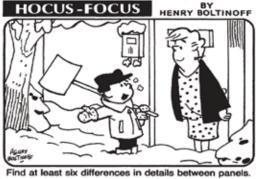
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Differences: I. Shovel is shorter. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Snow is missing from mailbox. 4. Doorknob is missing. 5. Zipper is missing. 6. House is not as wide.

Miami Dolphins, Philadelphia Eagles and Seattle Seahawks); 8. Maryland; 9. 88; 10. Ikebana gala, Denver Broncos, Detroit Lions, Indianapolis Colts, Jacksonville Jaguars, Los Angeles Rams, Falcons, Arizona Cardinals, Baltimore Ravens, Carolina Panthers, Chicago Bears, Cincinnati Benfalo Bill; 5. Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and Formal Sciences; 6. White Castle; 7. 14 (Atlanta 1. Serenity; 2. El Yunque Vational Forest, Puerto Rico; 3. "The Picture of Dorian Gray"; 4. Buf-Trivia Test Answerst

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Weekly SUDOKU

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Answers

— **Kind** Ciossword —

$t\!e\!st$ by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. TELEVISION: What is the name of the spaceship on the TV drama "Firefly"? 2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the only tropical
- rainforest in the United States? 3. LITERATURE: What is the title of author
- Oscar Wilde's only complete novel? 4. MOVIES: What is the name of the killer in
- the movie "Silence of the Lambs"? 5. SCIENCE: What are the three branches of
- 6. AD SLOGANS: Which fast-food chain's slo-
- gan is, "What you crave"? 7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many NFL teams are named after animals (including
- 8. U.S. STATES: In which state is the U.S.
- Naval Academy located? 9. ASTRONOMY: How many constellations are visible from Earth?
- ART: What is the Japanese art of arranging flowers called?

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APPENINGS

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

BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

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

- Feb. 8 at 3 p.m., benefit for Big Cove Free Labor
- Feb. 15 at 3 p.m., fundraiser for Ava Walkingstick's 8th grade trip - Feb. 22 at 3 p.m., fundraiser for the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility
- March 1 at 3 p.m., fundraiser for Doober George family

Sweetheart Market. Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrell 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 Fundrais-

er. 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 (formerly Tsali Manor). Info:

- March 15. Bingo
- April 14. Basket Raffle
- May 25-31. Silent Auction

EBCI COMMUNITY EVENTS

Protect the Eastern Hellbender event. Feb. 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Cherokee Choices on 806 Acquoni Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. Learn about the Eastern Hellbender and its cultural, ecological, and environmental importance. Craft impactful public comments to include Indigenous voices on the proposed inclusion of the Hellbender on the endangered species list. Free dinner.

Sweetheart Market. Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrell Sports & Recreation Com-

plex in Cherokee, N.C. Shopping, food, and fun. Lunch by Melishia. Girl Scout cookies. Info: Denise Walkingstick (828) 508-2211

Surge Celebration – Worship and Word. Feb. 6-8 at 6:30 p.m. and Feb. 9 at 10:45 a.m. at Yellowhill Baptist Church at 297 Yellowhill Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. Preaching by Bro. Billy Wayne Arrington and Bro. Jonathan Frady. Singing by Sister Brenda Cannon and various groups. Men's and Women's Conference on Feb. 8

"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 Trust 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.

Valentine's Day Open Craft

Night. Feb. 12 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Qualla Boundary Public Library in Cherokee, N.C. Food, fun, and more. Hinigoliya participants will receive extra points.

MANNA Foodbank Community Market. Feb. 20 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. (or, until food is gone) at the Wolftown Gym at 27 Long Branch Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. This event is free and open to all community members. Stop by for free grocery





Popeye is a domestic duck who lives in Aniwodihi (Painttown) with humans Kelby, Camreigh, and Kamiyah.



staples, produce, and other perishables from MANNA Foodbank. Info: (828) 359-6930, chumwalk@ ebci-nsn.gov

EBCI COMMUNITY REGULAR MEETINGS/EVENTS

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 Robbins-



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A long-forgotten promise is recalled. It's not too late to follow up on it. You might find a pleasant surprise waiting. Meanwhile, see a doctor about a pesky health problem.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The best way to get over a personal disappointment is to get out, meet old friends, and make new ones! One of those new friends could very well become a special person in your life.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A chance to invest comes with some strings attached that could cause economic problems later on. Be careful. Cupid favors romantic possibilities with a loving Libra or a passionate Pisces.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A simple problem threatens to turn into a legal showdown unless it's cleared up soon. Wishing it away won't help. In addition, a telephone call could lead to a change in travel plans.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A close friend who suddenly becomes remote is in need of your warm reassurance. Give it generously. Meanwhile, a misunderstanding on the job creates the potential for future problems. Settle it quickly.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Career advancement involves the need for added training. The investment of your time and effort will pay off. In other news, some stormy personal situations begin to calm down.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Scale back on your grandiose

ville, N.C., every fourth Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. All ages are welcome.

NAIA Daughters meetings.

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.

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

see **EVENTS** next page

schemes for a while. Neither the time nor the circumstances are right to make the huge financial investment needed to see the matter through. A Gemini has romance on the mind.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You could soon face a fascinating dilemma: Do you continue seeing a very special person who is currently in your life or renew a relationship with another person who will suddenly return from your past?

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Financial problems need your attention. It's a good idea to cut back on unnecessary expenses until these money matters are under control. Then go out and have a great time!

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) What you may now see as a good reason to end a relationship could turn out to be based more on supposition than substance. Don't make any rash decisions.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Change is the watchword for this week. Some Aquarians will be moving to new places while others will be taking new career paths. Steer clear of a family dispute.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Be prepared for a romantic disappointment to become a fading memory with the arrival of a new love — possibly a Gemini. Meanwhile, talk to someone you trust about developing your idea into a marketable product.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a high regard for loyalty. You give it freely, and you expect it to be returned. You never flinch from making a decision, even if it involves much agitation and soul-searching.

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by Freddy Groves

New benefits guide for 2025

The Department of Veterans Affairs has released a new publication that you'll want to see. The "2025 VA Federal Benefits Guide for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers" is now available.

Go online to va.gov and search for "pamphlet 80-25-1" for a link to the handbook.

This 120-page handbook is full of info you may need, if not now then later. Whether it's education benefits, life insurance, home loans or mental health resources and more, it's there.

Just seeing it all in one publication is an eye-opener. We really do have a lot of benefits. The guide is well done; somebody was thinking about it when they included all the eligibility requirements for each benefit, including the periods of service.

Right in the front is a list of help phone numbers, ranging from Camp Lejeune Family Member Program, to National Cemetery Scheduling Office, to 72-Hour Emergency Care Notification Line and many more. This is followed by pages of department websites, complete with click links right in the online document.

Save the link as a bookmark on your computer so you can find it again.

Getting a printed copy, however, might be a bit difficult. A recent VA news release says that "a limited number" of copies might be available at your closest VA facility. (See www. va.gov/find-locations for the ones near you.) Which means that by the time you read this, they'll be gone. I would hope that veteran service organizations will print out a few copies of the handbook to have for members to use.

If you don't have a computer to access the handbook and your local VA facility doesn't have copies, you can call the VA with your questions at 800-827-1000 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday. They'll get you to the right department.

For another collection of resources, see www.va.gov/welcome-kit for a Welcome Kit, even if you're not new to the VA. It's 53 pages and includes a mobile app for download.

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Cold weather can be deadly for outdoor cats

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I care for a rescued barn cat who refuses to come indoors — she will come onto the porch for food and water, and let me pet her, but that's about it. I was able to get "Gertie" spayed a few years back, so that's no longer a problem. However, I worry about her in the cold weather. What do you recommend to keep outdoor cats from suffering in freezing temperatures? — Caroline in Roanoke, Virginia

DEAR CAROLINE: Shelter is important during the coldest months of the year, and even if an outdoor cat has survived OK in past winters, that can change — especially as they get older.

Food, water and shelter are the three biggest things you can provide to help an outdoor cat survive and remain healthy during the winter. Place fresh water in a container that won't freeze easily, such as a thick-walled dish.

The Humane Society of the United States recommends building (or purchasing) an outdoor cat shelter that is appropriate for their size—not too snug, but not so large that it can't hold in the cat's body heat (www.humanesociety.org/resources/how-care-outdoor-catswinter).

You can line the inside of the shelter with Mylar sheets that reflect body heat even better. For bedding, an old pillowcase filled with packing peanuts or crumpled newspaper is helpful, or you can use straw. Place the shelter near where you've observed the cat resting, or try placing it on the porch next to her food and water. (Don't put water inside the shelter in case it spills.)

Remove and replace bedding every couple of weeks to keep things fresh and help maintain warmth.

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

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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.

HEALTH & SPORTS EVENTS

Power Princess Afterschool Boxing Program. Starts Feb. 10 and will be held Mondays from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Ages 10-14 girls. Info: Keahana Lambert (828) 359-6193, keahlamb@ebci-nsn.gov

Women's Boxing Program.

Starts Feb. 10. Mondays from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. and Tuesdays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Info: Keahana Lambert at keahlamb@ebci-nsn.gov

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.

Big Y 40+ Basketball League.

Will be played on Mondays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Big Y Gym in Cherokee, N.C. Registration is open until Feb. 26. Fee is \$40. 40+ and over league for men and women; games will be played 3-on-3 half court with 12-minute halves. Maximum of six on a roster. There will be a maximum of six men's and six women's teams. Info: Ben Bradley (828) 507-3392, benjbrad@eb-ci-nsn.gov

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. Signups start at 12 p.m., games start at
12:30 p.m. 5-person roster. Entry
fee per team is \$20. Ages 14-16.

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

(All meetings are held in the Cherokee Tribal Council House in Cherokee, N.C. unless otherwise noted.) **Reports to Council.** Feb. 5 at 9 a.m.

Work Session on Sovereign Immunity. Feb. 5 at 1 p.m. Tribal Council regular session. Feb. 6 at 8:30 a.m.

Enrollment Committee. Feb. 7 at 9 a.m.

Community Services Committee. Feb. 10 at 9 a.m.

Lands Acquisition Committee. Feb. 10 at 1 p.m.

HIP Committee. Feb. 12 at 8:30 a.m.

Parks & Rec. Committee. Feb. 13 at 1 p.m.

Roads Commission. Feb. 18 at 9

Timber Committee. Feb. 18 at 10:30 a.m.

Planning Board. Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. **Health Board.** Feb. 19 at 8:30

Election Services Presentation. Feb. 19 at 1 p.m.

Qualla Housing Committee. Feb. 20 at 8:30 a.m.

Constitution Convention. Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.

POW WOW LISTINGS

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

Spirit of Nations Pow Wow.

March 29 at Jefferson County High School in Dandridge, Tenn. Info: www.indiancreekproductions.com

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.AAwnc8o.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

WNC and BEYOND EVENTS

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.

Women & War exhibit. Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m., and Feb. 9 at 2 p.m. at the HART Theatre at 250 Pigeon St. in Waynesville, N.C. This is a powerful collection of monologues and vignettes that share the voices of women across different generations,

revealing their personal experiences of love, loss, courage, and resilience during times of war. Tickets: \$23 for adults, \$13 for students. Info: (828) 456-6322, visit harttheatre. org

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

Book Signing with area author Brenda Larson. Feb. 8 at 1 p.m. at City Lights Bookstore at 3 E. Jackson St. in Sylva, N.C. This is a meet-and-greet and book signing for her debut novel, "Beach Blast" which is described as follows: "When Carol Jackson planned a romantic trip for her second wedding anniversary, it wasn't to celebrate. It was a desperate attempt to save the marriage. But, when the body of a murdered man washes up at Carol's feet, her hopes for rekin-

dled love are swept into chaos as she becomes embroiled in a major criminal case."

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

Swain County Democratic Party hybrid in-person/remote meeting. Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. at the United Community Bank at 145 Slope St. in Bryson City, N.C. Discussions will include community events and planning future activities. All are welcome. Info: (828) 341-6348, email to Swain-CountyDems@gmail.com, or visit swaincountydems.com

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, par-

ticipate 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, blow guns, 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, roger-smoker@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

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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)

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 ser-

vices and meals. Pastor Rev. Owen

Isaacs (828) 242-0754

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

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

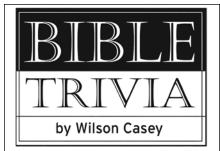
Cherokee United Methodist Church. Hwy 19 – Soco Road. Sunday Church Service 11 a.m. Wednesday dinner at 6 p.m. followed by Bible Study. Pastor Robert Griffin (828) 582-0564

Cherokee Wesleyan Church.

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

Christian Acts Church at the Crossroads. 3501 Hwy. 441, Whittier, N.C. (near Mountain Credit Union). Sunday School and Continental Breakfast 10 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m., Wednesday service – music practice at 5 p.m. and Bible Study at 6 p.m., Saturday Prayer Service 6 p.m. (828) 556-0115

Echota Baptist Church. 1274 Birdtown Road. Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Morning Service: 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service: 6



- 1. Is the book of 3 Timothy (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. Who said, "Lo, I dwell in a house of cedars but the ark of the covenant ... remaineth under curtains"? *David, Nathan, Saul, Solomon*
- 3. From Numbers 12, why was Miriam shut out of camp for seven days? *Ungodly act, Leprous, Fasting, Lent*
- 4. Who took David in as his own after the slaying of Goliath? *Jonathan, Solomon, Saul, Eliakim*
- 5. About how tall was Goliath in approximate cubits? 3, 4, 5, 6
- 6. Upon which mountain did Aaron die? *Hor, Carmel, Pisgah, Sinai*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) David, 3) Leprous, 4) Saul, 5) Six, 6) Hor

Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.

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Moments in time

- On Feb. 17, 1998, the United States defeated Canada by 3-1 to take home the gold medal in the first women's hockey tournament held at the Winter Olympics, in Nagano, Japan.
- On Feb. 18, 2003, Kim Daehan ignited a gasoline-filled container inside a subway train in Daegu, South Korea. The resulting blaze engulfed the six-car train and spread to another that pulled into the station minutes later, killing 198 people and injuring nearly 150 more. Daehan later confessed to police that he'd wanted to commit suicide and chose a crowded place to do so because he didn't wish to die alone.
- On Feb. 19, 1777, the Continental Congress voted to promote Thomas Mifflin; Arthur St. Clair; William Alexander, Lord Stirling; Adam Stephen; and Benjamin Lincoln to the rank of major general, leaving Brigadier General Benedict Arnold feeling slighted that five junior officers received advancement ahead of him and, in response, threatening to resign from the Patriot army.
- On Feb. 20, 1939, New York City's Madison Square Garden hosted a rally celebrating the rise of Nazism in Germany. Inside, more than 20,000 attendees raised Nazi salutes toward a 30-foot-tall portrait of George Washington flanked by swastikas, while police and some 100,000 protesters gathered outside.
- On Feb. 21, 1862, at the Battle of Valverde, Confederate troops attacked Union troops near Fort Craig in New Mexico Territory in the first major engagement of the Civil War in the far West. The fighting yielded heavy casualties but no decisive result.
- On Feb. 22, 2006, a gang of at least six men, some armed, made off with 53 million pounds from the Securitas bank depot in Kent, Great Britain the largest such theft in British history.
- On Feb. 23, 2020, Ahmaud Arbery, a 25-year-old Black man, was shot to death by a white father and son while jogging in Georgia. William Bryan, who filmed the shooting on his phone, was arrested and charged with felony murder and criminal attempt to commit false imprisonment, while Gregory and Travis McMichael were arrested on charges of murder and aggravated assault, after Bryan's video of the killing was released.

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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. Yearround 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 Wolftown Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship 11a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 6pm, Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6pm. Pastor Bro. Dan Conseen, 497-1611, mbccherokee@ outlook.com, Website: www.macedoniabaptistcherokee. church

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

Old Antioch Baptist Church.

2868 Wrights Creek Rd. Sunday morning service 10 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service 6 p.m.

Olivet United Methodist

Church. 811 Olivet Church Road. Sunday School 9am. Sunday Service 9:45am.

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 Eas-

ter 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 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

TRADING POST DGAQJ Do sojoj

CLASSIFIEDS

Upcoming Yard Sales at Granny's Kitchen in Cherokee, N.C: Feb. 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23. Info: (828) 508-6743. **2/12**

For Sale: RING Pro Doorbell, dining room table with four high chairs and two stools, king size bed frame, twin bed frame and new mattress, propane monitor heater, portable kerosene heater, Epson computer printer. Call or text Charlene Owle (828) 788-3723 for more information. 2/12

For Sale: Spray-tech paint sprayer \$200. Tile saw with many extras \$200. Pipe threader tool kits (2) \$50 for both. Freud Dado set \$75. Located in Whittier (828) 736-2413. 2/12

For Sale: Rawlings left-handed

ball glove \$15. Labeled "RBG 36, deep well pocket, Ken Griffin, Jr." 12.5 inches. Used one season for girl's softball. Can meet at Cherokee Food Lion. (828) 736-2414. **2/12**

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. **2/26**

EMPLOYMENT

Project Manager – Kituwah Services, LLC

Kituwah Global Government Group, LLC (KG3) and its subsidiaries are the government contracting arm of The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). Kituwah Services provides Federal, State and Local government customers goods and services such as: project/program management, information technology, construction services, logistics, manufacturing, and administrative support services. KG3 is comprised of multiple companies that focus on providing one or more services. Our employees have the experience and technical skills to provide quality solutions and solve complex challenges for our valued customers.

The Opportunity

This is a hybrid position. Successful candidate will have experience in data networks, structured cabling, physical security systems and AV. They will have a home office environment capable of conducting sensitive and confidential business supporting government projects. This includes access to

the Internet with sufficient bandwidth to support typical email, MS SharePoint and Teams calls. What You'll Work On

What You'll Work On Respond to solicitations

Plan and develop project scope. Create and lead a team, including subcontractors.

Monitor project progress and set deadlines.

Overcome obstacles that arise. Manage the project budget. Ensure stakeholder satisfaction. Evaluate project performance conflicts.

Required Qualifications

Two (2) Years proven experience in Project Management of technology installation contracts for structured cabling, networking, physical security systems and AV systems.

Two (2) years proven experi-





ence in Estimating and Proposal creation.

RCDD, PMP or TPM Certification Intermediate knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Acrobat, and Outlook. Knowledge of Microsoft Project and Visio a plus. Must live within an hour of a major airport in the continental United States.

Anyone interested should pick up an application and complete position description at the KG3 office building, 1158 Seven Clans Lane, across the street from Waffle House and First Citizens Bank between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday or email Maggie Toineeta at maggie. toineeta@kituwhag3.com or Chelsi Corpening Chelsi.corpening@kituwahg3.com. Veteran preference does apply, and a current job application must be submitted. Resumes

and cover letters will be accepted with all applications. **2/5**

LEGAL NOTICES

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 fudicary(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 fudicary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICA-TION

Marcela Garcia

P.O Box 1834 Cherokee NC 28719 **2/12**

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 fudicary(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 fudicary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICA-TION

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 fudicary(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 fudicary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICA-TION

Jordan E. Tranter 94 C Bradley Dr Cherokee NC 28719 **2/19**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Cherokee, North Carolina Estate File No. 25-006 Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

LILLIE MAE TUCKER a/k/a LILY MAY TUCKER

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudicary(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 fudicary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICA-TION

Noel J. Blakely 3542 Wrights Creek Rd Cherokee, NC. 28719

Miriam Blakely 3542 Wrights Creek Rd Cherokee,NC. 28719

CHEROKEE INN

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 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.

JOIN OUR TEAM



WE ARE HIRING



Open Positions

- General Laborer (Cultivation)
- General Laborer (Packaging)

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

2/26pd

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

Request for Proposals

The EBCI Pageant Board is requesting proposals from an experienced, and capable artist to design and make the crowns for the 2025 2026 pageant winners.

Scope of Work/Deliverables

This RFP is for the design and make of:

- 1. 4 Crowns: Miss Cherokee, Teen Miss Cherokee, Jr. Miss Cherokee, and Little Miss Cherokee.
- 2. 4 beaded EBCI Seals 2025 Teen, Jr. Miss, and Little Miss Crown Specifics

Teen Miss 7", Junior Miss 5" and Little Miss 3" high, EBCI seal in center (seal must have all word-

- Use any colors/design for personal touch
- Must present design and type of beads that will be used on the crown to the Board. Bid will not be accepted without presentation of design.
- 4 4" Beaded Tribal Seals 2025 Miss Cherokee Crown 9" high, EBCI seal in center (seal must have all wording)
- · Use any colors/design for personal touch
- Must present design and type of beads that will be used on the crown to the Board. Bid will not be accepted without presentation of design.

All submissions and questions must be sent to the EBCI Pageant Board at ebci.pageant.board@ gmail.com

Deadline is February 7th. 2/5

Request for Qualifications:

Procurement of Construction Manager at Risk Services for New Robbinsville Elementary School The Graham County Board of

Education (hereinafter "Board") is accepting submittals for construction manager at risk services for a new Robbinsville Elementary School, to be construction on a land owned by the Board adjacent or near to the current Robbinsville High School and Middle School buildings (collectively, the "Project").

The Board is hereby soliciting responses from capable and experienced construction management firms. A selection committee will determine a first and an alternate candidate and negotiate scope of work and fee to be considered by the Board. If an agreement cannot be reached with the selected candidate, negotiations with the alternate will commence.

It is anticipated that the Board will select the Construction Manager At Risk (CMAR) delivery method; the selected architect shall work in cooperation with the Board of Education and selected CMAR to design and construct the Project in line with the Board's programmatic needs, standards, goals, schedule, and budget endorsed by the Board.

Deadline for receipt of responses is February 24, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. A short list of firms will be determined, and the Board will interview the design teams with a selection being made in early March, 2025.

The full RFQ including a statement better defining the scope of work is available on the Graham County Schools website at www. graham.k12.nc.us. All questions, inquiries and submittals shall be made only to:

David Matheson **Assistant Superintendent Graham County Schools** 52 Moose Branch Road Robbinsville, NC 28771 Phone: (828) 479-9820, ext. 1012

Fax: (828) 479-9844

Email: dmatheson@graham.k12.

Under no circumstances shall contacts be made with other Graham County Schools' personnel or members of the Board regarding this Request for Qualifications and selection process. Based upon interviews, a firm and alternate will be named followed by negotiations for a service fee. 2/5

Request for Qualifications

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RALEIGH, NC **OPERATION AND** MAINTENANCE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is requesting interested Operations and Maintenance Contractors submit qualifications for a Statewide Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Resilience Services Solicitation - Multiple Regions. This solicitation is for the maintenance, repair, replacement, installation, documentation and management of the Department's ITS devices, ITS communications infrastructure and related infrastructure throughout the state.

Interested parties should send a request, by e-mail only, to rfq_package_request@ncdot. gov for a formal package detailing the requirements for submitting a Statement of Qualifications. The following contact information must be included in the e-mail request: company name, physical address, city, state, zip code, contact person, phone number and current e-mail address. The Statements of Qualifications must be submitted, by e-mail only, to db_soq_submittal@ ncdot.gov by 3:00 p.m. on February

All available Project informa-

tion is on the NCDOT Alternative Delivery link of the website at connect.ncdot.gov under "Bidding & Letting". Project information, including each project's anticipated scope, is continually being added, so it is advisable to monitor this website for the most up to date information.

Technical questions related to the RFQ package, or other project related questions, should be sent via email to altdelivery@ncdot. gov. For tracking purposes, questions will only be answered through email requests.

When making requests by email, it is advisable to request a return receipt for your records. 2/5

Request for Proposals General Notice

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

Turnkey of New Construction Single Family Homes

Three (3) 3- Bedroom Single Family Homes. Blueprints will be provided. One (1) 5- Bedroom Single Family Home. Blueprints will be provided. QHS reserves the right to reject all submissions. QHS reserves the right not to 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 28, 2025, at 4:00 P.M. Please contact Robert Welch at robewelc@ebci-nsn.gov or by phone at 828-359-6344. **2/19**



Hours or an Associates Degree
CMS Gear Up Coordinator
Varsity Baseball Assistant Coach
CMS Track and Field Head Coach
CMS Track and Field Assistant Coach

K-5 Elementary Teacher Assistant

K-5 Special Education Teacher Assistant - 2 positions 6-8 Math 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)







BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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

(Analenisgi Outpatient, Analenisgi MAT, Integrated Classroom, Family Safety)

Inpatient Technician –PTI and FT – Analenisgi- \$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

FINANCE

Billing Analyst I - \$18.32 - \$20.67 Billing Analyst II - \$19.66 - \$22.25 Patient Access Specialist -PTRWB and Emergency Hire FT- \$17.12 - \$19.26

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

RADIOLOGY

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

Radiology Technologist II - PT - \$24.55 - \$27.99

Radiology Technologist II - PTRWB - \$24.55 - \$27.99

THIRD PARTY RESOURCE

Medicaid Coordinator - \$22.76 - \$25.89

TRIBAL OPTIONS

42

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 – ER – FT - \$17.12 - \$19.26 - \$3,000 Hiring Bonus

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 - Inpatient - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - PTI

RN - Inpatient - Night Shift - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - \$5,000 Hiring

Bonus

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

Care Manager Supervisor – TCM -\$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

Telemetry Nursing Assistant - \$19.66 - \$22.25

OPERATIONS

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

Dental Assistant II - \$18.32 - \$20.67

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 - PTI - \$21.13 - \$23.98

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

TSALI CARE CENTER

Certified Nursing Assistant - \$17. 12 - \$19.26 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus

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



Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

HUMAN RESOURCES
Cherokee, NC 28719
828-359-6388

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

Closing Sunday, February 09, 2025

- 1. Assistant Fire Chief Fire Department Operations (L15 \$61,776 \$77,230) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
- 2. Assistant EMS Chief EMS Operations (L16 \$68,827 \$86,050) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
- Senior Internal Auditor Internal Audit & Ethics (L15 \$61,776 \$77,230)
 Open Until Filled
- 1. Social Worker (Multiple) Family Safety Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 \$33.52 per hour) per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
- Child Advocate Coordinator Child Advocacy Public Health and Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
- 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
- Tribal Prosecutor II Criminal Law Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$76,877 - \$102,502)
- 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
- Driver Transit Operations (L8 \$16.94 \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
- 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)
- Legislative Legal Counsel Tribal Council Legislative Branch (L19 \$104,229 \$138,986)
- Family Safety Attorney Civil Law Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$76,877 - \$102,502)
- 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 \$21.59per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
- 23. Registered Nurse Tribal In Home Care Services Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 \$37.14per hour)
- 24. Transportation Facilities Coordinator Qualla Boundary Early Head Start & Head Start Public Health & Human Services (L9 \$17.27 \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
- 25. Part-time Early Childhood Language Specialist Kituwah Academy Education (L9 \$17.27 \$21.59 per hour)
- 26. Supervisor Adult Language KPEP CERS (L12 \$22.26 \$27.83 per hour)
- Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator Emergency Management (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
- 28. Quality Inspector Qualla Housing Housing (L10 \$18.74 \$23.43 per hour)
- 29. Carpenter Qualla Housing Housing (L10 \$18.74 \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
- Carpenter Assistant Facility Management Operations (L8 \$16.94 \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION



Cherokee Boys Club Job Announcement:

description can be picked up from the receptionist at the 8oys 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 828-407-9101

- (4) FT Teachers (\$31,800 \$39,750/year with Benefits)
- (2) Behavioral Techs (\$55,000 \$75,000/year with Benefits
- (1) Family Partnership Coordinator (\$55,000 \$75,000/year with Benefits)
- Education/Staff Supervisor (\$47,700 \$53,000/year with Benefits)

BUS & TRUCK

AGELINK

Seasonal Bus Drivers (August – May) (\$18.00/hour NO BENEFITS)

PT Truck/Tractor Operator (\$20.00/hour NO BENEFITS)

CHEROKEE CHILDREN'S HOME

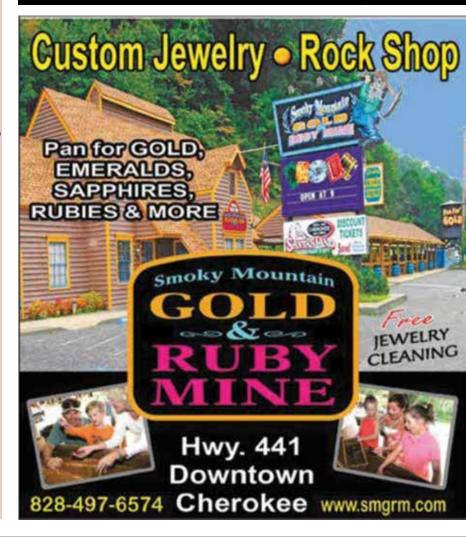
(1) PT Flexible (All 3 Shifts; M-F) (\$17.00/hour without Benefits) 730 AM - 330 PM

2:30 PM - 10:30 PM 11:30 PM - 7:30 AM

SHOP & GARAGE

- (1) FT- DETAIL TECH (\$31,800-\$39,750/year with Benefits)
- (2) Master Techs (\$39,750 \$47,700/year with Benefits)

SAFETY SENSITIVE



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

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

Request an extension. Maybe you need a couple more days until Gen Well or you get paid.

Payment Arrangements. Bring down an excessive bill into smaller payments on top of your regular monthly bill.

Get more proactive with these options:

Budget Billing. A consistent monthly payment for most of the year.

Pick your due date. Optimize your household budget with selecting the day of the month that works best for you.

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

For more information visit Billing & Payment Options - For Your Home - Duke Energy (duke-energy.com)

-Family Support Services





INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM SERVICES ON TRUST LANDS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Block Underpinning: Block underpinning will be installed for doublewides.

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE GOOD STUFF



100th wrestling win

Anasette Rain Cooper, center, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who wrestles for Swain Co. High School, recently got her 100th career win in high school. She is shown with her parents, Brandi and Cameron. (Photo courtesy of family)



Team North Carolina third in U.S.

Oaklan Deas (#10), a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, was selected to play for Team North Carolina at the 5 Star All American Championship on Jan. 18-20 in Daytona Beach, Fla. Deas played offensive right guard and defensive nose guard. Team North Carolina beat Wisconsin 27-0 on Saturday and defeated Illinois 12-6 on Sunday. They ended the weekend third in the country when they were defeated by Indiana 19-12 on Monday. (Photo courtesy of family)



BITES & BREWS HARRAH'S CHEROKEE

HARRAH'S CHEROKEE GAMEDAY

Sunday, February 9

Experience the action from the best seats in the Smokies. Indulge in gameday bites & beverages, plus plenty of tailgate games.



Tickets on Sale Now





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