

FREE



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GWY ᏫᏍᏍᏍ ᏌᏍᏍᏍ

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAH LI

week of
guyegwoni (july)
16-22, 2025

“I need to go and do my part”

Tribal elder's
memory honored
with Congressional
Record

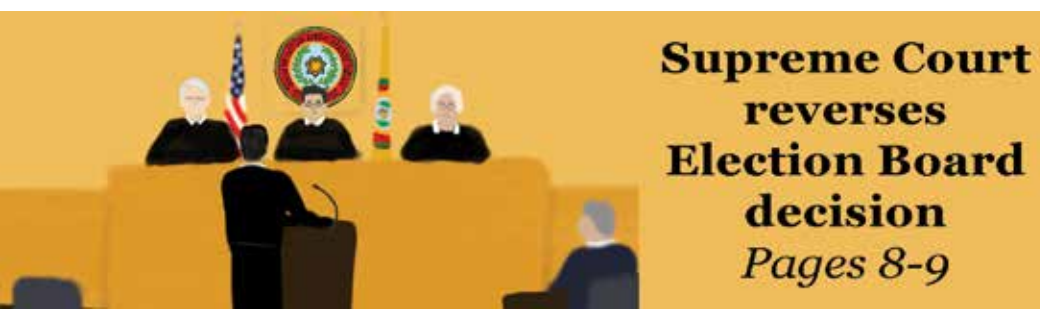
By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.
One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The life and military service of the late Fred B. Lunsford, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who was a World War II veteran and a Baptist minister, was honored during a ceremony at the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 headquarters in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Wednesday, July 2. Representatives from Congressman Chuck Edwards' Office (R-N.C.) read a Congressional Record honoring

see **HONORING** page 4



Dan Lunsford, center, son of the late Fred B. Lunsford who was an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a World War II veteran, speaks after receiving several honors on behalf of his father, including the copy of a Congressional Record, during an event held at the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 headquarters in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Wednesday, July 2. He is shown with representatives from Congressman Chuck Edwards' (R-N.C.) office including Lake Silver, left, field representative, and Chris Burns, district director. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



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MUSIC BY THE RIVER

JULY 4TH
1PM - 11PM

4th of July Blowout Celebration

Join us for the 4th of July Blowout Celebration — a fun-filled day of music, dancing, games, and entertainment from 1-11 PM - Downtown Cherokee

JULY 5TH
4PM - 8PM



ALLY REED • 4PM - 5PM
Local singer/opening act

— **ELVIS PRESLEY TRIBUTE • 6PM TO 8PM**

Chris finds inspiration in Pigeon Forge, TN and the surrounding areas. He makes his music representative of Elvis and his generation. "It is a Tribute, not an impersonation."

JULY 11TH
6PM - 9PM



— **ADAM HARRIS THOMPSON • 6PM TO 9PM**

Acoustic guitarist that sings from his heart hailing from Maudlin, South Carolina.

JULY 12TH
4PM - 9PM



CHEROKEE LANGUAGE REPERTORY CHOIR • 4PM TO 5:30PM

Cherokee Language Repertory Choir is a part of Western Carolina University's Cherokee Studies program. The Choir performs hymns and popular music in the traditional Cherokee Language.

JOHN MULLAN • 6PM TO 9PM

John Mullen, travelling from Simpsonville, South Carolina, brings 25 years of rock and country music to the stage for all to enjoy.

JULY 18TH
4PM - 9PM



ALLY REED • 4PM - 5PM
Local singer/opening act

— **CRAIG VAUGHN • 6PM TO 9PM**

Craig brings high energy and fun to his blend of rock, blues and pop on his acoustic guitar.

JULY 19TH
4PM - 9PM



JACK SPARROW • 4PM TO 5PM

Jack Sparrow is coming to entertain you and your children! He sings, he dances, and he will make you laugh! Take time out to get your picture with Jack before he heads off to his next adventure.



**RUDY'S BLUEGRASS REVUE
6PM TO 9PM**

Rudy's Bluegrass Revue are lively performances of bluegrass, americana, traditional and mountain roots music.

JULY 25TH
4PM - 9PM



ALLY REED • 4PM - 5PM
Local singer/opening act

— **RIDGETOP DAVE • 6PM TO 9PM**

Ridgetop Dave will perform his well known Smooth Appalachian Jazz.

JULY 26TH
6PM - 9PM



— **TERRANCE DAY • 6PM TO 9PM**

Terrance Day plays powerful and authentic music with a combination of Rock, Alternative and Country with his 6 string guitar.

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north carolina

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



Image of the Week

Prior to the grand entry, Lincoln the Eagle, brought by the American Eagle Foundation, flew around the arena at the Annual Eastern Band Cherokee Pow Wow held at the old Cherokee High School site in Cherokee, N.C. on the warm afternoon of Saturday, July 5. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

Ask the GWY ᏥᏚᏍᏔᏅ ᏌᏚᏅᏍᏔᏅ CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

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.

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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Leaders and officials of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians were in attendance at Wednesday's event including, left to right, Gerard Ball, EBCI Veterans Services Office; Tutiya/Tsalagi Gadugi (Snowbird/Cherokee County) Rep. Adam Wachacha; Ugywiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks; Lake Silver, field representative for Congressman Chuck Edwards' office; Chris Burns, district director for Congressman Chuck Edwards' office; Dan Lunsford, son of honoree Fred Lunsford; Taline Ugywiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley; Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Richard French; and Warren Dupree, Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 commander.

HONORING: From front page

Lunsford as well as presented a flag that flew over the U.S. Capitol Building to Dan Lunsford, Fred's son.

Warren Dupree, Post 143 commander, opened the program and stated, "I know and I feel his spirit with us here today. His presence is felt."

He spoke on Fred Lunsford and noted the importance of honoring veterans. "To be a member of these beautiful people, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, means everything - it's my soul,

my power - along with each and every one of you. All we are asked to do is to believe in each other, to work with each other, to honor the memory of those men and women who gave that last bit of measure and those who served this country honorably. They served our people."

Ugywiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks commented, "I appreciate all the work from the Congressman's office and, especially, for the recognition of this family. We all knew Fred. We're blessed to have known him and to have known his storytelling and

book writing. He was a preacher and, of course, an intelligent man. The recognition of his service to this country is something that we all appreciate you lifting up."

He added, "The recognition is well-deserved."

Taline Ugywiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley, said, "It was a privilege knowing Fred. We got to be good friends over the years... he would always do the opening prayer at the Cherokee County community meetings. He always had to open with a story. I was always intrigued with the stories that he told. Some of them were

heart-wrenching, the stories that happened when he was in battle. I don't know how some of the men made it through what they went through."

Tutiya/Tsalagi Gadugi (Snowbird/Cherokee County) Rep. Adam Wachacha said, "I loved that old man. I'll just put that out there first and foremost. I got to know him being in the community through my dad, who was a council member, then myself. Being a veteran myself, I got to share a lot of stories, and I got to hear the same stories that the Vice Chief talked about."



Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Hicks speaks on the contributions of the late Fred Lunsford to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

He went on to say, “He was a very decorated veteran, and I got to learn a lot more about brother Fred through the little bit of time trying to get the recognition that he deserved. This is a true honor for someone that’s so well-deserving of having a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol. I always enjoyed his family and Fred, and I know he’s at peace and in a better place. He’s definitely missed here a lot.”

The Congressional Record, which was presented to Congress on June 23, was read on Wednesday by Chris Burns, district director in Congressman Chuck Edwards’s office. That record reads as follows:

“Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Fred Bruner Lunsford of the United States Army, who passed away on March 1, 2025.

Fred was born on March 7, 1925, and was enrolled as a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Fred graduated from Andrews High School in Andrews, North Carolina in the spring of 1943 and he and his wife, Gladys, were married on March 17, 1944, before Fred enlisted in the United

States Army.

Fred served as a Staff Sergeant during World War II and was deployed to the European Theater, with service at the Normandy Invasion, Battle of the Bulge and the Liberation of France. Fred was highly decorated for his bravery, leadership, and courage he displayed during those years of service. These decorations include the Europe-Africa-Middle East Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the Victory Medal, the Army Occupation Medal, and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

Fred was honorably discharged from active duty following the war and returned home to Cherokee County, North Carolina where he would go on to be licensed to preach the Gospel on October 23, 1949, by Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in Murphy, North Carolina and was ordained in 1950.

On behalf of all of western North Carolina, I would like to take a moment to honor the life of Fred Bruner Lunsford.”

Following the presentations, Dan Lunsford, commented, “I’m seldom at a loss for words but this gets close.”



Taline Ugviyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley tells about his friendship with the late Fred Lunsford.



Warren Dupree, Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143 commander, speaks on the military service of the late Fred Lunsford.

He said his father was very proud to have served and noted that Fred’s boss offered him a deferment because he was working in a sawmill which was contributing to the war effort. Dan noted, “He (Fred) told him, ‘No, I need to go and do my part’.

Dan added, “His connection to western North Carolina is deep and long...his affection and his great appreciation for being an enrolled member is so very real. He was honored to be a part of

this Steve Youngdeer post as well. And, he was honored to be a grand marshal for the Cherokee Indian Parade a few years back.

When we were discussing where to have this, it seemed, to me, most appropriate that it happen here because of this place and all it represents to the community and what it represented to my father. On behalf of the Fred Lunsford family, we are honored to receive this.”

Forrest Parker selected to North Carolina Advisory Council on Cannabis

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The North Carolina Advisory Council on Cannabis will begin meeting soon, and a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians will be at the table. Forrest Parker, Qualla Enterprises, LLC general manager, has been selected to serve on the Advisory Council.

According to Executive Order No. 16 on June 4, 2025 by North Carolina Gov. Josh Stein, The North Carolina Advisory Council on Cannabis was established and “shall study and recommend

options for a comprehensive statewide approach to cannabis that is grounded in public health and public safety considerations, informed by lessons from other states and experts, and focused on the protection and safety of North Carolinians, especially our youth". Parker is very proud of the cannabis operation he oversees.

The Great Smoky Cannabis Co., located in Cherokee, N.C., opened to the general public for sales of adult-use cannabis on Sept. 7, 2024. The dispensary is operated by Qualla Enterprises, LLC, an entity of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), which

also operates a cannabis farm in Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) which supplies the dispensary.

“We are the largest vertical cannabis operation in America. We are the world’s largest dispensary, and I have no problems saying that right now. And, we have done all of that right here in Cherokee, with Cherokee, for Cherokee. We are positioned now to be the strongest partner the state could possibly have to help lead and guide, bring them to our project, use what the Cherokee have done to create the largest vertical, the world’s largest dispensary, and one of, if not the most

regulated, safest cannabis operations in America.”

Part of the Advisory Council's job will be to set policy for the State of North Carolina regarding the regulation of cannabis – something Parker is very comfortable with and doing. "Our Tribe has enforced a very stringent code. The health and safety aspects have been paramount since day one. We've never fought against it. We have just built towards it and built to it because we knew that if our health and safety were the king, the gold standard - we always want to be the gold standard for health and safety because as North

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Carolina starts entering into these conversations of what does regulated cannabis look like for us, we want to be the perfect example.” Parker is very excited about the opportunities his selection opens up. “Our seat at this table doesn’t just give us a seat as ‘this is how cannabis policy impacts the tribe’. This truly allows us to go, ‘we’re a trend-setter. We’re a groundbreaker here. We pioneered this.’”

He added, “My goal, and our goal, and why this is so special, is now we get to not only have a seat at that table, we get to help educate and inform on the real process. We get to bring those people here to show them what our people have done through sovereignty with our own people in a very, very challenging system of agriculture, manufacturing, and retail.”

Gov. Stein said in a statement when establishing the Advisory Council, “Our state’s unregulated cannabis market is the wild west and is crying for order. Let’s get this right and create a safe, legal market for adults that protects kids.

That is why I am announcing a State Advisory Council on Cannabis. I am charging this group with studying and recommending a comprehensive approach to regulate cannabis sales. They will study best practices and learn from other states to develop a system that protects youth, allows adult sales, ensures public safety, promotes public health, supports North Carolina agriculture, expunges past convictions of simple THC possession, and invests the revenues in resources for addiction, mental health, and drugged driving detection.”

Parker noted that he is proud of the exercise of sovereignty that the EBCI has done with its cannabis operation. “This entire time,



Forrest Parker, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who serves as the Qualla Enterprises, LLC general manager, has been selected to serve on the North Carolina Advisory Council on Cannabis. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

we have always wanted to be the leading example for our state so when they enter into that journey, we were the gold standard - not just in North Carolina or the south, but honestly, the nation. Now that time is coming. Now, not only have we built the largest complete vertical system in America where we’ve sold over 1 million individual products since we opened adult-use, and developed over 350 proprietary, individual SKUs while supporting over 90 percent tribal families.”

He further noted, “The goal has always been to collaborate and interact with our state system in ways that benefit this business and, thus, the Cherokee people. I think over the next period of time as the system gets refined and the actual cannabis program in North Carolina gets truly developed and rolled out, we will be able to define how we interact in that system much better.”

According to Gov. Stein’s office, the members of the North Carolina Advisory Council on Cannabis

are as follows:

Co-chairs

- Lawrence H. Greenblatt, MD, State health director & chief medical officer, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

- Matt Scott, district attorney, Prosecutorial District 20 (Robeson County)

Members

- David W. Alexander, owner and president, Home Run Markets, LLC

- Arthur E. Apolinario, MD, MPH, FAAFP, 2002-2023 past president, North Carolina Medical Society; Family Physician, Clinton Medical Clinic

- Joshua C. Batten, assistant director for special services, Alcohol Law Enforcement Division, North Carolina Department of Public Safety

- Representative John R. Bell, North Carolina House of Representatives, District 10

- Carrie L. Brown, MD, MPH, DFAPA, chief psychiatrist, North Carolina Department of Health

and Human Services

- Mark M. Ezzell, director, North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Program, North Carolina Department of Transportation

- Anca E. Grozav, chief deputy director, North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management

- Representative Zack A. Hawkins, North Carolina House of Representatives, District 31

- Colonel Freddy L. Johnson, Jr., commander, North Carolina State Highway Patrol

- Michael Lamb, police chief, City of Asheville Police Department

- Peter H. Ledford, deputy secretary for policy, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

- Kimberly McDonald, MD, MPH, Chronic Disease and Injury Section chief, Division of Public Health, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

- Patrick Oglesby, attorney and founder, Center for New Revenue

- Forrest G. Parker, general manager, Qualla Enterprises LLC / Great Smoky Cannabis Company

- Senator Bill P. Rabon, North Carolina Senate, District 8

- Lillie L. Rhodes, legislative counsel, Administrative Office of the Courts

- Gary H. Sikes, owner, Bountiful Harvest Farm and Partner, Legacy Fiber Technologies

- Senator Kandie D. Smith, North Carolina Senate, District 5

- Keith Stone, sheriff, Nash County
- Joy Strickland, senior deputy attorney general, Criminal Bureau of the North Carolina Department of Justice

- Deonte’ L. Thomas, chief, Wake County Public Defender Office

- Missy P. Welch, director of programming (Permits/Audit/Product Sections), Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission

Cherokee Supreme Court releases order reversing Election Board decision on Lambert candidacy

By BROOKLYN BROWN
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - On the morning of July 10 in Cherokee Tribal Court, the Cherokee Supreme Court reversed the decision of the Cherokee Board of Elections to disqualify Patrick Henry Lambert from candidacy in the 2025 Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) election.

Lambert, who was impeached from his position as Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) in 2017, filed for candidacy for the 2025 Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) election. The Board would find Lambert ineligible for candidacy based on his 2017 impeachment as stated in the appellee brief, "It appeared to the Board that Mr. Lambert would be ineligible to be a candidate due to his previous impeachment and removal from Tribal office in 2017 (Resolution No. 596 (2017))."

The Board ordered a hearing as is required by Cherokee Code Sec. 161-4(e). The hearing was conducted on June 10 at 2 p.m. in the Ginger Lynn Welch Large Conference Room, wherein Lambert represented himself. The Board subsequently denied Lambert's certification as a candidate with a unanimous vote on June 12, releasing the final written decision on June 17.

Lambert then filed an appeal through Cherokee Supreme Court, prompting an expedited hearing on July 10.

At 10 a.m. on July 10 in Cherokee Tribal Court, the Cherokee Supreme Court presided with Chief



Courtroom sketch of Patrick Henry Lambert (Appellant) v. Board of Elections of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (Appellee) on the morning of July 10. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather art)

Justice Bradley B. Letts, Associate Justice Sharon Tracey Barrett, and Associate Justice Robert C. Hunter, on the matter of Patrick Henry Lambert (Appellant) v. Board of Elections of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (Appellee). Letts announced that the oral argument time limit would be extended from thirty minutes to forty-five minutes.

Lambert, representing himself, opened the oral arguments as the appellant. Lambert presented five arguments as detailed in the appellant brief:

"I. For the whole of its history the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has set its election qualifica-

tions in its foundational governing documents

II. The Charter and Governing Document is the supreme law of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and may not be abridged
III. The Board of Elections ignored its own precedent and erred as a matter of law by failing to apply the Charter and Governing Document to this case

IV. Tribal Council has a duty to make law consistent with the Charter and Governing Document and has empowered the Supreme Court to say when a Tribal law violates the Charter

V. Tribal Council's disqualification provision found in C.C. § 161-3(d)

(3) is ultra vires as the Charter and Governing Document does not grant this power to Tribal Council"

Lambert stated in his opening, "I am Patrick Henry Lambert, appearing pro se to challenge the Board of Elections' unlawful denial of my candidacy for the Birdtown Tribal Council seat. This case is not about the 2017 impeachment. It's about one question: Will this court uphold the Charter as the supreme law of the EBCI, or allow Tribal Council to impose unauthorized qualifications that silence the voters' right to choose their leaders?"

Lambert said C.C. Sec. 161-3(d)(3) is a violation of section 9

of the Charter. C.C. Sec. 161-3(d)(3) reads, “No person shall ever be eligible to run for or serve in any of the above Tribal Offices, if: ... (3)

The person has been impeached and removed by the Tribal Council from any elected office or appointed office, for having violated his or her oath of office or being guilty of any offense making the person ineligible to hold said office; or...”

Charter Section 9 reads, “In order to run for or serve as Principal Chief, Vice-Chief or Tribal Council member, a candidate must be an enrolled member of the Eastern Band. For the offices of Chief and Vice-Chief a candidate must also be at least thirty-five years of age by the date of the election and have resided on Cherokee trust lands continuously for at least two years immediately preceding the date of the election. For the Tribal Council a candidate must be at least eighteen years of age by the date of election and have resided in the township which he is to represent for at least ninety days immediately preceding the date of the election.”

Lambert stated, “Cherokee Code Section 161-3(d)(3) violates Charter Section 9’s exclusive criteria: enrollment, age, and residency, all of which I indisputably meet. This is not just about my candidacy, it’s about protecting the voice of every Cherokee voter. I ask this court to reverse the Board’s error, declare Cherokee Code Section 161-3(d)(3) void, and certify my candidacy, ensuring that the peoples’ will prevails.”

Lambert also highlighted Charter Section 22 on impeachment which reads, “Any officer of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who violates his oath of office, or is guilty of any offense

making him ineligible to hold said office may be impeached by a two-thirds vote of council.” Lambert argued that section 22 is silent on barring future candidacy.

In discussing Charter Section 6, which reads, “The Tribal Council shall establish a Board of Elections and enact election rules and regulations for the conduct of tribal elections. Election for Principal Chief and Vice-Chief must be by a majority of at-large votes cast by eligible voters,” Lambert argued that “conduct of tribal elections” refers to “procedural and administrative matters, not substantive candidate qualifications,” citing *lex specialis derogat legi generali*, meaning specific law overrides general law.

Attorney Craig Jacobson of Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP, represented the appellee, the Cherokee Board of Elections. Jacobson presented six arguments, as stated in the appellee brief: “I. C.C. § 161-3(d)(3) HAS BEEN PART OF THE ELECTION ORDINANCE SINCE 1997 AND HAS REMAINED RELATIVELY UNCHANGED.

II. THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS CORRECTLY APPLIED THE LAW AND DID NOT MAKE AN ERROR OF LAW.

III. THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS DOES NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO AMEND OR IGNORE C.C. § 161-3(d)(3).

IV. C.C. § 161-3(d)(3) DOES NOT VIOLATE THE CHARTER AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT.

V. THE CHARTER DOES NOT EXPRESS HOW IT CAN BE AMENDED, BUT TRIBAL COUNCIL HAS EXERCISED ITS AUTHORITY AND HAS PASSED AN ORDINANCE ON AMENDING THE CHARTER

VI. ALL OTHER ISSUES ARE NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE

COURT.”

In his opening, Jacobson stated, “In reading and hearing Mr. Lambert’s arguments, we do share a central starting point that the EBCI Charter and Governing Document is the supreme law of the land for the tribe, but from there our paths diverge in the legal woods. Mr. Lambert presents a confusing and at times inconsistent description of the different powers within the EBCI tribal government...”

Jacobson goes on to discuss his opinion of the function of the EBCI Charter and Governing Document, “Is the tribe limited to its enumerated powers, or is there a way in which the document is a living and breathing document that allows for regulations and enactments of law to carry out the spirit of it? In reading the Charter, and in looking at all of the provisions of it and the way in which it matches up with how the tribe regulates itself through ordinances, I would say the EBCI Charter and the way it was drafted is a little bit of both. It has some enumerated powers but its not limited to those enumerated powers.”

Jacobson cited Section 16 of the Charter regarding property inheritance. Jacobson argued that Cherokee Code Chapter 28 – Inheritance and Chapter 28A – Administration of Decedent’s Estates are examples of provisions enlisted by Tribal Council that are not present in the Charter. Justice Barrett challenged Jacobson’s argument by stating that Section 16 starts out with giving Tribal Council power to “direct the management and control of all property, either real or personal, belonging to the Tribe,” whereas the same power is not given to Tribal Council regarding candidate eligibility.

Jacobson presented the concern of the appellee, “The concern that we would have is that if the court rules in Mr. Lambert’s favor, that says if the charter touches on a topic and it provides some authority in the charter, there is no authority for anyone to come in and supplement that authority by ordinance or other tribal law,” he said.

“Our interpretation of this is, and I think its correct, is that the charter establishes a floor but not a ceiling.”

Justice Barrett responded to Jacobson’s analogy, “You would have us affirm the Board of Elections, disqualify [Lambert] because of this Tribal Council added qualification, and say, ‘It’s above the floor,’ but you give us no guidance on how we pronounce that such that people know where the ceiling is,” going on to list the potential for imposed candidacy qualifications, like incumbency or education requirements, based on Jacobson’s interpretation.

As the appellant, Lambert was able to present a closing argument, his final words being, “The voters, not Tribal Council or the Board, should be allowed to decide my candidacy. So, as guardians of the tribe’s democracy, you hold the power to ensure that the voters’ voice prevails.”

In the Cherokee Supreme Court order announcing the reversal of the Board of Elections decision to deny Lambert’s candidacy, the justices outlined that the Board of Elections would conduct a primary election for Tsisqwohi (Birdtown). The primary election is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Birdtown Community Building.

Dinilawigi approves Principal Chief's Day to be celebrated in conjunction with President's Day

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – For the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), the third Monday in February will be celebrated from now on as Principal Chief's Day in conjunction with President's Day. Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) approved Res. No. 486 unanimously during its regular session on Thursday, July 10, which made the designation.

The legislation was submitted by Dallas Bennett, an EBCI tribal member from Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) who serves as the constituent services representative in the Office of Taline Ugviyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley. It states, "The position of Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) is a time-honored institution in Cherokee society, reflecting a legacy of servant leadership, vision, and dedication to the well-being of the Cherokee people since time immemorial."

It further states, "President's Day is a federal holiday that honors the presidents of the United States but does not reflect the distinct leadership traditions, cultural identity, or sovereign governance of the EBCI."

Bennett said in a statement to the One Feather, "Principal Chief's Day is more than a holiday or day off from work — it's a tribute to the strength and vision of those who've led the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians across generations. By observing it alongside President's Day, we honor our leaders while affirming our sovereignty and our right to celebrate our history on our own terms. I'm



Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) approved Res. No. 486 unanimously during its regular session on Thursday, July 10 designating that the third Monday in February will be celebrated as Principal Chief's Day in conjunction with President's Day. In the photo, Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks is shown giving candy to spectators at the Cherokee Indian Fair Parade in Cherokee, N.C. on Oct. 1, 2024. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

thankful to Tribal Council for their unanimous support and to our people for upholding the legacy of Cherokee leadership"

Taline Ugviyu Alan B. Ensley said following passage of the resolution, "It's a good resolution. We all respect our Chiefs and former Chiefs, and I think it's a great thing that Dallas has done."

On observance, the legislation states, "This holiday shall be observed annually on the third Monday in February in conjunction

with President's Day for all tribal government offices and employees. Tribal programs, agencies, and schools are encouraged to honor this day through educational activities, cultural programming, and events that promote understanding of Cherokee leadership, governance, and historical continuity."

An Exhibit A attachment to the legislation lists the Ugviyuhi of the EBCI as follows: Yonaguska, Salonitah (or Flying Squirrel),

Lloyd R. Welch, Nimrod Jarrett Smith, Stillwell Saunooke, Andy Standing Deer, Jesse Reed, Bird Saloloneeta (or Young Squirrel), John Goins Welch, Joseph A. Saunooke, David Blythe, Sampson Owl, John A. Tahquette, Jarret Blythe, Henry Bradley, Osley Bird Saunooke, Walter Jackson, Noah Powell, John A. Crowe, Robert S. Youngdeer, Jonathan L. Taylor, Gerard Parker, Joyce Dugan, Leon Jones, Michell Hicks, Patrick Lambert, and Richard Sneed.

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Business Committee

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Business Committee of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) has many varied functions as outlined throughout the Cherokee Code. Its duties and existence are covered in Cherokee Code Sec. 117-33.

Membership on the Business Committee is found in Sec. 117-33(c) and currently consists of the following people: Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks, Taline Ugvwiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley, Dinilawigi (Tribal Council)

Chairman Mike Parker, Dinilawigi Vice Chairman David Wolfe, Tsiwqwohi (Birdtown) Rep. Jim Owle, Aniwodihhi (Painttown) Rep. Dike Sneed, Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Perry Shell, and Tutiya/Tsalagi Gadugi (Snowbird/Cherokee County) Rep. Adam Wachacha.

Prior to the passage of Ord. No. 275 (2014) on Sept. 4, 2014, the Business Committee was comprised of only four voting members including: Ugvwiyuhi, Taline Ugvwiyu, Dinilawigi Chair, and Dinilawigi Vice Chair. That legislation increased the number to eight.

At that time, Sec. 117-33(c) was amended to include the four mentioned above “and four other members of Tribal Council which shall consist of a member from the four communities not yet represented”.

That legislation was approved by a weighted vote of 94 for and 6 absent. It was subsequently vetoed by Ugvwiyuhi Hicks.

In his veto letter, Ugvwiyuhi Hicks wrote in part, “As Principal Chief, I am obligated to ensure that the administration of tribal laws, regulations, and the operation of daily tribal affairs succeed in an efficient and legal manner. Placing six Tribal Council members on the Business Committee significantly alters the nature of that committee and its past practices.”

He further wrote, “My main concern is that the Business Committee is no longer a co-equal representation of tribal leadership working together in its oversight of tribal administrative duties concerning land, business, and economic transactions. It is not a legislative committee potentially

infringing on executive, administrative authorities. It is my obligation to question the role of any legislative committee to ensure that administrative duties are not co-mingled with legislative duties in order to maintain a fair balance of power between the tribal branches of government.”

The veto was not upheld during the Dinilawigi session of Oct. 13, 2014, and the four members of Dinilawigi were added to the Business Committee.

The main duties of the Business Committee are outlined in the first two sections of Sec. 117-33. Sec. 117-33(a) states, “The Committee shall approve all sales of improvements among Tribal members together with any transfers of ownership or occupancy of any Tribal lands. The Committee shall negotiate and execute on behalf



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of the Tribe all leases or permits for both assigned and unassigned Tribal lands in compliance with existing Tribal law and federal law and regulations appertaining thereto and based upon the merits of each application.”

Sec. 117-33(b) states, “The Committee shall approve leasehold estate mortgages by nonmembers when such mortgage will secure a loan to construct a business on leased premises or improve and upgrade an existing business on leased premises. Only mortgages to secure loans from licensed and accredited state or federal lending agencies shall be approved. A material factor in approving such mortgages shall be the financial statements, character and credit references of the applicant, and the Committee shall ensure that the applicant is of good character,

has the ability and experience to operate the business enterprise successfully and has sufficient capital to conduct the enterprise on a sound financial basis.”

Ord. No. 240 (2024), passed on July 11, 2024, amended Cherokee Code Sec. 106-15 prohibiting discrimination of EBCI tribal members by local hotel/motel operators. What this law also did was add a section to the Business Committee law at Sec. 117-33 as follows: “(d) In addition to the authority given to the Tribal Business Committee in Cherokee Code Chapter 106 to take certain actions to address compliance with that chapter, the Business Committee is authorized to impose fines in the amounts provided in that chapter and in Cherokee Code Chapter 105, to enforce compliance therewith.”

Following are some of the other duties of the Business Committee which can be found throughout the Code.

Chapter 143 deals with Building Codes and Flood Control. Sec. 143-1 states, “The Tribal Business Committee shall review and approve all construction, structural alterations, and beautification plans for all business enterprises located on the Cherokee Indian Reservation. One copy of plans and specifications shall be filed with the Committee prior to approval.”

Sec. 143-1(a) adds, “The Business Committee will review and approve or disapprove plans for construction and beautification of business sites. Before any construction or major alteration of business places is done, plans for same must be approved by the

Business Committee.”

Article III of Chapter 105 (Taxation) deals with ‘Tax on Unauthorized Use of Tribal Land’.

Sec. 105-50(a) describes the tax, “Any person who enters on and uses or occupies tribal land without proper authority from the Tribe, for any period greater than 24 hours, shall be required to pay the tax described in this article.” Sec. 105-52 (Role of Finance Office and Business Committee) states, “All matters regarding the tax shall be decided by the Business Committee or by the Finance Office upon delegation of authority by the Business Committee.”

Chapter 106 deals with Business Regulation and Sec. 106-4 (Business Committee discretion) states, “The Business Committee shall administer this Article and has the discretion to take all steps necessary and proper to enforce compliance with this Article including, but not limited to, prohibiting the introduction of certain goods or services onto tribal land, directing that any or all tribal business licenses be suspended or revoked and directing that any or all applications for tribal business licenses or renewals thereof be rejected.”

Chapter 47-D deals with Leasing and Sec. 47D-22(b) states, “At the discretion of the Business Committee, any lease of tribal land held in trust by the federal government for the purposes authorized by this chapter, except a lease for the exploration, development, or extraction of any mineral resources, shall not require the additional approval of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior so long as the tribal regulations promulgated by Tribal Realty Services Office and used in administering such leases are compliant with 25 USC 415(h).”

Tsalagi NATURE

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Ghost Pipe (*Monotropa uniflora* L.) is a perennial wildflower that can be found in moist, shaded forests. Its ghostly appearance can be explained by its lack of chlorophyll, a chemical that helps plants photosynthesis and typically gives plants their green color. Instead of using photosynthesis, this wildflower gets their nutrients by tapping into fungi that connects to a trees root system. This wildflower can be found from early summer through autumn and often appears a few days after it rains.

Federal legislative updates of interest to EBCI citizens

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

The One Feather will now provide weekly legislative updates on various pieces of federal legislation of interest to members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The bills are shown in the order in which they were introduced following the new bills for the week.

Passed recently

(Note: Due to it containing parts that affect Indian Country, we include this bill.)

H.R. 1. (One Big Beautiful Bill Act). According to Congress.gov, "This bill reduces taxes, reduces or increases spending for various federal programs, increases the

statutory debt limit, and otherwise addresses agencies and programs throughout the federal government. It is known as a reconciliation bill and includes legislation submitted by 11 House committees pursuant to provisions in the FY2025 congressional budget resolution (H Con. Res. 14) that directed the committees to submit legislation to the House Budget Committee that will increase or decrease the deficit and increase the statutory debt limit by specified amounts. (Reconciliation bills are considered by Congress using expedited legislative procedures that prevent a filibuster and restrict amendments in the Senate.)"
Introduced: May 20, 2025 by Rep. Jodey C. Arrington (R-Texas)
Action: It passed the House on

May 22, 2025 by a vote of 215-214-1. It was amended in the Senate and passed by a vote of 51-50 on July 1, 2025. It went back to the House for review after being amended and passed in the Senate and was passed in the House on July 3, 2025 by a vote of 218-214. President Trump signed the bill into law on July 4, 2025.

Effects on Indian Country

The National Indian Health Board said in a statement following passage of the bill in the House, "It includes big changes that affect Indian Country. National Indian Health Board and our tribal partners worked hard to ensure key protections stayed in the bill, but there's still more to do as it heads to the Senate."

NIHB highlighted the fol-

lowing in an infographic entitled "What H.R. 1 means for Tribal Health":

- "Work Requirement Exemption: American Indian/Alaska Native individuals remain exempt from Medicaid work requirements, protecting coverage and HIS resources.
- Cost-sharing Protections: IHS-eligible individuals keep their exemption from out-of-pocket costs, honoring trust and treaty obligations.
- Retroactive coverage Shortened: Medicaid and CHIP coverage would shrink from three months to one month before application, limiting access for those in need.
- Staffing Rule Moratorium: Stops harmful nurse staffing mandates in long-term care. Helps keep tribal facilities open and elders close to home.
- PBM Reform: Spread pricing banned in Medicaid, ensuring fair reimbursement for IHS and tribal pharmacies, and access to meds."

There are other places in the bill relating to American Indian tribes. Sec. 42110 states, "This section rescinds funding to update the EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System and any associated systems, necessary information technology infrastructure, or public access software tools to ensure access to compliance data and related information. Further, it also rescinds funding for grants to states, Indian tribes, and air pollution control agencies to update their systems to ensure communication with EPA's system. Finally, it rescinds funding to the EPA for updating inspection software or acquiring such software or devices on which to run the software."

Sec. 42114 states, "This section repeals the EPA's program

Tsalagi MINUTE

Anetso (Stickball)

Traditionally, the game of Cherokee stickball was played on the field of 75 to 100 yards each way from the center ground. The goal posts at each end of the field were two green limbs about 12 feet apart. The playing field resembled the football fields of today. The two ball sticks were made of hickory, bent together so that it formed a cup resembling a miniature tennis racket. The ball was light weight about 1 1/2 inch in diameter. Sometimes it was made of deerskin with deerhair sewn inside.

The players have always had a high degree of community pride. By the banks of the rippling waters and from the coves came such men as Deweese and Adam Reed, Josiah Long, George and Jonah Washington, Standing Turkey, John and Owen Walkingstick, Lloyd Lambert, Ned and Blaine Hill, Jonah Feather, Amoneeta Saunooke, Noah Arch, Jake Cornsilk and the Crows, Tooni's, Stampers, Queens, Taylors, Smiths and the Standingdeers.

Some of the respected and honored medicine men were Duck Soup, Jess Washington, David George, Dave Armachain, Ossie Crowe, Bird Partridge, Ute Jumper, Lawyer Calhoun and Lowen Standingdeer. The drivers were of such men as Welch Teesateskie, Joe Long. The Cherokee Indian Police such as Big John Crow and Will Wahyahneeta, were always present.

In the old days about thirty minutes before game time the emotions were stirred by a long ear-piercing, war whoop, followed by a short whoop in unison from the ball players and their supporters. The medicine man would place the players in their positions and final instructions were given. The ballgame was started by a respected old player speaking to the teams. He would give advice to the young players, insisted the game be played hard, fast, fair and with no fouls. Then with "ta-la-du-quo" 12 points, the ball went up, the battle was on.

- Excerpts as told by Mark Reed. Source: "Journal of Cherokee Studies", Vol II No.1, Winter 1977



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that awards grants to states, air pollution control agencies, municipalities, and Indian tribes for developing and implementing plans to reduce greenhouse gas air pollution.”

Several other mentions of American Indians include:

- 110108: “Recognizing Indian tribal governments for purposes of determining whether a child has special needs for purposes of the adoption credit”
- 111108 (Modification to Low-Income Housing Credit)(c) “Temporary including of Indian areas and rural areas as difficult development areas for purposes of certain buildings” – “a building shall not be treated as located in such area unless such building is assisted or financed under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 or the project sponsor is an Indian tribe”

The Native American Financial Officers Association (NAFOA) released its financial analysis of the bill on July 3, 2025.

The organization said in part in a statement, “Our ongoing review examines how the legislation’s provisions may affect Tribes, federal trust responsibilities, and Tribal economic development opportunities. We collaborate with partner organizations to ensure a unified voice in our analysis and recommendations. A limited number of provisions naming Tribes or Tribal Programs are included within the bill.

In summary, those provisions include:

- Modifications to SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Work Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults include specific exceptions for Indians or Urban Indians (as such terms are defined in paragraphs (13) and (28) of section 4 of the Indian Health Care

Improvement Act) and California Indians described in section 809(a) of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

- Recognizing Indian Tribal Governments to determine Special Needs for Adoption Tax Credit, giving Tribes parity with State Governments.
- Establishing Community Engagement Requirements for Medicaid Eligibility, including work, community service, educational program participation, and other standards to be established by states with specific exclusions for an Indian or an Urban Indian (as such terms are defined in paragraphs (13) and (28) of section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act) and a California Indian described in section 809(a) of such Act; or otherwise determined eligible as an Indian for the Indian Health Service.
- Nonprofit community development activities in remote Alaska villages shall be considered related under an entity’s 501(a) exempt status, including harvesting, processing, transporting, selling, and marketing fish and fish products from the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands statistical and reporting areas.
- Increasing the charitable deduction of expenses incurred for Native Alaskan subsistence whaling from \$10,000 to \$50,000.”

To read the full statement from NAFOA on this issue, visit the onefeather.com and search NAFOA issues financial analysis of impact of the “Big Beautiful Bill”

Bills we’re currently watching

H.R. 226 (Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Act). This House bill would place 76 acres of land in eastern Tennessee into trust

for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Included in that land are the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, the Chota Memorial, and the Tanasi Memorial sites.

Introduced: Jan. 7 by Rep. Charles J. “Chuck” Fleischmann (R-Tenn.)
Action: This bill was passed in the House by a voice vote on Feb. 4. It was received in the Senate the next day and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

S.107 (Lumbee Fairness Act). This Senate bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group.

Introduced: Jan. 16 by Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.)

Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 474 (Lumbee Fairness Act). This House bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group. This bill is identical to S. 107.

Introduced: Jan. 16 by Rep. David Rouzer (R-N.C.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

S.761 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act). This Senate bill would establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. According to Congress.gov, “Among other duties, the Commission must investigate

the impacts and ongoing effects of the Indian Boarding School Policies – federal policies under which American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian children were forcibly removed from their family homes and placed in boarding schools.”

Introduced: Feb. 26 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. It was “ordered to be reported without amendment favorably” by the Committee on March 5. No further action has been taken on this bill.

H.R. 2412 (Indigenous Diplomacy and Engagement Act). This House bill would establish an Office for Indigenous Affairs and an Advisory Commission for Indigenous Peoples within the Department of State.

Introduced: March 27 by Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawai’i)

Action: This bill was referred to both the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Natural Resources. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 2929. (Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe recognition bill). This House bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group.
Introduced: April 17 by Rep. Donald G. Davis (D-N.C.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 3255. (Grand River

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 15

Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). This House bill will would grant federal acknowledgment to the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians, a state-recognized group in Michigan.

Introduced: May 7 by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 3444. (Tribal Self-Determination and Co-Management in Forestry Act of 2025). According to the bill text, this House bill is “To direct Federal land management agencies of the Department of the Interior to

establish Tribal Co-Management Plans and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for the performance of certain activities of the Forest Service, and for other purposes.”

Introduced: May 15 by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-Calif.)

Action: This bill was referred to both the House Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Federal Lands on June 3, and a hearing was held in that subcommittee on June 10.

S.2022 (Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act of 2025). This Senate bill, according to the legislation, would “amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986

to treat Indian Tribal governments in the same manner as state governments for certain federal tax purposes, and for other purposes”.

Introduced: June 11 by U.S. Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)

Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 3956 (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Act of 2025). This bill would amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 “to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts and self-governance agreements with Indian entities to administer the food distribution program on Indian reservations”.

Introduced: June 12, 2025 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.) and Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Okla.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture

ture. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

S. 2160 (A bill to reaffirm and clarify the federal relationships of the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians of Michigan as a federally recognized Indian Tribe). This Senate seeks the same as H.R. 3255

(Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025.

Introduced: June 25, 2025 by Sen. Gary C. Peters (D-Mich.)

Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Here is the contact information for your federal legislators:
Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.): <https://www.tillis.senate.gov/email-me>
Sen. Tedd Budd (R-N.C.): <https://www.budd.senate.gov/contact/>
11th District Congressional Rep. Chuck Edwards (R-N.C.): <https://edwards.house.gov/contact>

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CIPD arrests Swain Co. Sheriff Cochran

Submitted by CARLA NEADEAU
CIPD Chief of Police

On June 27, 2025, the Cherokee Indian Police Department (CIPD) arrested Swain County Sheriff Curtis Cochran. The arrest followed reports of suspicious activity on the Qualla Boundary and led to charges in both Cherokee Court and Swain County State Court. The charges relate to alleged offenses involving two adult female victims.

Sheriff Cochran has been charged under state law with felonious restraint, assault on a female, sexual battery, and solicitation to commit prostitution. He is also charged under Tribal law with two counts of oppression in office and one count of abusive sexual contact.

CIPD officers acted quickly and in coordination with the State Bureau of Investigation, the FBI, and the District Attorney's Office. Our officers were aided by improved technology purchased with the support of Tribal Council, Chief Hicks, and Vice Chief Ensley.

We are continuing to gather evidence and follow up on leads. This remains an open and active investigation, and we will provide updates as appropriate. Out of respect for the ongoing investigation, we are limiting public information at this time.

Our department's focus is to ensure the safety of the Qualla

Boundary and all those within it. We will continue to work closely with our law enforcement partners to see this matter through. Anyone with information is asked to contact CIPD at (828) 359-6600.

CIPD makes drug arrests

On Thursday, July 3, 2025, Officers with the Cherokee Indian Police Department conducted a joint investigation with the Waynesville Police Department and the DEA-Asheville (Drug Enforcement Administration). The investigation resulted in the arrest of two suspects within the territory of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Qualla Boundary and the seizure of approximately 57.8 grams (2 ounces) of suspected fentanyl, 5.9 grams of suspected methamphetamine, 23.5 suspected alprazolam pills, 5.8 grams of amphetamine tablets, and \$1,866.00 dollars. Christopher Dale Treadwell
Date of Birth: Aug. 17, 1988
Gender: Male

Treadwell was initially charged with Transporting controlled substance into the territory of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Qualla Boundary and two counts of transporting a child outside the territory of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians with intent to violate custody order.

State Charges Pending:
Trafficking opium or heroin
PWIMSD SCH II
Possess Methamphetamine
Possess Drug Paraphernalia
Caleb Jage Eggen

Date of Birth: July 22, 2002
Gender: Male
Eggen has been charged in Tribal Court with:
Drug trafficking
2 counts of Possession of a controlled substance (Schedules I-V)
Manufacture, sell or deliver, or possession with intent to manufacture sell or deliver a controlled substance (Schedules I-V)

All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in the court of law.

- Cherokee Indian Police Dept.
release

CIPD Arrest Report for June 23-29, 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.

Bird, Dwayne – age 30
Arrested: June 23
Released: June 23
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Gresham, Earl – age 47
Arrested: June 23
Released: June 23
Charges: Larceny

Martin Jr., George David – age 43
Arrested: June 24
Released: Not released as of report date (June 30)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Queen, Dianna Pauline – age 52
Arrested: June 24
Released: June 24

Charges: Temporary Hold

Beck, Jackie Lynn – age 47
Arrested: June 26
Released: June 26
Charges: Temporary Hold

Owle, Kenneth Randall – age 62
Arrested: June 26
Released: Not released as of report date (June 30)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Price, Colby Taylor – age 33
Arrested: June 26
Released: Not released as of report date (June 30)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Williamson, Jason – age 44
Arrested: June 26
Released: June 26
Charges: Temporary Hold

Bradley, Connie Lynn – age 41
Arrested: June 27
Released: Not released as of report date (June 30)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Cochran, Curtis – age 72
Arrested: June 27
Released: June 27
Charges: Oppression in Office (two counts), Abusive Sexual Contact, Assault on a Female

Powell, Daymion Tenaycious – age 27
Arrested: June 27
Released: Not released as of report date (June 30)
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Bird, Elexia Kayleigh – age 20
Arrested: June 28
Released: Not released as of report date (June 30)



Learn more about the
organization at:
www.usetinc.org

Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence	Released: July 3 Charges: Violations of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders	Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance	Charges: Probation Violation
Gregg, Robert Charles – age 28 Arrested: June 28 Released: June 29 Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers	Davis, Victoria Illene – age 19 Arrested: July 1 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Pre-Trial Release Violation, Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor	Taylor, Salvador Hugo – age 33 Arrested: July 3 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Criminal Mischief to Property, Aggravated Weapons Offense, Child Abuse in the Second Degree, Second Degree Trespass, Assault with a Deadly Weapon with Intent to Kill and Inflict Serious Injury, Disorderly Conduct	Malpass, Johnathan – age 49 Arrested: July 4 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Violations of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders
Sneed, Alex Cameron – age 21 Arrested: June 28 Released: June 28 Charges: Driving While Impaired	Murphy, Dustin – age 35 Arrested: July 1 Released: July 1 Charges: Hold Until Sober	Treadwell, Christopher – age 36 Arrested: July 3 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Transporting Controlled Substance into the Territory of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Transporting a Child Outside of the Territory of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians with Intent to Violate Custody Order (two counts)	Slinkey, Dwight Arthur – age 37 Arrested: July 4 Released: July 5 Charges: Public Intoxication
Bertram, Pamela – age 40 Arrested: June 29 Released: June 29 Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers	Brady-Cole, Jillian Kaye – age 35 Arrested: July 2 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	Burton, Chad – age 50 Arrested: July 4 Released: July 6 Charges: Violations of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders	Berry, Michael Adam – age 41 Arrested: July 5 Released: July 5 Charges: Carrying Concealed Weapon
CIPD Arrest Report for June 30 to July 6, 2025			
<i>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.</i>			
Johnson, Michael James – age 36 Arrested: June 30 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor, Pre-Trial Release Violation, Violations of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court	Hollifield, Tiffany Michelle – age 25 Arrested: July 2 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Possession of Controlled Substance	Jackson, Maurice Jordan – age 24 Arrested: July 4 Released: July 5 Charges: Possession of Schedule II Controlled Substance	Montgomery, Mykasha – age 35 Arrested: July 5 Released: July 5 Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance
Sequoyah, Kieran Simone – age 26 Arrested: June 30 Released: June 30 Charges: Driving While Impaired	Holloway, Lydia Natasha – age 44 Arrested: July 2 Released: July 2 Charges: Second Degree Trespass	Wolfe, Diamond Spring – age 30 Arrested: July 5 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Escape from Imprisonment and Custody; Resisting, Delaying, and Obstructing Officers; Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court	Wolfe, Diamond Spring – age 30 Arrested: July 5 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Escape from Imprisonment and Custody; Resisting, Delaying, and Obstructing Officers; Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court
Smoker, Keri Philana – age 48 Arrested: June 30	Nesby, Bryant Jarnard – age 39 Arrested: July 2 Released: July 2 Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence	Reed, Samuel Enoch – age 35 Arrested: July 2 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Edler Abuse and Neglect	Bryant, Dason Drel – age 21 Arrested: July 6 Released: July 6 Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor
	Eggen, Caleb Jage – age 22 Arrested: July 3	Janes, Jesse Levi – age 42 Arrested: July 4 Released: July 5 Charges: Hold Until Sober	Huskey, Joseph Miguel – age 38 Arrested: July 6 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7) Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court
		Locust, Robyn Lynn – age 41 Arrested: July 4 Released: Not released as of report date (July 7)	

2025 EBCI Election candidate bios

The Cherokee One Feather invited each candidate for tribal office in the 2025 EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) election to submit a bio as well as answer the following questions: 1. Why are you the best candidate for the seat that you are running for? 2. What will be your top priority if you win the seat?

Jeff Thompson

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Dinilawigi candidate

Siyo. My name is Jeff Thompson

I am a dedicated husband to Shondi Thompson, father of eight, and grandfather of eleven. At 46 years old, I have built a life centered on family, respect, and community. I have dedicated my life to values that matter: faith, integrity, and hard work. I believe in creating opportunities for every family to thrive, from affordable housing to safe neighborhoods, and trade jobs that support the EBCI.

With a deep commitment to service, I understand what it means to balance a budget, make tough decisions, and stand up for what is right.

Now, I am ready to bring those same values to public service. Together, we can build a better future for our children and grandchildren. A proven voice for common sense and compassion.

With twenty-two years of experience working to serve the elderly, I have seen firsthand the importance of caring for our elders and preserving their wisdom for future generations. I believe that respecting and protecting our elders is the heart of a strong tribal nation. I understand the values that matter. Cultural pride, community safety, opportunities for youth, and honoring our traditions. As a candidate for tribal council, I am ready to serve with integrity, transparency, and a deep respect for the people.



I will stand up for our elders, advocate for strong families, and invest in programs that protect our children and grandchildren. Together, we can build a stronger, healthier, and more united tribal nation. Now I am running for Tribal Council to build a stronger, healthier community for everyone, from our children to our elders.

Together, we can protect our culture, invest in our future, and respect the traditions that hold us together,

Vote for me. Let us make the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians stronger than ever!

Joey Owle

Wayohi (WolfTown) Dinilawigi candidate

My name is Joey Owle, and I am honored to announce my candidacy for Tribal Council for the Wolf Town community. I'm a 36-year-old husband, father, and lifelong member of our Qualla Boundary community. I live in Wolf Town with my wife, Kelsey, and our daughter, Joella. I am deeply rooted in this community, not only through family and tradition, but through service, hard work, and a desire to make a lasting impact for today and for the generations yet to come.

I'm running for Tribal Council on a platform of transparency, resource stewardship, and team-based problem-solving. I believe leadership should be about listening, learning, and acting with integrity, admittedly not having all the answers, but knowing how to bring the right people together to find the best path forward. My pragmatic approach centers on clear communication, collaboration, and accountability to the people I serve.

One of the guiding principles of my campaign is the Cherokee philosophy of planning and protecting for the next seven generations. This means we must be thoughtful stewards of both our natural resources, like our forests, waters, and land, and our financial resources, including the funds that are meant to serve and



uplift our people. We cannot afford to think only in short-term election cycles. We need long-range thinking, responsible planning, and leaders who are willing to ask hard questions and make sustainable decisions.

We are blessed with many tribal programs and opportunities, but time and time again, I've heard from community members who don't know what's available, or don't understand how to access what they need. One of my top priorities as your Council Representative will be to close that gap. I will work to ensure that our tribal citizens are fully aware of their rights, benefits, and opportunities, and that navigating those systems is easier and more respectful for everyone involved. We must continue upon the good work of making services accessible, and that starts with listening to the barriers our community faces and acting on them.

My leadership style is grounded in humility and teamwork. I do not believe in ego-driven politics. I don't claim to be the smartest in the room, but I do know how to bring people together, build consensus, and get things done. I believe that respect, accountability, and good communication go a long way, and that sometimes, progress looks like compromise, not conflict. Tribal government should work for the people, not for personal recognition. As a parent, I think about the world we are shaping for my daughter and for all of our children. I want her to grow up in a community where her leaders are honest, accessible, and forward-thinking. I want her to feel proud of her tribe's leadership, and I want all of our children to know they belong here, that their voices matter, and that their future is being protected today.

I am also a strong believer in preserving our sovereignty and culture. That means protecting our language, our land, our sacred traditions, and our right to self-determination. We must remain vigilant and united in the face of external pressures, while continuing to build strong systems of education, healthcare, housing, and economic opportunity from within.

Throughout my career, I've worked in and alongside tribal systems, and I understand both the potential and the challenges we face as a government. I know that meaningful change doesn't happen overnight, but with persistence,

honesty, and the right leadership, we can build a stronger, more resilient future. I will approach every issue with curiosity and fairness, always asking: “How does this help our people? Is this a wise use of our resources? Will this benefit future generations?”

Transparency is not just a campaign promise for me, it is a core value. I believe that tribal members have a right to know how decisions are made, where money is going, and what their leaders are doing on their behalf. If elected, I will hold regular community updates, be available to listen, and communicate clearly about my actions and votes. I want to bring government back to the people.

I am not running for this seat to be important. I am running because I care deeply about this community, and because I believe that with the right leadership, our tribe can do better for our families and our future. We deserve a Council that is thoughtful, forward-thinking, and rooted in the values that have sustained us for generations.

I humbly ask for your support, your prayers, and your vote. Together, let’s build something that lasts.

Boyd Owle

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Dinilawigi candidate

Birdtown/3200 Acre Tract Candidate
Boyd Owle – I am a lifelong resident of the Birdtown Community and a proud graduate of Cherokee High School. I began working at age 16 through Tribal Summer Programs, which led to over 20 years of service with the Cherokee Boys Club. I later spent 12 years at Harrah’s Cherokee Casino before becoming the Tribal Sanitation Manager, a role I held for 8 years. In total, I dedicated 43 consecutive years to serving entities of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Following that, I’ve had the honor of serving four terms as the Birdtown/3200 Acre Tract Representative on Tribal Council.



Later in my professional career I made the decision to return to school to further my education, earning an Associate of Science in 2004, a Bachelor of Business Administration in 2006, and a Master of Science in Management and Leadership in 2009, all from Montreat College.

Why am I the best person for the Tribal Council seat?

I’ve had the privilege of serving four terms as a Birdtown/3200 Acre Tract Representative. This experience has given me a deep understanding of the needs and values of the Birdtown/3200 Acre Tract Community and the EBCI. My decades of hands-on experience in Tribal operations, combined with my education in business and leadership, have prepared me to effectively address and resolve complex challenges and to advocate strongly for our people. I am committed to continuing to lead with openness, dependability, honesty, and fairness in every decision I make. My lifelong dedication to service, my proven leadership, and my commitment to transparency set me apart. I will continue to lead with integrity and will always put the well-being of our Tribe first.

One of my top priorities is to continue focusing on diversification of our Tribe’s revenue so we’re not relying so heavily on gaming. Casino revenue has helped us grow and accomplish a lot as a Tribe, but we can’t rely solely on gaming to secure our future. We have to look at new business opportunities, both here and across the country, that can bring in steady income for the long haul. That means growing our own tribal businesses, teaming up with other tribes, and finding smart ways to invest. This isn’t just about money, it’s about making sure we can keep providing the services our people count on, like housing, healthcare, education, and support for our elders. If we want to stay strong and independent, we’ve got to plan ahead and build something that lasts.

At the same time, we need to continue to prioritize in the things that matter most to our people:

- Affordable, safe housing so tribal members and their families can thrive here at home.
- Education and youth programs that preserve Cherokee culture while preparing the next 7 generations for success.

- Caring for our elders with the respect, safety, and the support they deserve.
- Preserving our language and culture, protecting sacred traditions, and keeping Cherokee identity strong.
- Defending our sovereignty and jurisdiction at every level, ensuring our rights and authority are respected.
- Reducing tribal debt and promoting financial responsibility to ensure long-term stability and protect future generations.

These challenges call for strong and steady leadership who will show up and fight for our people every single day. We can’t afford to sit back when it comes to protecting our people, our identity, and our future. I will continue to be a voice for the EBCI and be a strong and consistent Council Representative in Raleigh and Washington, D.C. Our Tribe and its people need dedicated and experienced leaders at the political table when decisions are being discussed about our sovereignty and our future. Your continued support will be greatly appreciated.

Venita K. Wolfe

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Dinilawigi candidate

Siyo! My name is Venita K. Wolfe. I would like to serve as tribal council representative for the Big Cove and Tow String communities. I will be the voice for our communities, promoting community needs and development. I reside in the Big Cove community with my husband, John. I am blessed with one son, Michael, who resides on the boundary. My family originated in Big Cove, my grandfather is Eli Wolfe, and my grandmother is Irene Pheasant Wolfe, they both passed when I was young. My father is Glenn Wolfe, Sr, he passed away in 2024, and my mother is Natalie Gasper, she passed away in 2020. Family is particularly important to me; I am grateful to



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have a wonderfully large family on and off the boundary.

My educational journey is on-going as learning never ends. In 2022, I earned a Master of Legal Studies in Indigenous Peoples Law from the University of Oklahoma. In 2007, I earned a Master of Science degree in Health Education from the University of New Mexico and in 2003, I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science with a minor in Native American Studies. My education coupled with the knowledge and skills I possess will be a great asset to succeed as a representative of our communities and the EBCI tribe.

Since moving back home in 2018, I have taken active roles in the Big Cove community first as secretary of the community club and then as Chairperson. I also volunteered as secretary of the Community Club Council. I was a member of the Tribal Health Improvement Process and a participant with the Qualla Education Committee. I have been a member of the North American Indian Women's Association. I am an active member of the Air Quality Improvement board. In 2023, I completed Remember the Removal Ride. This once in a lifetime opportunity gave me the knowledge of my ancestry, our history as EBCI people, our traditional land base, the various mounds that surround us, and the strength our ancestors possess to survive colonization.

I have worked as a tribal employee since 2018. I began my career with the tribe as a health educator with Public Health and Human Services. I am currently employed as a training and development specialist within the EBCI Human Resources Department. Prior to returning home, I worked at the University of New Mexico for 21 years. First working as a student employee, I advanced into various positions such as research assistant, administrative assistant, program manager, education specialist, and my last position was community research specialist.

I have experience working with diverse populations and communities internal and external to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. During my career, I have acquired important skills and knowledge that I feel would contribute to my success as your tribal council

representative. I value education coupled with kindness, compassion, consideration, empathy, and understanding. I have years of experience cultivating and sustaining relationships, facilitating strategic initiatives, and achieving desirable outcomes/goals.

To be an effective leader, understanding the complex tribal government structure is needed to fully participate in the legislative process. I am dedicated to learning about critical issues, crafting well-planned legislation, and helping to create systems, policies, and laws. There is an abundant list of priorities voiced by community members: housing, crime, elder services, economic sustainability, accountability are just a few. I believe in listening to the needs and concerns of our people, having meaningful dialogue, and finding solutions.

I ask for the opportunity to be a voice for the citizens of my communities and the EBCI. I'm educated, compassionate, empathetic, understanding, and enthusiastic about promoting our community needs. My education, experience, and commitment to serve our people makes me the best candidate to represent Big Cove, Tow String, and the EBCI citizens.

I look forward to meeting, speaking, and listening to you. Please feel free to contact me at 828-554-1199 or email: venitawolfe@gmail.com.

Sgi,
Venita K. Wolfe

Chris Reed

Elawodi (Yellowhill) Dinilawigi candidate

Qualifications:

Over the past two years I have been working with the NC Democratic Party as a non-paid volunteer. I am the current 1st Vice Chair of the Swain County Democrats, I am the first EBCI enrolled member to hold the position of 1st Vice Chair of the NC 11th District Democratic Committee, and I am a current member of the NC Democratic Party State Executive Committee. I was also appointed by Chief Richie Sneed to the Western Carolina University Cherokee Center Advisory Board, a non-paid board appointment to assist the operations of WCU and the WCU Cherokee Center.

Education:

I hold a Bachelor of Arts from the Universi-

ty of North Carolina at Greensboro. I majored in Hospitality and Tourism Management with a focus on special events. I plan to explore graduate programs in public administration, emergency management, or parks and recreation.

Experience:
Along with my volunteer work with the North Carolina Democratic Party, I have 10 years of hospitality/tourism work, 4 years of retail management experience, and 4 years of overseeing a non-profit program through the Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute.

Background:

My wife is Cara Forbes Reed. My mother is Robin Wolfe and father is Samuel 'Frell' Reed. My maternal grandparents are the Beloved Man Dr. Jerry Wolfe and the basket maker Juanita Wolfe. My paternal grandparents are the crafts maker Ollie Reed and Abraham Wildcat.

Issues Important to Me:

Housing and infrastructure – ADA accommodations for housing and businesses, low-income affordable housing, and adding and enforcing public dumpsters and recycling areas for EBCI use only.

Council Reform – salary limits, term limits, establish quarterly Tribal Council townhalls, and require all council members to hold office space or availability hours in their communities.

Addressing/Vetting tribal spending and investments – including spotting opportunities for enhanced GenWell/PerCap revenue generators, getting out of the Indiana deal, and focusing on making Cherokee the place where locals spend their money. I would like to work with programs and the Executive Branch to develop and maintain a back-up system for our financial security in economic downturns. Energy Sovereignty – renew interest in solar and wind power to help us claim independence from the rising prices with Duke Energy.

Q1:

Our Tribal Council Representatives must understand that while we represent the communities we are elected from, we also represent the Tribe in front of Local Municipal, State, Federal, and international lawmakers and officials. My volunteer work with the Democratic Party has prepared me for the interactions between various levels of government which I

believe are sorely needed.

Q2:

My top priority would be expanding affordable housing throughout the Tribe – taking care to ensure all new buildings are ADA compliant and strive to keep pricing affordable for lower income families/individuals.

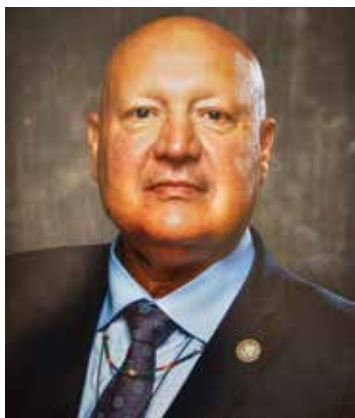
Tom Wahnetah

Elawodi (Yellowhill) Dinilawigi candidate

Tom Wahnetah is married to Clara Parker Wahnetah and together they have four children, Dylan, Kevin, Abbygail, Elle, and three grandchildren. Tom enjoys spending time with his family watching his daughter and grandchildren play softball and football. Tom also catches for his daughter, Elle, who is a softball pitcher. He has lived in Yellowhill for 64 years and is a member of the Long Hair Clan.

Tom worked in the construction field for approximately 30+ years as a North Carolina Licensed General Contractor, both independently and as an employee of a Tribal entity. He served on the Cherokee Boys Club Board of Directors and is currently serving his third term as a Yellowhill Tribal Council representative.

Over the years, Tom coached several Little League sports, including basketball and soccer. Tom is a staunch advocate for the well-being of the community's children. As a parent, Tom understands the importance that children should have access to resources and support to make healthy choices in deterring them from substance abuse. Sadly, Tom understands too well the negative effects of substance abuse. In 2024, Tom's son Kevin passed away due to complications from long-term substance abuse. On Feb. 3, 2015, resolution #471 was passed to purchase property identified as a site for a community pool. I will continue my efforts to build the community pool so our youth and families will have something else to do without



traveling out of Cherokee!

Questions 1 & 2

I recognize the importance of bringing different areas of expertise to the Tribal Council. I have over 30+ years of building construction experience and expertise. Working with project developers, architects, engineers, inspectors, and general contractors in the development of residential and commercial projects ensures effective project management. I recognize the obstacles our tribal members face, acquiring buildable land, affordable housing, and access to childcare. I'm working closely with Tribal housing and Kituwah homes to expedite development of new homesites. Childcare is a challenging issue whereas we do not have enough childcare programs to meet the needs of our Tribal members. It is imperative that alternate resources are identified to provide childcare. Maintaining the quality of life for our elders, children, and families remains my top priority.

Shannon Swimmer

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Dinilawigi candidate

My name is Shannon Swimmer and I am a candidate to represent Painttown as a tribal councilmember. I grew up in Painttown and have lived in Painttown for most of my life. My maternal grandparents are the late John Henry and Louise Bigmeat Maney, who also lived in Painttown. My paternal grandparents are the late Luke and Amanda Sequoyah Swimmer, who lived in the Big Cove community.

I have a Bachelor's degree in English, a Master's degree in Human Resource Management, and a Juris Doctor degree with an emphasis in Tribal Law and Advocacy.

My professional experience includes working for the EBCI in various capacities including Associate Judge; Clerk of Court; Human Resources Benefits Administrator; and Shift Supervisor. I also have experience in the non-profit world as a Program Associate with



the Cherokee Preservation Foundation; as an HR/Finance manager for a Native non-profit in Southern California serving 22 tribes; and as a Training and Technical provider to tribal nations receiving federal grant funding. Currently I am the Director of the WCU Cherokee Center.

In my personal time I have served on the Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship Fund Board of Directors; Chairperson of the Painttown Community Club; Secretary of the Cherokee Community Club Council; the Constitution committee and convention; and as a member of the Renew Earth Running Run Team. I also had the honor of running the Olympic Torch through Cherokee, leading up to the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

I am well qualified to represent the community of Painttown as part of our legislative branch, based on my education and experience. But perhaps more importantly, I have a strong desire and commitment to the betterment of my community and the EBCI as a whole. I have heard the concerns of tribal members regarding the direction of the EBCI and our economy. I will be an advocate for the people, a voice of reason and will perform due diligence on matters coming before the legislative branch for action. Although tribal council cannot control the economic realities of inflation, recession, or increased market competition, it is imperative for each council representative to make informed decisions that are in the best interests of the tribe and to communicate efficiently, effectively, and with transparency with the community.

If I am elected to serve Painttown, the people will be my top priority, recognizing that every decision I make as a council representative affects all tribal members. As a tribe we are facing many unprecedented issues and threats to our sovereignty. We need strong, selfless leaders who will advocate for all of us and who will have the forethought to plan for the next seven generations. Safe and affordable housing will be a priority, as well as reviewing current investments, the utilization of land and buildings, and following up on resolutions passed by former Councils where no action has been taken. Meaningful and effective actions must be taken to preserve and revive the Cherokee language and our culture. A thorough review of

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the Cherokee Code is long overdue and now is the time to ensure that our people have rights and legal remedies available to them.

As members of the Eastern Band of Cherokees, we all have a duty and opportunity to elect leaders who represent our ideals, our morals, who demonstrate an understanding of what is important to the people, and who can be trusted with the future of our tribe. I am ready and able to undertake the weight and responsibility of being a tribal council member, and to represent the people of Painttown and the EBCI to the very best of my ability. Your vote for me is a vote for the future wellbeing of our tribe.

Honoring the Past. Building Our Future. Vote Shannon Swimmer for Painttown. Sgi!

Mary Welch Thompson

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Dinilawigi candidate

My platform is simply to put families and community first on my agenda and to be knowledgeable and familiar with legislative content prior to voting. On the national level, I think the public lands and federal lands (Tribal lands) would be the first target for Trump's agenda to "drill baby drill" which is a great threat for Indian country.

Glorida "Punkin" Griffin

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) School Board candidate

Hello Birdtown residents;

My name is Gloria Griffin and I'm seeking the seat for Birdtown School Board Representative. I am a graduate of Cherokee High School and I have resided in Birdtown all my life. Every student at Cherokee Central matters to me. Their education is my dedication, because they are our future. Every student matters to me, not just a few they are all important. I will be accountable to students, parents and staff. will listen to your concerns, ideas etc. Your voice will not go unheard and i will answer every phone call and email I receive.

I feel I'm more qualified for this position due to my education and my 12 years of experience in School Board. I know the policies and I want to stop the Bullying. There has got to be

a better way to report bullying privately so that there will be no retaliation against the offender.

I have a Masters Degree from Montreat College, I worked for our Tribe for 35 years, and I have 12 years serving on the Cherokee School Board. I'm retired which will give me more time to dedicate to Cherokee School System.

VOTE GLORIA "PUNKIN" GRIFFIN OUR STUDENTS NEED OUR DEDICATION FOR THEIR EDUCATION

Shennelle Feather

Elawodi (Yellowhill) Dinilawigi candidate

Siyo,

My name is Shennelle Feather, I am honored to be a candidate for Yellowhill Tribal Council. I am the eldest daughter of Cynthia Atine (Dinè) and Dane Feather (EBCI/Lakota). My clans are: Todíh'í'nií, DḥḐḐ, T'í'zí lání, DḥSVḐ. I am a member of Raven Rock Stomp grounds where I've also been a shell shaker for 29 years, representing the Wolf Clan. Raised on the Qualla Boundary alongside my 2 sisters, Jatanna and Meona. I have been fortunate to experience firsthand the beauty, strength and connection that is our community. My maternal grandparents are Silas and Connie Atine from the Navajo Nation. My paternal grandmother is Toni Grant Tahquette (EBCI), her parents were Rebecca Catolster and Ernest Grant. My paternal grandfather was Joe Feather (EBCI), his parents were Jonah and Minnie Feather. My parents instilled in me the values of hard work, respect for our traditions, and the importance of giving back. These values have guided my journey and fueled my passion for contributing to our tribe's and community's well-being.

I am a graduate of Cherokee High School, O3' Valedictorian where I was a member of the Lady Braves basketball team. I received my Bachelor of Art Degree in Biology from Trinity International University (IL), where I also played basketball and helped our team make an appearance in the NCCAA national tournament. After graduation I served as the assistant basketball coach for Trinity for 7 years. Upon leaving coaching, I began working my way towards management for the Chicagoland

breakfast restaurant Egg Harbor Café until 2018. I then moved to North Dakota and was a High School Science teacher and Varsity Girls basketball coach for 2 years.

In 2020, I moved back to the Qualla Boundary, where I started with the Cherokee Indian Hospital as the Cultural Coordinator at Kanvwtiyi residential treatment center, where I had the distinct honor of helping community members reconnect to their cultural identities. I have dedicated time coaching travel league and senior games basketball teams for the past 2.5 years. Where I aspire to help mold the next generation of leaders while also continuing to learn from our elders. Working with these three demographics within our community has been a true honor and a blessing. I hope to support them in achieving their goals— whether through guidance, encouragement, or simply being a positive presence in their lives.

In 2022, I started as the Manager of Community Programming for the Museum of the Cherokee People. This experience has provided me with valuable insights into our history and has allowed me to learn about the challenges we have faced and the collective hopes we carry as a community.

Why are you the best candidate for the seat that you are running for?

I believe that I am a great fit for this role because I am a passionate, dedicated, hard-working, genuine servant leader. I represent a new generation of leadership who are eager to blend the wisdom of our elders with 21st century perspectives. Our community is in a transitional phase where honoring our past can beautifully coexist with embracing the future. I am committed to bridging the gap between these realms, ensuring that our progress does not come at the expense of our community. As a proud community member, I am deeply committed to serving our people, with compassion and grace. Combined with the vision of building a future that honors our cultural values and traditions while embracing opportunities for growth.

Top Priority:

If entrusted with your support, my main priority is Community Wellbeing and Quality of Life. To me there are 5 major categories that contribute to this; those are Health, Safety, Education, Prosperity and Cultural Enrichment.

How I would help as a tribal council member contribute to these 5 areas.

1. Get involved:
 1. Attending community clubs/board meetings
 2. Getting to know and understanding how tribal entities function
2. Listen to community members:
 1. Develop office hours
 2. Create an appointment-based system for community members to utilize
3. Research:
 1. What resolutions exist where language can be updated to benefit the community today
 2. Bring in new legislation to help
 3. How to improve policy, procedure, and processes
4. Follow-up:
 1. Create a system to communicate the outcomes.

2. Communication is key!
Thank you for considering my candidacy. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and work alongside each of you for the well-being of our community and tribe.

If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please reach out.
Servant leadership. Traditional Matriarch.

Travis Smith

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Dinilawigi candidate

Siyo Tsisqwohi,

I'm Travis Smith, a lifelong member of Birdtown Community, my wife, Rebekah Smith, and I proudly call Birdtown our home. I am the son of the late Robert (Bob) Smith & Dorothy McCoy Smith and the brother of Bobbi Lynn Smith. Together, Rebekah and I are blessed with five children and four grandchildren, all of whom inspire me every day to work toward a better future for our people.

I am 50 years old and a proud graduate of Cherokee High School. I began my career at the age of 14 with the Cherokee Boys Club, once dedicated to the workforce, I have spent over 25 years working in different capacities for our Tribe, and I was honored to previously serve as your Birdtown council representative.

Why am I the best candidate?

The reason I seek this seat again is simple: I love our Tribe, and I love our People. My dedication to our community has always been root-

ed in service, particularly to our youth, through sports, mentorship and leadership, because the youth are the future leaders of this great Nation. I feel that I have a strong understanding of how our Tribe works and have what our Tribe needs..." Honesty" and willing to stand up for what's right even when you stand alone. I think of myself as a problem solver, I may not have a quick answer, but I will find the answer or the help you need.

Goals

I think if I had to choose from the number of issues we face today, I would have to say that I would focus on safe and adequate housing for our people. This is near and dear to me, because without this our people are not safe. Secondly, I would want to make sure our Tribal dollars are being spent wisely on opportunities that bring more per capita back to our people. Last, I want to ensure that our people have a strong voice in the Council Chambers, at the State level, and in Washington, D.C.

I am grateful for this opportunity to be a candidate for Birdtown Tribal Council, the largest and strongest community of all. I humbly ask for your support in this election. Let's stand together, work together, and build a future that reflects the strength and values of our people.

A vote for me is a voice for you!

Travis K Smith

TW Saunooke

Elawodi (Yellowhill) Dinilawigi candidate

I am the Loving Husband of my Wife Yolanda Saunooke and the proud Doda of 5 children: Tristan, Breece, CeAnna, Tivan and Walika and the super proud Duda of 2 beautiful young babies, Agvyi and Dilagalisgi!!!

I have served the EBCI Community for 12 years as a Tribal employee and almost 8 years as an elected official!

Almost 7 years elected on the Cherokee Central School Board. During that time I was



also Elected to the North Carolina School Board Association Board of Directors: I was the First Enrolled Member of the EBCI to ever be elected to this position!

I have served one term on the EBCI Tribal Council as the Yellowhill Representative 2021-2023!

During my life I have worked all across the US with a longing to always be home!

I recently completed the Remember the Removal bike ride in June of 2025!!!

The life experiences I learned during the 6 months of training and 3 weeks on the ride are feelings and emotions that will stay with me for a lifetime! It reiterated to me the Passion I have for my community and to serve my people!

The strategy and precision in which the EBCI Is Still Here came with over 20 years of forward thinking and planning!

In this Year of 2025 it takes time, it takes preparation, it takes forward thinking!!! Pieces of initiative and days of work!

During my 1 term on Council I dealt with Community Issues, Local Issues, State Issues and Federal Issues! I was in the Halls of Congress almost as much as I was in the Council Chambers!!

-Use the land and resources that we already own!

-Build our town around the property we already Own as a tribe!

-Allocate and authorize the use of tribally owned lands at a fair market value.

-Housing promotes growth and responsibility within the community!!

-Be present in DC and Raleigh, they make laws against Us and For Us!!!

-Unify and promote the other 572 Federally Recognized Tribes, if They have an Issue... We Have an Issue!

-Treaty Rights: Regulate Rights for Us and Many other Federally recognized Tribes! Bridge the gap and make a Collective Group!



Primary Election
Thursday, July 17
from 6 a.m.
to 6 p.m.

see **PLATFORMS** next page

David Wolfe

Elawodi (Yellowhill) Dinilawigi candidate

I am currently a Tribal Council Member representing the Yellowhill Community. Yellowhill has been my home my entire life, and it's where I currently reside with my wife, Susie. We are proud parents to three children - Jennifer, Jeremy, and Emma - and have three grandchildren, Jeron, Addie, and Maverick, with another grandchild on the way. My parents are Noah and the late Billie Jean Wolfe.



My educational journey began at Cherokee Central Schools, and I graduated from Cherokee High School in 1988. I then continued my education at Western Carolina University, graduating in 1994 with two bachelor's degrees. My studies at Western Carolina University encompassed business, accounting, and finance. Before serving my first term on Tribal Council, I was employed with UPS for fifteen years.

I have had the honor of serving several terms on the Tribal Council, which has provided me with extensive experience and knowledge of all aspects of tribal government. My key priorities for our community are:

- Education, spanning from Pre-K through the collegiate level.
- Health Care, which includes mental health and rehabilitation.

- Affordable Housing for Cherokee Families.

Furthermore, I am deeply committed to continuing my work to protect our sovereignty, our culture, and most importantly, our language. I will also continue to safeguard the investments we have made and ensure proper reporting and accountability from all related entities.

Outside of my public service, my hobbies include fly fishing, horseback riding, and cherishing time with my family and friends. It has truly been an honor to represent the Yellowhill

Community, and I humbly ask for your continued support.

Simon Montelongo

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Dinilawigi candidate

ShiYo My People, my name is Simon Montelongo and I'm running for Tribal Council simply because our people deserve true leadership. I am 28 years old and I have a beautiful family and we call Big Cove home, and as a community member I am running for the office chair because I believe that everyone in our community is an asset that can be used to help us as a people preserve, heal, and grow our communities. I am not ashamed of my people and I want equity for us all.

We are all equal Shareholders of the Corporation that is the EBCI and their business and investments are all our shared assets. To preserve our future, we as the people can come together with town leadership in every seat and department, and as a people map out a course of action. We live in a modern climate of shifting laws and regulations that herd our people into being compliant and reliant on our elected officials decisions of "the communities best interests" as we sit and watch million get invested by boards and chairs and LLCs, while community members are jobless, in search of home and wellbeing for themselves currently today as you read these articles.

I plan on shifting the focus of investing from a future of shared enterprise with outside entities, to a future of well established governance funding the people and the people's interest here in qualla, for my term in office, we need to preserve our Language Land and Culture and we do that by investing into the People. We invest in housing like no administration has before, because we have more allocations of housing to our casino workforce than we even provide for our people. Our culture is held within all our generations so the babies all the way to the elderly need to be encouraged to be involved



in every form of the culture for the preservation of our people, from the language to the medicine of the land, to the land and wildlife that we share our home with, we can all integrate these aspects into our communities into our lives but it takes our leadership to allocate these type of investments opportunities to the people.

My platform is to redefine the standard of living here on the Qualla Boundary and I encourage everyone of you to come out and vote for your candidates and for your future, the time is now and the decisions are yours to make! Sgi BigCove/TowString candidate #3 Simon Montelongo

Lavita "Muffin" Hill

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Dinilawigi candidate

For 30 years I've had a dream to serve the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians as a Tribal Councilwoman. I was still in high school but knew this was my main goal. There were few women trailblazers, but they existed, and I looked up to them.

My name is Lavita "Muffin" Hill. I live in Kolanvyi with my husband, Chris Siewers, my daughter, Aia, and granddaughter, Violet. I have two sons, Aura and Raven, that are out on their own. My parents are Sonny Hill and Barbara Sequoyah Hill. My maternal grandparents are Emerson Sequoyah and Phyllis Smith Sequoyah; my paternal grandparents are Jesse Hill, Sr. and Yonnie Watty Hill. I am a member of the Long Hair clan.

To do this day, I can honestly say I have only ever been given one thing. In 2005 my grandma Yonnie gave me 1-acre of land at the foot of her property in Big Cove. This was so I could raise my children there. From there, I've worked hard to achieve everything else. I grew up quite poor and I still remember the bullies that hated me for wearing plastic shoes. I didn't even understand the difference between plastic and leather at the time. I never got beat up in school, but I suffered many days. Despite the



bullying, I loved school. I loved reading and math. Math became my passion. Throughout elementary school, I shopped at the flea market, and I thought it was the best! I helped Grandma Yonnie in her gardens, and I did the chores she asked for. Every Sunday, she took me to church at Straight Fork. I remember the most beautiful women there – Martha Ross, Janie Taylor, Maggie Lossiah, Elsie Watty and of course Granny Rachel. Grandma Yonnie was incredibly strong and loving, nurturing and wise, and she was a giver. She shaped me and now I aim to carry the things she gave me to give back to our people.

As a proud member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, I believe in leadership that listens, represents, and uplifts every voice in the community. I'm running to bring fresh energy, transparent communication, and strong advocacy for our people and future generations.

I am the best candidate for this role because my heart is for our people. I am thoughtful, caring, intelligent, and educated. While those are nice leadership qualities, a good heart and desire to serve our people is what sets me apart from the other candidates. I will commit my time, energy and resources to uplifting and empowering our community. When I say I will fight for our people I mean it. I am outspoken, diligent, and I don't claim to know everything, but I will listen to, research, and find answers. The next time someone in the audience says, raise your hand if you've read the resolution, the grant award, or any other document, I will raise my hand because I will be prepared and ready to serve.

Throughout my campaign I have said the EBCI is a multibillion-dollar operation. I have worked for our tribal government for 23 years and I worked for Harrah's Cherokee Casino for three years. In my current role with EBCI, I am the Treasury Specialist. I administer our tribe's investment accounts, serve alongside the Investment Committee, manage the Minors Fund distributions, and coordinate the VITA tax program. My other tribal jobs have been Financial Analyst, Purchasing Manager, Sr. Grants & Contracts Compliance Officer, Grant Writer, and Financial Skills Educator. I will use my education and work experience to best serve our Tribal members with sound financial decision making.

My top priority is returning the Council House to the people. My personal platform is to serve – intelligently, in a caring but wise way. I will always seek answers from my Heavenly Father, and I will take matters back to the community for their input. I want to ensure the community has an active opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns before I go vote in the Council chambers on something that directly affects them. I want to work together to strengthen our traditions, protect our sovereignty, and build a better tomorrow – together. Sgi.

Vote for Lavita "Muffin" Hill. Please contact me anytime to discuss the things that matter to you. Phone: 828-736-3126; Email: lavitalhill@gmail.com.

Joi Owle

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Dinilawigi candidate

Siyo! Hello, my name is Joi Owle, and I am honored to announce my candidacy for Birdtown Tribal Council.

I am 29 years old and reside in the Birdtown community with my son and family. I have been an active member of the Birdtown Community Club for nearly 10 years, including five years of service as Co-Chair.

My education and professional experience are rooted in Tribal Politics, Business Finance, and Tribal Gaming. These experiences have given me a well-rounded understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing our community.

My platform is built on three core values: leading with integrity, serving with accountability, and honoring respect.

If elected, my top priorities will include:

- Ensuring transparency through regular communication with the community
- Supporting safe and affordable housing solutions
- Investing in our future through economic diversification
- Promoting education and lifelong learning



- Protecting and celebrating our culture
- Advocating for the needs and well-being of our people

I believe I am the best candidate for Birdtown Tribal Council because I am a compassionate leader with a strong understanding of tribal governance—and as a member of the younger generation, I bring fresh ideas and new perspectives.

If elected, I will prioritize protecting our investments and promoting transparency through regular updates, including attendance at Community Club meetings, active engagement on social media, and monthly newsletters to keep the community informed about the work being done on their behalf.

I am committed to serving our community with honesty, respect, and dedication. I humbly ask for your support. Sgi!

Bucky Brown

Tutiya (Snowbird)/Tsalagi Gadugi
(Cherokee County) Dinilawigi candidate

Hello, my name is Bucky Brown, and I'm honored to seek re-election for my fifth term as your Tribal Council representative for Snowbird and Cherokee County.

I'm the youngest son of Louis and Ramona Brown and proudly reside in the Snowbird community with my wife, Marie. Together, we have four children and are blessed with five grandchildren—with one more on the way this year.

I've been employed with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians for over 30 years, and for the past eight years, I've served on Tribal Council. During my time on Council, I've been actively involved in several committees, including Lands, Land Acquisition, Enrollment, Roads, Parks & Recreation, and the Business Committee. In addition, I've spent the last three decades deeply engaged with the Snowbird community, serving as Vice Chair of the Community Club



see **PLATFORMS** next page

PLATFORMS: From page 27

and volunteering as a coach for youth sports.

My commitment to this role runs deep. I've approached it with transparency, honesty, and a strong work ethic. Since my first election, I've helped secure and see through over \$30 million in projects for the Snowbird and Cherokee County communities. These include:

- The Jacob Cornsilk Complex
- A new fire truck for the Snowbird Volunteer Fire Department
- The Cherokee County Health Clinic

These accomplishments weren't done alone. They came through collaboration—with my council partner, and through consensus-building around the Tribal Council horseshoe. I've learned that unity in leadership brings real results for our people.

I've consistently prioritized what matters most: senior services, healthcare, education, youth programs, and housing. While we may not always get everything we want, I am reminded daily of how truly blessed our tribe is. As a Council, we've also worked to diversify the tribe's income, exploring new business ventures. We know not every opportunity will bring instant returns like gaming has, but we must plan for long-term sustainability. Community projects—like the Jacob Cornsilk Complex—are essential investments, even if they don't generate direct revenue. These projects are funded through general funds, and they meet real needs.

Recently, Council received reports from all tribal entities, and moving forward, we are committed to transparency, accountability, and financial oversight across all departments and enterprises.

In my role, I've traveled across the country representing the EBCI—visiting other tribal nations and meeting with state and federal officials. I've built relationships with influential leaders and our own lobbyists, and I'm confident these connections will continue to benefit our people for years to come.

Looking ahead, I would like to:

- Strengthen the Housing Program and increase placement of families in homes.
- Rebuild and support our community clubs by encouraging greater participation.
- Ensure our elders, youth, and families contin-

ue to be heard and prioritized.

Why should you re-elect me?

Because I've been dependable and present. In 8 years, I've remained accountable, reachable, and responsive—just as I promised when I first ran. Whether you call during the day or night, I always answer—or I call you right back. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve and look forward to continuing the work we've started—together. I humbly ask for your support July 17, 2025!!

Bill Taylor

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Dinilawigi candidate

Shiyo! My name is Bill Taylor my wife Katrina and I of 36 years live at 1941 Old Mission RD in the Painttown Community with our son Braden and Grandson's Korbin and Kollin Sampson. I have a daughter Nichole who lives in the Peach Tree Community in Murphy, NC with her Husband Glen Roberts and their two children Kinley and Azrael.

My wife and I started our family in the Painttown Community 37 years ago at the same home place we live today. I started my political career in Painttown in 2001 where I ran for Council and came up a little short. In 2002 I was able to buy my childhood home in the Wolf-town Community, where I served as their Council Representative for 10 years; it was an honor. Today my wife and I have come full circle. We are back home where we started our family 37 years ago and now running for Council again where it all started.

Growing up I attended Big Cove Headstart, Cherokee Central Schools, and at the age of 35 obtained my associate's degree in business from Montreat College. After graduating from Montreat I went to work for the Tribe as a program Manager. It was in this position where I overseen a million-dollar budget that I learned the Tribes Budgeting process.

I have gained a lot of experience in my 10 years as a Council Representative for the Tribe.



I served 2 years as Council Chairman, 4 years as Vice Chairman, 6 years as Chairman or Vice Chairman of Housing, Vice Chairman of Health Board, Vice Chairman of Planning Board, voting member of Business Committee, and a Voting member of NCAI and USET. Over my 10 years as a Council Representative, I have had the opportunity to sit down and meet with 4 different Governors on gaming compacts, funding for roads and infrastructure, Medicare expansion, PHHS issues, and protecting our Tribal Sovereignty. I have also had the opportunity to sit down and meet with well over 200 United States Senators, Congressmen and Women, and NC State Legislators advocating on behalf of our Tribal Members. This is my passion, and it always has been, I will continue to fiercely advocate and fight for the Eastern Band and all Indian Country on issue that affect all Indigenous people.

Once elected to office my main priority is getting back to putting our people first again. Our people have real needs like safe and affordable housing, health care that not just meets the National standards in Indian Country but exceeds them, protection of all our Tribal assets, protection of our Tribal Sovereignty, language, culture, and Traditions. Everyone of these things that I just mentioned are in jeopardy now with the new administration in DC and all the budget cuts within Indian Country. We must get back to fighting for more funding for our people, we cannot continue to just take what the Government gives us they have Trust responsibilities to our people. We are at war right now with the Federal Government and it cannot be won sitting in the Council Chambers just showing up for Committee meetings, we must be beating the pavement and knocking on doors in DC and in Raleigh to get the job done. Putting our People and Community first. Vote Bill Taylor for Painttown Council your vote Means representation for all members of the Painttown Community.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to give me a call anytime (828)788-3880.

Thanks.

Bill Taylor.

Patrick Lambert

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Dinilawigi candidate

About Me

I am Patrick Henry Lambert, a proud enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), born in 1963, at the Cherokee Indian Hospital. I was raised in the same house that I live in now and I've dedicated my life to serving our Tribe. I am a US Army Veteran and was stationed in Anchorage Alaska during most of my service. As a licensed attorney since 1994, I graduated from UNC Law School with a J.D. and earned an advanced law degree (LLM) from UNLV. I served as Tribal Attorney (prior to the position of Attorney General being created) for our Tribe from 1994-1996, and I initially established the Cherokee Tribal Gaming Commission, where I served as Executive Director for over 21 years. As the 27th Principal Chief from 2015 to 2017, I led with a focus on accountability, transparency, and progress, winning a landslide election in 2015 because our people believed in a vision for a stronger, more united EBCI, and I'm proud to say that when I left office I left our Tribe completely debt free. My journey has had its challenges, including the 2017 impeachment, but I've always fought for what's right - most recently winning a landmark Cherokee Supreme Court case just last week that upheld our Charter and protected voter rights, ensuring the people, not politics, decide our leaders. With years of direct lobbying work in Raleigh and Washington DC on behalf of our Tribe and gaming issues, plus vast experience in drafting resolutions and ordinances, I'm also a successful business owner with over 30 years of investing experience in small businesses and the stock market. Personally, I'm married with 3 children, 9 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, grounding my commitment to family and community.

My Political Beliefs

At my core, I believe in the supremacy of our EBCI Charter as the foundation of our sov-



ereignty and self-governance. Our Tribe thrives when we honor democratic principles, protect the sacred right of every Cherokee voter to choose their leaders, and prioritize unity over division. I hold firm to Cherokee values of respect for our elders, stewardship of our lands, and investment in our youth as the future of our Nation. Transparency, accountability, and positive change aren't just ideals—they're necessities for building a Tribe where every voice is heard and every family prospers. I strongly believe in putting our Cherokee Families First, eliminating the debt burden of our Tribe, and creating more fiscally and financially sound investing strategies for our Tribe. My experiences have taught me that true leadership comes from service, not power, and that our strength lies in our shared heritage and collective will.

My Platform

If elected to represent Birdtown on Tribal Council, I'll focus on practical, community-driven solutions to address our most pressing needs. Here's what I'll leverage my legal, business, and tribal experience to fight for:

- Affordable Housing and Community Development: Expand access to safe, affordable housing in Birdtown and the 3200 Acre Tract, prioritizing elders, families, and young professionals. I'll advocate for sustainable development that respects our environment while creating jobs and improving infrastructure.
- Youth and Education Programs: Invest in our next generation through enhanced education, vocational training, and cultural programs at places like our Cherokee Central School system and our Kituwah Academy. I'll push for more scholarships, mentorship opportunities, and youth initiatives to combat challenges like substance abuse and unemployment, ensuring our children grow up proud and prepared.
- Protecting Tribal Sovereignty and Voter Rights: Building on my recent Supreme Court victory, I'll defend our Charter against any attempts to undermine voter choice or tribal autonomy. This includes stronger protections for election integrity and advocating for fair processes that empower our people.
- Economic Empowerment and Health Services: Support small businesses, tourism that honors our culture, and expanded health resources, including mental health and addiction recovery programs. I'll work to bring

more resources for better healthcare access and economic opportunities that benefit all families and greater infrastructure to our Birdtown community.

- Cultural Preservation and Fiscal Responsibility: Promote initiatives to preserve our language, traditions, and lands, while fostering collaboration across communities to heal divisions and build a more cohesive Tribe. Drawing from my business background, I'll prioritize eliminating our tribal debt, implementing sound investing strategies, and putting Cherokee families first in all decisions to secure a debt-free future.

I'm committed to listening to you—Birdtown's families, elders, and youth—and turning your ideas into action. Together, we can create a fresh beginning for our community. Vote Patrick Henry Lambert on July 17, 2025, and let's honor our Charter by choosing progress. For more, connect with me on Facebook or at community events. Let's go!

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Cherokee Court releases Administrative Order adopting guide for attorney’s fees in criminal cases

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - On June 16, the Cherokee Court of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBC) released an Administrative Order, effective July 1, for “Reimbursement of Attorney’s Fees For Appointed Counsel in Criminal Cases,” signed by Bradley Letts, Chief Justice of the Cherokee Supreme Court; Monty Beck, Chief Judge of Cherokee Court; and Barbara Parker, Associate Judge of Cherokee Court.

The order reads as follows:

“This matter is before the Court pursuant to the authority granted under Chapter 7 of the Cherokee Code and the inherent authority of the Cherokee Court.

Rule 7 of the Cherokee Rules of Criminal Procedure provides: “If a defendant receives appointed counsel and is convicted, the Court may Order the defendant to pay the counsel fees as part of the Judgment or as part of the costs of Court.”

The Court adopts as a guide the attached schedule of attorney’s fees for appointed criminal cases. The schedule shall be effective July 1, 2025.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Effective July 1, 2025, the Cherokee Court will exercise its discretion to determine

FELONIES	TRIAL			NON-TRIAL		
	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Homicide	100	\$75	\$7,500	40	\$75	\$3,000
Sexual Abuse Charges	55	\$75	\$4,125	20	\$75	\$1,500
Drug Trafficking	40	\$75	\$3,000	18	\$75	\$1,350
All Other Felonies	15	\$75	\$1,125	10	\$75	\$750
DWI – No Trial	7	\$75	\$525			
DWI – Bench Trial	9	\$75	\$675			
DWI – Bench Trial and Jury Trial	12	\$75	\$900			
Misdemeanors – No Trial	5	\$75	\$375			
Misdemeanors – Bench Trial	7	\$75	\$525			
Misdemeanors – Bench Trial & Jury Trial	10	\$75	\$750			
Probation Violations – Trial and Non-Trial	3	\$75	\$225			

whether to order a defendant who is convicted to pay attorney’s fees as part of the judgment.

2. The Cherokee Court will use the attached schedule as a guide. The judge may deviate from the schedule, including deciding not to assess any fees, if satisfactory information is presented to the Court that an attorney ex-

pected more or less time than shown on the schedule or that other circumstances warrant deviating from the schedule.”

The “Appointed Fee Schedule in Criminal Cases” effective July 1 and determined using a \$75 hourly rate is shown in the chart above.



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26 JULY
2025
11AM – 3PM



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CHEROKEE,
NC

RELAY ACTIVITIES



11:30: 3 Legged Race
12:00: Wheel Barrow Race
12:30: Blind Folded
Obstacle Course
1:00: Bucket of Water Pass
1:30: Cheeto Toss
2:00: Sponge Bucket Race
2:30: Egg and Spoon Race

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Pow Wow

The Annual Eastern Band Cherokee Pow Wow was held on July 4-6 at the old Cherokee High School site in Cherokee, N.C.

Photos by Scott McKie B.P./One Feather









Museum of the Cherokee People announces 'The Way We See the World' film lineup

Submitted by
Museum of the Cherokee People

CHEROKEE, NC - Museum of the Cherokee People has announced the film lineup for its annual Indigenous pop culture event The Way We See the World, held in the Council Fire Ballroom at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort on Aug. 1 from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The free evening includes film screenings, an art market, special appearances by filmmakers and talent, and a silent auction benefiting the 501(c)3 nonprofit museum. Free advance tickets are available via Eventbrite and will be available day-of at the door. Advance ticketholders will automatically be

entered into a raffle giveaway for a Museum Store prize package.

In its fourth year, The Way We See the World features four documentary and narrative short films that explore themes of family and cultural connection. Made by emerging and established Native filmmakers, starring Indigenous talent, and often in some cases, shot on the reservations of federally recognized Tribes, these award-winning films have already captured the attention of international audiences at Sundance, SXSW, imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, and beyond.

"I'm incredibly proud of how this event has evolved and remains a valued venue for Native creatives to showcase their work," says Museum of the Cherokee People Executive Director Shana Bushyhead Condill (Eastern Band

of Cherokee Indians). "They truly exemplify what self-representation is, and our lineup this year is made up of incredible, strong, Native women—which is so inspiring! I am also incredibly inspired by our sponsors who continue to do impactful work in our community, underlining the connection between authentic self-representation and a strong, healthy Cherokee community. Together, we fulfill our mission to uplift Cherokee culture and stories."

Since 2022, MotCP's The Way We events have showcased timely perspectives for Cherokee people, primarily by Cherokee people. These community-centered events uplift creative work that explores identity through artistic expressions in film, music, visual art, and more. A free community event that welcomes everyone, The Way We See the World is made possible through the generous support of Cherokee Tribal Gaming Commission, Walelu Cherokee Ball Team Inc, and The Center for Native Health.

Featured Films:

Redbird (2025)

Directed by Emma Barrow (Cherokee Nation)
Starring Casey Camp-Horinek (Ponca Nation), Jennifer Rader (Sokaogon Chippewa), DeLanna Studi (Cherokee Nation)

A Cherokee woman fights to protect her niece from an unlawful adoption by her white grandparents as she reckons with feeling distant from her own culture.

Tentsítewahkwe (2024)

Directed by Katsitsionni Fox (Mohawk) with Xochitl Fox (Mexican/Azteca)

Embodying the Mohawk value of tentsítewahkwe (we pick it up again), Jessica Shenandoah goes on a knowledge-gathering journey

across all four seasons to revitalize the healing, land-based practices of her foremothers. Jessica reclaims knowledge that has been asleep for generations due to the destructive effects of boarding schools, forced religion and land theft.

Thin Places (2025)

Written & Directed by Brit Hensel (Cherokee Nation)

Starring Quannah Chasinghorse (Han Gwich'in, Sicangu/Oglala Lakota) and Shelby Factor (Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Muscogee [Creek] Nation, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma)

After her sister Tama's untimely passing, Birdie learns that the bond between them is stronger than life and death. In between states of memory and heartbreak, Tama and Birdie show how we can continue on in a different way if we are willing to listen.

Tiger (2025)

Directed by Loren Waters (Cherokee Nation, Kiowa Tribe)

"Tiger" highlights an Indigenous award-winning, internationally acclaimed artist and elder Dana Tiger, her family, and the resurgence of the iconic Tiger t-shirt company.

Art Market Artists:

Chena George (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)
Amy Postoak (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)
Jakeli Swimmer (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)
Kevin Tafoya (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Santa Clara Pueblo)
Laura Walkingstick (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)
Jennifer Wilson (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)

Are You A Menopausal Woman With Obstructive Sleep Apnea?

Participate in our Research Study!

Researchers at the University of Alabama are conducting a research study to understand the experiences of menopausal women with obstructive sleep apnea.

The study involves a confidential interview.

To find out if you are eligible, please scan the QR code or go to the link:

https://universityofalabama.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0qw7ZGwBmjowc0C



Interested? Questions? Please contact: René Ray, MSN, RN, CEN
985-634-3990 or crray2@crimson.ua.edu



Anetso exhibition

Walelu (Hummingbirds) and Tsisquohi (Birdtown) played two Anetso (Stick-ball) exhibition games on the afternoon of June 28 at Unity Field. Final score for both games: Walelu 12 Tsisquohi 9
(BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photos)




John C. Campbell Folk School Opens Online Registration for 2026 Classes

Browse our 2025 – 2026 classes digitally
& register today!

We're excited to announce that registration for July 2025 – June 2026 classes is now open, and the digital copy of our newest catalog is now available! Live nearby? Now is the perfect time to register for our tuition discount programs. Create an account through Configio, our online registration platform, and upload your verification before registering for your class.

Printed copies of the catalog will start mailing out in early July. Don't wait for yours to arrive! Sign up for our eCatalog today and receive an interactive digital copy immediately.

Also, go green and help us save resources!
Visit www.folkschool.org/catalog



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EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Qualla Boundary Head Start & Early Head Start awarded Tribal Childcare Licensure for the fifth year in a row

CHEROKEE, N.C. – EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) Public Health & Human Services Division (EBCI PHHS) Regulatory & Compliance Department (RCD) has announced the Qualla Boundary Head Start & Early Head Start (QB HS & EHS) centers, Dora Reed Center, and Big Cove Children's Center have been awarded their annual Tribal Childcare Licensure for the fifth year. In 2019, Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) adopted Chapter 9 Child-care Licensure to the Cherokee Code of Ordinances giving EBCI Public Health & Human Services authority to license childcare

facilities on EBCI tribal lands who meet the eligibility and licensing requirements.

To obtain a license, the educational facility was required to prove a high level of safety, staff competency, programmatic quality, and adherence to the Cherokee Administrative Regulations.

PHHS officials said, "PHHS RCD would like to congratulate Qualla Boundary Head Start and Early Head Start on receiving a score of 45 of the possible 45 points."

PHHS officials noted, "Child-care Licensure for the EBCI has been a success due to the collaborations of EBCI Tribal Government, EBCI Legal Assistance Office, Qualla Boundary Head Start & Early Head Start, and EBCI Public Health & Human Services Regulatory & Compliance Department.

Thank you to everyone for your teamwork towards seven generations of wellness. If interested in more information about licensure for your facility, you may reach out to the EBCI PHHS Regulatory & Compliance Department by calling (828) 359-6180."

- EBCI Public Health & Human
Services Division

New One Feather policy regarding event flyers

Starting with the week of July 28, the One Feather will post community/program event flyers every Sunday morning in an album on the COF Facebook page. This will be the only time throughout the week that event flyers will be posted. The first posting of these will be on Sunday, Aug. 3.

However, as event flyers are received, staff will format them into a text-only event listing which will be posted to the events calendar on www.theonefeather.com/events/ along with a hyperlink to the flyer if applicable.

If you wish to have your flyer posted on Facebook earlier than Sunday, please contact Dawn Arneach, One Feather ad sales coordinator, at dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov to discuss advertising rates.

One Feather wins 11 N.C. Press Association awards

The Cherokee One Feather has won 11 awards in the 2025 North Carolina Press Association News, Editorial, Photojournalism, and Advertising Contest. The banquet will be held on Sept. 18 in Raleigh, N.C. These awards are based on work done between April 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025.

As a team, Brooklyn Brown, One Feather report, and Scott McKie Brings Plenty, One Feather Asst. Editor, took third place in Sports Coverage.

Brooklyn also won the following:

- Profile Feature, second place, "Survivor"
- Feature Photography, third place, "Mysterious and Spooky"
- News Feature Writing, third place, "Hope in deep waters"
- News Enterprise Reporting, third place, "Shine a light, make a ripple"

Scott also won the following:

- Sports Feature Photography, first place, "Soccer celebration"
- Sports Photography, first place, "Diving into the end zone"
- Photo Page or Essay, first place, "Eastern Band Cherokee Pow Wow"
- Photo Page or Essay, third place, "Fading Voices"
- Feature Photography, second place, "Pow Wow"
- Arts and Entertainment Reporting, third place, "Sovereign futures"

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

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS Great Smoky Mountains National Park seeks Elk Rover volunteers for 2025 season

GATLINBURG, Tenn.— Great



Sequoyah Remembrance Day

Sunday, Aug. 3, 12:00-4 p.m.
FREE admission to the museum.

Sequoyah Birthplace Museum
576 Highway 360 Vonore, TN, 37885
(423)884-6246

Sequoyah died in August of 1843, we do not know what day he died. So we've chosen the first Sunday in August to remember Sequoyah and his life.

"This is a day to remember the man who gave the Cherokee people their own written language," said Charlie Rhodarmer, museum manager/director. "In 5,000 years of human civilization, Sequoyah is the only person, not literate in any language, who created a written language for his people."

"We invite people to visit the museum on Sunday and learn more about Sequoyah's fascinating life and experience modern Cherokee culture," said Rhodarmer.

*Tonya Dockery will be demonstrating, there will be a blacksmith, the printing press will be going and Gary Holt will be here talking about The Thomas Legion.

Smoky Mountains National Park is seeking individuals to join the Elk Rover volunteer team for the upcoming 2025 season. Elk Rovers share information with visitors about safe wildlife viewing and help keep elk and visitors safe. Elk Rovers will be stationed at the Oconaluftee Visitor Center, located near Cherokee, N.C.

- Volunteer duties include:
- Standing and walking for extended periods.
 - Assisting with traffic management along US 441/Newfound Gap Road.
 - Assisting and guiding visitors.
 - Educating visitors about wildlife safety and etiquette.
 - Answering general questions about the park.

Interested volunteers should commit to one, 4-hour afternoon shift per week on either Friday, Saturday or Sunday starting in July and continuing through mid-November.

All new Elk Rovers are required to attend a mandatory in-person training session in July. Additionally, volunteers will have the opportunity to learn alongside a dedicated team of experienced rovers and park rangers who will provide on-the-job training.

Learn more here: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/getinvolved/volunteer.htm>

- National Park Service release

National Park Service to improve 7 miles of Newfound Gap Road in North Carolina

GATLINBURG, Tenn. - Newfound Gap Road is getting an upgrade. Starting July 14, Great Smoky Mountains National Park will kick off a rehabilitation of a 7-mile stretch of Newfound Gap Road on the North Carolina side of the park.

The roadwork will include re-

paving the roadway from milepost 20.90 to 27.90, as well as repaving six primary parking areas along this section.

Visitors will see signs of construction but are unlikely to experience any traffic delays for the first stage of the project. All construction work will take place overnight (7 p.m. to 7 a.m.) Sunday night through Friday morning (excluding federal holidays) until August 15. Single-lane closures will be in place overnight.

Starting Aug. 15, construction will take place during the day. The park will share updates on any changes to traffic in early August. This rehabilitation project is expected to be completed by September 30. Visitors are advised to drive with caution and anticipate delays due to single-lane closures during the repaving process.

This project is funded by recreation fee dollars (from parking tags, campgrounds, and back-country camping) and the Federal Lands Transportation Program. More than 1.5 million vehicles travel on Newfound Gap Road annually.

- National Park Service release

THANK YOU LETTERS

Dear Members of the Yogi Crowe Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to sincerely thank you for awarding me the Yogi Crowe Scholarship for the Summer 2025 term. I am incredibly grateful for your continued investment in my education and for the opportunity to represent our community in doctoral-level work.

This summer marks a significant phase in my academic journey, as I focus on drafting key portions of my disquisition. My research centers on strengthening teacher efficacy in recognizing

and responding to suicide risk and mental health concerns, an area that is deeply relevant in Indigenous school communities. Through this work, I hope to help educators feel more prepared, confident, and culturally grounded when supporting students in crisis.

Your support allows me to fully dedicate myself to this research and writing. It has also strengthened my confidence as a Native scholar and given me the encouragement to share this work more broadly across the professional communities I'm part of, whether regional, state, or national. Being able to bring an Indigenous perspective to these spaces is something I take great pride in.

Thank you again for believing in my work. I carry this opportunity with gratitude and a strong sense of responsibility to serve and give back.

With appreciation,
Consuela B. Girty
Big Cove Community

Thank you Yogi Crowe Scholarship

Dear Yogi Crowe Scholarship Fund Committee,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for awarding me the Yogi Crowe Scholarship for the Summer Semester as I contin-

Ask the One Feather: 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 Little-dave, EBCI Office of the Ugwiyuhi (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.

ue my journey toward earning a Master's degree from Wake Forest University. Your generous support will significantly ease the financial demands of graduate study, allowing me to focus more fully on my academic and professional goals.

It is a true honor to be selected as a Yogi Crowe Scholarship recipient. I am deeply appreciative of the investment you have made in my education, and I am committed to upholding the values this scholarship represents. I look forward to the day when I can give back to the fund that has played such a meaningful role in my academic journey.

Thank you once again for your generosity and encouragement. I am truly grateful for this opportunity and will continue to work diligently in pursuit of excellence.

Sgi,

Heather S. Younce

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

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



GWJ TV O'YLC

EBCI Tribal Option promotes healthy vision this July

Submitted by EBCI Tribal Option

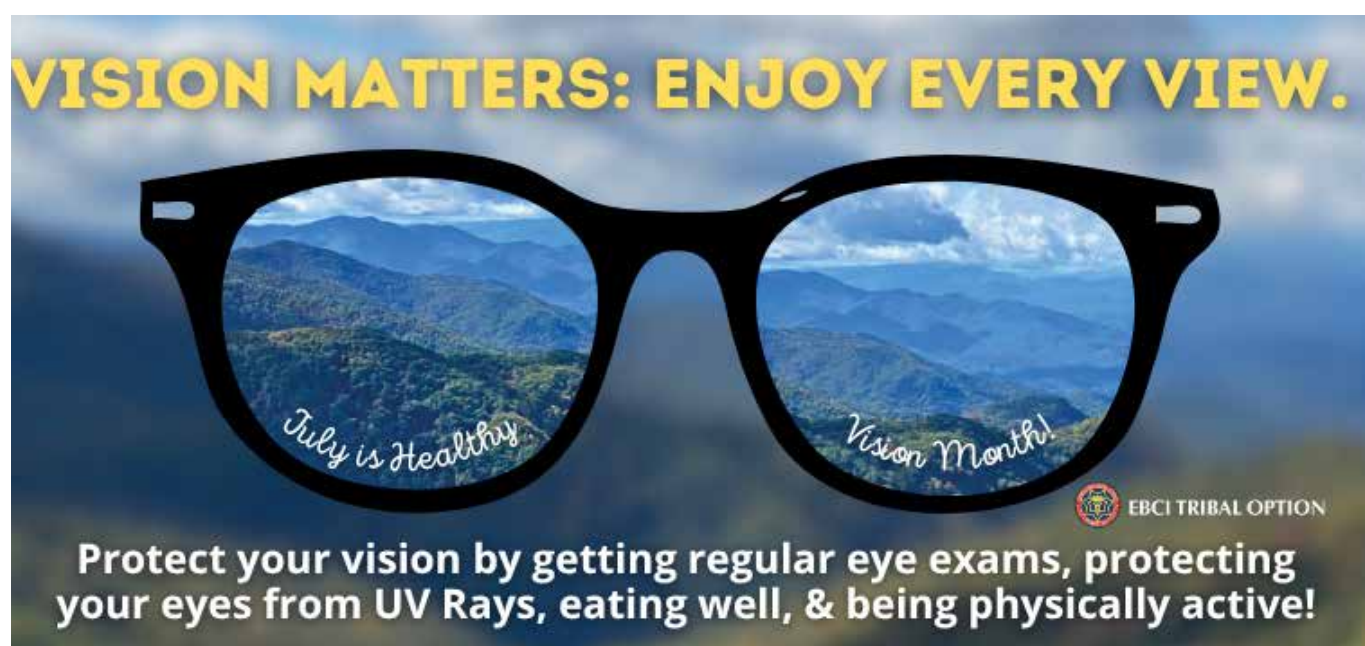
July is recognized as Healthy Vision Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of eye health and encouraging individuals to take proactive steps to protect their vision.

In the United States, approximately 12 million people aged 40 and older live with some form of vision impairment, and nearly one million are blind. By the age of 75, nearly half of all Americans will develop cataracts. Additionally, over 2.1 million Americans over the age of 50 are affected by age-related macular degeneration, a leading cause of vision loss.

Vision health is essential to overall well-being. Maintaining healthy eyes helps preserve independence, safety, and quality of life, especially as we age.

Several common eye conditions can significantly impact daily living. These include cataracts, refractive errors such as nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism, as well as glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration, and diabetic retinopathy. Yet, many people delay or skip their routine eye exams, often unaware of how critical they are in detecting and preventing serious conditions.

Taking care of your vision starts with a comprehensive approach to your overall health. Regular eye exams are the first line of defense. Eat Well, with a balanced diet that includes dark, leafy greens like spinach and kale, along with foods rich in omega-3 fatty



acids such as salmon and tuna, can support eye health. Carrots and eggs are also known for their vision-boosting nutrients. Staying active can help reduce the risk of diseases that negatively affect the eyes, including diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol.

Avoiding tobacco products is another important step, as smoking increases the risk of developing macular degeneration and cataracts and can damage the optic nerve. It's also important to know your family's medical history and share it with your healthcare provider, since genetics can play a role in many eye diseases.

Eye protection is just as important as regular checkups. Sunglasses that block 99 to 100 percent of UVA and UVB radiation not only reduce glare and ease eye strain, but also help prevent conditions like macular degeneration and cataracts. Sunglasses also shield the delicate skin around the eyes from sun damage and reduce exposure to dust and wind.

In situations where eye injuries are possible such as during sports, home repairs, or construction work, wearing protective

eyewear can be crucial. Experts estimate that up to 90 percent of eye injuries can be prevented with proper protection. Parents are encouraged to make sure their children Play Well and wear safety gear during recreational activities, too.

With increased screen time a part of modern life, it's also important to give your eyes regular breaks. Following the 20-20-20 rule—looking at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds every 20 minutes—can help reduce digital eye strain and help your Stay Well.

While eye care is important for everyone, certain groups face greater risks. Factors like aging, obesity, and a family history of eye disease can increase the likelihood of developing serious conditions. Additionally, research shows that individuals in African American, Hispanic, and Native American communities are more likely to experience eye health challenges. During Healthy Vision Month, EBCI Tribal Option encourages all community members to Eat Well, Play Well, and Stay Well, by prioritizing their vision. Taking small steps today can help protect your eyesight for years to come.

About EBCI Tribal Option

EBCI Tribal Option is an Indian Managed Care Entity (IMCE) contracted with NCDHHS to participate in North Carolina Medicaid. EBCI Tribal Option assists approximately 5,000 Tribal-eligible Medicaid beneficiaries, primarily in Cherokee, Haywood, Swain, Jackson, and Graham counties through providing managed care. For more information, visit EBCITribalOption.com.

Note: In partnership with the Cherokee One Feather, EBCI Tribal Option is proud to launch a new column in the first edition of every month to raise awareness around health campaigns and priorities impacting members of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians.



Language



Use it or lose it

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Hvdís gesd í ale Dít sayohoseli

GWY ᏉᏉᏉ ᏉᏉᏉᏉ

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

OBITUARIES ᏍᏏᏏᏗᏰᏍᏔᏰ

Charles Ray Elders

Charles Ray Elders, 82, of Whittier, N.C., went to his heavenly home on Friday, June 20, 2025. Charles was a native of Jackson County and a son of the late Raymond Elders and Louise Elders. He was preceded in death by his brother, Winfred Elders. Charles was the oldest of his 4 siblings.

Charles is survived by his wife of 62 years, Shirley Ward Elders; his son, Charles Dewayne Elders (Natalie) of Whittier, N.C.; his granddaughter Brittaney Gass (Jon) of Whittier; his granddaughter Chelsea Leatherwood (Michael) of Bryson City; his great-granddaughter, Shelby Gass; his great-grandson, Nathan Gass; his bonus great-grandchild

dren Sydney and Rylan Leatherwood. Charles is also survived by two sisters, Cherry Lee Rhinehart and Linda Coggins. and one brother, Eddie Elders (Paula); and many nieces and nephews.

Charles enjoyed politics and served three terms as a Jackson County Commissioner. He worked on the Ronald Reagan Presidential campaign and got to know Ken Curtis, aka Festus, during that time too. He owned and operated his own business, Elders Superette, since 1986. He was a pillar of the community and worked hard to make life better for families in this area. He was always glad to meet people he knew with a smile and a warm handshake. He could share memories that everyone seemed to enjoy and remember as well. Charles was well known for his love of people and his willingness to help those in need. He loved his family and his friends. He was always smiling and ready to talk to and help people he met. Serving as pallbearers for Charles were Dustin Nicholson, Tony Elders, Brandon Elders, Junior Williamson, Randall Stevens, and Clay Elders.

The family received friends Tuesday, June 24 at the Whittier Church of God. His funeral service followed. Burial was in the Union Hill Cemetery following the service.

Sally J. Kent

Sally J. Kent, 62, of the Paint-town Community in Cherokee, N.C., passed away after an extended illness on Tuesday, July 1, 2025, at Cherokee Indian Hospital in Cherokee, N.C.

A private service will be held for family and friends at a later date.

Long House Funeral Home is

in charge of arrangements.

Daphne Carol Blount

Daphne Carol Blount, age 51 of Murphy, entered the glories of peace that passes all understanding and imagination at home on Sunday, June 29, 2025, with her loving family. Although she is no longer with us in her earthly body, her spirit lives on and she will forever be loved, remembered and cherished by her family and friends.

Daphne enjoyed spending time with her family, being a Panther's fan, watching the Golden Girls show and being an artist. She also enjoyed her granddaughter, working in the medical field and helping others. Daphne loved the sound of waterfalls and rushing creeks. She especially loved animals and fostering pets at Valley River Humane Society.

She was preceded in death by her beloved great grandmother, Arnacie Conseen; her grandfather, George Moody Brown; her grandfather, Jim Cogdill; and her cousin, Donovan Underwood.

She is survived by her husband, Chris Blount; her sons, Christopher "Alex" Blount and Roman James Blount; her daughter, Taryn Alysse Blount; her granddaughter, Taylin Timiyah Blount; her mother, Mary Brown; her sister, Jessica Smith; her grandmother, Janie Brown of Robbinsville, N.C.; and her aunts, Martha Brown, Marlene Brown and Barbara King, all of Robbinsville, N.C.

A Celebration of Life was held on Thursday, July 10 at Vengeance Creek Baptist Church in Marble with Rev. Blake Ritz, Rev. Henry Ethridge, Jr. and Rev. John Paul Webb officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in

Daphne's honor to Valley River Humane Society in Murphy.

Townson-Rose Funeral Home was in charge of all arrangements.

You may send tributes to the family at www.townson-rose.com

Yahnne Ann Littlejohn Squirrel

Yahnne Ann Littlejohn Squirrel, 78, of Cherokee, opened her eyes in Heaven on Sunday, July 6, 2025. She was a native of Cherokee born on Dec. 7, 1946 to Owen and Agnes Bigwitch Long Littlejohn. She was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church often attending church with her dad as a child.

Yahnne, or Dosh, or Toot as she was affectionately called by some of her grandkids grew up in the Wolftown Community in a fluent Cherokee-speaking household. She spent her days running up and down the many trails of Washington's Creek with her siblings. Using her imagination she often recounted the story of how she made herself a doll out of a corncob and an old doll's head she found and wrapped in a blanket. When she entered her teen years, Yahnne and her sister Annabelle decided to attend Sequoyah Indian High School in Tahlequah, Okla. She admitted she did get home sick but her dad encouraged her to keep going. She made many lifelong friends there and learned how to type and sew among other things. Her grandsons later attended high school there as well and were very proud to see their grandma's senior picture still hanging in the hallway representing the class of 1966.

Upon her return to Cherokee, N.C., she met John Adam Squirrel through her brother, Ammons. She and John Adam were later married and she moved to the Yellowhill Community. Together

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they raised two daughters. She was a stay-at-home mom and spent her days canning, being very active in volunteering time in the girls' classrooms, being the team mom for her girls softball team, babysitting for different families and just spending time with her kids. Yahn timer had a big heart for every child and often took her nieces and nephews home with her. She did her best to make sure every child got a little something for Christmas.

She was also very active in various causes that she believed in. She jokingly referred to herself as a radical. She was on the frontlines along with her husband to protest the TVA dam being built and the development of a highway that would run through an elder's home. As the girls got older she even dabbled in politics and fought for her name to be put on the ballot for a council seat. She also decided to attend Southwestern Technical College to work toward a degree in Early Childhood. This drove her to venture into the workforce for Cooper Enterprises and the Oconaluftee Indian Village. This helped supplement the family income when John couldn't do his rock mason work due to the winter weather. She prided herself in being able to help her little family in this way.

In her later years she enjoyed going for rides on the Blue Ridge Parkway, visiting her sister Betty, attending church, helping her daughter teach Cherokee language community classes, watching her grandchildren play, shopping with her sister Laura (and always making the stop at Ammon's Drive In for a hot dog) and talking with her good friend Kathy.

She and John were married for 54 years each complementing

the other when one was weak, the other was strong. She took care of John when a stroke finally slowed him down and he, in turn, took care of her when she was in a car accident. They shared more laughter than tears and made a happy home for their children and later their grandchildren. Yahn timer, like John, prayed without ceasing for her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She would scold you when you needed it no matter who you were (even a council member or two) but that is how she showed you that she cared. She is already missed so big...her humor, her straightforward talk, her Cherokee words, her voice mails and her ever present warmth.

Yahn timer is preceded in death by her siblings, Annabell Cucumber, Arnessa Wilnoty, Ammons Littlejohn, Johnson Lee Littlejohn; and her late husband, John Adam Squirrel.

She is survived by two daughters, Charlene Mejorado, Angela Squirrel; son, Joseph Smith and wife Cherry; grandchildren, Jack, Kayla, Greg, Angel, Malaya, Adam, Gabby, Aaronn and Fernando; many great grandchildren, special great grandson, Little Joe Smith; sisters, Laura Saunooke of Robbinsville, Betty Locust of Cherokee; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Thursday, July 10 at Macedonia Baptist Church. Pastor Dan Conseen and Pastor Merritt Youngdeer officiated with burial in the Littlejohn Cemetery.

Charles Asa James

Charles Asa James, 53, passed away July 3, 2025. He was born July 24, 1971 in Andrews, N.C. He is the son of the late Kenneth Wayne James Sr. of Marble, N.C.,

and Stella Louise Carver James of Bryson City, N.C.

Charles loved all music, especially heavy metal. He was a renowned drummer. Charles played in many bands and with many musicians. He loved playing music and especially going to his favorite band's concerts.

Charles loved spending time with family and friends, and he was always there to help in anything needed. Charles loved spending time with family and friends, and he was always there to help in anything needed. A man of great faith, Charles was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Charles worked for Harrah's Cherokee Casino for almost 24 years, where he was a security guard.

Charles worked for Harrah's Cherokee Casino for almost 24

years, where he was a security guard.

Charles was dearly loved by his sister, Lisa James of Robbinsville N.C., Laura James (Mark) of Florida; and two brothers, Kenny James Jr. of Marble, N.C. and Steven James of Missouri. He was very much loved by his nieces and nephews, Kendyl James Bowles, Anita Blackmon Chan, Alexis Jenkins Evans, William Blackmon; and great nephews Jace and Bo and James and Jude.

A funeral Service was held Thursday, July 10 at the Chapel of Crisp Funeral Home. The family received friends an hour prior to the service. Burial followed in the Yellow Creek Cemetery located in Robbinsville, N.C.

Attention EBCI Artists/Craftspeople

The One Feather is developing a list of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians artists and craftspeople to help get your name out there for potential buyers. If you would like to be included, please send your name, contact information (phone, email, etc.), and what mediums you are selling to: Scott at scotmckie@ebci-nsn.gov or message us on our Facebook page.



Cherokee Senior Citizens participate in National Elder Abuse Awareness Walk

By RENISSA MCLAUGHLIN
EBCI Director of Youth and
Adult Education

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Cherokee Senior Citizens Program, in collaboration with community members, participated in a nationwide Elder Abuse Awareness Walk recently, joining thousands across the country to bring attention to a serious and often overlooked issue: the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults.

This event aligns with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), which is observed annually on June 15th. Established in 2006 by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and recognized by the United Nations, WEAAD seeks to raise

awareness about the mistreatment of older persons and to highlight the cultural, societal, and systemic changes needed to ensure their safety and dignity.

Locally, the walk served not only as a show of solidarity, but as a call to action—reminding the community that elders are sacred and should be protected, heard, and supported. Participants wore black shirts, featuring a purple image, the official color of elder abuse awareness, and walked together to show unity in preventing harm against elders.

Speakers at the event emphasized the importance of respecting elders, reporting concerns, and ensuring that services and protections are in place. The walk concluded with refreshments, infor-

mational resources, and moments of reflection on how each individual can play a role in preventing elder abuse.

For the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, where intergenerational respect is a cultural value, events like this are a powerful reminder that protecting elders is not only a responsibility, but an honor. The program extends its thanks to the Area Agency on Aging “AAA” for their support, Principal Chief Hicks, Vice Chief Ensley, Councilman Perry Shell, and Councilman Tom Wahnetah for joining the event. A special thank you to the Sound of Music for providing entertainment during the event.



Tiffany Taylor, receptionist at the EBCI Cherokee Senior Citizens Program, is shown wearing the event shirt provided by AAA. (Photo courtesy of EBCI Senior Citizens Program)

VOTE Glenn Bradley for Wolftown Community Council Member

1. DETERMINATION
2. DEDICATION
3. DESIRE



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RIGHT PATH TSUNATSOHISDI ᏊᏞᏍᏔᏱᏍᏔᏱ WHERE THEY GATHER

Join us for a day of learning, creativity, and community!
Take part in hands-on workshops where you'll learn new skills from talented Cherokee artisans, Louise Goings, Levi West, and Michelle 'Darci' Long.
Explore local vendors, enjoy delicious food from food trucks, and immerse yourself in a day of culture, and connection!

July 26th, 2025

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Classes: 9:00am -3:45pm** Pre-Registration Required! Registration will open in July!

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COMMENTARY

Cherokee by degree

By ROBERT JUMPER

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

I worked on the Qualla Boundary long before I worked for the tribe. For 13 years, I worked for a consumer product company, purchasing retail space in stores for company displays and product placement. The Qualla Boundary was part of my sales territory. I would visit individual stores, assess their sales volume, and offer them monetary contracts for in-store advertising space, in addition to renting the best locations in the

store for my product.

In a store on the Boundary that I serviced (part of my job was to make sure the displays were in good repair and were well-stocked), I routinely dealt with a lady at the counter who I assumed was management. She, too, I realized, was making assumptions about me. You see, while I do have indigenous physical traits, I am what many people in Cherokee would call "light-skinned". I didn't look "Cherokee" to her. When we first met and for several encounters afterward, I would try to make polite conversation with this lady, and she would barely speak or interact. Unless it had to do with business, she didn't really want to have anything to do with me. That is, until one day, while I was at the counter purchasing a snack

for the road. As I opened my wallet at the counter, my enrollment card fell out onto the counter. I will never forget the look of surprise on her face. She looked up and said, "You're Cherokee?" I nodded. From that moment on, there was always a smile and a greeting when I would come to the store. She would come to me as I did my work and ask about my kin and share stories about hers. She wanted to talk about culture, family, and government. In other words, seeing that enrollment card, she welcomed me into the tribe, her tribe, now our tribe.

Now, some of what was going on is the generational hurt that all indigenous people feel when encountering "outsiders". We have either felt that pain in our family relationships, or we have been

indoctrinated through the various tribal members we encounter. Most times, the thought is legitimate. Sometimes it is a part of the entitlement mentality that has held us down and back for many years. Either way, perceived pain is pain, nonetheless. And among Cherokees, when one feels pain, it affects the entire community.

Which makes the way some of us think about off-Boundary tribal members so very hard to swallow. When per capita was established, I mean really established after the tribe got into the adult gaming business (before that, per capita distributions were pretty few and far-between), it was written into law that the monetary dissemination of the per capita would be equal to any enrolled members of the tribe, inferring that all Chero-



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The EBCI Housing Division has identified individuals with loans through Tribal and Qualla Housing who are seriously delinquent. Those borrowers have or will be receiving foreclosure notices.

Lending Services can HELP!

Financial Lending Services offers the Foreclosure Prevention Program for those receiving foreclosure notices from the Cherokee Indians Housing Division. We can refinance your home with a favorable rate and term to allow you to keep you and your family in your home. Let us help.

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Housing Administration Office
687 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC

kees, regardless of blood degree, were equal in the eyes of tribal law and the community. We claim that we are just as Eastern Band Cherokee in California as we are in Graham County.

But, if we really do believe that, why is it that there is no direct representation for off-Boundary Cherokee people? According to tribal law, each tribal member who votes is assigned to a voting district or community. For me, that is Snowbird, even though I do not live there. According to tribal law, my affiliation with Snowbird comes from my ancestry, particularly my father. And I don't know it for sure, but I imagine those who live in Snowbird have very different wants and needs than someone who lives off-Boundary.

There is a mentality among some of us that if you are a tribal

member and you live off-Boundary, you shouldn't really have a say in who governs our tribe. Some have even advocated in the past for doing away with the voting rights of off-Boundary Cherokees. Even some of those who live off-Boundary feel like it isn't right for them to vote in tribal elections because they believe that those who live on the land should choose leadership.

I believe that stems at least in part from a false assumption. Some believe our government only makes decisions on the infrastructure of our community within the geographic bounds of the territorial trust lands of our people. Our tribal leaders may make universal decisions that impact every member of our tribe, including health care, education, individual income, and even, to some extent,

how you might be buried. And not just for off-Boundary Cherokee people, for even those living in Los Angeles or Amsterdam.

Roughly half of our people live off-boundary. As our tribal population grows faster than our land mass, that percentage will only grow. And yet there is no formal representation in the form of an at-large (or two) seat in our legislative branch. In fact, the law is written to say that your residence must be on the boundary within the community seat that you intend to run for if you want to be elected into our government. There is no provision for off-boundary candidacy. Period. Even if you argue that they are represented by a candidate in the community they are attached to by law, it is highly unlikely that the candidate will have a clue how to address the needs of their out-of-boundary constituents.

And yet, off-boundary tribal members are a voting group of fifty percent, higher than any other community of Eastern Band Cherokee people. If they were not separated by community boundaries, they would be able to sway any election for a legislative seat.

There is little difference between a satisfied constituency and

an apathetic one in the outcome of elections. Satisfied constituents have what they feel they need and maybe a little of what they want. An apathetic constituent may not have what they need or want but assumes they can do no better and are afraid to "rock the boat", not informing themselves enough to take a risk on making things better.

My message, especially for any off-boundary tribal voter, is to please never consider yourself less than someone who happens to live on the Qualla Boundary. No matter where you are, you are a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. In that, you carry a proud and noble heritage. Our ancestors were incredible people, and you are a descendant of those storied elders of our nation, whether you live in Snowbird or Amsterdam. You should educate yourself on tribal law and those running for tribal offices as much as you learn about language, culture, and history. Then vote. Cherokee is in your blood. Don't take that for granted. Don't accept being content or apathetic. Our ancestors strived as a community, as a family, for more and better for our people. We should do no less.



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828-497-9163 ext. 6549

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Adult: 828-269-0301
Child: 828-736-9797

See how we took this photo with a telephoto lens at a safe distance of 150 ft.?

**Very cutesy.
Very mindful.
Very demure.**



GWY ƆV° ØYLC
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER ƆSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

THE GOOD STUFF

Louise Goings named a Taproot Fellow

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Several years ago, Louise Goings told me that she has made literally thousands of baskets during her life. Her work is outstanding, and she has received various honors over the years for her outstanding artistry, and she is one of the nicest people you'll ever meet. Now, she's received a prestigious fellowship honoring traditional art.

The Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA) has announced its Taproot Fellows for 2025, and Goings, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is one of 25 traditional artists named.

She said in a statement, "Being selected as a Taproot Fellow is an honor because it recognizes the deep roots of our traditions. Basket making is more than a craft, it carries our history, our connection to the land, the knowledge passed down through generations. I take pride in not only creating but also teaching, ensuring that our traditions remain strong in the community."

Information from ACTA states, "The Taproot Fellowship – already the most extensive fellowship of its kind in the U.S. and territories – honors 25 traditional artists who embody ancestral fellowship and act as community leaders, healers, and agents of cultural continuity. Each Fellow receives \$50,000 in unrestricted funding and an additional \$10,000 to allocate toward a person or initiative in their community."

Amy Kitchener, ACTA executive director, said in a statement, "When many institutions are threatened and the social fabric feels fragile, the Taproot Fellows remind us what holds. They are keepers of stories, songs, and sacred practices that have carried communities through generations of upheaval. This fellowship isn't just about preservation – it's about power: cultural power. Community power: The kind of power that grows from the roots up."

Three years ago, Louise and her husband,



Louise Goings, an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is one of 25 recipients of a 2025 Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA) Taproot Fellowship. She is shown at the Kanasgei Art Show & Market held at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort in Cherokee, N.C. on Nov. 5, 2022. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

Butch, also an EBCI tribal elder, received the North Carolina Arts Council Heritage Award.

At that time, she told me in an interview that she followed in the footsteps of her late mother, Emma Taylor, who won the award in 1989. Louise commented, "Many years ago when my mom won that award, I thought to myself, 'I will never be able to be that good in the community and be able to be in it'. Then when they called me and told me that I had won it, I said, 'I never thought I'd be walking in my mom's footsteps'. It was just a big, big, big, thing for me."

She also told me about her approach to basket making. "After you get everything prepared and you get ready to weave, then you can

just sit and weave and you can just think about anything you want to think about, go anywhere you want to and it's just on your time. It relaxes you. I guess it's kind of like therapy."

In 2016, Louise and Butch were recipients of the Jennifer Easton Community Spirit Award as selected by the First Peoples Fund in Rapid City, S.D.

At that time, she said in a statement, "In our culture, we believe that all things are connected. Therefore, we try to use all the skills and knowledge we have to strengthen our community. Even though we are known for basket making and carving, we also use other skills and knowledge we have to help our community."

KANANESGI ART MARKET

Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort

August 16th 2025
2:00 pm-7:00 pm

50



www.kananesgi.com

The Pharmacy Drive-Thru will be CLOSED
Mondays & Fridays beginning July 14th for
an 8 week period during the project



PROJECT DATES: JUNE 2 - APRIL 15, 2026

PROJECT DETAILS

Due to recent updates from the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP), the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA) is taking important steps to comply with new pharmacy compounding standards regarding guidelines for medication preparation involving facility design, ventilation systems and quality control processes.

Because of these new rules, the CIHA is adding about 2,000 sq ft to our pharmacy. This expansion will help us keep making important medicines safely—and in the future, we may even be able to offer new treatments, like certain cancer medicines we don't currently have the capacity to store or dispense

We know that our pharmacy drive-thru is important to our patients. That's why, guided by our principle *hagv'p* (Ni hi tsa tse li), "It belongs to you," we're doing our best to limit any inconvenience. We've worked closely with the construction team to schedule the work in four-day blocks over the weekend. This way, the drive-thru will only be closed when absolutely necessary, helping us take care of you while also being good stewards of tribal resources.

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Ugvwiyuhi Hicks and Ugvwiyuhi Hoskin Jr. respond to Ann Coulter's tweet

Following are responses from Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and Ugvwiyuhi Chuck Hoskin Jr., Cherokee Nation, to a tweet (right) from Ann Coulter.

Ugvwiyuhi Michell Hicks, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Ann Coulter's embarrassing statement issued on July 6th, 2025, on X, that "we didn't kill enough Indians" is hateful, dangerous, and completely unacceptable. It is genocidal rhetoric that glorifies violence against Indigenous peoples. What makes it even more dangerous is that she used her public platform, one that reaches millions, to spread this message to the world.

With any platform comes responsibility. Ann Coulter chose to use hers to promote hate, to dehumanize Native people, and to repeat the same language and thinking that fueled genocide against our ancestors.

When people with influence use their platform to normalize violence, it emboldens those who harbor hate. It stokes division and it places Indigenous people, and other communities targeted by hate, at greater risk of harm.

Our people know the cost of this kind of thinking. Our ancestors were forced from their homelands. Families were torn apart during the forced boarding school era, and lives were lost, all because of the same mindset Ann Coulter chose to amplify. Yet despite every attempt to erase us, we are still here. We have survived and we

have prospered.

We will always defend our sovereignty, our culture, and our identity. Our sovereignty is the foundation of who we are. Our identity has withstood centuries of efforts to destroy it. We are sovereign because we have fought for it. Many Indigenous people served and died in defense of this country, at higher rates of any other group. For Ann Coulter to use her freedom to insult the very people who have sacrificed so much is disgraceful.

We will always speak out when the safety and dignity of our people are threatened. I call on all people, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to speak up when they see hate like this. Do not let it go unanswered. Each one of us has the power to push back against harmful words and actions, to choose respect over hate, and to stand up for what is right.

Together, our voices are stronger than any message of division.

Ugvwiyui Chuck Hoskin Jr., Cherokee Nation

Ann Coulter's post this evening on X that "we didn't kill enough Indians," is beyond abhorrent. It is dangerous hate speech designed to inflict damage on a marginalized community and designed to undermine support in the deepest darkest gutters of social media. Although it is tempting to decline to dignify her regressive attack on Native Americans, I cannot and will not. This is no time for timidity.

Coulter's statement, on its face, is a despicable rhetorical shot trained on the First Peoples of this



continent, designed to dehumanize and diminish us and our ancestors and puts us at risk of further injury. We have faced enough of that since this country's founding. Such rhetoric has aided and abetted the destruction of tribes, their life ways, languages and cultures, the violation of treaty rights,

violence, oppression, suppression and dispossession. It should not be lost on any of us that Coulter's lament that "we didn't kill enough Indians" takes place against the backdrop of our relatively low average life expectancies, high suicide rates and the epidemic of missing and murdered indigenous

people, just to name a few aspects of our continuing struggle.

The cruelty of Coulter's comments are, of course, self-evident to decent human beings from all quarters. We have made much progress in the United States as it relates to federal Indian policy. Conservatives, liberals, Republicans and Democrats have had a hand in advancing this cause, which is so special to me as Chief of the nation's largest tribe, particularly over the last half century. Coulter's statement tonight would be extreme even by 19th century standards (though I believe President Andrew Jackson would like and share her post if he lived among us today.)

Though her star power has

faded over the decades, Ann Coulter remains an opinion leader in the United States and beyond. Her account on "X," formerly Twitter, has 2.1 million followers. Her post has been shared over 1.4 million times as of this writing. She is a published author and appears frequently in television media. Her opinion, though peppered over the years with vitriolic attacks on marginalized populations, matters.

It is not simply that Coulter chose to attack Native Americans that moves me to speak out this evening. It is my deep concern that these sorts of attacks aimed at minorities and other marginalized populations in the country is at risk of being normalized. Her

attack does not take place in a vacuum and it is not an outlier. It occurs at a time attacks on marginalized populations seem to be on repeat, used to score political points, to advance policy agendas, and sometimes to scare people to advance all of that and more. The country frequently seems on the verge of political violence. Coulter's post implicitly encourages it.

We can get used to the frequent attacks and watch silently as this group and that group is dehumanized and diminished. Hatred in the public will become white noise, accepted as "just the way it is." Alternatively, we can speak out against it.

What Ann Coulter said is

heartless, vicious and should be repudiated by people of good faith regardless of political philosophy or party. Some things are simply wrong and we cannot validate it through our silence. I will not and cannot chase every hateful social media comment aimed at Native Americans. But, at a moment when I remain optimistic that people of good will across parties, faiths, philosophies, regions, races, political status can work to unify the country, denouncing Ann Coulter's regret that we "did not kill enough Indians" is surely the right thing to do. Please join me.

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



July 14-July 20, 2025



WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
Tuckaseigee River	N/A	Based on water temperatures	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout, Smallmouth Bass	Yellow Sallies, Sulphurs, Tan Caddis, Golden Stoneflies, & terrestrials such as ants, beetles, and inchworms
Chattooga & Whitewater Rivers	N/A	Based on water temperatures	Brown Trout	Yellow Sallies, Sulphurs, Tan Caddis, Golden Stoneflies, & terrestrials such as ants, beetles, and inchworms
Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River & Small Streams	N/A	Based on water temperatures	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout, Smallmouth Bass	Yellow Sallies, Sulphurs, Tan Caddis, Golden Stoneflies, & terrestrials such as ants, beetles, and inchworms

COURTESY OF KYLE FRONRATH/FONTANA GUIDES

BEST FISHING TIMES BASED ON THE LUNAR CYCLE

MONDAY, JULY 14	TUESDAY, JULY 15	WEDNESDAY, JULY 16	THURSDAY, JULY 17	FRIDAY, JULY 18	SATURDAY, JULY 19	SUNDAY, JULY 20
AVERAGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE+	AVERAGE+	AVERAGE	AVERAGE+	AVERAGE
2:58 AM-4:58 AM	3:44 AM-5:44 AM	4:31 AM-6:31 AM	5:18 AM-7:18 AM	6:08 AM-8:08 AM	7:02 AM-9:02 AM	2:10 AM-4:10 AM
3:21 PM-5:21 PM	4:07 PM-6:07 PM	4:54 PM-6:54 PM	5:43 PM-7:43 PM	6:35 PM-8:35 PM	7:31 PM-9:31 PM	2:34 PM-4:34 PM

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What Motivates You?

Part 1 of 2

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D

Scripture References: Colossians 3:2, Deuteronomy 8:17-18, Proverbs 16:2, Proverbs 8:13, Romans 12:2, Matthew 6:1, Psalms 139:23-24, Philippians 4:20

The various forms of pride in humans are satan's sneakiest sins. Pride creeps into our lives, minds, and hearts in many ways. The glory we seek in ourselves and others is brutal to parse between good and evil. The good ones can turn nasty and become sins. These are sins we rarely account for, and often they are sins of omission because we don't even consider them or ask for forgiveness, or repent from them. Yet, they hurt our relationship with our Lord. Consider this in your next prayer time.

From childhood, we are motivated to... whatever, you name it. Who motivates us? Motivation comes from parents, peers, teachers, pastors, enemies, coaches, drill instructors, bosses, spouses, family, children, work associates, competition, self, and God's Word. All of these motivators can be good. Some can be bad, and some are both good at times and bad at others. Pride, pleasing man, and pleasing ourselves are motivating issues we must address according to God's Word.

I sincerely doubt I am the only one who has trouble when I pause to consider my motivations before I embark on a project or even while I'm in the middle of one, especially ministry projects. Many people don't even pause to consider it, but that is precisely what we need to do. We need to test ourselves on why we do what we do. Are we in God's will? Are we humble in giving God the Glory in all we do?

What drives you to do what you do? Let's begin with a few questions, and you will soon figure out where this discussion is headed.

1. Do you volunteer to serve so you will become noticed or recognized by others for your work?

2. Do you want others to congratulate you on your completed job?

3. Are you looking for a promotion when you strive to outperform your competition?
4. Do you enjoy being on stage for the applause and cheers of the crowd?
5. Do you speak or perform so that others will praise your ability and talent?
6. Do you dress for success or to attract the looks of others?
7. Do you tell stories of success and boast of your experience and achievements so others will look up to you?
8. Do you drop names of notoriety or of influential people you have worked with, related to, or met, so others will consider you their peer or to become more popular?
9. Do you seek recognition, congratulations, or aggrandizement after leading a successful project?
10. Do you seek leadership roles because you want to be in charge?
11. Do you want others to look up to or idolize you to make you feel good?

Get it? One or more of those might have hit you between the eyes. You have already begun to rationalize with, "What's wrong with that?"

The answer to that question depends on why you do it.

"Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth." Colossians 3:2

Can you define the following words: pride, arrogance, narcissism, egotism, conceit, and vanity? I can with one word...sin. Do any of these sins cloud your judgment? Do any of these sins separate you from God as you become your idol? These are dangerous grounds, and satan uses these sins to slip in the cracks of our mentality and thought processes. You may get praise, make more money, get a raise, applause, or recognition for your talent, looks, performance, or work. But is that why you do it? That's the tricky question for yourself. Why? "and lest thou say in thy heart, My power and the might of my hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember Jehovah thy God, for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth; that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as at this day". Deuteronomy 8:17-18



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done marvelous things! Do not be afraid, you beasts of the field; for the open pastures are springing up, and the tree bears its fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their strength.

JOEL 2:21,22



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Amber Waves

CHECK IT OUT, OWEN. MY ARTWORK IS ON DISPLAY FOR ONE AND ALL TO ENJOY.



OOH, HERE COMES MY DAD. PROBABLY TO TAKE IN ALL MY ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS.



AH, COME ON! WHO ATE ALL THE LEFTOVER EGG SALAD?



LIKE ALL THE GREATS, I'M NOT APPRECIATED IN MY OWN TIME.



TIGER



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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1. "Believe"; 2. Dogs generally know an average of 89 words and phrases, but the number can range from 15 to 215; 3. Hawaii and Arizona; 4. Four balls of three different types (the Quaffle, two Bludgers and the Golden Snitch); 5. Volkswagen AG; 6. Italy; 7. Anastasia and Drizella; 8. Disk Operating System; 9. Sunburn; 10. Chickens

Trivia Test Answers

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Freezer handle is wider 2. Lipper cabinet is wider 3. Sandwich is larger 4. Cookie jar is smaller 5. Fridge door is not as wide 6. Countertop is thicker

by Dave T. Phipps



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Freezer handle is wider 2. Lipper cabinet is wider 3. Sandwich is larger 4. Cookie jar is smaller 5. Fridge door is not as wide 6. Countertop is thicker

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Verily
- Swiss artist Paul
- Harvest
- Outback bird
- Teeny bit
- Ticklish Muppet
- Spelling test study guide
- Old stringed instrument
- Eternities
- "Old MacDonald" refrain
- Rescues
- Ocular woe
- Med. plan options
- Preface
- Paris pal
- Surrenders
- Guided
- Puns and such
- Verdi opera
- Feedbag filler
- Delegate
- Treaties
- Duel tool
- Work on proofs
- Bleeped term
- New York's — Field
- Regarding
- Hosp. area



- Patella site
- Consider
- Science room
- "Night" author Wiesel
- Mine, in Marseille
- Casual shirt
- Accomplishes
- Peepers
- "Candida" playwright
- Bullets
- Fizzy drinks
- Deuce topper
- Fedora fabric
- Extra virgin product
- Make over
- Crucial time
- Bookkeepers (Abbr.)
- Country star West
- From the top
- English race-track site
- Quick kiss
- Tennis score
- Refer to
- Town near Padua
- Scoundrel
- Work with
- TV pioneer
- Name

DOWN

- Evergreen tree
- Moody rock genre
- French fare-well
- Pottery ovens
- Clark's love
- UFO crew
- Have brunch
- Critic's critique

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

King Crossword

Answers

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: In the show "Ted Lasso," what does the sign over the locker room doorway say?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: How many words are dogs believed to understand, on average?
- U.S. STATES: Which two states don't observe Daylight Savings Time?
- LITERATURE: In the "Harry Potter" book series, how many balls are used in a Quidditch match?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which company owns car makers Porsche and Audi?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which country is home to Lake Como?
- MOVIES: What are the names of Cinderella's stepsisters?
- ACRONYMS: What does the computer acronym DOS stand for?
- MEDICAL: What is the condition called solar erythema?
- PSYCHOLOGY: Someone suffering from alektorophobia is terrified by what?

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BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

Cherokee Children's Home Golf Tournament Fundraiser. Aug. 14-15 at the Sequoyah National Golf Course in Cherokee, N.C. This is a fundraiser for the Cherokee Children's Home. \$350 per golfer includes cart and green fees. Two-person teams, lunch provided each day. Tee times will be scheduled for each team by the Clubhouse. Call the course in advance to request a specific tee time at (828) 497-3000. Info: (828) 359-5575, cchevents@cherokee-boysclub.com

EBCI COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cherokee Family Safety's Family Field Day. July 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Unity Field in Cherokee, N.C. Slip N' Slides, Kona Ice, Relay Races, community resource information, and a hot dog lunch provided.

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Celebration. July 26 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 1146 Birdtown Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. Community Picnic at 12 p.m., activities and entertainment from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., anetso (stickball) at 4 p.m.

NAIWA Blueberry Festival. Aug. 9 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

Battle of the Bands. Aug. 15-16 from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. each day at the Kanunohi Water Park in Cherokee, N.C. Prizes: 1st place - \$1,000; 2nd place - \$600; 3rd place - \$400. Register at the Cherokee Welcome Center at 498 Tsali Blvd. in Cherokee. Info: (828) 359-6490

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.

Quallatown Makers will meet biweekly on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Museum of the Cherokee People Art Studio in Cherokee, N.C. Quallatown Makers is a free opportunity to gather as a group and be together while working on art. The goal of this group, organized and hosted by Museum of the Cherokee People, is to perpetuate Cherokee art and knowledge-sharing. Bring your own craft; all art forms are welcome. Coffee will be pro-

vided. Participants are welcome to bring their own snacks. This opportunity is open the Qualla Boundary community.

HEALTH & SPORTS EVENTS


Summer Basketball Clinic. June 2 through July 30 (Mondays and Wednesdays) at the Painttown Gym in Cherokee, N.C. Girls will be 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Boys will be 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Ages 5-12. Info: Call or text (828) 736-5586

Blood Drive in honor of Bambi Armachain Sneed. July 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Painttown Gym and Community Center at 10 Old Gap Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. To make an appointment or for more information, call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767 or visit <https://www.Red->


CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

SŌHĭ ʌD RVLŬŬJ DŌŬYL



Oginali, age 1, lives with her human, CeAnna Saunooke, in Elawodi (Yellowhill)



Sponsored by:

CHEROKEE

ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

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

CrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code "Painttown".

EBCI Midnight Rumble Classic Slow Pitch Softball Tournament Fundraiser. July 25-26 at the John Crowe Complex in Whittier, N.C. Game times will begin in the evening and go into the night. Prizes for first and second place team winners. Team entry fee is \$300. Participants must be 18+ by July 10. Co-ed teams must consist of 10-12 players and have at least three female players. Info: skysamp@ebci-nsn.gov

NC MedAssist Mobile Free

Pharmacy Program. July 29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Harrah's Cherokee Convention Center (first floor) at 777 Casino Dr. in Cherokee, N.C. Take home free over-the-counter medicine items such as allergy, cough and cold, pain relief, vitamins, children's medicine, and more. This program is a partnership between NC MedAssist and the EBCI Office of Veterans Services and EBCI Public Health and Human Services.

PACT Act Benefits and Resource Claims Event. July

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A misunderstanding tests the temperament of the sometimes headstrong Aries. But instead of blowing your top, take time for a pleasant diversion while things cool down.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A workplace problem could make the divine Bovine see red, but talk it out before you consider walking out. Some surprising facts emerge that could change your earlier focus.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You face a choice between ignoring your uneasy feelings about your relationship with a special person and demanding explanations. A close friend offers wise counsel.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A change you'd been hoping for carries an unexpected complication. Stay the course, and things will work themselves out. Also, be sure to make time for family and friends.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Aspects favor spending time with loved ones. On the job, new ideas are generally welcomed, but some demands for changes could cause problems. Be ready to defend your choices.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Good news: A workplace problem is close to being resolved with results that should please everyone. Take time off to indulge in your love of fun and games.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Most of the time, you are the most unflappable person around. But be ready to be thrown off-balance in the nicest way when Cupid takes aim in your direction.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) It's not often when someone tries to "sting" the sharp-witted Scorpion, but it can happen. Continue to be skeptical about anything that seems too good to be true.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your strong sense of self-esteem helps you serve as a role model for someone who needs personal reassurances. Your efforts pay off in an unexpected way.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Someone close considers revealing a painful secret. Withhold judgment. Instead, open your generous heart and offer dollops of your love and understanding.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Your talents as a peacemaker are called upon once more as an old problem reemerges with new complications. Move cautiously to avoid falling into hidden traps.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your artistic side is enhanced with the reception given to your new project. Use this success as encouragement toward fulfilling your larger goals.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your natural sense of leadership is combined with a deep sense of responsibility. People trust you to give them both guidance and understanding.

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VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

Beware the pension poachers!

The VA's Office of Inspector General recently put out a fraud alert about a series of schemes known as "pension poaching." Veterans, heads up. You have a lot to lose if you fall for one of these scams.

The Department of Veterans Affairs pension is for wartime veterans or their surviving spouses and unmarried dependent children with certain income limits. The benefits are therefore very valuable. And it's what the scammers want: your money.

Veterans, these scammers can come at you in a number of ways. It might be through a dishonest attorney, a fake financial planner, by phone or email, or at an assisted living facility. In short, they're everywhere.

Beware anybody who approaches you with any of the following:

If you have direct bank deposit of your benefit money, they might try to divert that money elsewhere. (The money should always only go to the veteran.)

You might be pushed to hand over personal financial information, like a credit card number.

Scammers might try to guarantee you'll get a certain benefit. (But no one can make that guarantee; only the VA can decide.)

Scammers might try to con you into lying about your expenses and income when you apply for benefits, effectively hiding your money from the VA. (What they won't tell you is that the VA does a three-year lookback at your finances. If you're caught lying, you'll have to pay back any money the VA gives you.)

Scammers likely charge you an upfront fee or have you sign over a percentage of your benefits to them in exchange for helping you apply for benefits. But the VA never charges you for applying for benefits and even gives you free help if you need it. Start by calling the VA at 800-827-1000.

To learn about eligibility for the veterans pension, go to www.va.gov/pension/eligibility. For the survivors pension, see www.va.gov/pension/survivors-pension.

Download the Veterans' Pension pamphlet at <https://tinyurl.com/mtsvrft> for information on how to avoid pension poaching scams.

Beware! Those pension poachers are everywhere!

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Choosing a pet daycare

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My boss is making remote workers come to the office three days a week. That means my dog "Dally" will be left alone for most of the day. I'm leery of doggy daycares, but I don't see another option. How do I find the best daycare for my dog? — Jennifer K., via email

DEAR JENNIFER: Fortunately, most pet daycares with problems are the exception. But you're absolutely right to want the best daycare option for Dally. Here are key things to do as you choose the perfect daycare.

— Make a list: Look online for all of the pet daycare facilities within reasonable reach. You shouldn't go too far out of your way to drop off your dog. Ideally, it is on your route to work.

— Take a tour: Make an appointment to visit each daycare (without Dally).

— Bring a notepad: Write down your observations. Is the facility clean? Does it seem well-organized and reasonably calm? Is each area fenced securely? Is the facility free of hazards like broken toys or electrical cords?

— Ask safety questions: How many staff are in place to monitor the dogs? Are they trained to spot aggression or illness? Do they have first aid training? What is their procedure for emergencies or incidents?

— Learn what Dally's day is like: What activities are offered? How often and for how long? Are the dogs ever crated, or do they have quiet rest areas?

After your tour, a good facility will schedule a time to meet Dally, check his vaccination record and test his temperament and socialization skills. That's important to ensure all the dogs in their care stay safe and have fun.

Get more details on picking the best daycare option at the AKC's website: <https://tinyurl.com/4ntpfj3m>.

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

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29-30 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day at Harrah's Cherokee Casino at 777 Casino Dr. in Cherokee, N.C. Get answers to VA benefits and claims questions. File your claim and more. This event is being hosted by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs. Info: Gerard Ball (828) 734-2674 or samuball@ebci-nsn.gov; or Mary Culley (405) 626-3426 or Mary.Culley@va.gov

DINILAWIGI (TRIBAL COUNCIL) MEETINGS

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

Health Board. July 16 at 8:30 a.m.

Qualla Housing Committee. July 17 at 8:30 a.m.

Parks & Rec. Committee. July 17 at 1 p.m.

Roads Commission. July 21 at 9 a.m.

Timber Committee. July 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Planning Board. July 21 at 1 p.m.

Qualla Housing Committee. July 23 at 1 p.m.

Kituwah, LLC Strategic Plan. July 24 at 9 a.m.

POW WOW LISTINGS

36th Annual Seafair Indian Days Pow Wow. July 18-20 at the Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center in Seattle, Wash. Info:

info@unitedindians.org

51st Annual Little Beaver Contest Pow Wow. July 18-20 at the Pow Wow Grounds, Jicarilla Apache Nation Fairgrounds in Dulce, N.M. MC: Boye Ladd Sr. Host Drum: Showtime. Info: Carleen Vigil at littlebeaverpw2025@gmail.com

Sugar Island Pow Wow. July 18-20 in Sugar Island, Mich. Emcees: Shannon Martin and Josh Homminga. Info: sitraditionalpowwow@gmail.com

Robert Woolery Sr. Memorial Pow Wow. July 19-20 at the Missouri State Fairgrounds Ag Building in Sedalia, Mo. Emcees: Bob Woolery and Bill Branson. Head Singer: Kevin Leroy. Info: Robert Woolery at dwoolery@aol.com

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

Cherokee Cancer Support Group, potluck dinner with a speaker the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Betty's Place, 40 Goose Creek Rd, Cherokee, N.C. Anyone is welcome to attend the potluck. The group provides educational and emotional support to clients and families of the Eastern Band of Cherokee

Indians members with cancer. The group can provide financial assistance for fuel, lodging, and transportation and also can assist with mastectomy items, nutritional supplements, wigs, and related products. The group can volunteer to take a client to their appointment if it is requested in a timely manner. Betty's Place is open Monday through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: (828) 497-0788

Life@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

George Masa photography exhibition. Now through Aug. 15 at Western Carolina University's Mountain Heritage Center in Cullowhee, N.C. The exhibition is entitled "A Stranger No More: George Masa and His Art". The exhibition features a remarkable collection of George Masa's original photographs—some

never before seen—drawn from the William A. Hart, Jr. and Alice Huff Hart Masa Collection housed in WCU's Hunter Library Special Collections. These images are displayed alongside Masa's recently acquired camera and tripod, now part of the Mountain Heritage Center's collection. Admission is free. The Mountain Heritage Center is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment. Info: (828) 227-7129 or <https://www.wcu.edu/engage/mountain-heritage-center/>

Traditional Cherokee Weapons Demonstration. July 23 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., July 24 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., and July 26 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the Red Clay State Historic Park Visitor Center Porch, 1140 Red Clay Park Rd., Cleveland, Tenn. Interactive demonstration of Cherokee weaponry prior to European contact. The demonstration will be about 45 minutes to 1 hour and involves a lecture portion and a demonstration portion. Participants will be shown an atlatl, a Cherokee warclub, a Cherokee blowgun, and a replica flint-lock rifle. No Cost. Info. (423) 889-3249

Make Cornhusk Dolls. July 24 from 2p.m. to 3 p.m. inside the Red Clay State Historic Park Visitor Center, 1140 Red Clay Park Rd., Cleveland, Tenn. Learn the Cherokee origin of Cornhusk Dolls and make one with SIR Aubrey! The cost of attendance is \$3.00 per person. You MUST sign up in advance if you would like to attend. Info. (423) 889-3249

Tour Red Clay State Historic Park. July 25 from 2p.m. to 3 p.m. meet on the Red Clay State Historic Park Visitor Center

Porch, 1140 Red Clay Park Rd., Cleveland, Tenn. Guided walking tour of the historic Red Clay Council Grounds. Learn about the history and culture of the Cherokee at Red Clay in the 1830s while viewing our replica structures, the Eternal Flame Memorial, and the Blue Hole Spring. Info. (423) 889-3249

Nature Journaling. July 26 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the Red Clay State Historic Park Visitor Center Porch, 1140 Red Clay Park Rd., Cleveland, Tenn. Join SIR Aubrey for an afternoon of nature journaling! Participants will be led on a short hike around the Blue Hole Trail (0.20 mi), and be given multiple opportunities to pause and log what they see. The program will be about an hour and a half in duration. Participants will have the option to use park supplies like simple journals, and markers; but are encouraged to bring any of their favorite sketching tools to utilize during the program. No Cost. Info. (423) 889-3249

Guided Blue Hole Hike. July 26 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. meet on the Red Clay State Historic Park Visitor Center Porch, 1140 Red Clay Park Rd., Cleveland, Tenn. Join Seasonal Interpretive Ranger Aubrey for a leisurely and educational hike along the Blue Hole Trail (0.20 mi). We will be looking for interesting plants, and critters that may live along the trail! Participants will need to bring reusable water bottles and will need to wear good walking shoes. No Cost. Info. (423) 889-3249

Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center events. 51 Cowee School Dr. in Franklin, N.C. Info: kitchen@coweeschool.org

- Speaker's Series and BBQ dinner, \$20/plate. July 21
- Asheville Mountain Boys and Greek dinner, \$15/plate. July 26

Ladies Conference – Gathering Generations, Youth to Elders. July 25 at 7 p.m. and July 26 at 9:30 a.m. (concludes with lunch) at the Cherokee Pentecostal Church at 135 Long Branch Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. This event is sponsored by Indian Ministries of North America.

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

New Echota-Cherokee Capital celebrates World Ranger Day. July 31 at 10 a.m. at the New Echota State Historic Site at 1211 GA225 in Calhoun, Ga. It starts with a Ranger-guided tour starting at 10 a.m. Park officials note, “World Ranger Day is celebrated around the globe, and we would like to take this day to recognize all the work done by past, present, and future Rangers around the world that work to ensure the preservation of our nation’s historic treasures and natural beauty. To truly explain the role of Park Rangers, first one must know the history of our parks and the road the first Rangers had to transverse to get to the role they hold today.”

Info: Interpretive Ranger Amanda McCollum – Williams (706) 624-1321

New Echota ‘First Saturday Hike’. Aug. 2 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the New Echota State Historic Site at 1211 GA225 in Calhoun, Ga. Visitors will join their ranger for the morning and explore the nature trails at New Echota-Cherokee Capital State Historic Site. Escape the summer heat and step into the past. New Echota offers shaded trails, historic buildings, and fascinating tales to keep you cool and captivated. All ages are invited to join the ranger for this event. The hike will be easy to moderate in difficulty. Info: Interpretive Ranger Amanda McCollum – Williams (706) 624-1321

Sequoyah Remembrance Day. Aug. 3 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in Vonore, Tenn. “This is a day to remember the man who gave the Cherokee people their own written language,” said Charlie Rhodarmer, Museum manager/director. “In 5,000 years of human civilization, Sequoyah is the only person, not literate in any language, who created a written language for his people.” Free admission to the Museum. Info: Museum at (423) 884-6246

Smoky Mountain Competition Cheer 2nd Annual Back 2 School Block Party. Aug. 9 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Bridge Park in downtown Sylva, N.C. Inflatables, face painting, fairy hair, dunk booth, music, educational tables, food trucks, and more. Info: (828) 226-9943, smoky-mountaincheerclub@gmail.com

Living Legacy Fall Trade Fair.

Aug. 22-23, from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. both days. McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, 522 W Madison Ave., Athens, Tenn. Crafts, music, spinning, pottery, woodworking, quilting and more. Entry is free. Info. (423) 745-0329

New Echota-Cherokee Capital hosts “Come Fly with Me: birding hike!” Aug. 23 at 10 a.m. at the New Echota State Historic Site at 1211 GA225 in Calhoun, Ga. The Ranger guided hike will be traversing the nature trails to the beaver pond, the best birding spot on the entire site. The ranger will discuss the different species of birds that call New Echota home along with some species that have vanished from our local landscape. Rangers will also be discussing the relationship between birds and the Cherokee and their significance to their culture. Info: Interpretive Ranger Amanda McCollum – Williams (706) 624-1321

Cherokee Fall Festival. Sept. 6-7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in Vonore, Tenn. Cherokee arts and crafts demonstrations, music, and dance; blacksmith demonstrations; special entertainment; and more. Tickets: Adults - \$10, Children 13-18 - \$5, Children 12 and under are free. Family rate is \$25 (two adults and two children 13-18). Info: Museum at (423) 884-6246

Trolls: A Field Study by Thomas Dambo. Nov. 15 to Feb. 17 at The North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville, North Carolina. Days in the gardens and on the trails. Evenings in the garden at Winer lights Nov. 15 – Jan. 3 Vis-

see **EVENTS** next page

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iting on their first North American excursion, these twelve interactive troll sculptures will explore the Arboretum, embarking on a curious journey to learn about humankind. For more information please visit ncarboretum.org

CHEROKEE COMMUNITY CLUBS

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

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

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

Cherokee County Community meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community building;

potluck at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Joe Palmer (828) 361-9219, joepalmer1013@yahoo.com

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

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

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Lamentations (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. Which Moabit woman became ancestress of King David through her marriage to Boaz? *Sarah, Jezebel, Ruth, Leah*

3. From Daniel 6, which king called to David in a lamentable voice? *Pilate, Darius, Herod, Solomon*

4. What's a binding agreement made between God and a person or group? *Daric, Crown, Covenant, Commandment*

5. From 2 Samuel 12, who said "Thou art the man"? *Boaz, Samson, Isaac, Nathan*

6. Who said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord"? *Ruth, Sarah, Miriam, Mary*

ANSWERS: (1) Old, (2) Ruth, (3) Darius, (4) Covenant, (5) Nathan, (6) Mary

Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at www.patreon.com/triviaguy. FREE TRIAL!

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Moments in time

• On **July 28, 1996**, two men happened upon a skull in a Washington state park, which was part of a skeleton eventually discovered to be more than 9,000 years old. The remains, christened Kennewick Man, were reinterred 21 years later in a Native American ceremony.

• On **July 29, 1862**, Confederate spy Maria Isabella "Belle" Boyd was arrested by Union troops and held at the Old Capitol Prison in Washington, D.C. It was the first of three arrests for the intrepid teenager, who was 17 when she shot and killed a Union soldier for insulting her mother and threatening to search their house. Four years later, she turned her experiences into a book and acting career.

• On **July 30, 2004**, the cult-classic "Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle," starring John Cho and Kal Penn as two burger-craving stoners, debuted. Reportedly, the White Castle chain noted a 30% rise in sales the following week.

• On **July 31, 1556**, Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuit order of Roman Catholic missionaries and educators formally known as The Society of Jesus, died in Rome. He was canonized as a Catholic saint in 1622.

• On **Aug. 1, 1944**, Anne Frank, the young Jewish girl hiding in a secret annex in Nazi-occupied Holland whose diary would come to serve as a powerful symbol of the Holocaust, penned her final entry three days before she, her family and four others were arrested and transported to concentration camps.

• On **Aug. 2, 1939**, Albert Einstein wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt with the suggestion that uranium could be used in the creation of "extremely powerful bombs of a new type." Years later, however, he would describe the missive as the "one great mistake" of his life.

• On **Aug. 3, 1936**, track-and-field star Jesse Owens earned the first of four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics, the most of any American at the Games. Sadly, back in the States, only white Olympians were invited to the White House.

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The Garden Bug



Herbs and new moms

Many herbs can aid mothers during the postpartum period; they can enhance physical and emotional well-being and support breast-milk production and quality. Consult your doctor if you would like to try some from this list:

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| • Ashwaganda | • Nettle |
| • Gotu kola | • Catnip |
| • Hawthorn berries, leaves and flowers | • Chamomile |
| • Milky oats | • Lavender |
| • Red raspberry leaf | • Lemon balm |
| | • Skullcap |

- Brenda Weaver

Source: www.motherearthliving.com

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Merritt Youngdeer (828) 788-6614

Antioch Baptist Church.

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

Bethabara Baptist Church.

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

Big Cove Missionary Baptist Church.

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

Big Cove Pentecostal Holiness Church.

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

Bigwitch Baptist Church.

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

Boiling Springs Missionary Baptist Church.

960 Old Bryson City Road in the 3200 Acre Tract. 488-9202

Cherokee Baptist Church.

812 Tsalagi Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Adult Bible Study Wednesday 6

p.m. Pastor Ric Eddings 497-2761

Cherokee Bible Church.

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

Cherokee Church of Christ.

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

Cherokee Church of God.

21 Church of God Drive. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Night Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. 21 Church of God Drive. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Every third Sunday they have a

fellowship meal to celebrate all the birthdays throughout that month. Everyone is cordially invited for any of the services and meals. Pastor Rev. Owen Isaacs (828) 242-0754

Cherokee Church of the

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

Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Located behind the Wolfetown Gym. Sunday School: 10 a.m, Sunday worship: 11 a.m, Sunday evening worship:

5 p.m. Wednesday night worship: 6 p.m. Pastor Tim Melton 674-2690

Cherokee United Methodist Church.

Hwy 19 – Soco Road. Sunday Church Service 11 a.m. Wednesday dinner at 6 p.m. followed by Bible Study. Pastor - Rev. Beverly Parker-Reece

Cherokee Wesleyan Church.

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

Christian Acts Church at the

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

Echota Baptist Church.

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

Ela Baptist Church.


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

Embassy Christian Center

Church of God in Christ. 87 Vinewood Circle, Whittier, located on the campus of Church of God Gateway Campground and Conference Center. Full season starts Aug. 4. Sunday School 10

see **EVENTS** next page

MEET YOUR CIHA STAFF



DEVYN SMITH

Recruiter

Education: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of North Carolina Asheville
Years at CIHA: 1 Year and 3 Months
Community/Hometown: Yellow Hill

Why CIHA? "The camaraderie that is built among myself, my team, and my colleagues throughout the organization is the best of any I have experienced in the past. The work is reinvigorating to me. Throughout my professional life, I have always been drawn to working with my community. I find a high level of personal and professional fulfillment in working at CIHA. I get to use the knowledge and skills I have to support the work this organization does for my community."
- Devyn Smith

ᐃᐢᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ (Di qwa tse li i yu sdi) "Like family to me."

EVENTS: *from page 59*

a.m. and Morning Worship 11 a.m. Year-round services – church online live streamed from the 24/7 church channel, Embassy TV <https://embassytv.net> Tuesday Night Bible Study 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Will Chambliss, Thursday Night Women's Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Brenda Miller-Chambliss (828) 835-2359 or embassymediagroup@gmail.com

Goose Creek Baptist Church. Sunday School – 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m., Sunday Evening Services 6 p.m. Pastor – Bro. James Gunter 631-0331, Info: John and Linda George 497-3512

Grace Bible Church. 344 Whittier School Rd., Whittier, N.C. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday

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

Grace Community Church of Cherokee. 320 Highway 441 N., Whittier, NC 28789. Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m. Pastor Scott Hill 508-7836

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Mission. 82 Lambert Branch Road. Saturday Mass at 4:30 p.m. in English and 6:00 p.m. in Spanish. Pastor Fr. Victor Ameh, MSP. For more information, go to www.stjosephbryson.org.

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



KITUWAH LLC.

MEET OUR TEAM



Beth Grant
Accounting Manager

What is your favorite part about working at Kituwah LLC?

"My favorite thing here at Kituwah has been seeing the opportunity to grow as a company and as individuals. Knowing that we are a part of something that could provide long term sustainability for our enrolled members has been the icing on the cake."

Bachelor of Science- Business Administration
University of North Carolina- Greensboro
Community: Big Cove



EVERY APPOINTMENT MATTERS

Show Up for Your Health

Need to cancel your appointment?

Please call your Primary Care Team 24 hours in advance.

Letting your Primary Care team know you can't make your appointment allows them to schedule other patients that also need their care.



 **CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

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. Praying for a 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.

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

Events listings are FREE.
Send them to us at
scotmckie@ebci.nsn-gov
or
Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com.

We took this with
a telephoto lens.

Your cell phone
won't do the same.

Just observe from
a safe distance
(150ft.) and leave
the photos to us.

Be smart.

Don't become
a meme.



GWY 𐎂𐎗𐎚 𐎎𐎛𐎊𐎗𐎚
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: 5 bedroom, 2 bath brick house on Old Soco Rd in Cherokee. Recently appraised \$275,000, not including adjacent property, which is also available. For more information call (828)788-2479. **7/23**

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-057

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

JAMES ROBERT SQUIRREL

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 im-

mediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

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

Dawn Jumper
P.O.Box 434
Cherokee, NC. 28719
7/16

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-051

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

CALVIN EUGENE MURPHY

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 im-

mediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

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

Vickie Murphy
P.O. Box 958
Cherokee, NC. 28719
7/16

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-059

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

RAY ANTHONY MCCOY

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

Tyler McCoy
P.O.Box 64
Cherokee, NC. 28719
7/16

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-062

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

JAMES GERALD WALKER

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

Dorothy M Walker
P.O. Box 292
Bryson City, NC. 28713
7/16

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-060
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
HENRIETTA LUCILLE SAMPSON

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
Tyson Sampson
P.O Box 195
Cherokee NC 28719
7/23

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-060
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
HENRIETTA LUCILLE SAMPSON

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
Tyson Sampson
P.O. Box 195
Cherokee, NC. 28719

MANDARA SPA

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

THE EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS

THE CHEROKEE COURT

AMY TEESATESKIE and MARGARET TEESATESKIE, Plaintiffs
v. ERIKA SERRANO WATTY and UNKNOWN FATHER Defendants
(FILE NO. CV 25-083)

To: Erika Serrano Watty and Unknown Father,

Take notice that a Complaint for Temporary Emergency Custody and Permanent Custody and Order for Temporary Emergency Custody has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief sought related to custody of minor child, I.W., under the laws of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and filed in the above-mentioned file in the Cherokee Court, Cherokee, North Carolina. You are

required to appear for a hearing on the return of the emergency custody order and make a defense to such pleadings not later than August 4, 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 17th day of June, 2025. Carpenter & Guy, PLLC Kimberly N. Carpenter Attorney for Plaintiffs 559 West Main Street Sylva, NC 28779

(828)339-1011
kim@wnc.law

7/23

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-065

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**MARGARET LORETTA
WOLFE**

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

Anna Wolfe
68 Lloyd Owle Rd
Cherokee, NC 28719

7/23

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-066
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

ERNEST DOC PANTHER

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

Charles R Panther
244 Pennsylvania Avenue
Canton, NC 28716

7/23

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-069

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**TIMOTHY ISAAH
MCKINNELL**

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

Kansas L. Parker-Mckinnell
112 Tom George Rd
Whittier NC 28789

7/30

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-067
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:**

BARBARA J ROBIE

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

Cynthia Robie
P.O Box 2342
Cherokee NC 28719

7/30

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-068

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

ROBERT COOPER

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



STAFF OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

- *Housekeeper - 2nd Shift*
- *Exceptional Children (EC) Teacher/Coordinator*
- *Network Engineer*
- *Assistant Director for Annual Giving - Catamount Athletics*

FACULTY OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

- *Cherokee Clinical Assistant Professor*
- *eResources Librarian*
- *Assistant Professor - Counseling*
- *Visiting Assistant Professor of African American History*

VISIT [JOBS.WCU.EDU](https://jobs.wcu.edu) FOR DETAILS AND TO APPLY

An Equal Opportunity/Access/Pro Disabled & Veteran Employer.
Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations the application and interview process please call 828.227.7218 or email at jobs@email.wcu.edu.

CATION
Casey Cooper
79 Sam Bradley Road
Cherokee NC 28719
8/6

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 25-072

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

NANCY ANN CHILTOSKIE

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 PUBLI-
CATION

Sonia Iron Cloud
421 Perkins #201
Oakland, CA. 94610
8/6

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

INVITATION TO BID

Re: Demolition CIHD-2025-06
TERO Vendors:

The Cherokee Housing Indian Division is seeking sealed bids from qualified TERO contractors to Complete Remodel Unit-112 Pioneer, Cherokee, NC. 28719 Please contact CIHD for additional information.

Ernest Tiger, Property Manager,
Qualla Housing Services, Cherokee
Indian Housing Division, PO Box
1749, 687 Acquoni Rd., Office 828-
359-6748, ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov
7/23

Request for Proposals

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Tribal Employment Rights Office seeks an experienced and qualified attorney or law firm to provide legal services to the Tribal Employment Rights Commis- sion and the Tribal Employment Rights Office. Interested parties may request the RFP information packet by contacting Jacob Crowe at (828)-359-6544 or by email at Jacocrow@ebci-nsn.gov. All proposals must be submitted no later than 4:00 pm on Monday, August 4th, 2025. All Interested parties must be an enrolled member of the EBCI. 7/23

INVITATION TO BID

Re: CIHD-2025-08 Paint & Re- pairs Unit-10 Lambert Wilson Way
TERO Vendors:

The Cherokee Housing Indian Division is seeking sealed bids from qualified TERO contractors to conduct Paint & Repairs for Unit 10 Lambert Wilson Way, Whittier, NC. 28789

Please contact CIHD for addi- tional information. Ernest Tiger, Property Manager
Qualla Housing Services, Cherokee Indian Housing Division, PO Box 1749, 687 Acquoni Rd. Office 828- 359-6748, ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov
7/23

INVITATION TO BID

Re: CIHD-2025-07 112 Garden Place Ln. Tree Trimming & Re- moval

TERO Vendors:

The Cherokee Housing Indian Division is seeking sealed bids from qualified TERO contrac- tors to conduct Tree Trimming & Removal at 112 Garden Place Ln. Cherokee, NC. 28789.

Please contact CIHD for addi- tional information. Ernest Tiger, Property Manager
Qualla Housing Services, Cherokee

Indian Housing Division, PO Box 1749, 687 Acquoni Rd. Office 828- 359-6748, ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov
7/23

INVITATION TO BID

Re: CIHD-2025-09 Stain & Seal Decking-Lambert Wilson Way
TERO Vendors:

The Cherokee Housing Indian Division is seeking sealed bids from qualified TERO contractors to conduct Stain & Seal Decking Lambert Wilson Way, Whittier, NC. 28789

Please contact CIHD for addi- tional information. Ernest Tiger, Property Manager, Qualla Housing Services, Cherokee Indian Hous- ing Division, PO Box 1749, 687 Acquoni Rd. Office 828-359-6748 ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov
7/23

Seeking Contractors

The Cherokee Indian Hous- ing Division is seeking qualified T.E.R.O. contractors, general contractors, developers, or prop- erty management companies to provide comprehensive services related to duplexes and triplex- es. Please contact Jacob George at 828-359-6931 or by email at jacogeor@ebci-nsn.gov for more information. Qualifications are due July 16th. 7/23

Request for Proposal

CHEROKEE INDIAN HOUSING
DIVISION
INFRASTRUCTURE DEPT.
MASONRY BLOCK
FOUNDATIONS

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL is for all interest- ed contractors for the construction of single-family masonry founda- tions for members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee residing on trust lands and receiving assistance



VOCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES of
CHEROKEE, INC.

CLIENT SERVICES ASSISTANTS

**WE ARE
HIRING!**

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Are you a compassionate, patient, and enthusiastic individual who wants to make a real difference in someone's life? We are seeking Client Services Assistants to join our growing team, providing direct support to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

- Support with daily living skills.
- Provide opportunities for community involvement, recreation, social engagement, and employment.
- Encourage and assist with skill development for greater independence.
- Ensure a safe, respectful, and positive environment.
- Assist with documentation, goal tracking, and communication with the team.
- Be a reliable, positive role model and advocate for those you support.

REQUIREMENTS

- High School Diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Must be 18 years or older.
- Valid driver's license.
- Ability to pass background checks and required training.
- Experience is a plus, but not required—we provide training!

To apply in person, visit VOC at
70 Bingo Loop Rd., Cherokee NC 28719

Questions? Call 828-497-9827

To apply online, visit our web at
<http://www.cherokeevoc.org/>

through the Cherokee Indian Housing Division (CIHD) Infrastructure Program. Contractors will be selected, and contracts will be awarded on per-project basis and competitive pricing. Projects will be monitored by CIHD-Site Prep coordinators and CIHD also reserves the right to add additional contractors to as needed based on scheduling demands. CIHD reserves the right to reject all submissions and reserves the right not to award any contract to the lowest bidder. The work to be performed under the RFP is subject to TERO guidelines. Any project not completed in a timely manner or abiding to the scope of work will be removed from the bid or project if awarded. These are time sensitive projects.

Proposal packets can be picked up at 687 Acquoni Rd at the old QHA office, Cherokee, NC 28719. The contact person for this RFP is Nekyle Lossiah, Infrastructure Coordinator at (828) 788-6371 or Sarah Crowe, Infrastructure Admin (828) 359-6121. **7/23**

Request for Bids

To Recreate the Yellowhill Community Club Sign to be completed by August 31, 2025.

Bids due by July 31, 2025.

For a Bid Packet email Carmaleta Monteith at carmaleta@msn.com **7/30**

Marijuana Use in HUD-Funded Tribal Rental Properties

Summary regarding marijuana use in HUD-funded tribal rental

properties:

Federal Law Prohibits Marijuana Use:

Regardless of state or tribal law, marijuana use is illegal under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), a federal law.

This includes the manufacture, distribution, and possession of marijuana, making it a federal criminal offense. HUD's Stance on Marijuana Use in Assisted Housing:

HUD prohibits the admission of individuals who use marijuana to HUD-assisted housing, including those who use medical marijuana, consistent with federal law. Owners of HUD-assisted properties must deny admission to any household with a member determined to be using a controlled substance, which includes marijuana.

Owners cannot establish lease provisions or policies that allow residents to use marijuana.

Owners cannot establish lease provision that allow Reasonable Accommodation for medical marijuana.

Owners must have policies that allow for the termination of tenancy for households with a member who is illegally using marijuana or whose use interferes with the health, safety, or peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.

Tribal Housing and HUD Funding:

Tribal Housing entities receive funding from HUD through the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA).

While tribes have sovereignty, they must comply with the rules and requirements of the HUD programs from which they receive funding.

Tribal housing authorities can implement their own policies regarding smoking, including marijuana, consistent with federal laws.

In summary, despite potential differences in state or tribal laws regarding marijuana, federal law, as enforced by HUD, prohibits its use in federally assisted housing, including tribal housing receiving HUD funding. All Tribal Leases for Tribal Rentals and Qualla Rentals have Lease provisions that state no smoking of any kind is allowed in all rental units. Rentals. Smoking cigarettes in Tsalagi Homes and Mutual Help homes is at the discretion of the homeowner; however, all drug use prohibited by Federal law can be grounds for eviction due to the HUD funding source. **8/6**

Seeking Bids

Unit-Piney Grove Apartments
Interior Remodel CIHD-2025-10
TERO Vendors:

The Cherokee Housing Indian Division is seeking sealed bids from qualified TERO contractors to perform Residential Remodeling Services., Cherokee, NC. 28719

Please contact CIHD for additional information.
Ernest Tiger, Property Manager,
Qualla Housing Services, Cherokee
Indian Housing Division PO Box
1749, 687 Acquoni Rd. Office 828-
359-6748 ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov

7/23

Request for Qualifications
HYATT CEMETERY HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Housing Authority is soliciting Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) from qualified General Contractors for the Hyatt Cemetery Housing Development project.

Project Overview: This comprehensive residential development project encompasses the construction of infrastructure for 19 one-acre residential lots, including:

Asphalt roadway construction
Storm drainage systems
Designated dumpster pad location
Street lighting installation
School bus/public transit stop location

Qualification Requirements:
Interested contractors must demonstrate proven experience in residential development projects, infrastructure construction, and municipal utility installations. Licensed and bonded contractors are encouraged to respond.

How to Apply: For detailed project specifications, qualification requirements, and submission guidelines, please contact:
Jacob George - Phone: (828) 359-6931 Email: Jacogeor@ebci-nsn.gov
Submission Deadline: 08-15-2025

This project supports the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians' commitment to providing /quality housing opportunities for tribal members. **8/13**



Join over 98,000

Follow the Cherokee One Feather Facebook Page.



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



CHOOSE CIHA

New Positions This Week

Patient Access Specialist – Temporary (2 positions)
Medical Lab Technician
Cook Tsali Care Center

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor - Kanvwtiyi
Masters Level Therapist \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
(Analenisgi Outpatient, Analenisgi MAT, Cherokee
Central Schools, Family Safety, Child and Family –
Snowbird, Family Intensive Treatment)
Outpatient Behavioral Health Nurse Manager
Outpatient Behavioral Health Nurse RN \$5,000 Hiring
Bonus
Residential Technician, Women's
RN – Behavioral Health – Inpatient- Part Time Inter-
mittent
RN – Behavioral Health – Inpatient FT \$10,000 Hiring
Bonus
Targeted Case Manager

ENGINEERING

HVAC Technician/Maintenance Mechanic - \$5,000 Hiring
Bonus
Electrician/Maintenance Mechanic - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
Maintenance Mechanic

FINANCE

Billing Analyst II
Accounting Clerk

MEDICAL

Physician (Emergency Department, Primary Care,
Pediatrics)
Mid Level FNP/PA

RADIOLOGY

Radiology Technologist II (2nd Shift) - \$5,000 Hiring
Bonus
Radiology Technologist II – Part Time w/Benefits
Diagnostic Radiologic Technologist Student PTI

EVS

EVS Technician

NURSING

Care Management Extender – Primary Care
C.N.A – ER – FT - \$3,000 Hiring Bonus
C.N.A. - Immediate Care Center – Part Time Intermit-
tent
CNA/Medical Clerk PTR
LPN/CMA – Primary Care - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
LPN – Primary Care - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
RN – Inpatient – Night Shift - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
RN Supervisor-Inpatient (Nights)
RN Infection Control
Telemetry Nursing Assistant
Clinical Nurse Educator

OPERATIONS

Optometrist
Dental Assistant II
Dental Assistant I
Dental Hygienist
Dentist - CIHA and Satellite
Dentist-Pediatrics
Occupational Therapist I - Emergency Hire

TRIBAL OPTION

HOP Medical Social Worker (3 positions)

TSALI CARE CENTER

Certified Medication Aide - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
Certified Nursing Assistant - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
Licensed Practical Nurse - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
Registered Nurse – \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Registered Nurse – Part Time Intermittent



Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians HUMAN RESOURCES

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

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

Closing Sunday, July 20, 2025

1. Manager (Grants) – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L16 \$68,827 - \$86,050)
2. Teacher (Art) – Kituwah Academy – CERS (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)

Open Until Filled

1. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
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. FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Public Safety (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
10. Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
11. Driver – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
12. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
13. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Head Start – CERS (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
14. Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (Starting rate of \$20.00/hour)
15. Supervisor – Biological/Waste Water Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
16. Maintenance Technician – HELP – Education (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
17. Registered Nurse – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour)
18. Carpenter – Qualla Housing – Housing (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
19. Cannery Operations Coordinator – Cooperative Extension – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
20. Truck Driver/WWT Maintenance – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
21. WWT Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
22. Supervisor (HIS/Inventory) – Tribal Construction – Operations (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
23. Environmental Regulatory Specialist – Environmental & Natural Resources – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)



Cherokee Boys Club Job Announcements

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

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

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

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

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

Agelink:

5 Teachers –\$31,800–\$39,780 per year w/Benefits

Service Department:

- o 1 Master Technician—\$31,800–\$39,750 per year w/Benefits
- o 1 Parts/Service Writer—\$31,800–\$39,750 per year w/Benefits
- o 1 Detail Technician—\$19,080–\$25,440 per year w/Benefits
- o 1 Body Shop Helper—\$18,020–\$23,850 per year w/Benefits

C&F:

- o 2 Skilled Carpenters—\$31,800–\$39,750 per year w/Benefits
- o 2 Carpenter Helpers—\$18,020–\$23,850 per year w/Benefits

Cherokee Children's Home:

- o 2 FT Residence Counselors—\$17.00 per hour w/Benefits
- o 2 PT Residence Counselors—\$17.00 per hour w/Benefits
- o 1 Overnight Residence Counselors—\$17.00 per hour w/Benefits

Bus & Truck:

- o Seasonal Bus Driver—Need to check rate of pay
- o Truck Drivers—Need to check rate of pay



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

Marketing and Media Coordinator/College Liaison/ Sports Marketing Instructor

Boys Physical Education and Health Teacher

K-5 Special Education Teacher

Pathseekers School Counselor (6-12)

K-5 School Counselor

K-5 Elementary Teacher Assistant

K-5 Special Education Teacher Assistant - 2 positions

9-12 Special Education Teacher Assistant (Lifeskills)

2025-26 College Advising Corps Adviser (To apply visit:

advisingcorps.appstate.edu)

JV Boys Basketball Coach

JV Girls Basketball Coach

Varsity Football Assistant Coach

Elementary Cherokee Language Instructor

High School Cherokee Language Instructor

Middle School Soccer Head Coach

Middle School Soccer Assistant Coach



Thinking About Building A Home?

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SITE INSPECTION APPLICATION	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Inspection application process begins at Tribal Realty by the property owner. <input type="checkbox"/> The property will be inspected by five tribal departments and will be determined if site is buildable or not buildable.
PROPERTY SURVEY, TRANSFER & RIGHT OF WAYS	<input type="checkbox"/> Surveying requests for approved buildable sites will be done by the Tribal Surveying dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Property transfers will be done by the owner to the home buyer at Tribal Realty. <input type="checkbox"/> The home buyer must own the property for financing purposes. <input type="checkbox"/> All road and utility right of ways or utility easements must be in place before any site work begins.
PRE-APPROVAL PRE-QUALIFICATION	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant will meet with Homebuyer Services Coordinator where they are required to have Site Inspection forms completed, unless applicant is wishing to purchase a home. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will assist applicant with packaging loan applications to lender. <input type="checkbox"/> Lender will issue a prequalification letter indicating maximum loan amount. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send Infrastructure a copy of the prequalification letter
INFRASTRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Once pre-approved/qualified, the infrastructure application must be completed. <input type="checkbox"/> Legal description proving ownership of the property must be included. <input type="checkbox"/> Must be an EBCI enrolled member constructing a permanent residence on trust lands to receive Infrastructure services.
HOME BUYING SEARCH & QUOTE	<input type="checkbox"/> Prequalified borrower will begin their house search, keeping in mind the size of the site that was approved. <input type="checkbox"/> Borrower will request a sales quote, floor plans and foundation plan for their home. <input type="checkbox"/> After receiving quote and house plans, Borrower will submit all documents and drawings to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will submit estimate, plans and drawings to Infrastructure. <input type="checkbox"/> Simultaneously, HBS Coordinator will submit same plans to the lending institution, as well as financial documents to keep loan active. Financial documents are updated with lender every 30 days.
DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE (DPA) & LOAN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will process documents to request Down Payment Assistance for 20% of sales contract amount, up to \$50,000.00, and will request \$5,000.00 in Rate Buy Down (RBD) gift funds simultaneously. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will submit to Loan Compliance Committee for review. Committee will review for completeness of application. <input type="checkbox"/> Completed applications are submitted to Secretary of Housing for approval and signature. <input type="checkbox"/> Approved applications are then submitted to the Principal Chief for approval and signature. <input type="checkbox"/> The approved and signed applications are returned to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will continue to send financial docs on a continual basis to lender until loan close is scheduled.
CIDH & REALTY – On Trust Lands	<input type="checkbox"/> After receiving signed loan approvals, the Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send DPA firm commitment to Tribal Realty to initiate Ownership Statement (OS), Lease and Assignment. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will also send a letter to lender to notify approval of DPA and RBD. <input type="checkbox"/> Once OS, lease and assignment are received, these documents will be forwarded to the lending institution. <input type="checkbox"/> Lending Institution will contact client to “lock in” their interest rate, taking into consideration the gift funds to purchase discount points.
DPA funds – Off Trust Lands	<input type="checkbox"/> After loan approvals are received, Coordinator will send letter notifying lender the borrower has been approved for DPA and RBD funds and request closing attorney information. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will complete the Promissory Note and Deed of Trust and to be signed at closing and recorded at Register of Deeds in the county of purchase. <input type="checkbox"/> Closing attorney will send copy of recorded documents back to Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will submit recorded documents to Realty to be recorded for off-boundary loans.
LOAN CLOSE	<input type="checkbox"/> Prior to loan close, Coordinator will request AP checks for issuance of DPA and RBD to be disbursed to the lender at closing. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will notify Site Prep that loan has closed. <input type="checkbox"/> Home construction may start after loan close. <input type="checkbox"/> Client will begin working with Lender’s Construction Loan Specialist for completion of construction.
SITE PREP SCHEDULING	<input type="checkbox"/> Signed purchase agreement, house floor plans and firm commitment must on file with homebuyer services and Infrastructure. <input type="checkbox"/> If 1 acre or more will be disturbed during site prep construction, a SWPP (Storm Water Protection Plan) must be completed by our contractor before any work can begin.
SERVICES PROVIDED BY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NEW HOMES	<input type="checkbox"/> For qualified EBCI enrolled members residing on trust land, Infrastructure provides: <input type="checkbox"/> Site Prep, Footers, Block Foundation, Block Underpinning, Vinyl Underpinning, Gutter System and Final Grade to prevent erosion.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tribal Realty
 Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913
 Kaila Cucumber: (828) 359-7442
 Renee Long-Cole: (828) 359-6971

Infrastructure Dept.
 Denny Ensley: (828) 359-6841
 Sarah Crowe: (828) 359-6121
 Nekyle Lossiah: (828) 359-6839
 Joel Queen: (828) 359-6844

Housing Services
 Michelle Stamper: (828) 359-6904
 Misty Milsaps: (828) 359-6919
 Tina Larch: (828) 359-6912

Timber Permits
 Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913



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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

MISSING

Zarate Aden

American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 5'4"-5'6" Weight: 95-105 lbs

Male Age: 13

Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown

Date of last contact: April 19, 2025

Last Known Location: Gresham, Oregon

Circumstances of Disappearance: Aden had a disagreement with his mother over a video game. A couple of hours later his mother woke up from a nap and Aden was gone from the residence. He has not been heard from since. His mother believes Aden might have gone to his aunt's residence in Portland, but it is unknown if Aden is with his aunt or is staying somewhere else in the area.

If you have seen or have information about Zarate Aden, contact Detective Larry Foulke, Gresham Police Department (503) 618-2318 .

Source: Namus.gov

No
Photo
Available

GWY ᏍᎦᏍᎦᏍᎦ ᏍᎦᏍᎦᏍᎦ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



Kituwah Global Government Group LLC has the following jobs available:

POSITION: Enterprise IT Operations Director

The Enterprise IT Operations Director oversees and directs the planning, budget, and day-to-day activities of an organization's enterprise information technology (IT) department, ensuring that systems, services, and infrastructure work reliably and securely. The Enterprise IT Operations Director will lead the IT team that develops and implements networks and servers, responds to user help desk requests, and monitors system stability and performance. The Enterprise IT Operations Director provides guidance and leadership to the enterprise IT department, also directly supports internal users by handling escalations, resolving user issues, and monitoring the performance of business-critical systems to prevent delays and outages and quickly resolve ongoing issues. Lead network security protocols, access controls, compliance audits, and incident investigations

POSITION: Infrastructure Technician- SCS & OSP

Serve as a team member and individual contributor to deliver ITS Infrastructure for voice, data, fiber, and video solutions on customer-facing projects and service requests. Support internal projects and service requests for technical services. Includes both inside and outside plant cabling.

Anyone interested should submit resumes, request job description and application to Kristin Smith at kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com or at the Kituwah G3 Office (Across the Street from Waffle House) between the hours of 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.



New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood perfect attendance for June

The following students and teachers at New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood, shown left to right, had perfect attendance for the month of June: back row - ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Tamara Sampson, ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Abigail Long, ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Carolina Oocumma, ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Lana Bradley, ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Donna Morgan; front row - ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Monett Garcia, ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Ava Lambert, ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Cameron Hemphill, ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Kuwaya Walkingstick, and ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Ayla Watson. Not pictured - ᵂᵂᵂᵂ-Michael Watson and ᵂᵂᵂᵂ - Dominic French. (Photo courtesy of New Kituwah Academy)



Cherokee Water distribution

Cherokee Water, a product of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is being loaded into a Pepsi truck for distribution on the morning of Wednesday, July 9 at the facility adjacent to the Ginger Lynn Welch Complex in Cherokee, N.C. This is a part of a new distribution deal between the two companies. (Photo by Pamela Sneed/EBCI director of enterprise development)

Gold at 4-H West District Activity Day

Hayleigh Bowman, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), received GOLD at the 4-H West District Activity Day held at A-B Technical Community College in Asheville, N.C., on Saturday, June 21. She competed in the Safety Category with a poster and hands-on demonstration about food safety and kitchen hygiene. Hayleigh created her presentation after participating in the Cherokee Kids Cook! Afterschool cooking club co-hosted by EBCI 4-H and Tribal Foods Distribution from March to



May 2025. A total of 667 4-H youth competed in District Activity Day events throughout the state, with 94 youth participating in the West district. This is the first time an EBCI student has placed at District Activity Day since 2022.

As a result of receiving district Gold Award status, Hayleigh will go on to compete at the NC 4-H State Presentation Finals to be held on the opening day of 4-H Congress at Enloe Magnet High School in Raleigh on July 21. Hayleigh is the daughter of Cassie Bowman and Raven Grant and the granddaughter of Buffy and Curtis Arneach. She is 11 years old, from Elawodi (Yellowhill), and is a rising 6th grader at Cherokee Elementary School.

Hayleigh is pictured receiving her award from West District Extension Director, Steve Duckett and 4-H State Council President, Nathan Croyle. (Contributed by Jessica Huskey, extension agent, 4-H Youth Development)

Elevated Native Basketball tourney

Jet Dugan Carroll, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, played at the 3rd Annual Elevated Native Basketball Tournament on July 5-6 at The HIVE Sports Complex in Edmond, Okla. Carroll, grandson of Jan Smith and son of Kyle Carroll, played as a free agent on Team Summit, a team made up of standout free agents from across Native communities. Team Summit finished with a 2-2 record and had three of its players recognized with "Player of the Game" honors during the tournament. Carroll's coach, Michael Gwin, praised his contributions, sharing on Facebook, "I had a great time coaching Jet at the 3rd Annual LWIII Elevated Native Basketball Tournament! Great kid that brought positive vibes to the team! We would love to have him back on the team next year!" (Photo contributed)





Judo winners

Three members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians traveled to Virginia Beach, Va. to compete in The Spartan Regional Judo Tournament recently. Jaxson Sequoyah placed first in 7/8 year old boys light and first in 7/8 year old boys medium. Addison Wildcatt placed first in 7/8 year old girls. Parker Kirkland placed first in 11/12 year old boys and first in 13/14 year old boys. The judo students attend both Smoky Mountain Judo Club in Cherokee and Waynesville Kodokan Judo Club in Waynesville. (Photo contributed)

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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:
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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

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



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