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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of
anasgvti (may) 14-20,
2025

Flip the Script

Tribe celebrates Older Americans Month

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – In recognition of Older Americans Month, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Senior Citizens Program hosted an event at the old Cherokee High School on the morning of Friday, May 9. The event included an Elder's Walk, informational booths from various EBCI tribal programs, and a free lunch.

Monica Wildcatt, EBCI Senior

see **ELDERS** page 4



Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks, seated, signs a proclamation designating May 2025 as Older Americans Month for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians during an event held at the old Cherokee High School on the morning of Friday, May 9. Shown standing are Brenda Davis and Jamie Tranter. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



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



Image of the Week

This sassy elk was spotted at Kituwah, the Mother Town of the Cherokee located in western North Carolina, on Saturday, May 10. (Photo by Dakota Taylor)



Quote of the Week

“May 2025 has been proclaimed as Older Americans Month with the theme ‘Flip the Script on Aging’, focusing on transforming perceptions on aging and celebrating the contributions of older adults.”

- Monica Wildeatt, EBCI Senior Citizens Program manager, speaking at the Elder's Walk event held on Friday, May 9 at the old Cherokee High School

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 Letters critical of specifically named minor children will not be published.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; Indica Climbingbear; and Angela Lewis (Office of the Attorney General appointment).

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An Elder's Walk was a part of Friday's event.

ELDERS: From front page

Citizens Program manager, said, "Today, we celebrate you."

She spoke of the history of the month designation, "When Older Americans Month was established in 1963, only 17 million living Americans had reached their 65th birthday. About a third of older Americans lived in poverty and there were few programs to meet their needs...Historically, Older Americans Month has been a time to acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons to our country. In particular, those who defended our country."

Wildcatt added, "May 2025 has been proclaimed as Older Americans Month with the theme 'Flip the Script on Aging', focusing on transforming perceptions on aging and celebrating the contributions of older adults...this theme encourages communities to challenge stereotypes and misconceptions about aging, highlighting the valuable contributions older adults make to society."

EBCI Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks told the crowd, "We appreciate every one of you."

He thanked the various EBCI tribal programs working on services for elders. "We have to be proud of what we've accomplished. We still have some things to do...there are a lot of efforts that we can still move forward."

Ugviyuhi Hicks thanked the elders for their wisdom and importance within the community. "I appreciate you all because your voice is important on all of the things that we deal with. We may not always agree on every finite thing, but we want to hear from you. We want to hear from you on health care, housing, or any issue that affects our people. We appreciate each one of you and we know that our elder group is very special. We just thank you guys for all your wisdom and we thank you for all that you do for our communities."

Taline Ugviyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley said, "It's a joy to

have this event...we do a lot of work. We get beat up sometimes over how slow the projects go, but we want to take time on the projects to make sure they're right for all of our people, from the elders all the way down to the youngest member of the tribe."

He went on to say, "We take a lot of pride in our planning for every project that we do for the Tribe, regardless of what it is....we do appreciate everybody's opinion, whether it's good, bad, or whatever. We need to hear any comment or suggestion or whatever."

During Friday's event, Ugviyuhi Hicks signed the following proclamation designating May 2025 as Older Americans Month within the EBCI:

Whereas, May is Older Americans Month, a time for us to recognize and honor Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians older adults and their immense influence on every facet of American society; and

Whereas, through their wealth of life experience and wisdom, older adults guide our younger

generations and carry forward abundant cultural and historical knowledge; and

Whereas, older Americans improve our communities through intergenerational relationships, community service, civic engagement, and many other activities; and

Whereas, communities benefit when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds have the opportunity to participate and live independently; and

Whereas, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians must ensure that older Americans have the resources and support needed to stay involved in their communities - reflecting our commitment to inclusivity and connectedness; and

Now, therefore, I, Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians do hereby proclaim May 2025 as Older Americans Month. This year's theme, "Flip the Script," focusing on transforming perceptions of aging and celebrating the contributions of older adults.

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MAY 30TH
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RIDGETOP DAVE

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MAY 31ST
5PM - 8PM



ERIC EVERETT

Eric Everett from Asheville, NC will bring his high energy blend of rock, folk and blues for all to enjoy.

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More from Elder's event

In recognition of Older Americans Month, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Senior Citizens Program hosted an event at the old Cherokee High School on the morning of Friday, May 9.

Photos by Scott McKie B.P./One Feather





Three new ordinances submitted during May Dinilawigi (Tribal Council)

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Three new Ordinances were submitted during the Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) regular session on Thursday, May 1. The ordinances, which were all deemed read and tabled, cover topics affecting the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) including appointments to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA) Governing Board, licensure for cannabis licenses, and inheritance of possessory holdings.

Tabled Ord. No. 451 was submitted by (EBCI) Ugviyuihi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks and seeks to amend Cherokee Code Sec. 130-B which covers how appointments are made to the CIHA Governing Board.

This ordinance would amend Section 130B-3(b) to state that the Principal Chief appoint 10 members of the Governing Board – up from eight. Currently, the law reads, “Except for the initially appointed Board members, in selecting a nominee to fill a vacancy or renew the expiring term of a Board member, the Principal Chief shall select from a panel of two or more potential nominees recommended by the current Governing Board.”

The proposed ordinance would change that language to state, “Except for the initially appointed Board members, in selecting a nominee to fill a vacancy or renew the expiring term of a Board member, the Principal Chief shall solicit applications and resumes by public notice of the opportunity.”

The legislation would also add a sentence to Section 130B-3(b) stating, “Nominations and appointments shall be made so that at any one time a majority of members of the Governing Board are health care professionals currently licensed and in good standing with the appropriate licensing body and who have practiced and earned their primary income under that license for not less than 5 years. Retired health care professionals, who were licensed and in good standing when they retired, may also be nominated and appointed. When possible, nominations and appointments should be made so that the Governing Board includes in its membership a physician, a dentist, an attorney, and an auditor or certified public accountant.”

Tabled. Ord. No. 452 was submitted by James Bradley, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and seeks to amend the EBCI’s cannabis law.

The proposed ordinance adds a new part (f) to Cherokee Code Sec. 17-51 that reads, “The Board shall to the greatest extent practicable, ensure that persons who have been adversely affected by cannabis prohibition have equal opportunity to obtain licenses and registration cards and to participate in the cannabis industry of the Tribe.”

It also seeks to amend Sec. 17-74 (Ownership limitation). It currently reads, “There shall be no cannabis facility license, other than a license for a cannabis laboratory, issued to any person or entity other than an entity wholly owned by the Tribe organized under tribal law or one of its wholly owned subsidiaries organized under tribal law.”

The proposed amendment would change the first part to read, “There shall be no cannabis facility license, other than a license for a cannabis laboratory or cannabis cultivation facility or cannabis processing facility...”

In the whereas section of the legislation, Bradley states, “The Tribe’s laws on marijuana should also be changed so that enrolled members may be able to apply for and receive a license to cultivate marijuana.”

Tabled Ord. No. 453 was

submitted by Sasha McCoy Watty, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. It seeks to amend Cherokee Code Section 28-4 dealing with the inheritance of possessory holdings.

Currently, Sec. 28-4(a)(1) reads, “If the holder of the possessory right shall die and leave surviving a wife or a husband who is also a member of the Band, the survivor shall have a life interest in the possessory holding.”

Watty seeks to amend that language to read, “If the holder of the possessory right shall die and leave surviving a wife or a husband who is also a member of the Band, the survivor shall inherit all of the deceased owner’s interest in the possessory holding.”

In the Whereas section of the legislation she proposed, Watty explains, “A life estate is temporary and prevents the enrolled member surviving spouse from selling the possessory holding or giving it to somebody else in the surviving spouse’s own will; and giving an enrolled member surviving spouse a mere life estate deprives that person the full value and ownership of the possessory holding.”

These three pieces of legislation are expected to be on the agenda for the June session of Dinilawigi.

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EBCI Govt. Explained: The Judicial Branch

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The tribal government of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) has three branches including executive, legislative, and judicial. The first two are covered in the EBCI Charter & Governing Document. The third, the Judicial Branch, was established by Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) in the Cherokee Code with the passage of Ord. No. 29 on Jan. 6, 2000.

The legislation, submitted by then-Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Mary W. Thompson, stated in the Whereas section, “The Bureau of Indian Affairs has operated a Court of Indian Offenses for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians since 1981, with limited jurisdiction under federal law; and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has expressed its intent to contract for and assume responsibility of the court system pursuant to the Indian Self Determination and Educational Assistance Act, Public Law 93-638, for purposes of establishing a tribal court with full jurisdiction to hear and decide disputes that arise within its territory,”

Courts and their powers

According to Cherokee Code Sec. 7-1(a), “The Judicial Branch

shall be comprised of one Supreme Court, one Trial Court, and such other Trial Courts of Special Jurisdiction as established by law. The Supreme Court shall be known as the ‘Cherokee Supreme Court’ and the Trial Court shall be known as the ‘Cherokee Court’. Trial Courts of Special Jurisdiction shall be established by the Tribal Council and named according to their function (e.g., Cherokee Juvenile Court).”

Sec. 7-1(b) outlines the makeup of each Court. “The Supreme Court shall be comprised of one Chief Justice and two Associate Justices. The Trial Court shall be comprised of one Chief Judge and two Associate Judges, and other Associate Judges of the Trial Courts of Special Jurisdiction.”

The powers of the Court are outlined in Sec. 7-4 and Sec. 7-5. The first deals with the Trial Court

and states it “shall have the power to interpret and apply the Charter, laws, customs, and traditions of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and to make findings of fact and conclusions of law and issue all remedies in law and relief in equity”.

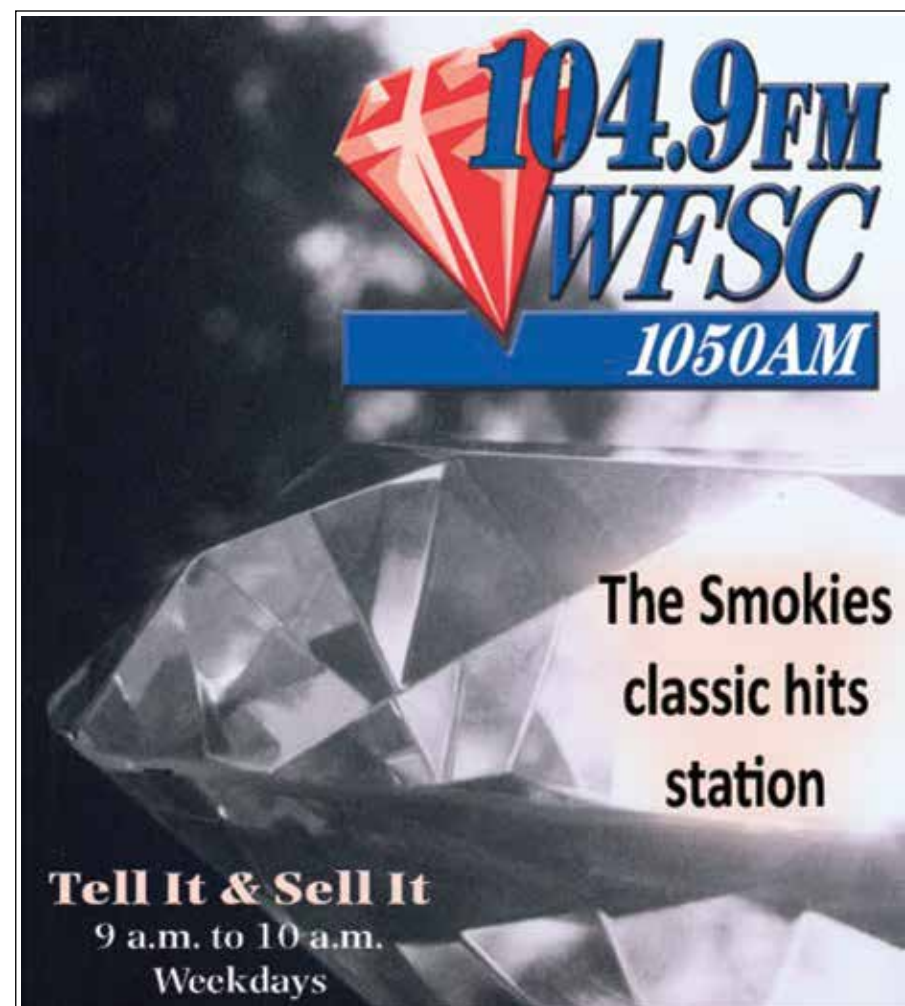
The subsequent section deals with the Cherokee Supreme Court and states it “shall have the power to interpret and apply the Charter, laws, customs, and traditions of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and to make conclusions of law. The Supreme Court shall not have the power to make findings of fact.” It goes on to state “shall have the power to declare any law void if such violates the Charter and Governing Document of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, enacted in 1986, as it may from time to time be amended”.



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One interesting part of the law in the Cherokee Code on the Judicial Branch is Sec. 7-25 (Amendment) which states, “To protect the independence of the Judicial Branch, this Chapter may only be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the Cherokee Tribal Council and ratification by the Principal Chief.” For context, all other tribal law being presented only requires a majority vote of the Dinilawigi.

Jurisdiction

The jurisdiction of the Judicial Branch is covered in Sec. 7-2(a) which states, “The jurisdiction of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, including the Judicial Branch, extends to all persons, activities, and property within the territory of the Eastern Band based upon inherent territorial or popular sovereignty. The

territory of the Eastern Band is comprised of all lands within the Qualla Boundary, all lands held by the United States for the benefit of the Eastern Band or any member of the Eastern Band, and all other lands acquired by the Eastern Band, notwithstanding the issuance of any right-of-way. The territory includes all surface and sub-surface lands, submerged lands under navigable or non-navigable waters, all air and water, and all natural resources. Every person who enters the territory shall, by entering, be deemed to have consented to the jurisdiction of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.”

Now, it does go on to state in Sec. 7-2(c), “The Judicial Branch shall not have jurisdiction over matters in which the exercise of jurisdiction has been specifically

prohibited by a binding decision of the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit or by an Act of Congress.”

One Supreme Court case that affects jurisdiction is *Oliphant v. Suquamish Indian Tribe* (1978). According to the Supreme Court syllabus on this case, “Indian tribal courts do not have inherent criminal jurisdiction to try and to punish non-Indians and hence may not assume such jurisdiction unless specifically authorized to do so by Congress.”

As a result of this landmark case, federally recognized tribes do not have criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians, but they do have jurisdiction over their own tribal members and members of other federally recognized tribes.

Tribes did gain some jurisdiction over non-Indians with the Violence Against Women Act. According to information from the U.S. Dept. of Justice, “Prior to the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA 2013), if a victim was Indian and the perpetrator was non-Indian, the crime could be prosecuted only by the United States or, in some circumstances, by the state in which the tribe’s Indian Country is located. VAWA 2013 included a provision recognizing the authority of participating tribes to exercise ‘special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction’ over certain

defendants, regardless of their Indian or non-Indian status, who commit crimes of domestic violence or dating violence or violate certain protection orders in Indian Country. The Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 expanded this jurisdiction to cover additional crimes, including assault of tribal justice personnel, child violence, obstruction of justice, sexual violence, sex trafficking, and stalking and renamed it to ‘special tribal criminal jurisdiction’.”

The Cherokee Court is one of a few in Indian Country to utilize the enhanced sentencing made available to tribal courts with the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010. That law gave courts of federally recognized tribes the ability to impose a penalty of up to three years and a \$15,000 fine per count or a total penalty of up to nine years. Prior to that law being enacted, tribal courts were limited to one year and a \$5,000 fine per count.

Appointments and terms for justices and judges

Sec. 7-11 states that justices and judges in the EBCI Judicial Branch are all appointed by the Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) and confirmed, following a confirmation hearing, by Dinilawigi (Tribal Council). Sec. 7-12 sets their terms of office as follows: Chief Justice, six years; Chief Judge, six years; Associate Judges for Trial Court, six years; Associate Justices, four years; Associate Judges for the Trial Court, four years.

According to Sec. 7-14(b), “All persons appointed as associate justices of the Cherokee Supreme Court and as associate judges of the Cherokee Tribal Court shall also be attorneys licensed by and in good standing with the North Carolina State Bar.”



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Ask the One Feather

William Holland Thomas – Ugvwiyuhi?

Kathi Littlejohn, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), asked: **Why is William Holland Thomas listed as a Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians on ebc.gov?**

The Cherokee One Feather inquired with the EBCI THPO (Tribal Historic Preservation Office) who related that William Holland Thomas is not listed as a Ugvwiyuhi on their official list. That information was relayed to the officials over the ebc.gov website, and Thomas' name has been removed.

Cases dismissed in court

A reader who wished to remain anonymous asked:

Why are so many cases dismissed within the Cherokee Tribal Court?

Leo J. Phillips, lead tribal prosecutor within the EBCI Office of the Tribal Prosecutor, answered:

First, I want to say thank you to the Community for this opportunity to give back, for the 35 years of support and encouragement to my Practice of law. I was always grateful to Cherokee Community for the chance to grow and expand my professional career. In this new position of Lead Prosecutor, I hope to give back the fruits of my labor for the benefit of this Community.

Three concepts in the law guide me in my daily decision

making; not to selectively prosecute some while not prosecuting others for the same crime, two to be fair and equal with plea offers and in some cases dismissals, or trials in others and finally to prosecute only those matters as set by Tribal Council through the Cherokee Code. Dispensing justice must be fair and equal and not allow a higher standard for some and a lower standard for other Defendants.

Our Court is unique and different from any other Court in the State; whether its State or Federal. The basis of our Court is restorative in nature. In other words, our office tries to encourage the Defendant; through their legal counsel to take advantage of the programs offered, as a form of punishment. Our goal is to enable that person to return as a protective member of this Community.

If someone is charged with a crime involving substance or alcohol use, then as part of any sentence we include the aspect of treatment to enable that person to return to the Community as a productive member, without an addiction.

My term with your community in this role started on Aug. 5, 2024, and since that time many matters had to be dismissed with leave (which means it can come back after further investigation) or without leave. Many cases were dismissed without leave because the victim did not wish to prosecute, or victim or witnesses left the area, or in some matters there was a problem with the investigation.

Going forward I hope to work closer with law enforcement with the help of Chief Nedeau and Cody White (Tribal Police Attorney) to avoid as many of these situations as possible. So matters in all cases have the information needed to go forward to a plea or trial.

Note many of the dismissals taken by myself or someone in the Office of the Prosecutor because of the age of the case. Many cases I have come across in my time here included matters as old as 10-12 years old. The matters go back to 2020 to the present.

I hope this helps to explain the situation, but as always I will be available to answer further questions as best as I can, preserving the rights of privacy of those involved.

Finances for casino in Indiana

A reader asked:

Can you publish a profit/loss report on the tribally-owned Caesar's Southern Indian casino? How is the Tribe benefiting from this casino? If there are profits, how are they being used?

The One Feather sent this question to Terri Henry, EBCI governmental affairs liaison; Paxton Myers, EBCI Chief of Staff; and Sheyahshe Littledave, EBCI Office of the Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) public information officer, on Wednesday, April 16. On April 16, they responded, "We'll get a response to you as soon as we can." No additional response has been received.

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theonefeather.com/events/ to see what's going on in Cherokee and beyond.

CCS School Board holds April meeting

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The School Board of Cherokee Central Schools (CCS) met on Tuesday, April 22 in the Central Office Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by Chairperson Jennifer Thompson.

Co-Vice Chairperson Melanie Lambert led roll call. Members and staff present included Jennifer Thompson, chairperson and Elawodi (Yellowhill) rep.; Tara Reed-Cooper, co-vice chairperson and Widagalinidisgv (Big Y) rep.; Micah Swimmer, Aniwodihi

(Painttown) rep.; Kristina Hyatt, Kolanvyi (Big Cove) rep.; Melanie Lambert, co-vice chairperson and Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) rep.; Roberta Toineeta, Wayohi (Wolfstown) rep.; Dr. Beverly Payne, assistant superintendent; Consuela Girty, superintendent; Jo Ray, human resources director; Diane Driver, executive administrative assistant; John Henning, attorney; and Michael Stamper, Tribal Council representative.

The opening prayer was led by Payne.

The previous meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Toineeta seconded by Swimmer. Deborah Foerst, CCS finance director, and Rhonica Via, CBC finance director, provided financial reports. Foerst shared that beginning next school year, middle school and high school athletics

will have separate budgets for tailored budgeting.

The consent agenda was approved with a motion by Reed-Cooper seconded by Swimmer. The following resolution was approved from the consent agenda:

25-157: REDACTED is approved as a Substitute Teacher for Cherokee High School for this school year.

The board held second readings of the following policy revisions, all of which were approved unanimously: 6120 Student Health Services, 6140 Student Wellness, 8305 Federal Grant Administration, 9125 Participation by Minority Businesses and TERO Vendors. The board held first readings of the following policy revisions: 4320 Tobacco Products-Students, 4329/7311 Bullying and Harassing Behavior Prohibited, 4334/5035/7345 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (DRONES), 4370 Student Discipline Hearing Procedures, 5022 Registered Sex Offenders, 5026/7250 Smoking and Tobacco Products, 4230 Communicable Diseases-Students, 7262 Communicable Diseases-Em-

ployees.

Girty provided an updated on a meeting between Ugviyuihi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks; Terri Henry, governmental affairs liaison; Paxton Myers, chief of staff; Chairperson Thompson; Superintendent Girty, and North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) Commissioner Que Tucker. They voiced concerns regarding past incidents during athletic events this school year. Girty said Commissioner Tucker acknowledged the concerns and was already aware of the incidents, expressing a strong interest in visiting Western North Carolina to meet directly with athletic personnel from all schools. She said Tucker is committed to addressing these issues and implementing changes to improve sportsmanship and conduct. Thompson added that she felt the meeting was productive and their concerns were heard.

The board entered closed session at 7:34 p.m., and exited closed at 8:53 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Bill Taylor Painttown Tribal Council Candidate



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If you have a question for a tribal program or entity of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, submit it to us and we will pose it to them and respond back. Please keep your questions program- or community-based – no personal questions.

**Submit your question(s) to us at
Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com.**

**CIPD Arrest Report for
April 28 to May 4, 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.

Crowe-Key, Feather Lace – age 26
Arrested: April 28
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Providing or Possessing Contraband, Probation Violation

Frazier, Steel Eugene – age 37
Arrested: April 28
Released: April 28
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Fuller, Jamie Morgan – age 26
Arrested: April 28
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Domestic and Dating Violence

Radford, Hunter Allen – age 25
Arrested: April 28

Released: April 28
Charges: Driving While Impaired

Sherrill, Tameka Schalene – age 34
Arrested: April 28
Released: April 29
Charges: Resisting Public Officer, Probation Violation

Arch, Cassandra Ann – age 33
Arrested: April 29
Released: May 1
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Johnson, Michael James – age 36
Arrested: April 29
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Violations of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders, Providing or Possessing Contraband

Otter, Logan – age 30
Arrested: April 29
Released: April 29
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Taylor, Stephanie Nichole – age 34
Arrested: April 29
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

Phan, Tien – age 47
Arrested: April 30
Released: April 30
Charges: Second Degree Trespass

Radford, Hunter Allen – age 25
Arrested: May 1
Released: May 1
Charges: Probation Violation

Lambert Sr., Gary David – age 63
Arrested: May 2
Released: May 2
Charges: Driving While Impaired

Plummer, Wendy Lynn – age 55
Arrested: May 2
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Ramirez, Hugo Gardo – age 40
Arrested: May 2
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Probation Violation

Saine, Angelica Chenise – age 30
Arrested: May 2
Released: May 2
Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

Sutton, Katrina – age 31
Arrested: May 2

Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Child Abuse in the First Degree; Simple Assault, Assault and Battery, Simple Affray

Sutton, Stevi – age 29
Arrested: May 2
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree; Simple Assault, Assault and Battery, Simple Affray

Taylor, Carol Denise – age 53
Arrested: May 2
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Possession Schedule I Controlled Substance

Morgan, Trevor Dillon – age 28
Arrested: May 3
Released: Not released as of report date (May 5)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Myers, Thomas Michael – age 18
Arrested: May 3
Released: May 3
Charges: Disorderly Conduct

Burgess, Dalton Chad – age 18
Arrested: May 4
Released: May 5
Charges: Hold Until Sober

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Hill signs to play collegiate golf

Kiri Hill, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a senior at Cherokee High School (CHS), signed a letter of intent on Friday, May 9 to play golf at the University of Minnesota – Morris. She is the first female golfer to commit to the collegiate level in school history. (Photo courtesy of Cherokee Central Schools Athletics)



Brown signs to play collegiate golf

Isaiah Brown, right, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a senior at Robbinsville High School, signed a letter of intent on Friday, May 9 to play golf at Bryan College in Dayton Tenn. He is shown with Bryan College Head Coach Jake Goins. (Photo contributed)



Wade signs to play collegiate basketball

Jaden Wade, second from right, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a senior at Swain Co. High School, signed a letter of intent recently to play basketball at Montreat College. During his time with the Maroon Devils, Wade achieved individual honors by being named Honorable Mention All Smoky Mountain Conference, Honorable Mention All Western North Carolina, and Honorable Mention All District 12. He was also a member of the Maroon Devils 2023-24 co-Smoky Mountain Conference Championship Basketball Team. Shown, left to right, are Corbin Wade, brother; Shona Wade, mother; Jaden Wade; and Justin Wade, father. (Photo contributed)



Field Athletes of the Year

Nse Uffort and Joscelyn Stamper, both members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, were both named Smoky Mountain Conference Field Athlete of the Year for their achievements during the recent SMC championship held at Cherokee. Uffort, of Swain Co. High School, took first place in the men's discus throw (178'2") and the men's shot put (61'10.5"), and Stamper, of Cherokee High School, took first place in the women's discus throw (125'1") and third place in the women's shot put (33'3"). (Photo contributed)

“Grease is the Word”

The Cherokee Central Schools Musical Theatre Dept. presented “Grease” at the Chief Joyce Dugan Cultural Arts Center in Cherokee, N.C. on May 8-10. These photos are from the Friday, May 9 performance.

Photos by Scott McKie B.P./One Feather





Tribal Council awards list

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) gave out its annual Tribal Council Awards on May 8-9 in the Tribal Council House in Cherokee, N.C. Following are the awards by school and/or grade:

New Kituwah Academy: Merit - Ayla Watson, Jameson Anders, Adalyn Reed, Christiano Ramirez, Kaylin Arch, Jex Panther, Jaxtyn Bark, Amias McLaurin, Alessandra Ramirez, Atlas Slee, Tobias Pheasant, Piper Owle, Colin Winchester, Niyah Pheasant, Tatum Lossiah-Jackson, Jolyssa Hernandez

Cherokee Central Schools (CCS) Pre-K: Merit - Delilah Norton, Gunnar McMillan, Zhavius George, Arya McCoy, Javahn Bynum, Landri Yates, Mateos Rivera, Mia Postal, Otis Bark-Swimmer, Zaylee Welch
Best All Around: Ella Wolfe

CCS Kindergarten: Merit - Charleigh Armachain, Chipper Cochran, Carter Davis, Sterling Earley, Kyrie Griffin, Joseph “Cruz” Solis, Bryar Ledford, Bailey McCoy, Jeannine McCoy, Wizdom McQuillan, Adalyn Roberson, Joseph Smith, Zella Walkingstick, Dre’den Welch, Hartleigh Wolfe, Liam Wolfe
Best All Around: Slade Long

CCS 1st Grade: Merit - Obie Blankenship, Florence Crowe, Landyn George, Blossom Hicks, Nygel James, Ernest “EJ” Maney, Alex Mata-Lopez, Tanasi Standingdeer, Nori Taylor, Piper Taylor, Bailey Thompson, Niyah Tisho, Ozzy Trampler, Anson West
Best All Around: Emmaline McCoy

CCS 2nd Grade: Merit - Bentley Arch, Kristaleena Archer, Ramona Bigwitch, Nixon Davis, Nathan Haynes, Mika Johnson, Rogue Jones, Janiyah Owl, Tripp Pruitt, Zoey Reed, Felixx Rickman, Isabella Rodriguez, Addisyn Teesateskie, Hilowa Tushka, Aydin Welch
Best All Around: Daxton Littlejohn, Samuel “Dom” Panther

CCS 3rd Grade: Merit - Zalden Armachain, Alfred Brady, Kiona French, Analee Garcia-Hernandez, Tucker George, Addie Martens, Mattie Moore, Blair Owle, Nya Queen, Julian

Santos, Damiyn Squirrel, Jessilyn Tipton-Lambert, Waylon Walkingeagle, Raylyn Watson
Best All Around: Aaron Beach

CCS 4th Grade: Merit - Bradley Allison, Aubry Arch, Brayden Arch, Taelen Arch, Cheydon Calhoun, Leighanna “Luci” Cash, Alex Holiday, Tehya Lincoln, Xerena Locust, Cooper Stamper, Ahnewake Streets, Yona-Uweluga Swimmer, Nikola Thomas, Andre “Nox” Williams
Best All Around: Tinley Ross

CCS 5th Grade: Merit - Daaed Climbing-bear-Esquivel, Joselina Crowe-Wilnoty, Taiquan Driver, Tokahey Grant, Ariyanna Hornbuckle, Jaden Shelton, Leighton Myers, Tyran Parker, Clarice Smith, Theodore Squirrel, Camden Standingdeer, Bailey Swimmer, Niyah Taylor, Leah Walkingstick, Xander Long
Best All Around: Henry Turner

CCS 6th Grade: Merit - Mya Wahnetah, Marlie Jones, Mato Raines, Jayden Teesateskie, Conner Thompson, Cypress Esquivel, Kia Peone, Bristol Armachain, Elli Thompson, Amaya Rodriguez, Richard Williams
Best All Around: Daryan Smith

CCS 7th Grade: Merit - Odie Owle, Carter Stephens, Makai Hernandez, Laylauna Allison, Curren McCoy, Emma Milholen, Adalynn Taylor, Kaiser Hernandez, Keilani Arch, Kody Gloyne
Best All Around: Amelia Holiday

CCS 8th Grade: Merit - Nyra Reed, Kellin Blankenship, Blaze Crowe, Jeron Martens, Cambry Stamper, Hailey Winchester, Kennedy Moore, Janiyah Rattler, Julius Walkingstick, Hynasha Ledford
Best All Around: Kalia Reed

CCS 9th Grade: Merit - Lilly Lossiah, Khole Cucumber, Lillian Bradley, Kahya Cucumber, Zoe De Los Reyes, Cameron Oocumma, Wakinyan Raines, Roxy Solis, William Welch, John Gloyne, Thomas Trampler
Best All Around: Jessica Arsana

CCS 10th Grade: Merit - Johnny Long, Madigan Welch, Livia Crowe, Denver Porterfield, Utsela Saunooke, Kingston Welch, Joscelyn

Stamper, Emilee Brady, Chaz Martens, Addison Stewart, Jarvis Brady, Sage Bark
Best All Around: Reginald Hyatt

CCS 11th Grade: Merit - Marlee Hicks, Marleigh Aguilera, Tayvin Bark-Cruz, Samantha Toineeta, Javan Garcia, Leilah Lossie, Audrina Cooper, Sara Toineeta, Josilyn Ledford, Izabella Terrell, Tsali Dvdisdi, William Ellwood, Gabriella Smith, Dailin Panther
Best All Around: Cecily Swimmer

CCS 12th Grade: Merit - Tyruss Thompson, Nevayah Panther, Marilyn Swayney, Lillian Blythe-Ramos, Kyla Moore, Alexis Davis, Cameron Jackson, Kiri Hill, Jada Cruz, Amiya Lequire, Hannah Morgan, Keeifer Taylor
Best All Around: Amila Lossiah, Keaton Arch

Swain East: Merit - Hesoli Hornbuckle, Toby Walkingstick, Ares Paul, Veah Rodriguez, Jaycee Sneed, Kylar Reed, Laylin Reed, Carter Miller, Eliza Chavez, Atticus Taylor, Sela Waty, Jasper George.
Best All Around: Cade Dills

Swain West: Merit - Lakota Hornbuckle Nations, Hazel Woodard, Charlotte Young, Emerson Finch, River Beasley, Lawson Driver, Paislee Stanberry, Lakai Martinez, Christoph Ensley.
Best All Around: Allie Teesateskie

Swain Middle: Merit - Josh Boggs, Lula Ashton Grace Jones, Hunter Littlejohn, Wadulisi Sluder, Ella Smith, Rae Bradley, Carson Downs, Ernest Locust, Genevieve Raya, Kayleigh Robie, Ava Booth, Phoenix Hinnant, Malchiah Littlejohn, Piper Stanberry, Alexis Tranter.
Best All Around: Cora Dills

Swain High: Merit - Ruby Hollifield, Annabelle Bradley, Aracely Lara, Ross Clapsaddle, Emily Guerrero, Memphis “Myles” Taylor, Sylas Stanberry, Haley Lossiah, Ansatte “Rain” Cooper, Nse Uffort.
Best All Around: Melani Linton

Smokey Mountain Elementary: Merit - Colton Danner, Neveah Littlejohn, Lionel Sanchez, Chase Brady, Campbell Stamper, Nikolaj

Wachacha, John Hornbuckle, Zayla Wildcat,
Ryland Cucumber, Kimberly Norton.
Best All Around: Benson Arkansas

Smokey Mountain Middle: Merit - Jerimiah Queen, Maryjane “MJ” Tafoya, William Conner, Ava Efird, Jessa Efird, Braxton Morris, Derreus Diaz, Emali Sanchez, Trey Caulkins, Kyan Sharpless.
Best All Around: Silas Efird

Smokey Mountain High: Merit - Ryan Crowe, Rebecca Welch, Kaitlyn Tahquette, Julissa Staton, Logan Wildcatt, Aaliyah Voss, Sienna “Elle” Wahnetah, Kale Walkingstick, Lawson Boone, Camden Davis.
Best All Around: Mica Tiger Harlan

Fairview: Merit - Garrette Cabe, Ayeisha Shell, Adam “Haylen” Cole.
Best All Around: Dusty Watty

Scotts Creek: Merit - Charli Junaluska
Best All Around: Izabella Welch

Cullowhee Valley: Merit - Aries Lossiah, Sophia Coggins, Charley Queen.
Best All Around: Nathan Cassels

Murphy Middle: Merit - Roman Blount

Murphy High: Merit - Kiera Toineeta.
Best All Around: Camden Breazeale

Andrews Elementary: Merit - Kylie Smith

Andrews Middle: Merit - Carleigh Smith

Andrews High: Merit - Kayleigh Cochran
Best All Around: Lauren Cochran

Robbinsville Elementary: Merit - Trinleigh

Phillips, Karter Welch, Maverick Ayers, Bristol Jones, Piston Kirkland, Zueri Wachacha, Dakota Walkingstick, Woodleigh Welch, Diego Contreras, Kalaina Jenkins
Best All Around: Olivia Robinson

Robbinsville Middle: Merit - Isabella Jones, Emily Jones, Haizleigh Driver, Natalie Swimmer, Makiyah Phillips, Myah Winfrey, Zayleigh Chekelelee, Kamden Driver, Tacey Bridges, McKynlee Adams
Best All Around: Zachlan Chekelelee

Robbinsville High: Merit - Katie-Lyn Gross, Wesley Quinn Jumper, Bailie Conley, Jayce Shuler, Braylon Blevins, Samuel Wachacha, Waylon Holder, Kyla Jenkins, Avery Brown, Roman Jones
Best All Around: Naomi Taylor

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EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ramsay's Kitchen opens at Harrah's Cherokee Valley River

MURPHY, N.C. – Multi-Michelin-starred chef and television personality Gordon Ramsay will open Ramsay's Kitchen at Harrah's Cherokee Valley River opened on Thursday, May 8.

"I'm delighted to have Ramsay's Kitchen open at Harrah's Cherokee Valley River, part of such a beautiful landscape in North Carolina," said Chef Ramsay. "Ramsay's Kitchen is a very personal restaurant, that brings together some of my favorite dishes all on one menu. It's elegant, yet approachable, and I am so pleased to share this new option with our guests."

Ramsay's Kitchen will un-

doubtedly bring a one-of-a-kind culinary offering to the Western North Carolina region. Positioned on the 12th floor of Valley Tower, the 12,000-square-foot restaurant's vibrant and inviting ambiance is effortlessly complemented by its stunning mountain views and rooftop experience. Equally impressive is the elevated yet approachable menu, which features renowned signature dishes such as the iconic Beef Wellington, a Connecticut-Style Lobster Roll, or a 24 oz. Bone-in Ribeye, perfectly paired with grilled scallion and béarnaise. For a sweet treat, guests can choose from Chef Ramsay's exquisite Sticky Toffee Pudding, rich Chocolate Pot de Crème, or comforting Apple Bread Pudding. Ramsay's Kitchen also features an extensive wine collection and offers masterfully mixed cocktail classics at its 19-seat bar and wine cellar, which sets the tone for guests' culinary journey.

"Ramsay's Kitchen is casual, inviting, innovative and extraordinary," said Lumpy Lambert, general manager of Harrah's Cherokee Valley River Casino & Hotel. "We're excited to have Chef Ramsay's culinary expertise showcased at our property and eagerly await guests to experience it firsthand."

Ramsay's Kitchen will be open from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. daily.

Reservations are required and limited during the initial opening period. For more information or to book a reservation, visit caesars.com/harrahs-cherokee-valley-river.

- *Harrah's Cherokee Valley River*
release

EBCI Dept. of Solid Waste Transfer Station Disposal Rates increasing

Effective Thursday, May 1, the tipping fee rates for businesses and non-EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) tribal members will be increasing as follows:

- MSW (normal household waste) and C&D - \$80 per ton
- Mixed Construction - \$107.10 per ton
- Concrete - \$35.70 per ton
- Brush - \$81.60 per ton

Tire disposal rates will also be changed on the same date. Tire disposal rates and policies will be as follows:

- Passenger vehicle tires - \$3.50 per tire
- Commercial Truck tires - \$5 per tire
- Commercial Equipment tires - \$25 per tire

These tire rates are for all businesses and non-EBCI tribal members. The following criteria will be used to determine business vs. private categorization:

- Anyone disposing of more than six tires per month would be considered a business and must pay the business disposal fees.
- Anyone disposing of more than 20 tires in a calendar year would be considered a business and must pay the disposal fee.

Tire disposal fees do not apply to the following:

- Business under contract with the EBCI to do roadside clean-up on the Qualla Boundary
- All tribal programs (not including entities)

- *EBCI Dept. of Solid Waste*
release

Share your family's story

The Dept. of Natural Resources is archiving stories from grandmothers, mothers, aunts, and daughters of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Participants must be in pairs, trios, or more and all be 18-years-old or older. Participants will receive \$75 per session. Info: Trista Welch at twelch3@ncsu.edu

Applications being taken for "Unto These Hills" Educational Scholarship

Applications are now being taken for the "Unto These Hills" Educational Scholarship. The deadline is Aug. 1. Requirements: must be a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, GPA must be 2.0 or higher, and must be a 4-year undergraduate student taking at least 12 credit hours or a graduate students taking at least 6 credit hours.

Link to Apply: <https://forms.gle/97Ub3voDS1jgVJgdA>

- *"Unto These Hills" Educational*
Scholarship

Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute to celebrate Alumni Week and announces



International Conference Opportunity

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute (RKLI) is proud to share two exciting updates that reflect their continued commitment to culturally based leadership development for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI).

RKLI Alumni Week – May 19-22

RKLI invites all alumni from their leadership programs to join for Alumni Week from May 19–22 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily at their offices in Cherokee. This drop-in event is an opportunity to reconnect, reflect, and celebrate shared experiences across programs. Whether you participated in the Cherokee Youth Council, the Youth Cultural Exchange Program (formerly Costa Rica Eco-Study Tour), the Jones-Bowman Leadership Award Program, or the Duyugodv'i Right Path Adult Leadership Program, you are welcome to stop by for snacks, fun activities, RKLI swag, and to share where your leadership journey has taken you.

Global Leadership Development – WIPCE 2025

In addition, RKLI is thrilled to announce that with support from the Harrah's Cherokee Tribal Scholarship Fund, they will send a select group of adult EBCI adult community members to the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE) in Aotearoa (New Zealand) this November. Held every three years, WIPCE is the largest and most prestigious Indigenous education event in the world. As part of their participation, selected participants will complete leadership and cultural development activities prior to departure and share their experiences with the broader community upon return through public

presentations. This opportunity supports long-term personal growth, global awareness, and strengthened leadership rooted in Cherokee values, including the development of economic strategies that are respectful of Cherokee culture.

Info: visit www.rkli.org
– Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute release

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS

Cades Cove Vehicle-Free Days to begin on June 18

GATLINBURG, Tenn. - Great Smoky Mountains National Park will offer the first Cades Cove Vehicle-Free Day of the year on June 18. Vehicle-free days provide opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists to experience the 11-mile Cades Cove Loop Road without motor vehicles.

Vehicle-free days will continue every Wednesday through Sept. 24.

Reminders for vehicle-free day:

- Safety first: Always wear a helmet when cycling and adhere to the posted speed limit of 20 miles per hour. Wearing a helmet could save your life.
- Park smart: Vehicle-free days are popular and parking is limited. Please park only in designated spots to keep roads safer and to protect roadside ecosystems. Don't forget to grab your parking tag before heading out!
- Timing is everything: Avoid the morning rush! Arriving in the afternoon could give you a much more relaxed experience. If there is no parking available, you will be asked to return later in the day.
- Pack wisely: Due to the terrain of the Cades Cove Loop Road, it often takes people longer than they expect to bike or hike the road. Bring essentials like food, water

and a first aid kit to be prepared. Remember, there is no cell service here, so plan accordingly!

- Know the rules: Only non-motorized bicycles, as well as Class 1 and Class 2 E-bikes, are permitted (Class 3 E-bikes are prohibited). All other motorized and non-motorized vehicles, such as scooters, skateboards and hoverboards, are not allowed.

- National Park Service release

Cosby Area reopened as park completes major culvert replacement

GATLINBURG, Tenn.— Great Smoky Mountains National Park has reopened the Cosby Area following the construction of a new culvert under Cosby Entrance Road.

The road opened on Friday, May 9 as the park completed this stage of the Cosby Entrance Road rehabilitation. Single lane closures will be in place on the Cosby Entrance Road through June. Visitors should plan for potential delays.

The park replaced two 14-foot culverts at Rock Creek that were in poor condition with a new, 25-foot culvert. This will allow for better water flow and decrease any build up of debris in an area that has seen significant floods. The culvert has an open bottom that allows for aquatic species passage along the natural creek bottom.

The full road rehabilitation will include the following:

- Milling and paving of the road and the picnic area and trailhead parking lots.
- Addition of two new handicap accessible parking spaces.
- Ditch and shoulder improvements.
- New road signs.
- Replacement of the Rock Creek culvert.

The rehabilitation is expected to be completed in June. The project was funded by recreation fee revenue as well as funding from the Federal Lands Transportation Program.

The Cosby Campground and Picnic Area are currently closed and will open when operational capacity allows.

- National Park Service release



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Salukis is the nickname for Southern Illinois University's athletic teams. What is a Saluki?

2. Name the golf course in Lancashire, England, that hosted The Open Championship 11 times from 1926-2012.

3. Baseball Hall of Famer Jim Rice, 1978 American League MVP, spent his entire Major League Baseball playing career from 1974-89 with what team?

4. Between brothers Sterling and Shannon Sharpe, who had more career NFL touchdown receptions?

5. What businessman and promoter, nicknamed the "P.T. Barnum of NASCAR," was president of Charlotte Motor Speedway from 1976 to 2008?

6. In a May 1996 loss to Evander Holyfield, what boxer claimed he suffered vision problems and accused Holyfield's camp of putting a foreign substance on the gloves?

7. Linebacker Freddie Joe Nunn held what NFL franchise's career sack record with 66.5 from 1993 until it was broken in 2021?

Answers

1. A breed of hound favored by ancient Egyptian royalty.

2. Royal Lytham & St. Annes Golf Club.

3. The Boston Red Sox.

4. Sterling, with 65 (Shannon had 62).

5. Humpy Wheeler.

6. Bobby Czyz.

7. The Arizona Cardinals.

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Alma Panther Johns

Alma Panther Johns, 84, of the Big Cove Community, went home to be with the Lord Thursday, May 8, 2025. A native of Cherokee she was the daughter of the late Samuel Panther and Emaline Sequoyah.

She was a member of Waterfalls Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her son, Cecil Delbert Johns; and her husband, Cecil Johns.

She is survived by two sons, William "Bill-Eddie" Johns, Toby Libra Johns; 14 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; and siblings, Alice Kekabah, Loretta Bradley, Jean Bradley, Hattie Panther, Jim Panther, Kenny Panther, Samuel Panther, Pat Panther, Gloria Panther, Rick Panther and Debbie Panther.

The family received friends Saturday, May 10 at the Big Cove Community Center, 8765 Big Cove Road, Cherokee, NC 28719. She will be laid to rest in Florida at a later date.

Barbara J. Robie

Barbara J. Robie, 77, of Cherokee, went home to be with the Lord Tuesday, May 6, 2025. A native of Cherokee, she was the daughter of the late Jack and Mary Queen Jackson.

In addition to her parents, she

was also preceded in death by her four brothers, former Principal Chief Walter Jackson, Boyd Jackson, Johnny Jackson, and Jack Jackson; and seven sisters, Mackie Abram, twins Marlyn Jackson and Jacquelyn Jackson, Naomi Kanott, Edie Bradley, Sadie Jackson, Jean Bryant.

She was the proud owner of Thunderbird Motel.

She was a member of Acquoni Baptist Chapel but switched to Yellowhill Baptist Church and considered it home for several years.

To be known by Barbara was to be loved by Barbara. Most of all she loved her Lord and Savior.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Barry Robie; one child, Cynthia Robie of Cherokee; one granddaughter, Brittany Benning and husband Scenca of Cherokee; two great grandchildren, Kayleigh Robie and Joshua Boggs both of Cherokee; special niece, Charlene Otter of Cherokee; step-daughter, Dianne Panther and husband Kenny of Cherokee; step-grandchildren, Bryan, Rob, and Tia Panther

all of Cherokee; and four step great grandchildren, Dawson, Greyson, Janee, and Jasmine Panther.

Funeral Services were held Friday, May 9 at Yellowhill Baptist Church. Brother Forman Bradley and Scotty Chekelelee officiated. Pallbearers were Bryan Panther, Rob Panther, Rob Wahnetah, Brad Kanott, David Wolfe, Jerry Jackson, Hawk Otter, Michael Otter, and Jack Jackson.

Honorary Pallbearers were Tim and Raymuis Smith.

Warren Wesley Wilnoty

Warren Wesley Wilnoty, age 78, passed away unexpectedly at his residence in Graysville, Tenn. on Sunday, May 4, 2025.

He is survived by his children, Michael Warren Wilnoty and Marilyn Catherine Wilnoty-Clouse.

A graveside service took place on Friday, May 9 in the Wilnoty Family Cemetery.

Long House Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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a safe distance
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the photos to us.

Be smart.

Don't become
a meme.

GWJ-TV O'YLC
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Positive Childhood Experiences: A powerful tool for lifelong mental health

By REID SMITHDEAL

Assistant Director of Behavioral Health at Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority

In recent years, the conversation around Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) has grown louder, with mounting evidence revealing how trauma and hardship during childhood can leave lasting marks on mental and physical health. But a quieter, equally powerful body of research is beginning to draw attention: Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs). And the findings are hopeful.

According to recent studies, adults who reported a high number of PCEs were 72 percent less likely to experience depression or poor mental health. These individuals were also 3.5 times more likely to receive the social and emotional support they needed as adults. These findings suggest that just as adversity can harm, positive experiences can heal—and even build resilience for life.

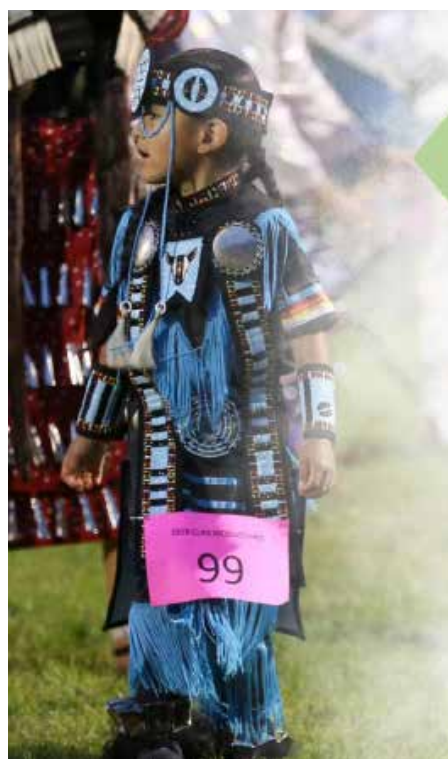
So what exactly are Positive Childhood Experiences?

At their core, PCEs are moments in a child's life when they feel safe, supported, and emotionally connected. These experiences help children build a strong foundation of trust, belonging, and emotional regulation. They can occur both inside and outside the family environment.

Inside the Home: Building Blocks of Emotional Security

PCEs within the family often include:

- Feeling heard, accepted, and supported by caregivers
- Believing that family members



stand by them during hard times


- Having a safe space to talk about emotions and difficult experiences
- Feeling protected by an adult in the home
- Being able to confide in a family member about their feelings

These experiences cultivate a sense of emotional security that carries forward into adulthood, shaping how a person navigates challenges and relationships.

Beyond the Family: A Community of Support

Positive experiences can - and should - extend beyond the home. Key examples include:

- Having supportive friendships
 - Feeling a sense of belonging within a group, whether it's a school, club, church, or cultural community
 - Participating in community or cultural traditions, such as Cherokee spiritual practices or artistic events
 - Having at least one adult outside the family who takes a genuine interest in the child
- Such external supports expand a child's emotional network and

**ANALENISGI**

Analenisgi Children's Mental Health Services Average Monthly Statistics:

- **Child Outpatient: 66 children served a month**
- **Family Safety: 121 children served a month**
- **Juvenile Services: 28 children served a month**
- **Integrated Classroom: 5 children served a month**
- **Dora Reed: 15 children served a month**

May 4-10, 2025 is Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Visit Child & Family Services at 75 Paint Town Road or call (828) 497-9163 ext. 6549

reinforce their sense of value and identity.

No Price Tag on Connection

The beauty of PCEs is that they require time and attention, not money. Simply listening to a child, validating their feelings, and spending meaningful time with them can make a lasting difference.

"Children don't need grand gestures," says one expert. "They need to know that someone is truly present, especially during the hard moments."

Tips for Creating PCEs Every Day

Here are a few simple yet powerful ways adults can foster PCEs in their everyday interactions with children:

- Encourage exploration: Support children in trying new things while providing a safe environment to do so. This helps them build confidence and resilience.
- Be fully present: Set aside distractions, turn off electronics, and give your full attention when a child is talking to you.
- Listen without fixing: Rather than rushing to solve problems,

validate a child's emotions and let them know it's okay to feel what they're feeling.

- Engage with their interests: Share in activities they enjoy, from sports to art, and show genuine curiosity in their world.
- Foster belonging: Encourage involvement in community or family decisions and help them feel their voice matters.

As more communities begin to understand and embrace the importance of Positive Childhood Experiences, the hope is to not only mitigate the effects of trauma but to build a future where children thrive—mentally, emotionally, and socially.

Because while we can't always prevent adversity, we can always create connection.

If you or someone you know is in need of family or child mental health services, contact Analenisgi's Child & Family Services Team at 75 Paint Town Road in Cherokee, NC, or call (828) 497-9163 ext. 6459.



SCC recognizes Ugviyuhi Hicks for Distinguished Alumni Award

SYLVA, N.C. – Michell Hicks, Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, has been named the recipient of Southwestern Community College's 2025 Distinguished Alumni Award.

A 1990 graduate of SCC's Accounting program, Ugviyuhi Hicks has remained a staunch advocate for Southwestern and he continues to actively engage partnerships with his alma mater.

"I'm truly honored to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award from Southwestern Community College," Ugviyuhi Hicks said. "My time at SCC laid the foundation for so much of what I've been able to accomplish in my career. I'm grateful for the experiences and relationships that helped shape my path."

Dr. Mark Ellison, SCC's Dean of Students, oversees the award selection committee and said Ugviyuhi Hicks' lifelong values of service and leadership were key determining factors among a strong field of nominees.



Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks (SCC photo)

"As has been the case every year since we established this award, we were blown away by the accomplishments of all the nominees," Dr. Ellison said. "Chief Hicks has done a lot of good things for the communities we serve. He's long been a strong advocate for Southwestern, and he is extremely worthy of this honor."

Ugviyuhi Hicks will be honored during the graduation ceremony for SCC's Career Technologies Division at 3 p.m. on May 17 at Southwestern's Jackson Campus in Sylva. The award will also be acknowledged during the commencement ceremonies for Health Sciences (10 a.m.) and Arts & Sciences and Early College

(12:30 p.m.) on the same day.

This is the seventh year Southwestern has bestowed the Distinguished Alumni Award. Previous recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award have been Kyle Dowling (2019), Dustin Wilson (2020), John Mattox (2021), Jared Ballew (2022), Dr. Rivers Woodward (2023), and Lorelei Garnes (2024).

From his earliest days as a student balancing coursework, family life and a full-time job with the Tribe, to his current leadership role as Principal Chief, Hicks has remained committed to bettering his community.

After earning his associate degree from SCC, Ugviyuhi Hicks went on to become a Certified Public Accountant. In 2005, he was named National Community College Alumnus of the Year.

Ugviyuhi Hicks graduated from Western Carolina University before earning his degree at SCC.

He previously served three consecutive terms as Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from 2003 to 2015 and was reelected to the role in 2023.

Ugviyuhi Hicks has remained closely connected to SCC, most recently helping launch a partnership between SCC and the EBCI's

Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) to offer a free Facilities Maintenance Training Program for enrolled EBCI members. The initiative provides essential job training and certifications to meet urgent workforce needs throughout the Qualla Boundary.

Ugviyuhi Hicks' nomination was supported by numerous community leaders, including former Ugviyuhi Joyce Dugan and Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Chairman Mike Parker, both of whom commended his enduring commitment to service, leadership and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

"I'm grateful to Dr. Ellison and everyone on our award selection committee," said Dr. Don Tomas, SCC's president. "Over the years, SCC has launched thousands of graduates into successful careers, and it's always exciting to see what they accomplish. Honoring Chief Hicks during our spring graduation ceremonies feels especially appropriate, and our hope is that his selection will inspire all of our current and former students that they too can achieve whatever goals they set their minds to."

- Southwestern Community College release



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2025 Ford Bronco Sport Heritage

Stock#V9402

**A&Z Plan Price
\$35,923**



2024 Ford Super Duty F-250 Lariat 4x4

Stock#T9389

**Andy Shaw Ford Price
\$79,654**



2025 Ford Explorer Active 4WD

Stock#V9432

**A & Z Plan Price
\$46,707**



2025 Ford Ranger XLT 4x4

Stock#T9436

**A&Z Plan Price
\$40,955**

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MISSING

Fred Aleck

American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 5'2" Weight: 170 lbs Male
Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown Age: 75
Date of last contact: April 2, 2025
Last Known Location: Anchorage, Alaska

Circumstances of Disappearance:
Fred walked away from his assisted living facility and never returned.
Fred was last seen wearing a brown sun hat, black jacket, gray joggers, and black and white Adidas shoes.

If you have seen or have information about Fred Aleck, contact Malia Miller, Missing Persons Clearinghouse Manager, Alaska State Troopers (907) 269-5511.

Source: Namus.gov



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Western Carolina UNIVERSITY



Scottie Branning

Member of EBCI

Daughter of Brooks and Lora Branning

Graduating from Western Carolina University on May 10, 2025
She will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Forensic Anthropology with a minor in criminal justice

She plans to attend law school in the fall of 2026

Language



Use it or lose it

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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.

SPEAKING OF FAITH

A Soldier's Perspective- Part 1

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

2 Timothy 2:1-4 - Thou therefore, my child, be strengthened in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things which thou hast heard from me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service entangleth himself in the affairs of this life; that he may please him who enrolled him as a soldier.

Mark 8:34-38 - And he called unto him the multitude with his disciples, and said unto them, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever would save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's shall save it. For what doth it profit a man, to gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? For what should a man give in exchange for his life? For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of man also shall be ashamed of him, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

The Whole Armor of God is a military reference to preparing for battle with evil. Ephesians 6: 10-20.

I am a Vietnam Veteran and worked as an educator with the US and foreign military services for over 20 years. Many military precepts fit the behavior of what a Christian soldier should be and how they would conduct themselves.

There may be people I'm speaking with today who, at some point in their lives, joined the military and went through what most services call "Boot Camp." I'm a veteran, and I went through boot camp. I can tell you it changed my life. If you haven't been in the military and can't relate to this experience, maybe you know someone close to you or a school buddy or friend, who did join and became a Soldier, Sailor, Airman, or Marine. Did you see a change in

them? I assure you – everyone is changed. The military has a unique way of taking any man or woman from any walk of life, color or nationality, background or part of the country, rich or poor, and changing them with a military bearing within an average of 12 weeks, more or less. They become a different person. Within the chest of most military members is a heart that beats with patriotism, dedication, and a mission in life. That was the intent of the training, and people who went through it know that they changed. This discussion is about the correlation and comparison between the military and being a soldier for Christ.

When we consider the life of a Christian Soldier, one might consider Ephesians 6:10-20. It is easy to extend the references to many other parts of our lives as Christians. In thinking about them with a military bent, we broaden our understanding of dedication, honor, and victory in Jesus.

What if we consider our Church building as a soldier would consider their fort? I am not talking about shooting from the twenty-foot barricade walls, but a place to gather the troops for recovery, nourishment, training, drill, practice, and the continuous honing of skills. This fort compound teaches doctrine and plans with strategic goals and tactical mission

objectives. Imagine the church building as a safe place where the injured are cared for and others refreshed and empowered to go out and fight another day. Our churches should reflect this kind of education and preparedness. Our present-day problem is that too many churches kill and finish off their wounded instead of bandaging them and helping them to heal from their injuries received on the battlefield.

The garrison is where we live, home. It is always close to the fort and relatively safe from the battlefield. This place surrounds peaceful people who share the same friendly ways of life. Your home is your fort or protection where you can feed yourself and care for yourself and study on your own. Your home should be a place of rest, love, family, and peace. This might not always be true for some, but you should probably stay in the fort if you cannot go home to be safe.

Come back next week for part two.

God and Father, you alone are worthy to follow. Lead my life and be a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path. Shod my feet with the faith to follow you wherever you lead me. Give me whatever tools are needed to be your servant and soldier in battle. Please give me the courage to fight and stand firm for the gospel wherever and whenever allowed to witness.



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding? To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are His.

🎨 JOB 12:12,13 🎨

Detail of "The Artist's Mother: Head and Bust, Three-Quarters Right" by Rembrandt van Rijn (1628)

Gadagwatli: A Showcase of Pottery from the Mud Dauber Community Workshop Opening Reception. May 29 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Museum of the Cherokee People in Cherokee, N.C. Get a first look at the works on view and mingle with artists from Tara McCoy's annual pottery workshop at the Museum of the Cherokee People. Both the art market and opening reception are free with Museum admission. General admission to Museum of the Cherokee People is always free for enrolled members of federally-recognized Tribes and Museum members.

Cherokee History & Stories with Kathi Littlejohn. June 1 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Museum of the Cherokee People Multipurpose Room in Cherokee, N.C. Storyteller and historian Kathi Littlejohn, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, will discuss relocation, the enrollment process, rolls, and more in this informal lecture. This event is free and open to all; registration is not required.

Celebrate Summer Market.

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although you might prefer to move forward at a steady pace, it might be a good idea to stop and reassess your plans. You could find a good reason to make a change at this time.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Just when you thought you had everything planned to the smallest detail, you get some news that could unsettle things. But a timely explanation helps put it all back on track.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Home and work continue to compete for your attention, but you handle it well by giving each its proper due. Meanwhile, someone you trust offers valuable advice. Listen to it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Unsettling news creates a difficult but not impossible situation. Continue to follow your planned routine, but keep your mind open to a possible change down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Lick your wounded pride if you like, but it's a better idea to find out why your suggestions were rejected. What you learn could help you deal with an upcoming situation.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Feeling a bit listless? No wonder! You might be pushing too hard to finish everything on your to-do list. Cutting it down could help get your energy levels up.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Taking time out of your busy schedule might be the best way to handle a sensitive private matter. It will help reassure everyone involved about your priorities.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Insist on full disclosure by all parties before agreeing to be part of a "great deal." What you learn should help you decide whether or not to go with it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your decision to protect the secret that was entrusted to you might irk some people. But it also wins you the admiration of those who value trust and loyalty.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Creative activities take on a practical approach as you realize you might be able to market your work. Ask for advice from someone experienced in this area.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) If you're suddenly a bit unsure about a decision, ask trusted colleagues and/or friends or family members for suggestions that could help resolve your doubts.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A workplace situation could get stormy. But stay on course until there's a solution that meets with everyone's approval, and things can finally calm down.

BORN THIS WEEK: You keep an open mind on most matters, making you the confidante of choice for people who need your honest counsel.

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VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

Our prisons must be full

Are we short on prison space in this country? We must be. It's the only logical explanation for so many criminals being given probation instead of prison time.

For example, there were the scammers who sold misbranded N95 masks during the pandemic and price gouged hospitals. The masks were promised to be approved by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) when they were not and were accompanied by test-result literature that was actually for a different mask. Hospitals paid \$2.6 million for the masks that had much lower filtration efficiency.

So what was the punishment? One year of probation and a fine of only \$9,500.

Then there was the real estate agent property manager who didn't tell anybody about the lead-based paint in the housing where veterans lived with their families. Any structure built before 1978 likely has lead-based paint, a serious health hazard. The agent knew this and still signed rental agreements without notifying residents about the paint. A baby living there was found to have high blood lead levels because of the lead in the paint.

The agent's scammer pals, a hazardous material mitigation service, were hired to go in and clean up the lead paint. They didn't and were eventually nailed with one count of the False Claims Act. And after putting lives in danger, what was the punishment for the real estate agent and the scammer pals? Probation and fines.

Then there was the guy who schemed to grab COVID funding to the tune of nearly a half million dollars. Punishment: a fine and — you guessed it — probation.

And what of the guy who groped a student nurse at a VA hospital, a case of abusive sexual contact? The guidelines indicate he could have gotten up to two years in prison. Yet he gets a free pass. Once again: probation.

I can only conclude that our prisons are full. There's no other explanation for only giving probation to these criminals.

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Don't pee on your neighbor's lawn (or let your dog do it)

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Can you settle a dispute between me and my neighbor? Bob doesn't want my dog peeing or pooping on his lawn. I told him that my dog is just helping fertilize his grass, and he should be grateful for the free nutrients. Yesterday, as I was hanging out on my back patio, Bob threw a bag full of old dog poop over the fence; it broke when it landed and scattered all over the patio. I just don't get it. We used to be friends, but now I'm not so sure. Who's right in this situation? — Doug H., via email

DEAR DOUG: Please tell me this is a prank letter, because otherwise I'm going to tear my hair out. One of the biggest commandments of dog ownership is Thou Shalt Not Annoy Thy Neighbors.

Allowing your dog to relieve himself on your neighbor's lawn is more than just annoying; it opens you to a potential lawsuit. Clearly, it's causing strife for your neighbor. Even if dog poop actually did fertilize lawns (it doesn't), you and your dog are trespassing on private property. You're also destroying your neighbor's lawn. Dog pee burns grass and kills it, leaving awful bare spots surrounded by yellow, dying grass. Dog poop doesn't disappear; it sits there and stinks, blocks airflow to the grass and kills it.

If you want to resolve this situation peacefully, go apologize to your neighbor, offer to clean up your dog's mess and keep your dog away from his property. That means leashing your dog on walks, picking up his poop as soon as he goes and disposing of it at home or in a municipal waste bin. That's your option. There is only one.

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

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EVENTS: *from page 31*

June 5 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pam Taylor Painttown Gym. Lots of local crafts and vendors. Lunch by Melishia. Info: Denise Walkingstick (828) 508-2211

Annual Kituwah Celebration.

June 6 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Kituwah site.

Christian Veterinary Mission

Clinic. June 6-7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at the Yellowhill Activity Center in Cherokee, N.C. Services and fees: Neuter/dog \$30, Neuter/cat \$25, Spay for both dog and cat \$50, Vaccines - \$10 per animal (rabies and distemper). Info: Tammy Jackson (828) 788-0878 or Tribal Animal Control 497-6091

Vacation Bible School. June 9-12 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Straight Fork Baptist Church in Cherokee, N.C. Fun, games, food, and fellowship. Everyone is invited.

NAIWA Blueberry Festival.

Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center. Featuring blueberry pancakes. Vendor space is available for \$10 per table. To reserve a table, call Lucille Wolfe (828) 736-5285

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

NAIWA (North American Indian Women's Association, Inc.) Cherokee Chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the West Senior Center in Cherokee, N.C. Eligibility for membership: any American Indian or Alaska Native or Canadian First Nations woman, 18 years of age or older, who is officially identified as a member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe/Nation. The meetings contain information on purpose and further aims. All who meet the eligibility are invited to attend.

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 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 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

Cherokee Youth Football & Cheerleading Sign-ups. May 1-23 until capacity is reached. \$50 registration fee. Ages 5-12 (July 31 is age cut-off for each division).

Register or for more information, contact the Peaches Squirrell Sports & Recreation Center (828) 359-6890

Point of Care Testing for Hepatitis C, Syphilis, and HIV.

May 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Yellowhill Basketball Court at 876 Acquoni Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. Info: Tsalagi Public Health (828) 359-6240

Breakaway Sports Cherokee Sports Camp (Baseball 5, Kickball, and Ultimate Frisbee).

June 9-11 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Donald "Kool-Aid" Queen Gym in Cherokee, N.C. In partnership with Cherokee Baptist Church, daily Bible devotions and snacks are included. Info: Call or text (423) 933-6986

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

HIP Committee. May 14 at 8:30 a.m.

Roads Commission. May 19 at 9 a.m.

Timber Committee. May 19 at 10:30 a.m.

Planning Board. May 19 at 1 p.m.

Health Board. May 21 at 8:30 a.m.

Confirmation hearing for Amy West to the Atlanta Braves Cultural Advisory Committee. May 21 at 1 p.m.

Lands Committee. May 22 at 9 a.m.

Qualla Housing Committee. May 22 at 1 p.m.

POW WOW LISTINGS

All My Relations Pow Wow.

May 16-18 at Skagit Valley College, Mount Vernon Campus in Mount Vernon, Wash. MC: Randy Vendola. Info: AllMyRelations@skagit.edu

Eastern Oregon University 50th Anniversary Pow Wow.

May 16-17 at the Eastern Oregon University Field House in La Grande, Ore. MC: Fred Hill. Host Drum: Black Lodge. Info: Pepper Huxoll (541) 962-3463, phuxoll@eou.edu

Gathering of the People Pow Wow.

May 16-17 at the BSA Center in Evans, Ga. Emcees: Fred Glennon and Michael Anderson. Head Singers: Tom Ross. Info: Barry Rogers (706) 678-1017, otter@nu-z.net

Legends Casino Pow Wow & Stick Game Tournament.

May 16-18 at State Fair Park in Yakima, Wash. Info: Legends Casino at social@legendscasino.net

Manito Ahbee 20th Anniversary Pow Wow.

May 16-18 at Red River Exhibition Park in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Emcees: Ricky White, Hal Eagletail, Howie Thomson. Info: Manito Ahbee Committee (204) 956-1849, info@manitoahbee.com

Seneca Nation Annual Spring Gathering Smoke Dance and Pow Wow Competition.

May 17-18 at the Seneca Arts and Learning Center in Salamanca, N.Y. Emcees: Dennis Bowen and Halsey Jimerson. Host Drum: Wabanaki Confederacy. Info: Chelce Finch (716) 945-5035, chelce.finch@sni.

In Honor of Our Children

38th Annual Pow Wow. May 17 at Kelso High School in Kelso, Wash. MC: Michael War Dancer. Host Drum: Turquoise Pride. Invited Drums: Allen Family Singers, Thunderhawk. Info: Michael Brock (360) 703-5892, m.brock211@gmail.com

13th Annual UC San Diego

Pow Wow. UC San Diego Price Center Ballroom West in La Jolla, Calif. MC: Walter Ahhaity. Host Drums: Green River, Hale & Co. Info: Corrine Hensley-Dellefield (858) 822-0048, powwow@ucsd.edu

SUPPORT GROUPS

Celebrate Recovery meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Cherokee Baptist Church at 812 Tsalagi Road, in Cherokee, N.C. This is a Christ-centered recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, hang-ups, and habits of any kind. All are welcome. Info: Chris McMillan (828) 788-5410

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Analenisgi. Info: www.AAwnc80.com

Cherokee Cancer Support Group, potluck dinner with a speaker the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Betty's Place, 40 Goose Creek Rd, Cherokee, N.C. Anyone is welcome to attend the potluck. The group provides educational and emotional support to clients and families of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians members with cancer. The group can provide financial assistance for fuel, lodging, and transportation and also can assist with mastectomy items, nutrition-

al 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@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>

Narcotics Anonymous meets on Mondays at 6 p.m. at the Cherokee Indian Hospital. Info: North Carolina NA Helpline (855) 227-6272, or www.NA.org

WNC and BEYOND EVENTS

Upcoming events at the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center at 123 Cromwell Dr., Townsend, Tenn. Info: (865) 448-0044

* Sunset Series Concert: Acoustic Eidolon. May 23 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

* Storytelling on Sundays. May 25 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

* Legends Concert: Smooth Sailor. May 30 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site Gala. May 23 at 6 p.m. at the Site at 2620 South Road St.

in Johnson City, Tenn. This Gala is to support the new extensions of the visitor center that are to be finished in May. Tickets are \$50/person. For the purchase of your tickets please follow the link <https://square.link/u/HoqYB5Ut>. Info: (423) 926-3631 or tipton-haynes@outlook.com

Little Middle Folk School.

June 15-21 at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, N.C. The school opens its doors to young folks ages 7-17 for Little Middle Folk School, a lively week-long session for children and youth to discover Appalachian culture and to take part in hands-on programs in dozens of arts and crafts. Participants are divided into two groups. "Littles" are rising second graders to rising sixth graders, and "Middles" are rising seventh graders to rising 12th graders. This year, several scholarship slots are available for Middles on a first-come, first-serve basis. Info: <https://folkschool.org/events/little-middle>

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@kituwahlc.com

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

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

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

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

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

Wolftown Community meets

see **EVENTS** next page

EVENTS: from page 33

the first Tuesday of each month at the community building; potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6 p.m.

Info: Chair Dwayne "Tuff" Jackson (828) 788-4088, dwayne4251@gmail.com

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

CHEROKEE HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Abundant Life Apostolic

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

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

Antioch Baptist Church.

Coopers Creek Road. Sunday

School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Sunday Night Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 p.m. Pastor Tim Barker

Bethabara Baptist Church.

1088 Birdtown Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Wednesday Service 7 p.m. Youth Meeting Wednesday 7 p.m. Pastor Max Cochran (828) 341-5801, Church number (828) 497-7770

Big Cove Missionary Baptist Church.

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

Big Cove Pentecostal Holiness

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

Bigwitch Baptist Church.

2290 Bigwitch Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday service 6 p.m. Pas-

tor 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. Wednes-

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Jonah (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which hour mentioned in the Bible means the last possible moment that something can be done? *First, Second, Eleventh, Twelfth*
3. Hebrews 9 says that when Christ appears a second time, it will be to ... *Awake the Heavens, Start anew, Save those who look for Him, Cease all evil*
4. How many times did the Israelites march around the walls of Jericho? *1, 2, 7, 13*
5. From I Kings 17, the ravens brought Elijah bread and ... *Water, Oil, Flesh, Nuts*
6. What Philistine city was home to Goliath? *Jericho, Bethel, Gaza, Gath*

ANSWERS: (1) Old, (2) Eleventh, (3) Save those who look for Him, (4) 13, (5) Flesh, (6) Gath

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

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Moments in time

• On May 26, 1897, Bram Stoker's now iconic horror novel "Dracula" went on sale in London. Stoker's editors had deleted the first 101 pages from his manuscript and altered the text to seem less "real," since there just so happened to be a serial killer known as Jack the Ripper on the loose in the city at that time.

• On May 27, 1949, the unemployed, 22-year-old model-actress Marilyn Monroe earned \$50 for posing nude for a Los Angeles photographer against a red velvet backdrop. Though it became the most famous calendar photo in history, she never earned another cent from the picture, as she had signed away all her rights to it in a release form.

• On May 28, 2005, Carl Edward Roland, who was wanted by police in connection with the murder of his ex-girlfriend Jennifer Gonzalez, was removed from a crane perched 18 stories above a construction site in Atlanta, where he'd spent three days. After his capture, he was eventually found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.


• On May 29, 2014, transgender actor and advocate Laverne Cox appeared on the cover of TIME for its story "The Transgender Tipping Point," following a public backlash over the magazine's exclusion of Cox from its 100 most influential people reader's poll the previous month.

• On May 30, 1993, after being stalled for four days by a blizzard 4,000 feet below the summit, Joni Phelps became the first blind climber to reach the top of Denali, North America's tallest mountain. She was guided by her twin sons.

• On May 31, 1977, the song "God Save the Queen" by the British punk band the Sex Pistols was banned from the radio by the BBC. Three decades after its release, lead singer Johnny Rotten aptly remarked, "There are not many songs written over baked beans at the breakfast table that went on to divide a nation and force a change in popular culture."

• On June 1, 1494, Friar John Cor distilled Scotland's first whisky at Lindores Abbey, under a commission from King James IV to turn eight bolls of malt into "aqua vitae," or "water of life."

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The Garden Bug

Bristlecone pines, known for their long life spans, live in harsh conditions high in the mountains of California, Nevada and Colorado. The oldest one known is nicknamed Methuselah (after the longest-lived person in the Bible), and is located in a remote area of the Inyo National Forest in California. Known as "extremophiles," these trees grow very slowly; their wood is very dense and resinous, and resistant to insects. Often only a strip of living tissue connects the roots to a handful of live branches. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: www.usda.gov, www.nps.gov

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EVENTS: *from page 35*

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 Monday night (Youth night) singing, bible study and crafts: 6 p.m. Pastor: Tristan Smith

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



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

PRIMARY CARE PHONE NUMBERS

*Please call your
primary care home if
you need anything or
need to cancel an
appointment.*

h̃AGṼP (Ni hi tsa tse li)
“It belongs to you.”

Eagle Clinic

Dr. Mahar:
(828)497-3476

Dr. Houser:
(828)497-3727

Quana Winstead:
(PA-C):(828)497-1991

Dr. Winchester:
(828)497-3576

Dr. Brown:
(828)497-3576

Kylee Savage (PA-C):
(828)497-9163

Seven Clans Clinic

Dr. Jones:
(828)497-3475

Trudy Crowe (FNP):
(828)497-3711

Dr. Givens:
(828)497-3552

Kelsey Two Bears
(PA-C):(828)497-3477

Lynn Scarbrough
(FNP):(828)497-3551

Kristina Teglassy
(CRNP): (828)497-3551

Kayla Parris (PA-C):
(828)497-9163

Satellite Clinics

Snowbird

Mary Postell-Jones
(FNP):(828)479-3974

Cherokee County Clinic

June Hensley
(FNP)828-837-4312

DCC

William Kelley
(PA-C):(828)359-6659



EVERY APPOINTMENT MATTERS, SHOW UP FOR YOUR HEALTH



Storm M Ledford

A member of the EBCI

Received her Doctorate Degree in Pharmacy on 1 May 2025
from High Point University, NC.

Storm was selected and will begin her residency at the
Cherokee Indian Hospital this fall.

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Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians



TRIBAL HOUSING'S FINANCIAL LENDING SERVICES OFFICE & TRIBAL REALTY SERVICES

Announce Quarterly Site Visit to the Snowbird and Cherokee Co. Communities!!

Apply for loans, get housing information, credit counseling and status of transfer documents.

Our Services:

- Down Payment Assistance
- Renovation Loans
- Credit Counseling
- Land Transfer Documents

March 19, 2025, at the
John Welch Senior Center
from 9-11 am and at the
Jacob Cornsilk Shared
Classroom from 1 - 3 pm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CALL MICHELLE
STAMPER AT 828-359-6904.
OR EMAIL @
MICHSTAM@EBCI-NSN.GOV





CLASSIFIEDS

Lefty's Lawn Service

Mowing and Weedeating Services
828-735-3586. 5/28

Land for sale.

\$28,700.00 total for 3 lots. #1-0.77, #2-1.10, #3-0.75 acre, Tax value \$60,670.00 Located in Whittier, NC, Jackson County, Upper Sawbuck Ridge. Easy access to Hwy 441 828-506-9364. 6/4

EMPLOYMENT

Looking for Personal Care Aide

. Previous CNA or Home Health experience . Job would be Monday,Wednesday,Friday 3:30pm-8:00pm. Job is assisting disabled adult in Cherokee, call 828-788-5255 Loni. 5/14

Macon County School

Macon County School is seeking a vendor to operate the Student Drivers Education Instruction Program for Macon County Schools, and enter into a contract, for the next 2 years. The company must be licensed in NC to operate a Drivers Education Instruction program within a public school in North Carolina. The operator of the company must carry appropriate insurance during the life of the contract. The contractor shall offer assurances that all operations addressed in the RFP will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the goals of the Macon County School System which is to provide an appropriately priced, quality driver education instruction to the students of Macon County. All proposals must be submitted to the Macon County

School Central Office no later than 3:00 Friday, June 20 2025. Call 1-828-524-3314 ext 1029 for more information. 6/11

Museum of the Cherokee People: Now Hiring

Museum of the Cherokee People is hiring for two roles: Cross-Departmental Internship (six weeks, not exceeding 20 hours per week, \$15 hourly, accepting applications through May 23) and Frontline Associate – Key Holder (total hourly range: \$17.50 – \$27.00, hiring range: \$17.50 – \$22.00, accepting applications through May 30). Learn more and apply at motcp.org/employment. 5/21

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-034
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

MARY CATHERINE SMITH

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 PUBLICATION

Catherine Smith Burns
150 Lee Taylor Rd #557
Cherokee, NC. 28719

5/14

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians



Employment Opportunities

Now Hiring for Our New Spa!

Mandara Spa at Harrah's Cherokee Valley River
Casino & Hotel
777 Casino Parkway, Murphy NC 28906

Massage Therapists
Hair Stylists
Nail Technicians
Esthetician
Senior Concierge
Concierge
Spa Attendants

For questions, please contact:
Angie Pugh, Spa Operations Manager
828-497-8550 angieh@mandaraspa.com
Email: HRRecruitment@onespaworld.com

SUPER TEACHERS WANTED!



BENEFITS:

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- Health, vision, dental, life, and disability insurance**
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- Merit awards for continued education
- Federal student loan forgiveness
- Learn Cherokee traditions & language

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or
Scan QR code to Apply



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

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
TINA SAUNOOKE: (828) 359-6593 • AMY BOYER: (828) 359-3009

Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-035
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
James Daniel Arch

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
Hilda Leanna Arch
53 Rose Lane
Cherokee, NC 28719
5/14

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina

Estate File No. 25-037
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
HAROLD ALFRED LOSSIAH

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
Mary Lossiah
29 Hard Times Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719
5/14

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-036

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
BERNARD KENNETH BIDDLE JR.

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
Rebecca Sneed
P.O. Box 2274
Cherokee, NC. 28719
5/14

In the Matter of
Komenda-Maney, JT 24-057:
Attention Melissa Komenda and Jon Maney

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is termination of parental rights.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than JUNE 20, 2025 and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 30TH day of APRIL, 2025
Shira Hedgepeth, Hedgepeth Law Group, PLLC
PO Box 514
Cullowhee, NC 28723
5/21

The Cherokee Court
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, Qualla Boundary, North Carolina
File No. CV. 23-324
Tribal Child Support

Enforcement
HOLLI JEANNE BIRD,
Plaintiff

Vs
CASSANDRA LYNN CROWE,
Defendant

Notice of Service by Publication
To: Cassandra Lynn Crowe, Defendant Current address unknown, last known address 15 Nellie Goings Road, P.O. Box 973 Cherokee, North Carolina 28719

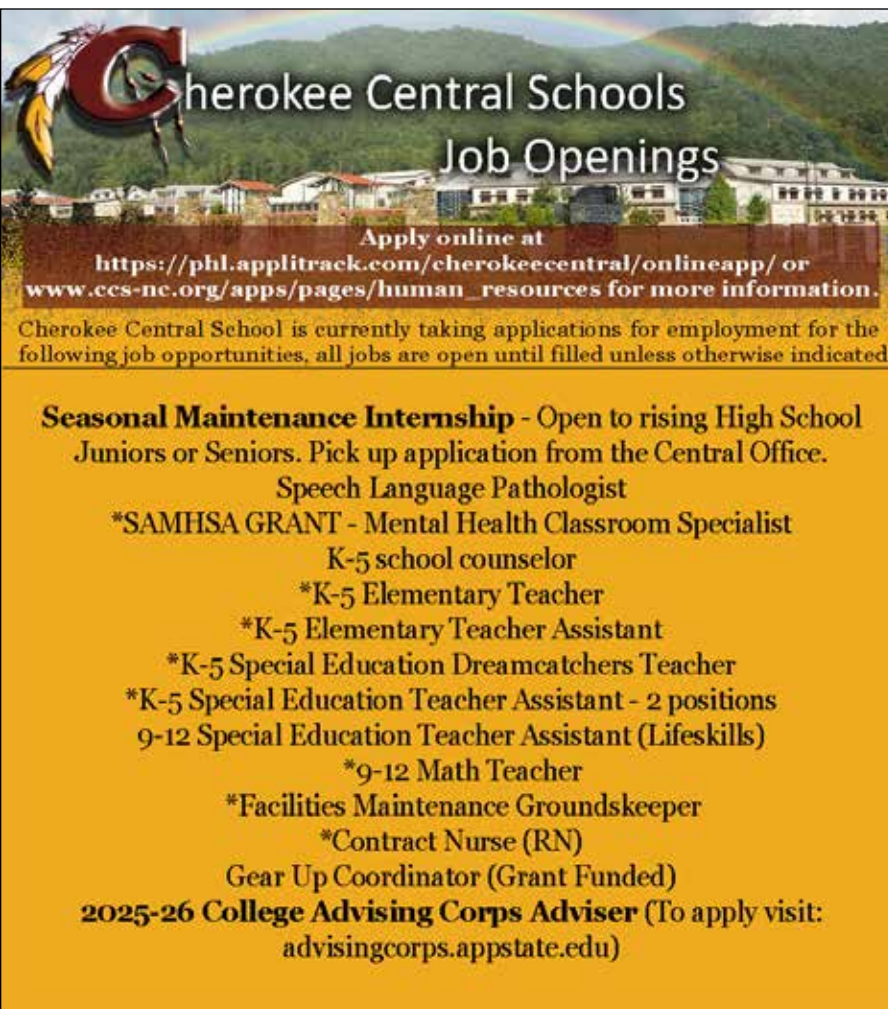
Take Notice that a pleading has been filed in the above entitled court. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Establishment of child support, regarding the minor children BMP (date of birth 08/11/2009), JSP (date of birth 09/11/2010 and PKT (date of birth 07/15/2018).

You are required to make a response or other defense to such pleading not later than 11 June 2025 and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.
This the 1st day of May, 2025
Joseph M. Collins
Collins & Collins Law, P.A.
Attorney for Tribal Child Support Enforcement
217 Iotla Street
Franklin, NC. 28734
(828)524-0017
5/14

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-041

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
REUBEN EDWARD TAYLOR

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



Cherokee Central Schools
Job Openings

Apply online at
<https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/onlineapp/> or
www.ccs-nc.org/apps/pages/human_resources for more information.

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

- Seasonal Maintenance Internship** - Open to rising High School Juniors or Seniors. Pick up application from the Central Office.
- Speech Language Pathologist
- *SAMHSA GRANT - Mental Health Classroom Specialist
- K-5 school counselor
- *K-5 Elementary Teacher
- *K-5 Elementary Teacher Assistant
- *K-5 Special Education Dreamcatchers Teacher
- *K-5 Special Education Teacher Assistant - 2 positions
- 9-12 Special Education Teacher Assistant (Lifeskills)
- *9-12 Math Teacher
- *Facilities Maintenance Groundskeeper
- *Contract Nurse (RN)
- Gear Up Coordinator (Grant Funded)

2025-26 College Advising Corps Adviser (To apply visit: advisingcorps.appstate.edu)

fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-
CATION
Frances Walkingstick
P.O. Box 275
Cherokee, NC. 28719
5/28

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-042
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:**
NANCY HELEN BRADY
All persons, firms and cor-
porations having claims against
this estate are notified to exhibit
them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or
before the date listed or be barred
from their recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make im-
mediate payment to the appointed
fudiciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-
CATION
Cody Brady
68 Betty Brady Road
Cherokee, NC 28719
5/28

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-043
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:**
NANCY MCCONNELL
All persons, firms and cor-
porations having claims against
this estate are notified to exhibit
them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or
before the date listed or be barred
from their recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make im-
mediate payment to the appointed
fudiciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-
CATION
Glenda McConnell Chiltoskie
P.O. Box 888

Cherokee, NC. 28719
5/28

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-039
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:**
WIGGINS BLACKFOX
All persons, firms and corpora-
tions having claims against this
estate are notified to exhibit them
to the fudiciary(s) listed on or
before the date listed or be barred
from their recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make im-
mediate payment to the appointed
fudiciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-
CATION
Noel Bigmeat
601 Wrights Creek Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719
5/28

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-040
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:**
**WILLIAM JARRETT
WILNOTY**
All persons, firms and corpora-
tions having claims against this
estate are notified to exhibit them
to the fiduciary(s) listed on or
before the date listed or be barred
from their recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make im-
mediate payment to the appointed
fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-
CATION
Joseph Adam Wilnoty
328 Lucy Long Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719
6/4

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina

Estate File No. 25-045
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:**
JOYCE ELAINE BRADLEY
All persons, firms and corpo-
rations having claims against this
estate are notified to exhibit them
to the fiduciary(s) listed on or
before the date listed or be barred
from their recovery. Debtors of the
decedent are asked to make im-
mediate payment to the appointed
fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLI-
CATION
Cynthia E Grant
478 Old Gap Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719
6/4

BIDS, RFPs, etc.
Request for Proposals
Construction & Design
Project Title: Tribal Tannery Fea-
sibility Study – EBCI Cooperative
Extension
Project Location: Qualla Bound-
ary, Western North Carolina
Issued by: Eastern Band of Cher-
okee Indians (EBCI) Cooperative
Extension
Project Director: Ronald “Chump-
er” Walker
EBCI Cooperative Extension Di-
rector – chumwalk@ebci-nsn.gov
Scope of Work
The selected consultant will

lead the conceptual development
of the proposed tannery facility.
This includes layout, infrastruc-
ture planning, and integration of
cultural and sustainability princi-
ples aligned with Tribal goals. The
consultant will work in coordina-
tion with environmental, econom-
ic and cultural experts engaged in
this project.
Application Materials to be
sent to Chumper at the above
email address with the contract
title you are applying for in the
subject line of the email
Proposals due: June 9, 2025
5/14

Request for Proposals
Cultural Historian & Outreach
Project Title: Tribal Tannery
Feasibility Study –
EBCI Cooperative Extension
Project Location: Qualla Bound-
ary, Western North Carolina
Issued by: Eastern Band of Cher-
okee Indians (EBCI) Cooperative
Extension
Project Director: Ronald “Chump-
er” Walker
EBCI Cooperative Extension Di-
rector – chumwalk@ebci-nsn.gov
Scope of Work
The selected historian will:
Research traditional Cherokee
uses of hides (animals, techniques,
cultural context)
Compare historical and modern

JOIN OUR TEAM

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- Security Guard

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



practices and materials
Include contextual shifts during
settler contact and adaptation
periods
Explore opportunities for cultural
tourism (classes, workshops, sto-
rytelling, exhibits)

Application Materials to be
sent to Chumper at the above
email address with the contract
title you are applying for in the
subject line of the email
Proposals due: June 9, 2025
5/14

Request for Proposals

Economic Development

Project Title: Tribal Tannery
Feasibility Study – EBCI Coopera-
tive Extension

Project Location: Qualla Bound-
ary, Western North Carolina

Issued by: Eastern Band of Cher-
okee Indians (EBCI) Cooperative
Extension

Project Director: Ronald “Chump-
er” Walker

EBCI Cooperative Extension Di-
rector – chumwalk@ebci-nsn.gov
Scope of Work

The selected consultant will
produce a detailed feasibility study
with recommendations related to
economic development, workforce
development, and tourism oppor-
tunities.

Application Materials to be
sent to Chumper & Jess at the
above email address with the con-
tract title you are applying for in
the subject line of the email
Proposals due: June 9, 2025
5/14

Request for Proposals

Environmental Impact &
Infrastructure

Project Title: Tribal Tannery
Feasibility Study –

EBCI Cooperative Extension

Project Location: Qualla Bound-
ary, Western North Carolina

Issued by: Eastern Band of Cher-
okee Indians (EBCI) Cooperative
Extension

Project Director: Ronald “Chump-
er” Walker

EBCI Cooperative Extension Di-
rector – chumwalk@ebci-nsn.gov
Scope of Work

The selected consultant will
assess environmental, infrastruc-
tural, and sustainability consid-
erations related to the proposed
tannery facility. The consultant
is expected to provide actionable
guidance that supports low-impact
design and regulatory compliance.

Application Materials to be
sent to Chumper at the above
email address with the contract
title you are applying for in the
subject line of the email
Proposals due June 9, 2025
5/14

RFP

Macon County Schools if
requesting sealed proposals for
a “Complete Custodial Supplies
Program”. We are seeking a quali-
fied firm to provide total custodial
cleaning supplies for the schools
and facilities, consisting of ten
(10) schools, the administration
building, bus garage and mainte-
nance building. Proposals will be
due no later, to the Macon County
Schools Central Office, no later
than 2:00pm Friday, May 13 2025.
Call 1-828-524-3314 ext 1029 for
more information. **6/11**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be re-
ceived until 3:00pm, on Tuesday,
June 24, 2025 in the Ginger Lynn
Welch Building conference room
USDI 133, 810 Acquoni Rd, Cher-
okee, North Carolina, and imme-
diately thereafter opened and read
for the furnishing of labor, materi-
al and equipment for the Cherokee
Police Department’s Evidence

Storage Building.

Mailed proposals shall be sent
to the attention of Becky Bowe at
the following address: 810 Ac-
quoni Rd, Suite 117, Cherokee, NC,
28719. It is the bidder’s responsi-
bility to ensure that the bids arrive
before the bid opening time of
3:00 EST.

This project will follow the
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Tribal Employment Rights Office
(TERO) policies and procedures as
outlined in Tribal Code.

PRE-BID MEETING

A mandatory pre-bid meeting
and site walk-through will be held
for interested bidders on June 5,
2025 at 1:30 pm, beginning at the
project site, adjacent to 137 Seven
Clans Ln, Cherokee, NC 28719.
Followed by a walkthrough of the
site.

Complete plans, specifications

and contract documents may be
obtained at the office of Architect
which is located at 47 Rankin Ave,
Suite 141, Asheville, NC 28801.

Digital (pdf) versions of the
Bid Documents may be obtained
upon request of Ethan Ward
(eward@mcmillanpazdansmith.
com). A Newforma Info Exchange
link will be provided to allow the
Bidder to access and download the
Bid Documents.

For purposes of coordination,
primary contact for project infor-
mation is:

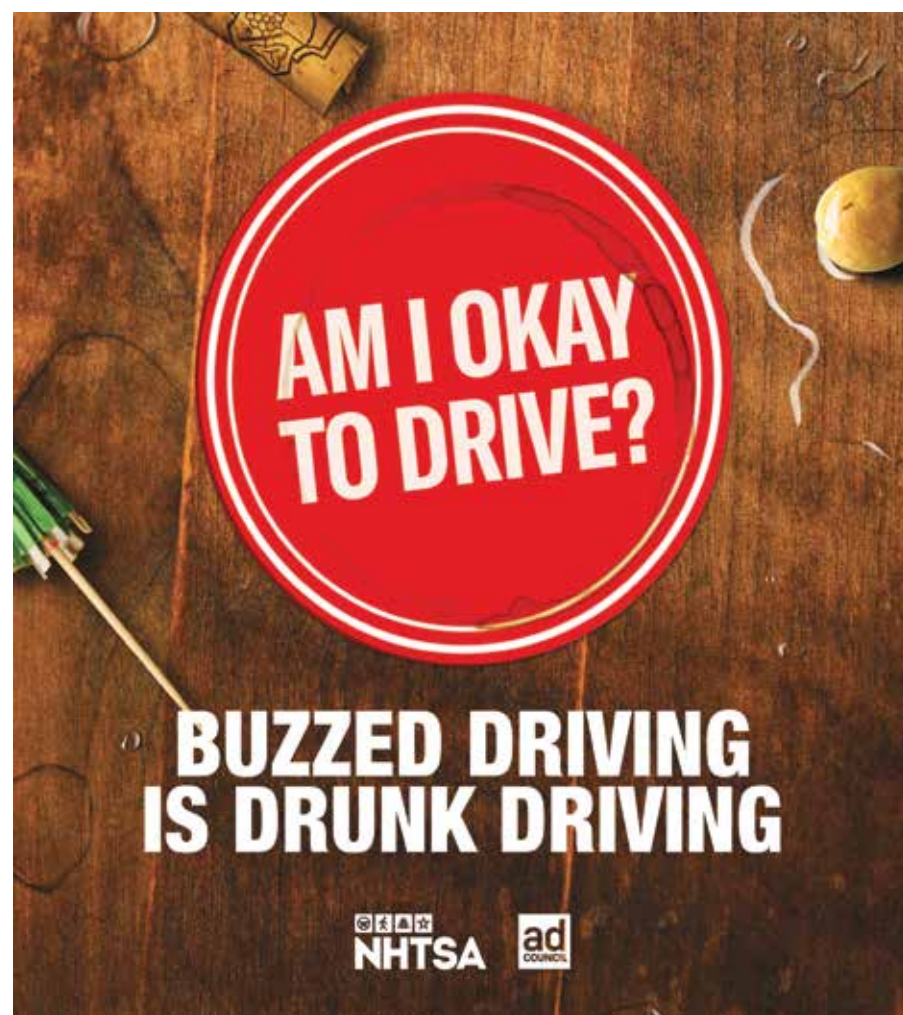
Project Architect: Ethan Ward,
AIA

Title: Architect

E-Mail Address: eward@mcmil-
lanpazdansmith.com

Signed: Becky Bowe, PE
Manager

EBCI Project Management
5/21





CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY



CHOOSE CIHA

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor - \$44,107 - \$55,134
Employment Specialist – Kanvwotiyi – \$44,107 - \$55,134
Inpatient Technician – ANA - PTI - \$17.12 - \$19.26
Masters Level Therapist - \$58,332 - \$72,915 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
(Analenisgi Outpatient, Analenisgi MAT, Dora Reed, Integrated Classroom, Family Safety, Kanvwotiyi, Family Intensive Treatment)
MAT/OTP Nurse RN - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Outpatient Behavioral Health Nurse RN - \$33.68 - \$38.72- \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
Residential Technician, men's – FT - \$17.12 - \$19.26
RN – Behavioral Health – Inpatient- Part Time Intermittent - \$33.68 - \$38.72
RN – Behavioral Health – Inpatient FT - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Targeted Case Manager - \$44,107 - \$55,134
Residential Technician – Kanvwotiyi – FT - \$17.12 - \$19.26

FINANCE

Business Analyst Revenue Cycle - \$67,082 - \$83,852
Billing Analyst II - \$19.66 - \$22.25
PRC RN Case Manager - \$67,082 - \$83,852
Accountant III \$67,082 - \$83,852
Contracting Assistant \$21.13 – 23.98

MEDICAL

Clinical Dietitian -
Physician (Primary Care, Pediatrics)
Physician – Emergency Department FT
Physician - Emergency Department - Part Time (up to 20 hours per week)

OPERATIONS

Optometrist - \$109,504 - \$136,880
Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner - \$117,322 - \$146,658
Dental Assistant II - \$18.32 - \$20.67
Dental Assistant I - \$17.12 - \$19.26
Dental Hygienist - \$67,082 - \$83,852
Dentist - CIHA and Satellite
Dentist-Pediatrics
Pharmacy Technician I
Pharmacy Technician III – Part Time Intermittent - \$21.13 – \$23.98

MAINTENANCE

HVAC Technician/Maintenance Mechanic - \$22.76 - \$25.89
Electrician/Maintenance Mechanic - \$26.52 - \$30.31

NURSING

Care Manager Extender – Primary Care \$18.33 – \$20.67
C.M.S - \$18.32 - \$20.67 (Diabetes, Pediatrics, JVN, Procedure Suite)
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 – Part Time Intermittent - \$17.12 - \$19.26
LPN/CMA – Primary Care - \$21.13 - \$23.98 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
LPN – Primary Care - \$21.13 - \$23.98 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
RN – Infection Control - \$33.68 - \$38.72
RN – Inpatient – Night Shift - \$33.68 - \$38.72 - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
RN Care Manager – Primary Care - \$31.06 - \$35.64 - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
CFSP Care Manager, IDD/TBI/LTSS Care Manager(Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, Traumatic Brain Injury, Long Term Support Services, Children and Families Specialty Program)- Primary Care- \$31.06 - \$35.64 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
RN Care Manager Float - \$31.06 – \$35.64 \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Telemetry Nursing Assistant - \$19.66 - \$22.25

RADIOLOGY

Radiology Technologist II (2nd Shift) - \$5,000 hiring Bonus - \$24.55 - \$27.99
Radiology Technologist II – Part Time w/Benefits - \$24.55 - \$27.99

TRIBAL OPTION

HOP Medical Social Worker (3 positions) - \$44,107 - \$55,134
Tribal Option Business Analyst – NOT A REMOTE POSITION - \$67,082 - \$83,852
Tribal Option Quality Management Director - \$88,715 - \$110,894

TSALI CARE CENTER

Certified Medication Aide - \$17.12 - \$19.26 - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
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
Registered Nurse – Part Time Intermittent - \$35.00 - \$40.22
Cook Aide - \$15.00 - \$16.77

CAREER KALEIDOSCOPE

SEE ALL THE POSSIBILITIES

JOB FAIR
MAY 22 | 1PM-5PM

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**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



TSALI CARE CENTER

JOB FAIR

DOOR PRIZES

NETWORKING



12-3 PM
THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025



New Tsalagi Care Center Facility
267 TSALI CARE WAY
CHEROKEE, NC 28719 (Next to Cherokee
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JOBS

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C.N.A. JOBS*

FINANCE JOBS

MED TECH & LAB TECH
JOBS*

LONG TERM CARE JOBS*

*ON THE SPOT INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE FOR SPECIFIC POSITIONS

PUBLIC NOTICE AND TESTIMONY

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

Confirmation hearing for Amy West to the Atlanta Braves Cultural Advisory Committee

Wednesday, May 21 at 1 p.m.
Tribal Council Chambers; Cherokee, N.C.



These hearings are open to the public, and Tribal Council invites public testimony only in accordance with Cherokee Code Chapter 117, Article III-A.

Anonymous comments will not be accepted.

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

**The final date for public comment will be
Wednesday, May 14.**

House For Sale



WHITTIER 3 BR 2 BA
1.4 acre 10 minutes to Casino
Needs interior renewal.

\$165,000

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CHEROKEE ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

Next one will be May 21st

Starting in March 2025, every 3rd Wednesday of each month, we are going to have a monthly pet food donation day. This will be a day that those who are in need can come by and get some free bagged food for their dog and/or cat. This will be on a first come, first serve basis and will last that day until we run out of stock. This will be 8:30am-5:00pm (or until we run out of food) If you are in need, please feel free to come by. If you have any questions please call our office (828) 497-3401 and a staff member will be happy to assist you!



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Adult Services

Programs include:

- Individual and group outpatient therapy
- Substance abuse treatment
- Domestic Violence program
- Targeted case management
- Recovery Center with peer support services

• Walk-ins accepted for outpatient
IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY FOR GROUP THERAPY AND CLASSES

Recovery Services

Programs include:

- Analenigsi Inpatient Services
- Men's & Women's Homes
- Kanvwotiyi (extended recovery)

Family & Child Services

Programs include:

- School-based services
- Dora Reed & Early Childhood services
- Juvenile court-based services
- Family Safety Services
- Child outpatient services (walk-ins accepted)

Scan the QR Code below to
access a list of our services
and learn more!



Contact us:

Analenigsi
828-497-6892
1 Hospital Road
Cherokee, NC

Child and Family Services
828-497-9163 ext. 6549

On-Call Mobile Crisis After Hours:
Adult: 828-269-0301
Child: 828-736-9797



Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians HUMAN RESOURCES

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

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

Closing Monday, May 18, 2025

1. Equipment Operator (Composting) – Solid Waste – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Rounds Tech/Operator – Water Treatment – operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
3. Dispatcher/Substitute Driver – Transit – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
4. Telecommunicator – Public Safety Communications Center – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
5. Manager (Housing Production) – Housing Program – Housing (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,763)
6. Manager – Water & Sewer – Operations (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) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Child Advocate Coordinator – Child Advocacy – Public Health and Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
3. Case Manager/Forensic Interviewer – Child Advocacy – Public Health and Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
4. Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
5. Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
6. Bailiff – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
7. Sergeant – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
8. Sergeant (Patrol) – CIPD – EBCI Law Enforcement (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
9. Tribal Prosecutor II - Criminal Law - Office of the Attorney General (L17 \$76,877 - \$102,502)
10. FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Public Safety (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
11. Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
12. Driver – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
13. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
14. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Head Start – CERS (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
15. Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (Starting rate of \$20.00/hour)
16. Certified Biological Waste Water Treatment Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
17. Supervisor – Biological/Waste Water Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
18. Maintenance Technician – HELP – Education (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
19. Registered Nurse – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour)
20. Transportation Facilities Coordinator – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start & Head Start – Public Health & Human Services (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
21. Part-time Early Childhood Language Specialist – Kituwah Academy – Education (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
22. Carpenter – Qualla Housing – Housing (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
23. Crew Leader (Electrician) – Qualla Housing – Housing (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
24. Cannery Operations Coordinator – Cooperative Extension – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
25. Fire Systems Technician- Information Technology- OIT (L12 \$22.26- \$27.83)
26. Early Childhood Language Specialist Assistant- New Kituwah Academy- CERS (L9 \$17.27- \$21.59)
27. Project Coordinator – Infrastructure – Housing (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)

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Smoky Mountain Competition Cheer teams win

The Smoky Mountain Competition Cheer program recently attended the Recreational Summit hosted by Varsity Brands in Tampa, Fla. The Recreational Summit is a premiere end of season competition designed to specifically celebrate the accomplishments of recreational cheer teams. Each team received an invitational-only bid at one of the regular season competitions.

The Lady Lightning 12U Level 1 team received zero deductions on day one of the competition and finished fifth out of nine teams. The Royal Eclipse 14U Level 1 team received zero deductions on day one of the competition and finished fifth out of six teams. The Senior Reign 10-18 Level 3.1 team finished second in the 3.1 large division. Overall, they had the third highest score of all senior 3.1 teams

in both the small and large division. The Senior Smoke 10-18 Level 1 team won first place in their division and was awarded Summit National Champions. This team will be awarded rings over the summer in recognition of their win. All athletes in attendance were awarded Summit medals.

The team is shown, left to right, back row - Coach Jen Deetz, Coach Kaitlyn Simonds, Coach Ashley Clark, Taylor Broom, Morgan Deetz, Coach Hannah Clark, Coach Candace Dewantara, Director Tonya Clark; fourth row - Dorsey Bailey, Rozalyn Allen, Emsley Davis, Lorelai Powers, Lillian Williams, Sloane Morris, Addison Carlton, Paisley Smith, Zayda Dewantara, Coach Nikki Adams; third row - Emma Adams, Maddie Long, Blakely Bailey, Kendyl Becker, Averie Butman, Zofia Phelan, Addie Belle Simonds; second row - Shayla Dewantara, Neveah Hull, Callie Long, Lillie Ogle, Nikwasi Sequoyah, Braylee Kirkland, Carrah Mason; front row - Myra Landon, Fiona Wasmund, Lynleigh Jones, Ada Moore, Laney Peek, Nadhira Dewantara, Maelyn Jowers, Gracie McClure, and Maddie Jones. Not pictured: Coach Rebekah Broom, Hailey Broom, Cassin Mathis, Rae Daniels, Canaan Metcalf, Elliana Henson

Athletes on these teams represent Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Clay counties of North Carolina, as well as Rabun County, Georgia. Ages range from 3-19. The program has a final tryout session for their upcoming tenth season scheduled for May 14 from 5:30-7:30 pm. For more information, please call (828) 226-9943 or email smokymountaincheerclub@gmail.com.

(Photo courtesy of Smoky Mountain Cheer Club)



<<

10 Years Apart

These photos were taken 10 years apart to the day and show Keeifer Taylor, center in both, receiving a Tribal Council Award. The photo at left shows him receiving an award on May 8, 2015 at the old Cherokee Indian Fairgrounds from Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Perry Shell and then-Kolanvyi Rep. Teresa McCoy. The photo at right shows him receiving an award on May 8, 2025 in the Tribal Council Chambers from Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Chairman Mike Parker and Dinilawigi Vice-Chairman David Wolfe. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



Kituwah beauty

Brooke Wilber, an environmental compliance specialist with EBCI Natural Resources, took this beautiful photo of the flowers at Kituwah on Tuesday, May 6.

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Tribal member drafted into AUSL

Cori McMillan, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a senior at Virginia Tech University, was selected in the first round of the inaugural draft of the Athletes Unlimited Softball League (AUSL) on Saturday, May 3. She was drafted fourth overall by the Bandits.

Information from the AUSL states, "McMillan's formidable presence in the batter's box and versatility in the field make her a prime selection for the Bandits. She was a 2025 Preseason First Team All-American selection and has been electric this season with 67 hits, 27 home runs, and 57 RBIs. Her senior year builds on a massive 2024 campaign. She broke Virginia Tech's single-season home run record with 21 blasts, drove in 64 runs, and went a perfect 20-for-20 on stolen base attempts. Before her time in Blacksburg, McMillan starred at Radford, where she was an NFCA Top-25 Freshman of the Year Finalist in 2022. She compiled a .345 average, 17 home runs, 59 RBIs, and 31 stolen bases over two seasons with the Highlanders." (Photo courtesy of AUSL)



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