

FREE



Two CHS wrestlers qualify for state meet in Greensboro  
Pages 18-19

# GWY ᏆᏍᏆᏍᏆ ᏆᏍᏆᏍᏆᏆ

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of  
ka-ga-li (feb.) 18-24,  
2026

# Historical transfer

## Noquisiyi Mound deed transfer to EBCI to happen next week

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – According to officials from the Noquisi Initiative, their organization will transfer the deed to the Noquisiyi (formerly known as Nikwasi) Mound to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) early next week. The details are still being finalized.

The deed transfer got the springboard last month as the Franklin Town Council approved a

see TRANSFER page 4



The Noquisiyi Mound (formerly known as Nikwasi), in Franklin, N.C., is shown in this photo taken on the afternoon of Monday, Jan. 5. Several hours after the photo was taken, the Franklin Town Council approved a resolution that paves the way for the Mound's deed to be transferred to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Visit <https://theonefeather.com/links/>  
For cultural links, tourism links,  
and EBCI tribal program/entity links

# "IT'S TIME FOR GUTTER MAINTENANCE"

## 6 REASONS TO STAY ON TOP OF YOUR GUTTER MAINTENANCE

It certainly isn't the most fun weekend project, but it's an important one, nonetheless. While it's certainly easier to procrastinate cleaning out your gutters, there are several problems that can arise from debris building up. If the reality is that you're just not going to get out and do it, then it can be a good idea to call in a professional service to come in and make sure it gets done well.

People don't often stop and think of the issues that can arise from clogged gutters, but there are many. If water is not able to properly flow away from your house, then damage can result in several different locations, from your roofing to your foundation. There are number of reasons to make sure that your gutters get cleaned out.

Here is a list of some of those reasons.

### PREVENT EROSION & MOLD



### 1. Roof Damage

When leaves and other debris clog up your gutters to the point that water is flooding over, you can end up having issues with rot on your roofing. This is one of the main reasons that it's important to keep your gutters clean.

### 2. Wood Fascia Damage

If water backs up in your gutters, it becomes very heavy (8 lbs. per gallon) which can cause the gutter attachments to pull away from the wood fascia it is attached to and damaging the wood. Water spilling over the edges of gutters and onto the wood fascia boards will cause the wood to rot and weaken as well.

### 3. Damage to Walls, Windows, Doors and Patios

Water that spills over the gutter edges, falls onto walls, window frames, doors and whatever surface is below. These features of your home are not designed to have this much water contact. They count on your gutters and downspouts doing their job in order to last longer. Eventually this extra water contact will cause these features of your home to rot, warp and weaken.

### 4. Damage to Foundations and Landscaping

Your foundation supports the entire structure of your home. Excess water contact here can cause your foundation to leak, shift, and crack or even sink. Clean gutters and downspouts carry water away from your home and foundation to points where it can be easily absorbed into the ground or drainage system. Your landscaping also suffers when this excess water falls on trees, plants and flowers. It is simply the difference between watering plants with a garden hose vs watering with a fire hose. Too much water directed in one spot can be a bad thing.

### 5. Slip and fall

Again, with clogged gutters, water is falling in places you don't expect it to. This can lead to slippery situations where water is falling from the clogged gutters above onto a walkway, entry or driveway. Keeping gutters and downspouts clean keeps the water moving away from your home and walkways and helps keep your home as "slip-free" as possible.

### 6. Prevent Mold

"Moisture is the enemy," Damp and wet areas are prime locations for mold growth, which damages the structural integrity of the home.

Exposure to mold can also affect a family's health, from triggering asthma and coughs, to causing runny noses, and other, more severe respiratory conditions."



"DON'T TRIM YOUR GUTTERS"



"CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS"





## Tsalagi Gawonihisdi (Cherokee Language)

### WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Use the Cherokee word for your community this week.

Kolanvyi – Big Cove  
Widagalinidisgv – Big Y  
Tsisqwohi – Birdtown  
Tsalagi Gadugi – Cherokee County  
Aniwodihi – Painttown  
Tutiyi – Snowbird  
Usdi Tutiyi – Little Snowbird  
Wayohi – Wolfstown  
Elawodi – Yellowhill  
Tso Iyagayvli Tali Sgohits(v)  
Sgwa Itsutsiloda – 3200 Acre Tract  
Toledvyi – Towstring Community

GWY Ꮻᎃᎅ Ꮕᎆᎃᎅ  
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# GWY Ꮻᎃᎅ Ꮕᎆᎃᎅ

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*Please email all flyers and photos to us at:*

**Cherokeonefeather1966@gmail.com**

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

### Letters Policy

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

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

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

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

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**TRANSFER:** From front page

resolution paving the way for it to occur as they approved a resolution unanimously during its regular meeting at the Franklin Town Hall on Jan. 5, 2026.

The resolution states, “The Town Council of the Town of Franklin recognizes, honors, and celebrates the deep historical and shared cultural significance of Noquisiyi and the Mound.”

It continues, “The Town of Franklin held title to the real property of the Nikwasi Mound site from Oct. 7, 1946 until May 6, 2019, when it conveyed the site to Nikwasi Initiative, a North Carolina nonprofit formed for the express purpose of preservation of the site as required by N.C.G.S (North Carolina General Statute) 160A-266.”

The Noquisiyi Mound is a site sacred to the EBCI and was put on

the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, being listed there as Nequasee.

Elaine Eisenbraun, Noquisi Initiative executive director, told the One Feather, “Together with EBCI, Noquisi Initiative has been on a supreme journey to mend a broken circle and bring Noquisiyi Mound back to her family. The path has been winding, with legalities, social nuances, and partner relations to navigate. But sometimes when a view opens up to reveal the ultimate destination, a traveler can inhale that holistic sense of contentment that doesn’t fit into words - at least in English.”

She added, “Watching the Mound come home provides an absolute sense of completeness. Everyone at Noquisi Initiative feels it and offers the transfer back to you, all Cherokee people, with hope for peace, fulfillment, and closure for all Tsalagi, past, pres-

ent, and future.”

Bob McCollum, Noquisi Initiative board co-chair, opened comments at the meeting on Jan. 5 by stating, “80 years ago some of my relatives, some of your relatives, started this process and what I would like to see here tonight is a vote of good faith. Let’s close the loop on this. Let’s give this three-acre piece of property back to the people that should have it. And, set a gold standard here for other communities across the country that face similar things and don’t have a process, a guidepost, to go by if they want to do it. This community can be that and I look to each of you here tonight to help make that happen.”

Also that night, Angelina Jumper, an EBCI tribal member and Noquisi Initiative board member, told the Town Council, “What you all are discussing and voting on tonight is really, really import-

ant for us as Cherokee people. It’s amazing, and I’m almost speechless, that when we get land back that it means so much to us. But, particularly this site, Noquisiyi Mound.”

Information from the Noquisi Initiative states, “Noquisiyi means star place and was a Cherokee town situated in present-day Franklin, N.C. Though its exact age remains unknown, Noquisiyi appears on maps as early as 1544, and British colonial records first mention it by name in 1718. At the heart of Noquisiyi on the banks of the Little Tennessee River, the town’s meeting hall once towered over the landscape, built atop the mound which was formed by Cherokee women carrying baskets of soil to that location. Today, Noquisiyi Mound, the settlement’s only surviving landmark, rises as the gateway to Franklin.”

## Eagle Clinic

**Dr. Mahar:**  
(828)497-3476

**Dr. Houser:**  
(828)497-3727

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

**Dr. Winchester:**  
(828)497-3576

**Dr. Brown:**  
(828)497-3576

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

## Seven Clans Clinic

**Dr. Jones:**  
(828)497-3475

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

**Dr. Givens:**  
(828)497-3552

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

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

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

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

## Satellite Clinics

### Snowbird

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

### Cherokee County Clinic

**June Hensley**  
(FNP)828-837-4312

### DCC

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



**CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

## PRIMARY CARE PHONE NUMBERS

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

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

**EVERY APPOINTMENT MATTERS, SHOW UP FOR YOUR HEALTH**

EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS  
HOUSING DIVISION

# HOUSING LOTTERY



**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PREQUALIFICATIONS  
IS MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026, AT 4 PM.  
DRAWING WILL BE THURSDAY, MARCH 7,  
2026.**

SUBMIT AT CIHD ADMINISTRATION OFFICES LOCATED  
AT 687 ACQUONI ROAD, CHEROKEE, NC 28719

Beautiful 4 BR/2 BA home located in the Wolfetown Community  
on Long Branch. Includes Out Building!!



**SALES PRICE: \$350,000.00**

Must be  
prequalified  
through a bank  
or lending  
institution to be  
eligible.



Showings for pre-qualified borrowers may be  
scheduled for appointment by contacting Tina Larch-  
Rivera at 359-6912 or Misty Millsaps at 359-6919.

## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Appointments Available VITA

**February 2nd – April 15th**

**Open Monday-Thursday  
8:00AM – 4:30PM**

**Call (828)-359-6001 to  
schedule an appointment**



Appointments are available to everyone in the  
community at no cost. Located at the EBCI  
Cooperative Extension Office through the Volunteer  
Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.  
We will accept appointments or drop offs.

### Tax Prep Checklist

#### Everyone:

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

#### Income

- W-2s
- Pension/IRA/annuity income (1099-R)
- Social security/RRB income: SSA-1099, RRB-1099
- Interest, dividend income (1099-INT, 1099-OID, 1099-DIV)
- Income from sales of stock or other property (1099-B, 1099-S)
- Gambling income (W-2G)
- Any other 1099s received

\*If you are enrolled in GenWell you will not be issued a 1099

#### Health Insurance

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

#### Educational Expenses

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

#### Misc.

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

# EBCI tribal legislative updates

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The One Feather will now provide regular legislative updates on various pieces of legislation of the Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). The focus will be on ordinances that change Cherokee Code, but sometimes resolutions of importance to the operation of the tribal government will also be included. The legislation is shown in the order in which they were introduced following the new ones for the week.

## New Ordinances

**Ord. No. 107 (2026)** – This ordinance seeks to amend several portions of Cherokee Code regarding the filing and publishing of ethics reports generated by the EBCI Office of Internal Audit and Ethics.

The whereas section of the legislation states, “These laws were written broadly and, in their current form, sometimes allow a person to file a complaint based on allegations that are false or cannot be substantiated; and these laws have resulted in the publication of reports even when the Office of Internal Audit and Ethics has found that the person against whom the complaint was made did not violate the Code of Ethics, and the publication causes unfair and damaging publicity for the person who did no wrong.”

Following are some of the changes sought in this ordinance:

- Amend Cherokee Code Sec. 96-6(a) to change the time “any covered employee who believes that he or she has been subject to prohibited discrimination found in Cherokee Code Section 96-5” from 180 calendar days to 30 calendar days.
- Amend Cherokee Code Sec. 117-45.1(a)(1) regarding the definition of “Tribal Official” as it relates to appointed positions.
- Amend Cherokee Code Sec. 117-45.3(k) regarding reporting of gifts and donations by tribal officials. Right now, the Code reads, “Tribal officials shall report to the Office of Internal Audit and Ethics, in accordance with that office’s rules of procedure, any gift, donation, or contribution received or provided by the tribal official.” The ordinance seeks to amend that line to insert “in excess of \$200 in value” after the word contribution.
- Amend several parts of Cherokee Code Sec. 117-107 regarding reports from both audits and investigations adding that the reports where a violation was found would be distributed. It also seeks to eliminate most of Sec. 117-107(c) regarding the handling of the reports and submission of them to the One Feather for publishing. First off, that subsection would be renamed from Public records to Referral for prosecution. Three entire subsections would be deleted regarding the reports being sent to the Office of the Attorney General for any redactions and then sent to the One Feather for publication. Those processes would be amended, and Sec. 117-107(c) would simply read, “Completed the final audit reports and investigative reports issued by the Office of Internal Audit and Ethics which

conclude a violation of the Code of Ethics occurred shall be forward to the Tribal Prosecutor for potential criminal investigation and prosecution.”

Introduced: This ordinance, submitted by EBCI Attorney General Michael McConnell, was deemed read and tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026.

Action: There is no action on this ordinance yet.

**Ord. No. 108 (2026)** – This ordinance, which has been deemed the William Thomas “Dooley” Saunooke law, would amend Cherokee Code Sec. 113-4 to codify the actions of fishing guides and add an entire section under Sec. 113-4 entitled Fishing guides. That section sets up a licensing process for fishing guides which is defined in the proposed ordinance “as someone who provides knowledge, instruction, or assistance to an angler during a fishing trip for payment or other remuneration from or on behalf of the angler. This term does not include fishing instructors acting on behalf of Cherokee Central Schools or the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.”

Introduced: This ordinance, submitted by Dinilawigi Gahvsgi (Tribal Council Chairman) Jim Owle and Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Rep. Boyd Owle, was deemed read and tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026. Action: There is no action on this ordinance yet.

**Ord. No. 110 (2026)** – This ordinance seeks to amend Cherokee Code Chapter 40 (Eminent Domain) regarding condemnation of land for public purpose, compensation of land holder, and determi-

nation of land value.

One part of this ordinance seeks to amend Cherokee Code Sec. 40-1 which now reads, “The Tribe shall have power to condemn land within the Cherokee Indian Reservation whenever such land is deemed by the Tribal Council to be necessary for a public purpose. The exercise of eminent domain shall be initiated by the Tribal Council passing a resolution identifying the land to be taken for a public purpose, the possessory holder and leasehold tenants and the purpose for which the land will be used.”

The ordinance seeks to add the following sentence to the end of the above section, “Eminent domain shall also include inverse condemnation of a possessory holding that may have occurred by any action of the Tribe that restricts, hinders, or otherwise interferes with a possessory holder’s access to or use of a possessory holding.”

Introduced: This ordinance, submitted by Robert Osley Saunooke, was deemed read and tabled during the Dinilawigi regular session on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026. Action: There is no action on this ordinance yet.

**Ord. No. 111 (2026)** – This ordinance seeks to amend Cherokee Code Chapter 1 (Civil Procedure). The whereas section states, “Tribal Council has the power and authority to amend the laws of the Tribe to provide a means for recovering damages for the negligent actions of the Tribe, its agents and employees; and since the Supreme Court decision in Campos (Cherokee Supreme Court, Campos vs Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, August 2024), the Tribe has continued to maintain and pay for

insurance policies to cover negligent actions of the Tribe, its agents and employees, even though said policies are now invalidated by the Supreme Court decision; and the Tribe has continually maintained and promoted the responsibility for covering damages arising from the negligent and bad actions of the Tribe, its agents and employees, and there is now no mechanism in place that would prevent innocent victims of negligent or bad actions of the Tribe.”

Introduced: This ordinance, submitted by Robert Osley Saunooke, was deemed read and tabled during the Dinilawigi regular session on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026. Action: There is no action on this ordinance yet.

**Ord. No. 112 (2026)** – This ordinance seeks to amend Cherokee Code Chapter 117 “to provide for the distribution of certain revenues from Qualla Enterprises, LLC to the Tribe and tribal members”.

The whereas section of this ordinance states in part, “In Res. No. 576 (2025), the Tribe and Qualla Enterprises agreed to reshape their financial relationship, in part to provide that a portion of Qualla Enterprises’ net revenue should be paid to the Tribe for distributions to tribal members; and Qualla Enterprises has sufficient revenue to support making distributions to tribal members.”

This ordinance seeks to add Article VIII to the Cherokee Code entitled Cannabis Revenue Allocation Plan. The proposed changes are outlined in Sec. 17-100 (Purpose) which states in subsection (a), “The purpose of this article is to provide a system by which certain revenues distributed by a Qualified Cannabis Company to

the Tribe may, in turn, be distributed by the Tribe to its enrolled members. This article provides parameters for such distributions so that the distributions may be made as per capita or general welfare (GenWell) distributions, in a manner similar to how the Tribe distributes revenues to enrolled members under Cherokee Code Chapter 16C...”

Proposed Sec. 17-106 (Distribution to members) states in subsection (a), “Semi-annual distribution. Distributions of cannabis revenues provided to the Tribe by a Qualified Cannabis Company shall be made two times each year to all competent adult members eligible for the distribution as set forth in this Article. Likewise, an appropriate share shall be set aside twice each year in the Cannabis Trust Fund on behalf of minor and incompetent enrolled members.”

Introduced: This ordinance, submitted by Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks, was deemed read and tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Feb. 5.

Action: There is no action on this ordinance yet.

### Legislation we’re currently watching

**Ord. No. 6 (2025).** This ordinance seeks to amend Chapter 7 (Judicial Code) of the Cherokee Code. The whereas section states that section “should be amended to clarify and add provisions controlling matters such as the structure and operation of the courts, the roles and powers of the judicial officers, and the procedures ensuring independent and impartial judicial officers”.

Introduced: This ordinance, sub-

mitted by Cherokee Chief Justice Bradley Letts, was deemed read and tabled during Annual Dinilawigi on Monday, Oct. 13, 2025.

Action: A work session was held on this ordinance on Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025. This ordinance was re-tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025. This ordinance was re-tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026. This ordinance was re-tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026. A work session is planned for Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 1 p.m.

**Ord. No. 11 (2025).** This ordinance seeks to amend Chapter 113G of the Cherokee Code regarding underground storage tanks. The whereas section states, “Regulation of USTs (underground storage tanks) is an important topic because they often serve as holding containers for gasoline and petroleum products, which can cause environmental damage if leaked into the ground or into a water source; and updating regulation is also important because doing so is needed to maintain the Tribe’s Memorandum of Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through which UST owners and operators have access to North Carolina’s Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund.”

Introduced: This ordinance, submitted by Michael LaVoie on behalf of the EBCI Natural Resources Dept., was deemed read and tabled during Annual Dinilawigi on Monday, Oct. 13, 2025.

Action: A work session was held on this ordinance on Monday, Nov. 10, 2025. This ordinance was re-tabled during the Dinilawigi

session on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025. This ordinance was re-tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026. This ordinance was re-tabled during the Dinilawigi session on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026.



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. What controversial baseball diary, first published in 1970, is pitcher Jim Bouton’s account of his 1969 season with the Seattle Pilots and the Houston Astros?

2. In 2017, UCLA basketball players LiAngelo Ball, Jalen Hill and Cody Riley were arrested and detained after they were accused of shoplifting sunglasses from a Louis Vuitton store in what country?

3. What former NFL wide receiver served as host of the CBS revival of the game show “Hollywood Squares” beginning in 2025?

4. For which team did U.S. Olympic speed skater Brittany Bowe play college basketball from 2006 to 2010?

5. Before earning Super Bowl XXII MVP honors with Washington, Doug Williams played quarterback for what NFL team from 1978 to 1982?

6. What term rose from British folklore to describe a sports tournament format in which every participant plays against every other participant?

7. What style of skiing, named after the region of Norway where it originated, uses toe-only bindings on downhill skis to perform turns with one ski forward and the other ski trailing?

### Answers

1. “Ball Four: My Life and Hard Times Throwing the Knuckleball in the Big Leagues.”

2. China.

3. Nate Burleson.

4. The Florida Atlantic Owls.

5. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

6. Round robin.

7. Telemark skiing.

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# 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.

## New this week

**S. 3767 (A bill to establish Assistant Secretary for Indian Health).** This Senate bill would “amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health”.

Introduced: Feb. 3, 2026 by Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.)  
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Feb. 3, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 7325 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act of 2026).** This House bill would establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies “to formally investigate, document, and report on the histories of Indian Boarding Schools, Indian Boarding School Policies, and the systematic and long-term effects of those schools and policies on Native American people”. If passed, an initial Commission Report would be required within four years and annual reports would be required from that point on.

Introduced: Feb. 3, 2026 by Re. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)  
Action: This House bill was referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Committee on Education and Workforce on Feb. 3, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

## 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, 2025 by Rep. Charles J. “Chuck” Fleischmann (R-Tenn.)  
Action: This bill was passed in the House by a voice vote on Feb. 4, 2025. 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.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, 2025 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, 2025. It was reported without amendment by Sen. Murkowski (R-Alaska), Senate Committee on Indian Affairs chairperson, on July 31, 2025. That same day, it was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders (Calendar No. 139).

**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, 2025 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 on March 27, 2025. 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, 2025 by Rep. Donald G. Davis (D-N.C.)  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 17, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 3255. (Grand River 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, 2025 by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.)  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 7, 2025. 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, 2025 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, 2025, and a hearing was held in that subcommittee on June 10, 2025.

**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, 2025 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 on Jun 11, 2025. 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 on June 12, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**S.2160 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025).** 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 on June 25, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 4276 (To amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience**

**Act).** According to congress.gov, this bill amends the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act “to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations”.

Introduced: July 2, 2025 by Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawai’i)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources as well as the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on July 2, 2025. This bill was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, and a hearing was held in that Subcommittee on Nov. 19, 2025.

**S.2211 (Special Diabetes Program Reauthorization Act of 2025).** This Senate bill seeks to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. For both programs, it seeks funding in the amount of \$160,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

Introduced: July 8, 2025 by Sen. Susan M. Collins (R-Maine)

Action: This will was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on July 8, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 4463 (To amend the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993).** The text of the legislation states, “Subsection (d) of section 7 of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–116), is amended by striking ‘; however, in no event may an individual be enrolled as a tribal member unless the individual is a lineal descendant of a person

on the final base membership roll and has continued to maintain political relations with the Tribe.’”  
Introduced: July 16, 2025 by Rep. Ralph Norman (R-S.C.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 16. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on Sept. 4, 2025, and a hearing was held on this legislation in the subcommittee on Sept. 9, 2025. A Committee on Natural Resources markup was held on Wednesday, Feb. 11.

**H.R. 4596 (McCarren-Walter Technical Corrections Act).**

According to the bill’s text, this legislation would “amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the right of members of federally recognized Indian Tribes in the United States and First Nations individuals in Canada to cross the borders of the United States”.  
Introduced: July 22, 2025 by Rep. Timothy M. Kennedy (D-New York)  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 22, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 4750 (To extend federal recognition to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia).** This House bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.  
Introduced: July 23, 2025 by Rep. Eugene Simon Vindman (D-Va.)  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 23, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 4712 (Parity for Tribal**

**Law Enforcement Act).** According to the legislation text, this House bill would “amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes”.

Introduced: July 23, 2025 by Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-Wash.)

Action: This bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary as well as the Committee on Natural Resources on July 23, 2025. There are no hearings scheduled for this bill in either committee as of press time.

**S.2452 (Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act).** According to the legislation text, this Senate bill would “amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes”. This bill is identical to H.R. 4712.

Introduced: July 24, 2025 by Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.)

Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 24, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**S.2564 (Tribal Gaming Regulatory Compliance Act).** The opening text of the bill states it is “to ensure all federally recognized Tribes that are eligible for gaming in the United States are regulated under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act”.

It specifically seeks to amend Public Law 100-89 (Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act). Section 3 of the bill states, “This Act shall be construed to ensure the full applicability of the

see LEGISLATIVE next page

**LEGISLATIVE:** From page 9

Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701) to gaming activities on Indian lands of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Indian lands of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe.”

Introduced: July 31, 2025 by Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 31, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

### **S.2577 (McCarran-Walter Technical Corrections Act).**

This Senate bill, according to its text, would “amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the right of members of a federally recognized Indian Tribe in the United States and First Nations individuals in Canada to cross the borders of the United States”. This bill is identical to H.R. 4596.

Introduced: July 31, 2025 by Sen. Steve Daines (R-Mont.)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on July 31, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

### **House Resolution 666 (Supporting the goals of Overdose Awareness Day and strengthening efforts to combat the opioid crisis in the United States).**

This House resolution states in part, “Substance use disorder and drug overdose affect all socioeconomic groups, racial and ethnic groups, geographical regions, and ages; and Black and American Indian or Alaskan Native populations are more likely to die from a drug overdose than their White counterparts”.

The resolution continues, “The House of Representatives (1) rec-

ognizes Overdose Awareness Day (reporter’s note – it is usually Aug. 31, but a specific date is not listed in the resolution) in the United States; (2) commits to advancing the passing bipartisan policies that reduce the stigma surrounding substance use disorders and overdoses; and is dedicated to collaborating with states, localities, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, health care providers, patients, and families to support a comprehensive system that promotes prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery from opioid use disorder.”

Introduced: Aug. 29, 2025 by Rep. Lori Trahan (D-Mass.)

Action: This resolution was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Aug. 29, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this resolution as of press time.

### **H.R. 5144 {Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County, Virginia Federal Recognition Act}.**

This House bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.

Introduced: Sept. 4, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer A. Kiggans (R-Va.)

Action: The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 4, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 5257 (To reaffirm the trust status of land taken into trust).** The full title of the bill states “To reaffirm the trust status of land taken into trust by the United States pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1934, for the benefit of an Indian Tribe that was federally

recognized on the date that the land was taken into trust”.

Introduced: Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okl.) on Sept. 10, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 10, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 5327 (To extend federal recognition to the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia).** This House bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.

Introduced: Rep. Jennifer L. McClellan (D-Va.) on Sept. 11, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 11, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

### **S. 2832 (Native American Entrepreneurial and Opportunity Act of 2025).**

This bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration.

Introduced: Sen. John W. Hickenlooper (D-Colo.) on Sept. 17, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on Sept. 17, 2025.

**H.R. 5488 (To extend funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians).** This bill would amend Title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. It would approve “\$160,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to remain available until expended”.

Introduced: Rep. Paul Ruiz (D-Calif.) on Sept. 18, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Sept. 18, 2025.

**H.R. 5739 (Italian Heroes and Heritage Act).** This House bill would, according to the legislation, “prohibit federal funds from being provided to any state or local government that celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day instead of Columbus Day”. Section 2(a)(1) of this bill states, “Christopher Columbus set sail 533 years ago in 1492 to bravely cross the Atlantic Ocean and discovered new land that would soon after become known as America.”

Section 2(b) states, “It is the sense of Congress that Oct. 13 should continue to be celebrated nationwide as Christopher Columbus Day, as it has been since 1892, to honor our Italian-American heritage and our forefather, Christopher Columbus, who helped to discover this great land.”

Introduced: Rep. Michael A. Rulli (R-Ohio) on Oct. 10, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on Oct. 10, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**S. Res. 450. (A resolution expressing support for the designation of the second Monday in October 2025 as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” to celebrate and honor Indigenous Peoples and their shared history and culture).** The resolution states, “Columbus Day does not currently provide an opportunity to reflect on the stories and perseverance of the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that are now part of the United States; and where, prior to western contact,

Indigenous Peoples lived and flourished in the lands that are now part of the United States for thousands of years”.

Introduced: Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) on Oct. 14, 2025

Action: This resolution was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Oct. 14, 2025.

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

**H.R. Res. 809 (A resolution expressing support for the designation of the second Monday in October 2025 as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” to celebrate and honor Indigenous Peoples and their shared history and culture).** This House resolution is identical to S. Res. 450 (above).

Introduced: Rep. Norma J. Torres (D-Calif) on Oct. 14, 2025

Action: This resolution was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 14, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**S.3041 (Tribal Warrant Fairness Act).** This Senate bill would “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain tribal criminal matters”.

Introduced: Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) on Oct. 23, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Oct. 23, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 5820 (Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe Recognition Act).** This House bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe of California and Nevada, a group

based in Lee Vining, Calif.

Introduced: Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Calif.) on Oct. 24, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 24, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 5869 (Tribal Water Infrastructure Grants Expansion Act).** This House bill would “amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to assistance for Indian Tribes”. According to the bill, “In addition to amounts otherwise made available under Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, there is authorized to be appropriated \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031 to make grants, in cooperation with the Director of the Indian Health Service...for (A) projects and activities eligible for assistance under 603(c) of such Act; and (B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs related to the operation and management of treatment works eligible for assistance...”

Introduced: Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-Fla.) on Oct. 28, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on Oct. 28, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 5910 (To authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian Tribes).** As stated in the title, this House bill would amend 69 Stat. 539, Chapter 615, 25 U.S.C. 514(a) to authorize such leases.

Introduced: Rep. Harriet M. Hageman (R-Wyo.) on Nov. 4, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 4, 2025. A Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session was held on Dec. 17, 2025, and the bill was reported and placed on the Union Calendar by the Committee on Jan. 14, 2026.

**S. 3236 (A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008).** This is a “bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to ensure Tribal consultation and representation under the food distribution program on Indian reservations”.

Introduced: Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) on Nov. 20, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on Nov. 20, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 6285 (To amend the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Culture and Art Development Act).** The full text of this bill has not been made public yet.

Introduced: Rep. Jill N. Tokuda (D-Hawai’i) on Nov. 21, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce on Nov. 21, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 6206 (Protect Culturally Sensitive Information Act).** According to the bill, the purposes are,

“(1) to protect the confidentiality of culturally sensitive information provided by Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, and Native Hawaiian Organizations to the federal government;

(2) to create a safe, respectful space for consultation between the federal government and Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, and Native Hawaiian Organizations that encourages a free-flowing exchange of information and ideas;

(3) to build trust, strengthen relationships, and expand opportunities for costewardship between the federal government and Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, and Native Hawaiian Organizations by ensuring that culturally sensitive information provided to the federal government will be protected to the maximum extent possible;

(4) to advance repatriation of cultural items, including human remains, under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA); and

(5) to strengthen support for the policy of the United States of protecting and preserving traditional, cultural, and ceremonial rites and practices in accordance with Public Law 95-341 (commonly known as the American Indian Religious Freedom Act).

Introduced: Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-N.M.) on Nov. 20, 2025

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 20, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings 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>



Museum of the Cherokee People

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### Trail at Whitewater Landing

The trail around Whitewater Landing, off of Whitewater Dr. in Cherokee, N.C., is being paved with concrete. You can see the progress in this photo taken on the afternoon of Friday, Feb. 13, 2026. The project opened in August 2025, and Sean Ross, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians secretary of commerce, spoke during the opening of the ongoing improvements that will occur at the site. At that time, he noted, "This is something that we can continue to build on, continue to develop, and continue to be proud of within your vision." (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



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Macie Bishop, *Altered Rebar*, 2025, ground rebar, steel wire, fabric, 27 x 29 x 31 inches. Image courtesy of the artist. ©Macie Bishop.



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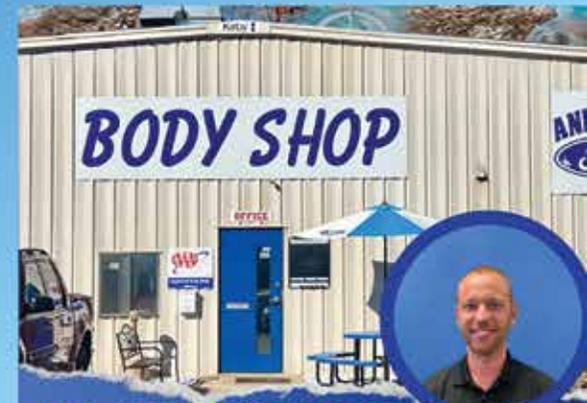
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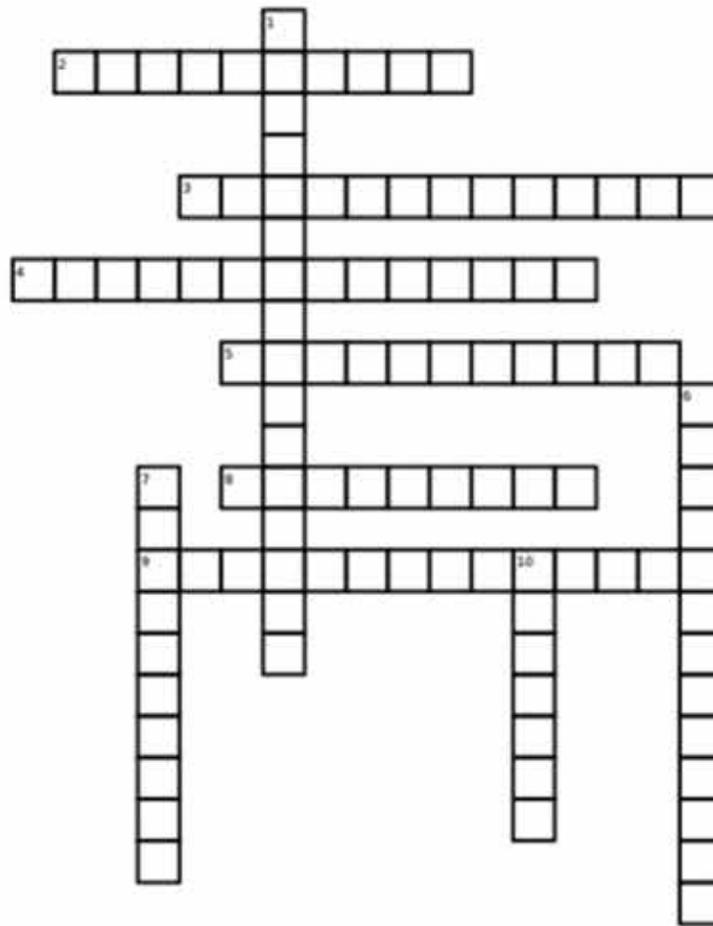
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## Down:

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6. Second Longest Serving Principal Chief and Former Tribal Finance Director
7. Namesake of the Tribal EMS building
10. Civil War Veteran, oversaw approval of EBCI Charter by the NC General Assembly

## Across:

2. Served as Chief when Qualla Boundary was placed in Federal Trust
3. Longest Serving Principal Chief
4. 1st Elected Principal Chief of the EBCI
5. First & Only Female Principal Chief
8. Cherokee word for Principal Chief
9. Pro Wrestling Star Turned Principal Chief





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**CIPD Arrest Report for  
Feb. 2-8, 2026**

*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 at theonefeather.com.*

Bradley, Kyren Jade – age 22  
Arrested: Feb. 2  
Released: Feb. 2  
Charges: Disorderly Conduct

Panther, James Marlon – age 44  
Arrested: Feb. 2  
Released: Feb. 6

Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance

Figueroa, Pedro Marvin – age 21  
Arrested: Feb. 3  
Released: Feb. 5  
Charges: Aggravated Weapons Offense; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

George, Charles Edward – age 50  
Arrested: Feb. 4  
Released: Feb. 6  
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance, Pre-Trial Release Violation

Gonzalez, Jacinta Hope – age 37  
Arrested: Feb. 4  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 9)  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Failure to Obey a

Lawful Order of the Court, Violation of Domestic Violence Protection Order

Wilnoty, Thomas Zane – age 31  
Arrested: Feb. 4  
Released: Feb. 5  
Charges: Second Degree Trespass

Climbingbear Jr., Henderson – age 77  
Arrested: Feb. 5  
Released: Feb. 5  
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

George, Shonica Raylene – age 43  
Arrested: Feb. 5  
Released: Feb. 6  
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedules I-V

McCoy, John Herbert – age 72  
Arrested: Feb. 5  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 9)  
Charges: Failure to Comply with Pre-Trial Release

Squirrel, Gabrielle Alexis – age 27  
Arrested: Feb. 5  
Released: Feb. 5  
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers; Filing a False Emergency Report

Tomas, Kelby Weldon – age 24  
Arrested: Feb. 5  
Released: Feb. 8  
Charges: Breaking and Entering; Domestic Violence and Dating Violence; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Welch Jr., James McKinley – age 44  
Arrested: Feb. 5  
Released: Feb. 6  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Bernhisel, Chad Lopez – age 38

Arrested: Feb. 6  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 9)  
Charges: Second Degree Trespass (two counts), Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court (two counts)

Massingale, Brandon Alan – age 26  
Arrested: Feb. 6  
Released: Feb. 6  
Charges: Temporary Hold

Watty, Lindsey Calhoun – age 42  
Arrested: Feb. 6  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 9)  
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

George, Kellen Michael – age 26  
Arrested: Feb. 8  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 9)  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Second Degree Child Abuse, Assault by Strangulation

Ross, James Paul – age 34  
Arrested: Feb. 8  
Released: Feb. 8  
Charges: Temporary Hold for Other County

Squirrel, Gavin Blake – age 26  
Arrested: Feb. 8  
Released: Feb. 8  
Charges: Public Intoxication

Watty, Stephan Eugene – age 38  
Arrested: Feb. 8  
Released: Not released as of report date (Feb. 9)  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers; Child Abuse in the Second Degree

**Tsalagi Gawonihisdi**  
*(Cherokee Language)*  
**WEEKLY CHALLENGE**

---

Use the Cherokee word for your community this week.

Kolanvyi – Big Cove  
Widagalinidigv – Big Y  
Tsisqwohi – Birdtown  
Tsalagi Gadugi – Cherokee County  
Aniwodihi – Painttown  
Tutiya – Snowbird  
Usdi Tutiya – Little Snowbird  
Wayohi – Wolfstown  
Elawodi – Yellowhill  
Tso Iyagayvli Tali Sgohits(v)  
Sgwa Itsutsiloda – 3200 Acre Tract  
Toledvyi – Towstring Community

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## WRESTLING

# Cherokee H.S. competes at regional meets; two wrestlers qualify for state

One Feather Staff Report

The Cherokee High School (CHS) men's and women's wrestling teams competed in two separate regional events this past week, and two CHS wrestlers have qualified for the upcoming state meet scheduled for Feb. 19-21 at the First Horizon Coliseum in Greensboro, N.C.

The Cherokee High School women's wrestling team competed in the 1A-4A Wrestling Regional Championship held at Mount Pleasant High School in Mount Pleasant, N.C. on Wednesday, Feb. 11. The team took fourth place overall out of 30 teams and Pippa Welch qualified for the state meet by winning the regional title in the 152 lb. division.

The Cherokee High School men's wrestling team competed in the 1A/2A Regional meet at North Rowan High School in Spencer, N.C. on Friday, Feb. 13 and Saturday, Feb. 14. Levi Tramper qualified for state by placing fourth in the regional 285 lb. division.

Todd Odom, Cherokee High School head wrestling coach, noted, "I'm super proud of the Cherokee Wrestling Program. Both of our teams got exposed to what good looks like this year. Several of our kids wrestled 40+ matches and we chased great competition all season. We couldn't be happier with the progress from where we started to where we are today."

He added, "To have two of



Pippa Welch, center, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a member of the Cherokee High School women's wrestling team, won the 1A-4A Western Regional championship in the 152 lb. division at the regional meet held at Mount Pleasant High School in Mount Pleasant, N.C. on Wednesday, Feb. 11. She is shown with Natalie Aiella (Thomas Jefferson) who placed second and Cristal Pena (Fred T. Foard) who placed third. (Photo courtesy of CHS Wrestling Program)

our athletes represent us at the state tournament is an awesome accomplishment. Pippa and Levi have worked towards that goal all season and will have their shot at a state title next week. The outpouring of support from our community has been nothing short of incredible and we want to say a big Sgi for traveling and watching us online! We hope to see all of the Braves Wrestling Nation in

Greensboro!"

Women's results, per trackwrestling.com, are as follows:  
Teams: 1 – Swain Co. 107.5, 2 – Robbinsville 87, 3 – West Stanly 82.5, 4 – Cherokee 68.5

114PT: 1 – Emma Ashby (Mount Pleasant), 2 – Taylor Hefner (Newton-Conover)

100: 1 – Yaleen Khang (Maiden),

2 – Kaylin Foster (Bandys), Sayler Chappell (East Surry), Jany Echeverria (Swain Co.)

107: 1 - Jenevy Olalde (Mount Airy), 2 – Mia Roberson (East Henderson), 3 – Chloe Kent (Swain Co.), 4 – Taylor Baker (Patton)

114: 1 – Mary Huneycutt (South Stanly), 2 – Mia Parker (Forbush),

3 – Jada Parrish (West Davidson),  
4 – Lyla Burns (Burns)

120: 1 - Bailey Nimer (Mount Pleasant), 2 – Clair Ball (Swain Co.), 3 – Emma Grey Dorset (North Surry), 4 – Mayle Willard (Forbush)

126: 1 – Katelyn Kiker (West Stanly), 2 – Bella Pethel (Bradford Prep), 3 – Zia Brown (Brevard), 4 – Madison Mashburn (Swain Co.)

132: 1 – Cheyenne Bramhall (West Stanly), 2 – Malie Turne (Brevard), 3 – Alexis El-khouri (Robbinsville), 4 – Abigail Martinez (Newton-Conover)

138: 1 – Moriah Antis (Bradford Prep), 2 – Destiny Fidel (East Rutherford), 3 – Lily Flores (Avery Co.), 4 – Mattie Mains (Hendersonville)

145: 1 – Nola Walker (Newton-Conover), 2 – Shelby Kleinknecht (Hendersonville), 3 – Myah Winfrey (Robbinsville), 4 – Mayson Hyder (East Henderson)

152: 1 – Pippa Welch (Cherokee), 2 – Natalie Aiella (Thomas Jefferson), 3 – Cristal Pena (Fred T. Foard), 4 – Makayla Hunt (Swain Co.)

165: 1 – Kaylah Evans (Bandys), 2 – Shya Watson (West Caldwell), 3 – Felicity Hereim (West Stanly), 4 – Anna McFarling (Hendersonville)

185: 1 – Savada Kitchen (Brevard), 2 – Raelyn Brummels (West Davidson), 3 – Ashlynn Spivey (Rosman), 4 – Faith Duncan (Union Academy)

235: 1 – Kimberly Talton (Madison), 2 – Abbi Stout (East Wilkes), 3 – Emily Jones (West Caldwell), 4 – Shayla Dominguez (Robbinsville)

Men's results, per trackwrestling.com, are as follows:

Team Scores: 1 - Robbinsville 226.5, 2 - East Wilkes 158, 3 - Alleghany 145.5, 4 - Avery County 111.5, 5 - Bradford Prep 110.5, 6 - Hayesville 104, 7 - Starmount 78, 8 - Thomas Jefferson 75, 9 - Mitchell 73.5, 10 - Mountain Island Charter 73, 11 - Murphy 63, 12 - South Stokes 57, 13 - Rosman 47, 14 - Cherokee 39, 14 - Elkin 39, 14 - Swain County 39, 17 - Cherryville 30.5, 18 - Christ the King 24, 19 - North Rowan 22.5, 20 - Andrews 18.5, 21 - Corvian 13, 22 - North Stokes 8, 23 - Bonnie Cone 7

106: 1 - Ryan Johnson (Moun-

tain Island Charter), 2 - Jon Fritz (Avery County), 3 - Wyatt Tilley (South Stokes), 4 - Weston Adams (Murphy)

113: 1 - Alexandero Ical (Avery County), 2 - Sullivan Cunningham (Swain County), 3 - Josue Welsh (Mountain Island Charter), 4 - Dean Huffstetler (Bradford Prep)

120: 1 - Adair Panama (Robbinsville), 2 - Gage Neal (Starmount), 3 - Skylor Dickens (East Wilkes), 4 - Ethan Gomez (Thomas Jefferson)

126: 1 - Bryson McFalls (Mitchell), 2 - Christopher Nuevo (Alleghany), 3 - Ayden Conley (Robbinsville), 4 - Jeshua Fuentes (East Wilkes)

132: 1 - Christopher Settle (East Wilkes), 2 - Zander Lucksavage (Robbinsville), 3 - Erris Crone (Mitchell), 4 - Sawyer Scott (South Stokes)

138: 1 - Loxston Hooper (Robbinsville), 2 - Brandon Orduna (Alleghany), 3 - Colten Vestal (East Wilkes), 4 - Chris Pometto (Elkin)

144: 1 - Devin Hall (Robbinsville), 2 - Collin White (East Wilkes), 3 - Evan Burks (Hayesville), 4 - Kobe Mashburn (Swain County)

150: 1 - Lleyton Hooper (Robbinsville), 2 - Kade Parlier (Alleghany), 3 - Ryan Kinter (Thomas Jefferson), 4 - Hayden Hunt (Hayesville)

157: 1 - Michael Mauro (Bradford Prep), 2 - Bobby Moore (Robbinsville), 3 - Wesley Willey (East Wilkes), 4 - Enrique Lopez (Elkin)

165: 1 - Alexis Nuevo (Alleghany), 2 - Jerimiah Phillips (Robbinsville), 3 - Anthony Catuto (Murphy), 4 - Collin Crater (Starmount)

175: 1 - Brodie Wright (Starmount), 2 - Billy Oh (Thomas Jefferson), 3 - Linking Vanrijsewijk (South Stokes), 4 - Jamal Gilliam (Bradford Prep)

190: 1 - Reuben Zufall (Bradford Prep), 2 - Brayden Lane (Robbinsville), 3 - Lee Birchfield (Rosman), 4 - Triston Phillips (Mitchell)

215: 1 - Christian Koeller (Robbinsville), 2 - Ayden Guessford (East Wilkes), 3 - Maverick Mora (Avery County), 4 - Hayden Virtanen (Andrews)

285: 1 - Rayland Martinez (Hayesville), 2 - Jerry Joines (Alleghany), 3 - Connor Brewer (Avery County), 4 - Thomas (Levi) Tramer (Cherokee)

The EBCI Tribal Member Information Portal

*Preregistration required.*

<http://wayvsdodi.ebci.gov>

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



<<  
**STATE CHAMPION**  
 Dvdaya Swimmer, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a member of the Cherokee High School indoor track team, won the state championship in the 3200M Run at the 1A/2A NCHSAA Indoor Track Championships. She won with a time of 11:26.98 at the meet held at the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, N.C., on the morning of Wednesday, Feb. 11. She also took second place in the 1600M Run with a time of 5:11.40. (Photo contributed)



<<  
**STATE CHAMPION**  
 Joscelyn Stamper, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a member of the Cherokee High School indoor track team, won the state championship in shot put at the 1A/2A NCHSAA Indoor Track Championships. She won with a throw of 36-7 at the meet held at the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, N.C., on the morning of Wednesday, Feb. 11. (Photo contributed)

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### NASA Champions - women's legends division

The Qualla Boundary Boiz, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, won the women's legends division in the NASA basketball tournament held in Cherokee, N.C., on Saturday, Feb. 14. The team is shown, left to right, Brianna Bell, Sheena Bark, Osh Stephens, Miranda Stamper, Karina Bottchenbaugh, Laura Blythe, Emra Arkansas, and Keyonna Hornbuckle. (not pictured Shannon Bark and Chelsea Taylor) (Photo contributed)



### NASA Champions - women's trailblazer division

Qualla Boundary, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, won the women's trailblazers division in the NASA basketball tournament held in Cherokee, N.C., on Saturday, Feb. 14. They are shown, left to right, Loretta Bolden, Sonya Lossiah, Lori Reed, Angela Squirrel, Sweet Junaluska, Lou Jackson, Nikki Crisp, and Carolyn West. Not pictured - Jan Smith and Mag Teesateskie. (Photo courtesy of Jan Smith)



### NASA Champions - women's 18+ division

The Ankle Breakers, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, won the women's 18+ division in the NASA basketball tournament held in Cherokee, N.C., on Saturday, Feb. 14. The team is shown, left to right, Amy Teesateskie, Vivian Ross, Whitney Rogers, Coach Jamie Lossiah, Meli Jackson, Meona Feather, Kelsey Jackson, Rachel Bruneel, Rhyan Girty, Lele Lossiah, Raylen Bark, Vanessa John, and Keyonna Hornbuckle (not pictured). (Photo contributed)



### NASA Champions - men's trailblazers division

The Forgotten Warriors, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, won the men's trailblazers division in the NASA basketball tournament held in Cherokee, N.C., on Saturday, Feb. 14. The team is shown, left to right, Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks, Dinilawigi Taline Gahvsgi (Tribal Council Vice Chairman) David Wolfe, Tiny Taylor, Brandon Jones, Sean Ross, Dondi Crowe, Kenny Davis, and Tommy Teesateskie (Photo courtesy of Sheyahshe Littledave)

## The Center for Native Health welcomes new Executive Board members

Submitted by  
The Center for Native Health

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Officials at The Center for Native Health state, “We are excited to start the new year by welcoming our newest Executive Board Members, Jennifer Thompson and Savannah Hicks Baylon, to The Center for Native Health.”

Dr. Jennifer Thompson is the director of Rehabilitation Services for Cherokee Indian Hospital (CIHA) in Cherokee, N.C. She is a member of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians, Cherokee Central Schools graduate, and began her professional career after graduating from Western Carolina University with her master of science degree in physical therapy.

“As an advocate for healthcare and education, I feel my responsibility as an enrolled member of the EBCI is to be a positive role model for our indigenous community by providing every possible avenue for our people to flourish in whatever capacity they choose,” said Dr. Thompson. “It is important for our community, especially our young people to see that success is possible and if I can provide any assistance to make that pathway easier, I want to support those dreams. We are only as strong as our weakest link and in the current culture of the world, it is even more important for community leaders to provide encouragement



Dr. Jennifer Thompson

and pathways that lead to success.”

While building the Sports Rehabilitation program at CIHA, she went on to pursue her doctorate in physical therapy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Thompson’s passion for education has always been a strong suit as she was the center coordinator of clinical education for the Physical Therapy Department for over 15 years before assuming the role as rehab director.

In an attempt to prepare for her leadership role, she earned her certificate in public health leadership from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Once rehab director, Dr. Thompson has transformed the Physical Therapy/Wound Care and Orthopedic Department into a more expansive rehabilitation department and expanded services to include Occupational Therapy, Speech Language Pathology, Podiatry and Workman’s Compensation and provides coverage to outlying clinics in the Snowbird community, Cherokee County and to residents at Tsali Care Center.



Savannah Hicks Baylon, MSN, RN

In 2015, she was elected to the Cherokee Central School Board of Education and has served her community in this capacity since. Dr. Thompson has also served as the South Region director for the American Indian/Alaska Native Council with the National School Board Association. In 2023, she was sworn in as the first Native American president of the North Carolina School Board Association and is currently on the Board of Directors. She currently serves as a Unified Board Alliance Advisor with the Consortium of State School Board Associations, is President of the Yogi Crowe Scholarship Fund and is a North Carolina Hunt State Policy Fellow.

Savannah Hicks Baylon, MSN, RN, is the director of Women’s and Children’s Services at Harris Regional Hospital. She has been a nurse since 2017 and stepped into her current role at the beginning of 2024. She holds a bachelor of science in nursing from Lincoln Memorial University and a master of science in nursing leadership from Western Carolina University.

She was also recently awarded a Culturally Based Native Health Certificate from Western Carolina University.

“I’m excited to contribute to shaping decisions that improve health outcomes for our Native community,” she said. “I’m looking forward to the opportunity to bring a patient-centered perspective to the board, collaborate with experienced leaders, and help strengthen services in a way that is equitable, sustainable, and forward-looking.”

She is deeply passionate about maternal and child health and improving healthcare services within the community. She is a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and works diligently to ensure cultural competence within her unit. She resides in the Savannah community of Sylva, N.C. with her husband, Junior, and their children, Ezilah, Bryce, Juna, and Tatum.

The Center for Native Health is a 501(c)(3) located on the Qualla Boundary and was founded in 2009 with the vision of supporting balanced wellbeing of southeastern Native communities through the preservation and respectful application of Native knowledge to empower the people, Land, and culture.

For more information about The Center for Native Health, please visit: [www.centerfornative-health.org](http://www.centerfornative-health.org)

  
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### **Equa awi in Elawodi**

These equa awi (elk) were spotted eating a snack in Elawodi (Yellowhill) in Cherokee, N.C. on the sunny afternoon of Friday, Feb. 13. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./ One Feather photos)



# **Julianna Caroline Welch**



**Julianna Caroline Welch was chosen to be Commencement Speaker at North Carolina State University in the college of natural resources for the 2025 graduation.**

Julianna graduated with a dual bachelors degrees in Fisheries Wildlife, and Conservation Biology and Plant Biology. She has a minor in Applied Ecology and will graduate with the University Certificate in Field Botany. Julianna is an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians,(EBCI) and is proud to represent her tribe. Throughout her undergraduate studies she has been an active member of the College of Natural Resources community serving as a College of Natural Resources Ambassador, a James Buzzard Leadership Development Program Fellow, and was a member of the University Scholars Program also she was the vice president of communications for Epsilon Eta which is a environmental service fraternity. She has completed internships with Discover Life in America, a nonprofit organization dedicated to conservation within Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and served as a assistant crew lead for the Indigenous Conservation Corps where she worked with the U.S. Forest Service and the EBCI Natural Resource Dept -notably alongside her sister, Rebecca. After graduation Julianna hopes to work seasonally before pursuing a masters degree and eventually returning home to work in conservation or a related field. She is excited with her future applying what she has learned to give back to her community and contribute conservation efforts in Western North Carolina and the Eastern Band of Cherokee.

Julianna Welch is the daughter of Tony Welch. Beaded cap and feather by Kande Parker and ribbon skirt by DeeDee Huff.

**EBCI COMMUNITY  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Photographers wanted**

Submission by April 1. Cherokee Historical Association is seeking proposals from qualified photographers to take marketing photos during the 2026 season. Photos to be taken at the Oconaluftee Indian Village and Unto These Hills. Photographers should be local to the area. Additional considerations will be given to Indigenous candidates. Proposal should include: fee for 20 photos( including editing), any additional service fees, timeline to receive final photos, portfolio or sample of work. Cherokee Historical Association will select the proposal offering the best overall value, considering quality, experience and cost. Submit

proposals to Chelsey@Cherokee-Adventure.com by April 1. You may also email with questions if needed.  
- Cherokee Historical Association

**Volunteer Income  
Tax Assistance (VITA)**

Feb. 2 – April 15, Monday – Thursday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. call for an appointment (828) 359-6001.

**Join our Local Advisory  
Council**

Help shape the future of mentorship on the Qualla Boundary. Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Western North Carolina. Seeking community leaders, parents, retirees, business owners and residents to join the local advisory council. Contact Brandon Fouts email

brandonF@bbswnc.org or call (828) 347-6097.

- Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Western North Carolina

**Elder Meal & Support  
Initiative launched**

CHEROKEE, N.C. - With a newly awarded two-year grant from Dogwood Health Trust, The Center for Native Health has partnered with the Deb West Senior Center to provide prepared, microwavable meals and beverages to approximately 160 homebound Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians elders on Tribal employee holidays.

Meals will be delivered throughout the Qualla Boundary and Snowbird communities, ensuring elders receive nutritious food and meaningful personal

connection.

The Initiative also includes the creation of an “Adopt an Elder” campaign to build a sustainable network of community support for these Tribal citizens. Participants will commit to delivering meals on Tribal employee holidays and making regular in-person visits and phone calls.

In addition, the project will provide in-home fall risk assessments to participating elders who have not previously been assessed, further supporting safety and overall well-being.

For questions about this project or to learn how to contribute, please contact the Project Leader, Turner Goins, at (828) 400-4281.

The Center for Native Health is a 501(c)(3) located on the Qualla Boundary and was founded in

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Info: The Center for Native Health, visit: [www.centerfornativehealth.org](http://www.centerfornativehealth.org)  
 - *Center for Native Health release*

**Sequoyah Fund launches “Paperwork & Progress Night” to support local small business owners**

Sequoyah Fund announced the launch of Paperwork & Progress Night, a new monthly after-hours event designed to help small business owners complete important administrative tasks in a supportive, social environment.

Paperwork & Progress Night is a three-hour working session where owners can bring one task, multiple tasks, or a major project to work on, such as bookkeeping cleanup, licensing and renewals, business planning, or preparation for loan and grant applications. Light refreshments will be served, and a Sequoyah Fund representative will be present to answer questions, help participants get unstuck, and connect owners to local small business resources.

“These events are designed to create two outcomes: real progress on the work that keeps businesses healthy, and stronger connections among local owners,” said Sequoyah Fund CEO, Russ Seagle. “It’s a practical way to turn easily procrastinated tasks into an energizing, productive evening.”

Attendance is open to small business owners in Cherokee and surrounding communities. Participants must be business owners. Owners may not send managers or other staff in their place. Discussions will be treated as confidential, and there are no attendance requirements.

The first event will be held Tuesday, March 10 from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the large conference room in the Ginger Lynn Welch Complex at 810 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. Registration information is available at <https://bit.ly/admin-night>

- *Sequoyah Fund release*

**Sequoyah Fund launches monthly Small Business Roundtable for Cherokee-Area business owners**

Sequoyah Fund announces the launch of a new monthly event designed specifically for small business owners: the Small Business Roundtable. Held during lunchtime as a BYOB (Bring Your Own Bag Lunch) gathering, each roundtable is scheduled for 1 hour and 15 minutes and will focus on one timely topic affecting business ownership, including marketing, management, taxes, and broader economic issues facing small business owners of every industry.

The roundtable format is confidential and facilitator-led to encourage candid discussion and practical problem solving. Attendance is open to any small business owner in the Cherokee-area community, with one important requirement: Attendees must be business owners and may not send managers or representatives in their place. Participants will also receive a copy of roundtable notes following the session for reference.

The first session is planned for Wednesday, March 18 at the large conference room in the Ginger Lynn Welch Complex at 810 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. Registration details will be available at <https://bit.ly/2026roundtables>.

- *Sequoyah Fund release*

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## OBITUARIES JhñFR

### Troy Wayne Poteete

March 6, 1955 – Feb. 5, 2026

Services in honor of Troy Wayne Poteete were held Friday, Feb. 13 at 1 p.m. at the Sequoyah High School Gym in Tahlequah, Okla.

A burial procession immediately followed to Fleetwood Cemetery in Hanson, Okla., just east of Sallisaw.

Flowers may be sent to Green Country Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Trail of Tears Association.

Poteete previously served on the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court from 2007 to 2017 and was a member of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council from 1991 to 1999. He helped found the National Trail

of Tears Association, according to the tribe.

The Cherokee Nation described Poteete as a dedicated public servant and said his work helped preserve historic sites and expand understanding of Indigenous history.

“Beyond his service to tribal government, Troy Wayne was an esteemed historian and preservationist of Cherokee life and culture...Troy Wayne’s passing represents a significant loss of institutional knowledge and cultural passion.”

### Gary French

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our husband, father, brother, and friend, Gary French, who began his next journey on Monday, Feb. 9, 2026.

Gary was the son of the late former Vice Chief Meroney French and his beloved mother, Viola French. He lived an exceptional Cherokee life, grounded in service, community, and a deep love for the mountains that shaped him. He cared for others without hesitation and carried a quiet strength that guided those around him.

After graduating from Cherokee High School, Gary honorably served in the United States Army’s Big Red One Division and saw action in Vietnam. Upon returning home, he worked in land surveying with JohnBull Standingdeer, creating cherished memories with family along the way. He later earned an associate degree from Southwestern Community College and a degree in Environmental Sciences from Western Carolina University.

Gary dedicated many years to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians as manager of the Water Department until his retirement in 2010. He was deeply committed to his Big Cove community, where he lived, volunteered, and offered thoughtful insights on issues shaping the future. He loved the mountains, the wildlife — especially the bears — and spent countless peaceful hours walking in the woods, hunting ramps and ginseng, cutting wood, and tending his land. He was always ready with advice, a listening ear, and a steady presence.

Gary has been reunited with his son, Dustin French; his broth-

ers, George French, Jack Lindsay, Landon French, Marvin “Skilly” French, Elliot “Dump” French, Johnny French, and Roy French; his sisters, Winnie Scott and Mary Standingdeer; and many dear friends who journeyed before him.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret; sons, Greg and Dante; daughter, Khloe; grandchild, Jamar; and great grandchildren, Aria and Gianna. He is also survived by his sisters, Dolores French Maney, best friend, Yvonne Bushyhead, and Lucetta “Cettie” French, along with numerous nieces, nephews, children he cared for, and lifelong friends who will forever cherish his memory.

A Memorial Service was held Monday, Feb. 16 at Long House Funeral Home with Bear Lambert officiating and Military Honors provided by the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143.

Following the service, fellowship, and some of Gary’s favorite foods were shared at the Big Cove Community Building.

In lieu of flowers, Gary asked that donations be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.



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## Open Call for Vendors

Artisans, Crafters, and Food and Beverage Vendors are invited to submit their application for the Greening Up the Mountains Festival to be held on **Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.** Greening Up The Mountains Festival is the premiere spring festival for Western North Carolina. The festival, sponsored by the Town of Sylva, will once again take place in historical downtown Sylva. This year's festival seeks artisans and crafters selling their own handmade products. Arts, Crafts, and Food Vendors from the expanded Appalachian area are encouraged to apply.

Please visit the festival's website:

<http://www.mainstreetsylva.org/greening-up-the-mountains/> to review the 2026 Vendor Policies and submit your application. Applications will be accepted through March 20, 2026. For more information, please contact the event coordinators at [greeningupthemountains@townofsylva.org](mailto:greeningupthemountains@townofsylva.org).

# MISSING

## Airana Ayden Nora Ther Smart

American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 4'0" Weight: 75 lbs

Female Age: 14

Hair: Black Eyes: Brown

Date of last contact: February 4, 2026

Last Known Location: Anchorage, Alaska



Circumstances of Disappearance:

Ariana left the MACK house (specialized emergency shelter for homeless youth) and never returned.

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

Source: Namus.gov



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## COMMENTARY

### Whatever we do, we should do with gusto

By ROBERT JUMPER

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

Sometimes, we get into a pattern or groove of complaining and being downcast. Our worldview is that of Eeyore, the gloomy, old gray donkey from the Winnie the Pooh stories. He is the epitome of pessimism. Eeyore always held his head down low and lamented the “negatives” of life. For Eeyore, even the cloud’s silver lining was always tarnished.

Here’s a characteristic snippet

from Alan Alexander Milne, the author of Winnie the Pooh. “Eeyore”, said Owl, “Christopher Robin is giving a party.” “Very interesting,” said Eeyore. “I suppose they will be sending me down the odd bits which got trodden on. Kind and thoughtful-not at all, don’t mention it.” (Owl) “There is an invitation for you.” (Eeyore) “What’s that like?” (Owl) “An invitation!” (Eeyore) “Yes, I heard you. Who dropped it?” (Owl) This isn’t something to eat, it’s asking you to the party. To-morrow.” Eeyore shook his head slowly. “You mean Piglet. The little fellow with excited ears. That’s Piglet. I’ll tell him.” “No, no!” said Owl, getting quite fussy. “It’s you!” (Eeyore) “Are you sure?” (Owl) “Of course, I’m sure. Christopher Robin said, ‘All of

them! Tell all of them.’” (Eeyore) “All of them, except Eeyore?” “All of them,” said Owl sulkily. “Ah!” said Eeyore. “A mistake, no doubt, but still, I shall come. Only don’t blame me when it rains.”

Why do we often assume the worst? I think it is because we allow ourselves to be drawn into a group psychology or mentality. We in the media (speaking collectively as a part of the media, not that we at the One Feather gravitate toward the negative in life), thrive on bad outcomes and crises. In fact, much of our political selection processes focus on what might be wrong with a candidate rather than on the positives, which leads to news releases and articles in national, regional, and local publications filled with scandal, disagreement, and discord each election cycle.

We have experienced the resulting apathy within our own community. When someone advocates for change, there will always be those who hang their Eeyore-like heads and say, “Oh, bother. They are bringing this up again. Don’t they know it will never work?” or “Why are they trying this? The government’s just going to do what it wants to do. Do they really think their efforts make a difference?” or “Don’t they know it has always been like this? Nothing is ever going to change.”

At least these comments express some level of acknowledgment or engagement. There are many more who do not comment at all. They don’t express opinions or thoughts. They don’t engage in the voting processes. They surely don’t attend community meetings. They change the channel when a Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) meeting starts because they think

watching “The Price is Right” has more consequences for them than the workings of their government. “They are just going to do what they want to do anyway...”

But others continue to push for, and hope for, the positive. They actively pursue the things that matter to them, and they refuse to assume that nothing can be done to effect change. They refuse to subscribe to the Eeyore mentality. And they resist taking their hands off the wheel and allowing someone else to determine their course and their fate.

Do you have a passion for something? Does repeated failure dull your passion for it? Or do you continue to look for ways to make that something happen? Surely, disappointment is a part of this life. But it should not rule or dictate your life. Even sadness can be a positive sign. Because being sad means we care about something when it doesn’t or does happen. So many on the Qualla Boundary work for change and defend what is in place that is beneficial to our community. We shouldn’t leave our work to only the government leaders. It’s been twenty, even thirty-plus, years of attempts to get a constitution in place for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) community. A continual cycle of research, survey, presentation, failure, and repeat has plagued those who worked diligently to bring a draft created by the people, for the people, to a referendum before the community. But they refuse to submit to defeat and go at it with the gusto they had when they began their quest. For many years, the will of many tribal members has been to reclaim the Noquisi (formerly known as Nakwasi) Mound in Franklin

**CHEROKEE**  
INDIAN FAIR

## 2026 CHEROKEE INDIAN FAIR THEME CONTEST

### PRIZE IS \$250 FOR THE WINNING ENTRY!

**If you are an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, you are eligible to enter this contest. Here are a few simple rules:**

- \*Contest is open to all ages. Entrants younger than 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian to co-sign the liability release form and submit it with a W-9 form.
- \*The theme **MUST** be culturally oriented.
- \*The theme must be seven words or less and write a short paragraph describing the meaning of your theme. (Last year's fair theme was "Connecting Our People, Plants and Culture")
- \* Only one entry per person.

The entry forms will be available at the Cherokee Welcome Center, (828)359-6490, between the hours of 7:45am till 4:30pm, daily. Forms can also be emailed to interested participants. Please contact Lisa Frady at [lisafrad@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:lisafrad@ebci-nsn.gov) or Brandy Sequoyah at [bransequ@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:bransequ@ebci-nsn.gov) for a form.

Deadline for entering the contest is **Friday, February 3rd at 4:00 pm**. Please email your entry form to Lisa Frady, Brandy Sequoyah or turn it in at the Cherokee Welcome Center.

The winner will be selected at the next Cherokee Indian Fair Committee meeting on February 4th, 2026.

**\*\*EBCI DESTINATION MARKETING DEPARTMENT, AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ENTER CONTEST.\*\***

for the EBCI. And, for many years, it didn't look like the tribe would realize that dream. But a group of Cherokee people engaged with other members of the off-Boundary community to continue the march toward tribal ownership of the Noquisi Mound. They faced opposition from many and setbacks along the way, but they pursued mound ownership for the tribe with gusto. And that vision looks to be realized soon.

A long-standing challenge to tribal sovereignty and identity has been met with consistent and straightforward resistance from our tribal leadership. For decades, the tribe contested the assertions of groups that made claims to indigenous identity without cultural identifiers like language, historical pre-contact documentation, and

land base. It is an issue that affects the identity of every indigenous tribe in U.S. claimed territory. The EBCI worked alongside other tribes. Still other tribes chose to gamble on quantity versus quality. The impacts of recent decisions will be felt throughout Indian Country for decades more. The "glass half-empty" folks will talk about defeat and resignation, while the "glass half-full" folks will remind us that every effort delayed further erosion of Indian Country's infrastructure, and that while a battle may have ended in defeat, the war continues.

If you believe it is right and just, it is wrong not to fight for it, even if what you are fighting for angers or offends others. That is true whether you are walking a resolution or ordinance into the

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) chambers or entering the various polling places for municipal elections in your hometown. It is true in every decision you make day-to-day. If for no other reason than for your own sanity, whatever you do, do it with all your heart. Do it with gusto.

American poet Edgar Guest (1881-1959) put it this way:  
*When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,  
 And the road you're trudging seems all uphill,  
 When the funds are low and the debts are high,  
 And you want to smile, but you must sigh,  
 When care is pressing you down a bit,  
 Rest if you must, but don't you quit.*

*Life is strange with its twists and turns,  
 As every one of us sometimes learns.  
 And many a failure turns about  
 When he might have won had he stuck it out.*

*Don't give up, though the pace seems slow,  
 You may succeed with another blow.*

*Often the goal is nearer than it seems  
 To a faint and faltering man.  
 Often the struggler has given up when he  
 Might have captured the victor's cup,  
 And he learned too late when the night slipped down,  
 How close he was to the golden crown.*

*Success is failure turned inside out,  
 The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,  
 And you never can tell how close you are.  
 It may be near when it seems afar.  
 So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit.  
 It's when things seem worst that  
 You mustn't quit.*

(March 4, 1921, Public Domain)



## EBCI TRIBAL HOUSING FORECLOSURE PREVENTION

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.

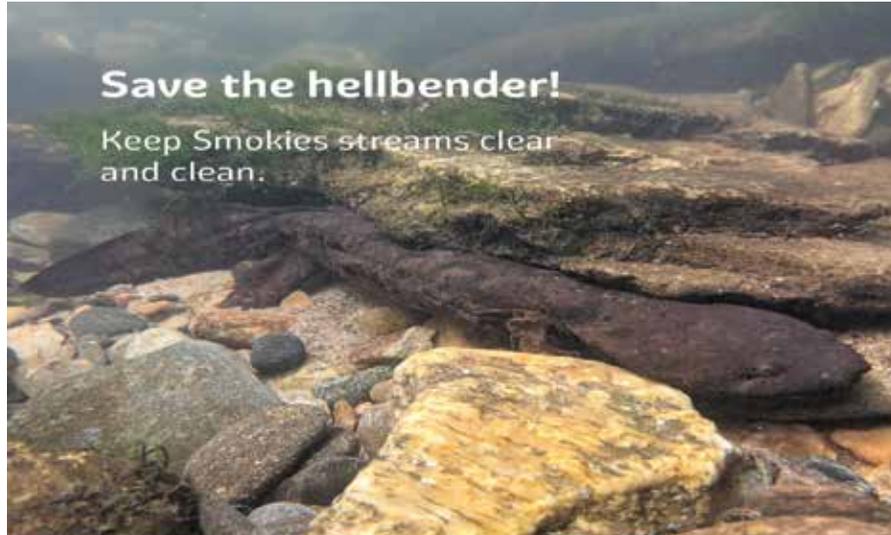
Call or email for more information:

Michelle Stamper	michstam@ebci-nsn.gov	828-359-6904
Tina Larch-Rivera	tinalarc@ebci-nsn.gov	828-359-6912
Misty Millsaps	mistmill@ebci-nsn.gov	828-359-6919



## Save the hellbender!

Keep Smokies streams clear and clean.



smokies life

## THE GOOD STUFF

# Dallas Bennett is a great example of a future leader

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – In a One Feather “grad profile” in April 2020, Dallas Bennett said he plans to run for Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) one day. He noted in that profile, “I am very excited to be starting on the next chapter of my life and to pursue higher education in order to not only benefit myself but to help my fellow enrolled members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.”

Bennett, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) from Tsiqwohi (Birdtown), was graduating from Swain Co. High School when that profile came out. Let me say that again – high school.

Last year, he graduated from the University of Miami with a bachelor of arts degree in history and political science. Bennett served as the 65th Chief Justice of the University of Miami Supreme Court – the first EBCI tribal member to do so. He also was inducted into several academic societies while there including: Iron Arrow Honor Society (the university’s highest honor society), Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, and Phi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society.

I wrote a feature article on Bennett when he was selected as the UM Supreme Court Chief Jus-



Dallas Bennett, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who serves as the constituent services representative in the Office of Taline Ugvwiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley, speaks at the opening of the Fading Voices Demonstration Day in Tutiya (Snowbird) near Robbinsville, N.C. on the morning of May 24, 2025. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

tice. One his quotes in that article demonstrates the love and dedication that he has for the EBCI. “The EBCI has done so much for me, and getting to represent our Tribe as the first EBCI member to be Chief Justice here at UM is just a small way of giving back to our people and proving that members of the Eastern Band can thrive anywhere and that even in the 21st century, the Eastern Band and its members are still making history both at home and across the country.”

Bennett cares deeply about Cherokee people, and he is dedicated to serving everyone. He currently serves as the constituent services representative in the Office of Taline Ugvwiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley.

He’s begun to make a difference in the community. Last year, he submitted Res. No.

486 (2025) which was approved unanimously by Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) on July 10, 2025 that states the third Monday in February will be celebrated on the lands of the EBCI from now on as Principal Chief’s Day in conjunction with President’s Day.

The legislation he wrote illustrates his respect for the position of Ugvwiyuhi. “The position of Ugvwiyuhi (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.”

After the passage of the legislation, Bennett told 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 thankful to Tribal Council for their unanimous support and to our people for upholding the legacy of Cherokee leadership.”

In the headline for this piece, I wrote that Bennett is a true example of a future leader. I struggled with that line. While I feel it is true, it might work better to say Bennett is a true example of a leader because he is leading now.

The late British Prime Minister Winston Churchill once said, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

He could have been talking about Bennett. Keep your eyes on Dallas – he’s going places.



# Thinking About Building A Home?

**FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW AND YOUR DREAM HOME COULD COME TRUE**

## **BUILDING HOMES TOGETHER**

<b>SITE INSPECTION APPLICATION</b>	<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.
<b>PROPERTY SURVEY, TRANSFER &amp; RIGHT OF WAYS</b>	<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.
<b>PRE-APPROVAL PRE-QUALIFICATION</b>	<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
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<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.
<b>HOME BUYING SEARCH &amp; QUOTE</b>	<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.
<b>DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE (DPA) &amp; LOAN PROCESS</b>	<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.
<b>CIDH &amp; REALTY – On Trust Lands</b>	<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.
<b>DPA funds – Off Trust Lands</b>	<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.
<b>LOAN CLOSE</b>	<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.
<b>SITE PREP SCHEDULING</b>	<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.
<b>SERVICES PROVIDED BY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NEW HOMES</b>	<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**

<b>Tribal Realty</b>	<b>Infrastructure Dept.</b>	<b>Housing Services</b>	<b>Timber Permits</b>
Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913	Denny Ensley: (828) 359-6841	Michelle Stamper: (828) 359-6904	Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913
Kaïla Cucumber: (828) 359-7442	Sarah Crowe: (828) 359-6121	Misty Milsaps: (828) 359-6919	
Renee Long-Cole: (828) 359-6971	Nekyle Lossiah: (828) 359-6839	Tina Larch: (828) 359-6912	
	Joel Queen: (828) 359-6844		

# Cats vs. Dogs

*Part 2 of 2*

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.  
(<https://preacherspurs.com>)

Scripture references: Matthew 8:2-3, Matthew 15:30-3, Matthew 25:44-45, Mark 2:16, Matthew 28:19

When they both learn that strange animals are not their friends, cats become dog haters, and dogs become cat haters. Fear, hate, and fighting become part of their modus operandi, and when a dog sees a cat, a fight ensues from the beginning. They were groomed into hate and bias against each other because of miscommunication from the beginning. Our beginnings may have started with our parents who, from their bias, told us to stay away from people like 'that.'

That's the way Arabs think about it in their colloquial mindset. Arabs, generally, are biased against dogs and adore cats.

Miscommunication. What has this to do with us? Our conduct is derived from a similar miscommunication. Critical thinking teaches that bias kills our ability to think adequately about anything. Our bias controls our decision-making and general attitude toward whatever we are thinking about. Satan uses that weakness to steer us in directions that keep us from doing the right thing, often the Christian thing.

How often do you see people who are not like you, and your bias keeps you from helping them or witnessing to them? Maybe they are dirty, tattooed, or they have pink hair, or they are poor. Perhaps they are a different race

or foreigners, old, young, business-like, uneducated, beggars, diseased, physically impeded, convicts, or just plain ugly. Do you hate sinners and their sins? Possibly you ignore physically incapacitated people who became that way from injury or were born with a physical disability. Do you shy away from talking with them, looking at them, witnessing to them? Think of the story in Matthew 8 when a leper asked Jesus to heal him. Jesus reached out and touched him. Touched him! In that ancient day, touching an unclean leper was social suicide and possibly life-threatening action. Part of critical thinking is considering other perspectives. They

(those who are different from you) might have also been mistreated, ignored, looked down upon, and even hated for being 'different.' Of course, some of them hate back. Sound familiar to the story about cats and dogs?

Imagine if Jesus had biases like that. He wouldn't have been Jesus. Jesus loved the unlovely. Why can't we? Our example is Christ. His marching order to us is called the Great Commission. I don't remember seeing any caveats to that order, like spreading the Good News to everyone except those people you don't like.

"Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the

Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit:" Matthew 28:19

Hate the sin; love the sinner. Think about it. Repenting to become this kind of unbiased person is hard. Ask God to help; He will. Shed the bias and love like Christ. Lord, God, and Father, forgive me when I let my bias get in the way of receiving a blessing from You. Help me repent from my attitudes toward the unlovely and help me to show genuine Christian love to my neighbor. I ask, Lord, that You give me the opportunity to show the love You have given me to another. In Jesus' name, I pray, Amen.



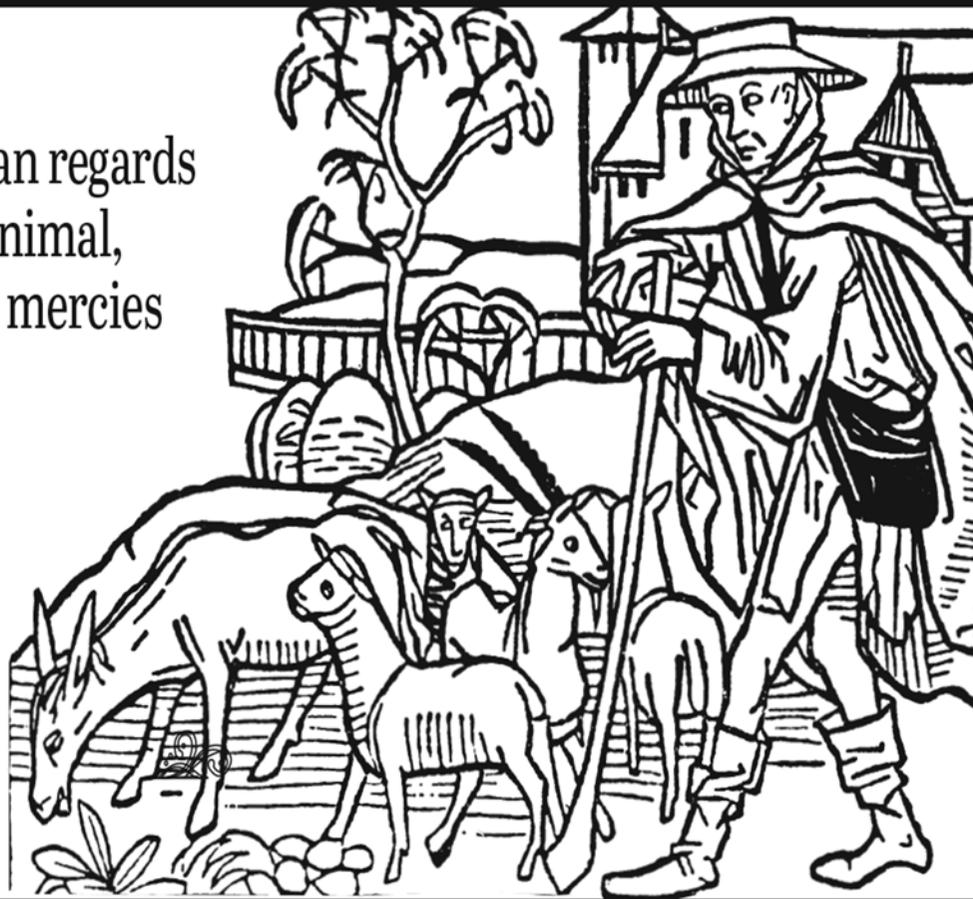
## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

A righteous man regards  
the life of his animal,  
but the tender mercies  
of the wicked  
are cruel.

Proverbs 12:10



*Detail of  
15th-century woodcut*



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tional Park, Participant Meal, Valve Cover Racing, Model Car Contest, Vendors, Swap Meet, Food Vendors, Home Built Trophies, and More! Pre-Register before April 10 and be entered for a huge cash prize. Info: Cherokeeodders.com

### Cherokee Cultural/Historic Events

**Fingerweaving Fridays.** Feb. 20 and 27, 2:30pm - 4:30pm Museum of the Cherokee People Art Studio 589 Tsali Blvd, Cherokee, NC. 28719 Bring a project or choose materials from the Museum's selection at this free craft circle open to beginner and experienced



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) There could be some negative reaction to your tough stance when making a recent decision. But overall, your efforts result in well-earned recognition and all that can follow from this.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Your financial situation seems confusing, even for the fiscally savvy Bovine. Maybe it's the conflicting advice that you're getting. Check it out before things get too tangled to unknot.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) A relaxed attitude goes a long way in helping you deal with any of life's irritants that might be popping up this week. You're also a reassuring role model for others in the same situation.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Your aspect favors creativity, which should persuade you to work on your artistic projects. If time is a problem, prioritize your commitments so that your work isn't compromised.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Scrutinize all the job offers that interest you. Most are honest and worth considering, but a few might not be completely forthcoming about what the job is and what the salary and benefits are.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) An unexpected snafu could delay the completion of a project that you're eager to finish. Find out what's causing it, fix it, and if you need help, don't be shy about asking for it. Good luck!

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) An idea that could be helpful to

weavers. Info: (828) 497-3481

**Cherokee Winter Social.** Feb. 28 at the Peaches Squirrel Sports & Rec. Complex 1212 Birdtown Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. MC: Catcuce Tiger. Everyone welcome! Traditional dress and ribbon shirts/skirts encouraged. All Cherokee singers welcome, bring your rattles & drums. Food provided by Nikki's Frybread.

### EBCI Community Regular Meetings

**NAIWA (North American**

see **EVENTS** next page

you comes from an unlikely source. Listen to it. Discuss it. If necessary, adjust it. If it looks as if it might work out quite well, go ahead and use it.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Be careful about allowing someone to share a very personal secret with you. This could cause problems down the line with others who are involved in this person's private life.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) A cooling down of a relationship could be the result of neglect — unintended or not. To save it from icing over, you need to warm it up with a large dose of hot Sagittarius passion!

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) This is a good time to get involved with a number of family matters that deal with money or other issues that might jeopardize the closeness between and among family members.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Cheer up! A difficult person who appears to be deliberately stalling your project might just need to be reassured of the value that they bring to it.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Good news! Expect to feel reenergized now that you've gone through a stressful energy-depleting period that involved a lot of changes. Now, go out there and show them what you can do!

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a warm, giving nature that inspires many to follow your example. You show all of us what it's like to lead with love.

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# VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

## Rate increase for Veteran Directed Care

Veterans with very serious and complex medical conditions will see a hefty increase in the amount of money paid for their home care.

Specifically, those veterans will now have their community and home care costs covered at a rate that is 100% of what would be charged at a VA Community Living Center — a nursing home.

The benefit here is that veterans will then be able to stay home and take advantage of adult day care, skilled home health, a home health aide and Veteran Directed Care (VDC). This last is the most valuable for veterans as it targets veterans who need help with daily tasks (eating, bathing, grocery shopping, anything for daily living) and keeps them out of nursing homes.

Instead of being given staff and helpers by the VA, veterans and their families can choose who they want as care providers, including family members or friends chosen by the veteran (and respite services for the primary care provider), even interviewing and selecting the desired staff. And those helpers are paid.

Eligibility for VDC status requires that the veteran be enrolled for health care with the VA, have a VA primary care provider, meet eligibility criteria and need nursing home level services. Eligibility is not determined by specific medical conditions, but rather by the actual help and services that a veteran requires.

Veterans, if you're in danger of needing placement in a nursing home and would rather stay home, your first step is to talk to your primary care provider at the VA.

You should be directed to the Veteran Directed Care Coordinator, who will act as liaison to assist with analyzing goals and developing a plan, working out a budget, hiring helpers and monitoring the situation.

If you haven't signed up to receive Veteran Directed Care benefits because of the low payments (65% of what would be charged at a VA Community Living Center), this increase to 100% should help significantly. Work with the Coordinator on a budget to be sure it's manageable for you.

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## Why spay/neuter programs work

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** You often write about feral cat control programs like TNR (trap, neuter, return) and advocate for spaying and neutering. But, do these programs actually work? Because I still see feral cats near my neighborhood every day. — Janine in Spring Hill, Florida

**DEAR JANINE:** Thank you for spotlighting feral cat programs! Yes, TNR and TNVR (trap, neuter, vaccinate, return) programs have been going on long enough that the organizations running them have collected plenty of data showing that "community cat" populations have declined and stabilized. In fact, there's an organization in your area, Paw Warriors Inc. (pawwarriorsinc.com), that supports these efforts and maintains a no-kill shelter for abandoned cats and feral cats who can no longer fend for themselves outside.

For decades, the University of Florida and the University of Central Florida have had TNR/TNVR programs. Both reported a significant reduction in feral cat populations after the first one to two years — over 66%. Kittens were put up for adoption, and the remaining adult cats were returned to their colonies. The feral cat population remained small but stable afterward. In Washington, D.C., Alley Cat Allies, an advocacy organization formed in 1990, started a TNR program with a feral cat colony. Within seven years, the colony dropped from 54 to just six adult cats; these remaining cats lived longer, healthier lives with the last cat passing away at age 17!

The studies found that TNR/TNVR programs were highly effective even if just over half of a colony was treated. Fewer kittens were born, fewer diseases were transmitted between cats, and fewer fights took place.

When you next see a feral cat near your neighborhood, look closely to see if they have a "tipped" ear (a chunk cut out of the top). This shows that the cat was trapped and neutered or spayed, and that the colony is being monitored.

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

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**EVENTS:** From page 35

**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.

**Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings**

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

**TCGE Report.** Feb. 18 at 8:30 a.m.

**Qualla Enterprises LLC Report.** Feb. 18 at 10 a.m.

**Balsam Report.** Feb. 18 at 11 a.m.

**Qualla Housing Committee.**

Feb. 19 at 8:30 a.m.

**Work Session on Tabled Res. No. 27 (Transparency in tribal government).** Feb. 23 at 9 a.m.

**Work Session on Tabled Res. No. 28 (Weighted Votes).** Feb. 23 at 10 a.m.

**Work Session on Tabled Res. No. 30 (Enhance transparency in tribal government).** Feb. 23 at 11 a.m.

**Work Session on Tabled Res. No. 97 (Tribe to withdraw from USET).** Feb. 23 at 1 p.m.

**Work Session on Tabled Ord. No. 6 (Judicial Code).** Feb. 24 at 1 p.m.

**TGC Report.** Feb. 25 at 8:30 a.m.

**EBCI Holdings Report.** Feb. 25 at 9 a.m.

**Kituwah/KGC LLC Report.** Feb. 25 at 10:30 a.m.

**Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority Report.** Feb. 26 at 8:30 a.m.

**Museum of the Cherokee People Report.** Feb. 26 at 9:15 a.m.

**Pow Wow Listings**

**3rd Annual Southwestern College Pow Wow.** Feb. 28 at the Southwestern College Soccer Field in Chula Vista, Calif. MC: Walter Ahhaitty. Host Northern Drum: Green River. Host Southern Drum: Red Warrior. Invited Northern Drum: Blue Star. Invited Southern Drum: Shaky Town. Info: David Solomon at dsalomon@swccd.edu

**Apache Gold Intertribal Pow Wow.** March 7-8 at the Apache Gold Casino & Resort in San Carlos, Ariz. MC: Bart Powaukee. Host Northern Drum: Fort Peck Sioux. Host Southern Drum: Iron Bow. Info: (928) 200-3098

**Spirit of Nations Pow Wow.** March 28 at Jefferson County High School at 115 W. Dumplin Valley Rd. in Dandridge, Tenn. Info: www.indiancreekproductions.com

**Yellowhorse Pow Wow Celebration.** April 4-5 at Founders Hall at 4950 Swinyar Dr. in Collegedale, Tenn. Info: Tammera Hicks (423) 240-7270 or NAServices.org@gmail.com

**Support Groups**

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

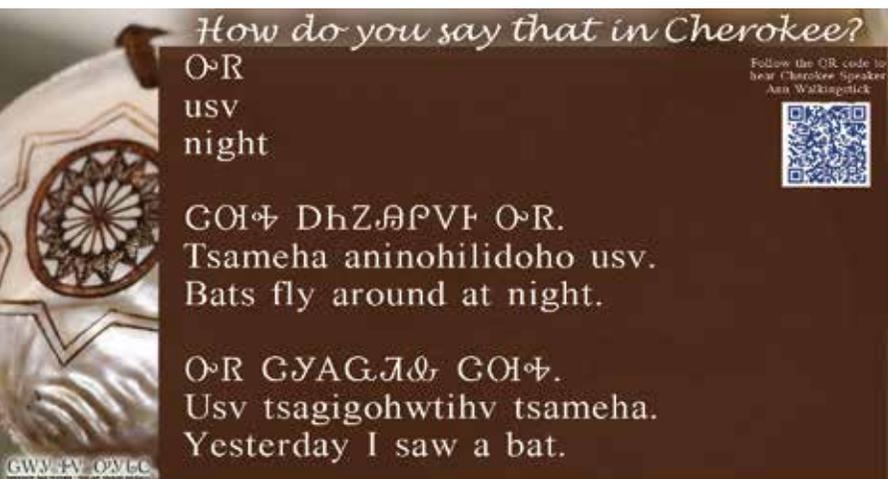
**Celebrate Recovery** meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Cherokee Baptist Church at 812 Tsalagi Road, in Cherokee, N.C. This is a Christ-centered recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, hang-ups, and habits of any kind. All are welcome. Info: Chris McMillan (828) 788-5410

**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** meets 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



## Western N.C. and Beyond Events

**Winter Heritage Festival.** Feb. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center 123 Cromwell Dr., Townsend, TN 37882. Admission: Adults (13+) \$15.00; Kids (5-12) \$10.00. Info: Terence Norman, Museum Events Coordinator, (423) 355-8575 or [tnorman@gsmheritagecenter.org](mailto:tnorman@gsmheritagecenter.org)

**Roughest & Toughest Brawl.** Feb. 27 and 28 Doors open at 6:30 p.m., fights begin at 8 p.m. at Smoky Mountain Event Center 758 Crabtree Rd., Waynesville, NC. 28985 Info: [www.Roughestand-Toughest.com](http://www.Roughestand-Toughest.com)

**Calling all Vendors.** Greening Up The Mountains is looking for Artisans, Crafters, and Food and Beverage Vendors to submit their application for the Greening Up the Mountains Festival to be held on Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. This year's festival seeks artisans and crafters selling their own handmade products. Arts, Crafts, and Food Vendors from the expanded Appalachian area are encouraged to apply. Please visit the festival's website: <http://www.mainstreetsylva.org/greening-up-the-mountains/> to review the 2026 Vendor Policies and submit your application. Applications will be accepted through March 20, 2026. For more information, please contact the event coordinators at [greeningupthemountains@townofsylva.org](mailto:greeningupthemountains@townofsylva.org).

**Stampede in the Smokies.** May 1 and 2 gates open at 6 p.m. action begins at 8 p.m. at the Great Smoky Mountains Event Park 113 Hyatt Creek Rd., Bryson City, NC. 28713 To enter text (864) 784-

4110 by April 28. Info: [rodeoroadshow.rodeoticket.com/stampede-in-the-smokies/rodeo-information](http://rodeoroadshow.rodeoticket.com/stampede-in-the-smokies/rodeo-information).

## Cherokee Community Clubs

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

**Widagalinidisgv (Big Y) Community** meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community gym at 6:30 p.m. Info: Chair Bunsey Crowe (828) 788-4879, [bunsey.crowe@kituwahllc.com](mailto:bunsey.crowe@kituwahllc.com) For building rental contact Bunsey Crowe.

**Tsisqwohi (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

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

**Aniwodihi (Painttown) Community** meets the last Monday of each month at the old community building across from the casino at 6 p.m. Info: For building rental, contact Janet Arch (828) 508-8071.

**Tutiya (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 Elijah Wachacha (828) 735-6453, [ewachacha@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:ewachacha@ebci-nsn.gov)

**Toledvyi (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, [jacob-long19982@gmail.com](mailto:jacob-long19982@gmail.com)

**Wayohi (Wolftown) Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month at the community building; potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Dwayne "Tuff" Jackson (828) 788-4088, [dwayne4251@gmail.com](mailto:dwayne4251@gmail.com), For building rental contact Lynn Catt (828) 736-6150.

**Elawodi (Yellowhill) Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Yellowhill Activity Center at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Dakota Bone (828) 736-8092, [Dbone8312@yahoo.com](mailto:Dbone8312@yahoo.com), For building rental, contact Virginia Johnson (828) 788-8659

## Cherokee Houses of Worship

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

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

Editor's Note: Polls for municipal and state elections in North Carolina have opened for early in-person voting. If you have questions about sample ballots, polling times, and locations, please contact the North Carolina Board of Elections at [www.ncsbe.gov](http://www.ncsbe.gov) or call 919.814.0700. You may also contact your local county board of elections for direction and instruction.

A word of caution: I have many times voiced concerns about political slant and reporter bias in reporting from local, regional, and national media. It is undeniable and unfortunate. Even when media that present information as factual in reporting, some cannot resist pontifizing their self-perceived expertise and opinion into the way they present the news. It is as if they think their viewers and readers are too stupid to take the facts and form an opinion on their own, or, more maliciously, they attempt to subliminally alter your thinking on not only issues, but also candidates. Use discernment when considering what and who you will vote for. Never take media reports on candidates at face value. Do your own due diligence. Listen to speeches, attend forums and debates, and, where possible, talk directly to the candidates. In this technologically advanced age, you have the tools to see and hear for yourselves and even dig up your own documentation. Voting should be considered a valuable right of democracy and should not be taken lightly. Control of your vote is so powerful that some in the media will attempt to lead you to a way of thinking that benefits them individually, prioritizing that over care for the community. That isn't the way it's supposed to be. That is just the way it is.

**Please vote your values, not someone else's.**

see **EVENTS** next page

EVENTS: From page 37

### 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

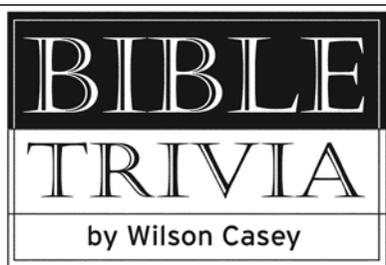
Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Every third Sunday they have a fellowship meal to celebrate all the birthdays throughout that month. Everyone is cordially invited for any of the services and meals. Pastor Rev. Owen Isaacs (828) 242-0754

### 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:



1. Is the book of Simeon (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Whose first chapter begins, "Then Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab"? *Exodus, II Kings, Job, Proverbs*
3. From Luke 1, what was the name of Elisabeth and Zacharias' child? *Elisabeth, Zacharias, Thomas, John*
4. In Genesis 4, who's considered the father of all musicians? *Jeremiah, Joash, Jubal, Job*
5. From Luke 7, where did Jesus raise a widow's son from the dead? *Amos, Nain, Lystra, Philippi*
6. In Genesis 12, where did Abram go after leaving Ur? *Iconium, Nineveh, Haran, Salem*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) II Kings, 3) John (the Baptist), 4) Jubal, 5) Nain, 6) Haran  
More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey's latest book "Quest for Bible Knowledge" available in bookstores and online.

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## Moments in time

• On **March 2, 1933**, construction officially began on Australia's Sydney Opera House. The structure's first performance occurred in a rather unusual way in 1960, when singer and labor activist Paul Robeson climbed the scaffolding and serenaded workers while they ate lunch.

• On **March 3, 1965**, more than 30 U.S. Air Force jets struck targets along the Ho Chi Minh Trail, a military supply route running from North Vietnam through Laos and Cambodia to South Vietnam. The route sent weapons, manpower, ammunition and other supplies from communist-led North Vietnam to their supporters in South Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

• On **March 4, 1952**, Ernest Hemingway finished his short novel "The Old Man and the Sea," writing to his publisher the same day that it was the best writing he'd ever done. Critics agreed and the book not only won the Pulitzer Prize the following year but became one of his bestselling works. It would also be his last significant work of fiction before he died by suicide less than a decade later.

• On **March 5, 1989**, Michael Anderson Godwin, who'd been sentenced to death by electric chair for a 1980 murder sentence, accidentally took justice into his own hands when he electrocuted himself on his jail cell's steel toilet after biting into a wire while trying to fix a pair of earphones.

• On **March 6, 1987**, the British Herald of Free Enterprise ferry, an 8,000-ton ship owned by Townsend Car Ferries, capsized after departing Zeebrugge, Belgium, drowning 188 passengers. The tragedy was attributed to poor safety procedures.

• On **March 7, 2010**, Kathryn Bigelow became the first woman to win a Best Director Academy Award for her film "The Hurt Locker," about an American bomb squad that disables explosives in Iraq. Only three women had previously been nominated for the award.

• On **March 8, 1981**, a nuclear accident at a Japan Atomic Power Company plant in Tsuruga, Japan, exposed more than 50 workers to radiation when they were sent in to clean things up before the leak could escape the disposal building. Unfortunately, the plan was not successful and 16 tons of waste ended up in the Wakasa Bay.

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### Planning your growing space

- Consider a **container garden** if you have a small space or a patio. Compact veggies like peppers like to grow in pots.
- For smaller properties, a **raised garden bed** gives more space and control than containers, but less permanent than in-ground beds. They're great for root crops, onions, garlic, cabbage, zucchini and squash.
- An **in-ground garden** works if there is full sun, good soil and space for what you'll grow. This requires the most time and effort. Corn, tomatoes, winter squash and perennial herbs like more space to grow. - Brenda Weaver

Source: thehomesteadchallenge.com

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

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

**Grace Bible Church.** 344 Whittier School Rd., Whittier, N.C. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday services 6:30 p.m. Pastor Brent Stewart. Search Grace Bible Church NC on Facebook. Check the page as some Wednesdays there are no services. Also, Sunday worship service is live-streamed.

**Grace Community Church of Cherokee.** 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](mailto:mbccherokee@outlook.com), Website: [www.macedoniabaptistcherokee.church](http://www.macedoniabaptistcherokee.church)

**Newsong Church.** 3548 Wolfstown 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.

see **EVENTS** next page

# Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with EBCI Natural Resources



When it comes to **feeding ducks**, it's best to avoid bread. Why? Because bread can make ducks sick and doesn't provide the nutrition they need to survive. Bread can quickly fill their stomachs, which may prevent them from eating healthier foods. Bread also pollutes the water as it breaks down, contributing to poor water quality and algae growth, which can harm fish and other aquatic life. Instead of bread, consider feeding ducks healthier options like chopped lettuce, birdseed, peas, corn, oats, or cut seedless grapes.

**EVENTS:** From page 39

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 Cath-**

**olic Mission.** 82 Lambert Branch Road. Saturday Mass at 4:30 p.m. in English and 6 p.m. in Spanish. Pastor Fr. Victor Ameh, MSP. For more information, go to [www.stjosephbryson.org](http://www.stjosephbryson.org).

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

**Rock Creek Missionary Baptist Church.**

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

**Rock Springs Baptist Church.**

129 Old Gap Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m. Pastor Greg Morgan 497-9455, 736-1245 (cell)

**Sequoyah Sovereign Grace**

**Church.** 3755 Big Cove Road. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Sunday Bible Study 1 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m. Pastor Tim James 497-7644

**Shoal Creek Baptist Church.**

184 Shoal Creek Church Loop Rd., Whittier, NC 28789. Sunday Continental Breakfast 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m., Wednesday evening Fellowship Meal 6 p.m., Wednesday evening Prayer Service 6:30 p.m., Choir Practice 7 p.m. Dr. Mickey Duvall, Pastor

**Spruce Grove Baptist Church.**

780 Lands Creek Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday morning worship service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 7

p.m., Wednesday evening service 7 p.m., third Saturday singing 7 p.m. Pastor Ernie Cable. Email: [sprucegrovebc.1920@gmail.com](mailto: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. Rev. Beverly Parker-Reece

**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.

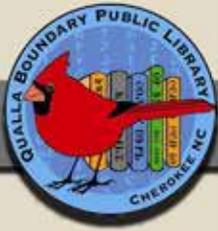
**Wrights Creek Baptist**

**Church.** Wrights Creek Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 p.m. Visitors welcome. Pastor David Birch

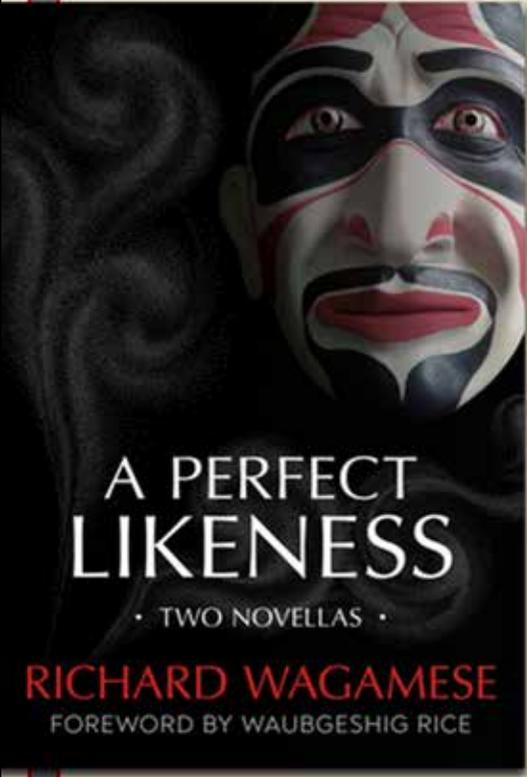
**Yellowhill Baptist Church.**

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

Brought to you through a partnership with the Qualla Boundary Public Library



**Qualla**  
**BOOK OF THE WEEK**



**“A Perfect Likeness”**  
Author Richard Wagamese

This book is made up of two stories, following the lives of young men who have dreams of a better future.

In “Him Standing”, Lucas Smoke learns the art of carving. He discovers that he is a natural; he can literally make people come to life in wood. When Lucas is asked to carve a spirit mask, he learns that his skill with a knife could cost him his dreams.

In “The Next Sure Thing”, Cree Thunderboy does two things well: playing blues guitar and picking winning horses at the track. Cree’s goal is to make his living playing the blues. He meets a man at the racetrack who convinces him he can turn his special skill with the horses into a shot at fame and fortune.

You can find these stories as separate Novellas, as well.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### DoneHauling

One-time cleanouts, regular trash pickups, and large-item hauling for Qualla Boundary residents—honest, affordable, and convenient. Tribally owned & operated. Call or text for a free quote: 828-341- 0099. **3/25**

### Wanted any masonite or metal signs that say:

“Genuine Indian” and “Hand Made by the Cherokees Qualla Indian Reservation Cherokee, NC”. ColemancollectorTN@gmail.com. **2/18**

## EMPLOYMENT

### Now Hiring

Cherokee/Great Smokies KOA is hiring for Summer 2026. Sever-

al job openings beginning March 1, 2026 including: Housekeeping, Guest Services Representative, Guest Guide, and Recreation Staff. Please apply in person at Cherokee/Great Smokies KOA at 912 KOA Campground Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. **3/25**

### Museum of the Cherokee People: Internship Applications Open

Museum of the Cherokee People is accepting applications for its Cross-Departmental Internship (six weeks, not exceeding 20 hours per week, \$15 hourly). The intern will assist in various facets of museum work, gaining hands-on experience in all museum divisions. Learn more and apply at [motcp.org/employment](http://motcp.org/employment). **2/25**

## LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-005

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of: UNA 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  
Ryne Sampson

P.O. Box 2408  
Cherokee, NC. 28719  
**2/18**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-006

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of: ANNA SUE OWLE

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



## Employment Opportunities

Now Hiring for Our Spa!

Mandara Spa at Harrah's Cherokee

Hair Stylist  
Nail Tech  
Lead Massage Therapist  
Spa Attendants

For questions, please contact:  
Autumn Parker, Spa Operations Manager  
828-497-8550 [AutumnP@mandaraspaspa.com](mailto:AutumnP@mandaraspaspa.com)  
Email: [HRRrecruitment@onespaworld.com](mailto:HRRrecruitment@onespaworld.com)



## Cherokee Central Schools Job Openings

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

- Varsity Football Head Coach - Must have NC DPI teaching license
- JV Baseball Head Coach
- JV Softball Head Coach
- 9-12 Cherokee Language Instructor
- 9-12 Special Education Teacher - Self-Contained Class
- 9-12 Special Education Teacher
- 9-12 Exceptional Children Inclusion Teacher
- 6-12 Part-Time Vocal Instructor
- K-5 Special Education Teacher Assistant
- K-5 Teacher Assistant
- K-5 School Counselor
- K-5 Cherokee Language Instructor
- K-5 Mental Health Classroom Teacher Assistant (GRANT FUNDED)
- K-5 Behavior Support Teacher Assistant
- 6-Hour Full-Time Food Service Worker
- Part-time Food Service Worker
- Elementary School Nurse (RN or LPN)
- Middle School Nurse Assistant (CNA)

Charles E. Owle Jr.  
1555 Route 206  
Tabernacle, NJ 08088  
2/18

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
In the Tribal Court  
In the Matter of H.L.

Petitioner: The Eastern Band of  
Cherokee Indians Public Health  
and Human Services Department  
of Human Services

TO: UNKNOWN PARENTS OF  
THE MINOR CHILD

Take notice that a pleading  
seeking relief against you has been  
filed in the above-entitled juvenile  
action. The nature of the relief be-  
ing sought is the adjudication and  
disposition of a petition alleging  
the minor child H.L. born Septem-  
ber 30, 2010, as a dependent child,  
filed in the Cherokee Tribal Court  
on August 21, 2025.

You must answer or otherwise  
respond to the pleading within  
forty (40) days of the date of first  
publication of this Notice. If you  
fail to answer or otherwise re-  
spond within the time prescribed,  
the matter will proceed. If you  
are not already represented by  
appointed counsel, you are enti-  
tled to appointed counsel in this  
matter, and to that end, provision-  
al counsel will be appointed for  
you in this matter, and the ap-  
pointment of provisional counsel  
shall be reviewed by the court at  
the first hearing after service of  
process in this matter.

You are advised to IMMEDI-  
ATELY contact the Clerk of Tribal  
Court for the Eastern Band of  
Cherokee Indians at (828) 359-  
6213, to obtain further informa-  
tion about this case, including a  
copy of the pleadings filed herein  
and the date(s) and time(s) of

scheduled hearings.  
First published this the 4th day of  
February, 2026.

Jamie Arnold  
Family Safety Program Attorney  
P.O. Box 455

Cherokee, N.C. 28719  
(828)359-1009

2/25

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
In the Tribal Court  
In the Matter of N.H.

Petitioner: The Eastern Band of  
Cherokee Indians Public Health  
and Human Services Department  
of Human Services

TO: UNKNOWN PARENTS OF  
THE MINOR CHILD

Take notice that a pleading  
seeking relief against you has been  
filed in the above-entitled juvenile  
action. The nature of the relief be-  
ing sought is the adjudication and  
disposition of a petition alleging  
the minor child N.H. born August  
16, 2011, as a dependent child,  
filed in the Cherokee Tribal Court  
on March 27, 2025.

You must answer or otherwise  
respond to the pleading within  
forty (40) days of the date of first  
publication of this Notice. If you  
fail to answer or otherwise re-  
spond within the time prescribed,  
the matter will proceed. If you  
are not already represented by  
appointed counsel, you are enti-  
tled to appointed counsel in this  
matter, and to that end, provision-  
al counsel will be appointed for  
you in this matter, and the ap-  
pointment of provisional counsel  
shall be reviewed by the court at  
the first hearing after service of  
process in this matter.

You are advised to IMMEDI-  
ATELY contact the Clerk of Tribal  
Court for the Eastern Band of

Cherokee Indians at (828) 359-  
6213, to obtain further informa-  
tion about this case, including a  
copy of the pleadings filed herein  
and the date(s) and time(s) of  
scheduled hearings.

First published this the 4th day of  
February 2026.

Jamie Arnold  
Family Safety Program Attorney  
P.O. Box 455

Cherokee, N.C. 28719  
(828)359-1009

2/25

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
In the Tribal Court

In the Matter of R.W. and K.I.

Petitioner: The Eastern Band of  
Cherokee Indians Public Health  
and Human Services Department  
of Human Services

TO: UNKNOWN PARENTS OF  
THE MINOR CHILD

Take notice that a pleading  
seeking relief against you has  
been filed in the above-entitled  
juvenile action. The nature of the  
relief being sought is the adjudica-  
tion and disposition of a petition  
alleging the minor children R.I.B.  
and K.I. born December 3, 2019  
and December 11, 2013, as abused  
and neglected children, filed in the  
Cherokee Tribal Court on Novem-  
ber 25, 2024.

You must answer or otherwise  
respond to the pleading within  
forty (40) days of the date of first  
publication of this Notice. If you  
fail to answer or otherwise re-  
spond within the time prescribed,  
the matter will proceed. If you  
are not already represented by  
appointed counsel, you are enti-  
tled to appointed counsel in this  
matter, and to that end, provision-  
al counsel will be appointed for  
you in this matter, and the ap-

pointment of provisional counsel  
shall be reviewed by the court at  
the first hearing after service of  
process in this matter.

You are advised to IMMEDI-  
ATELY contact the Clerk of Tribal  
Court for the Eastern Band of  
Cherokee Indians at (828) 359-  
6213, to obtain further informa-  
tion about this case, including a  
copy of the pleadings filed herein  
and the date(s) and time(s) of  
scheduled hearings.

First published this the 4th day of  
February, 2026.

Jamie Arnold  
Family Safety Program Attorney  
P.O. Box 455

Cherokee, N.C. 28719  
(828)359-1009

2/25

**BIDS, RFPs, etc.**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
HAYWOOD COUNTY  
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF  
JUSTICE

DISTRICT COURT DIVISION  
IN RE J.J.B.; W.R.B.  
25JA000081-430; 25JA000082-  
430

TAKE NOTICE that juvenile  
petitions regarding the male minor  
child J.J.B. and female minor child  
W.R.B. described above have been  
filed with the Office of the Clerk  
of Superior Court in Haywood  
County, North Carolina in a juve-  
nile proceeding. The nature of the  
relief being sought is to determine  
if the above-described minor chil-  
dren have been abused, neglect-  
ed, or are dependent. Juvenile  
Petitions regarding Tammy Leigh  
Reed as to the minor child J.J.B.  
and Natasha Regina Bigmeat;  
Buster Lee Biddix; and, Unknown  
Biological Father as to the above

child, W.R.B. have been filed bearing the docket numbers set forth in the above caption.

TO: Tammy Leigh Reed, Respondent Mother of male minor child J.J.B. born on July 31, 2012 in Jackson County, North Carolina, conceived with the child's father, J.L.B., respondent; and, Natasha Regina Bigmeat, Respondent Mother, Buster Lee Biddix, Putative Father, and Unknown Biological Father of the female minor child W.R.B. born on October 17, 2018 in Buncombe County, North Carolina.

You are entitled to attend any hearing affecting your parental rights. You are entitled to have counsel appointed by the Court if you are indigent. If you desire counsel, you should contact the Haywood County Clerk of Court, Juvenile Division, Haywood County Courthouse at (828) 454-6500, immediately to request counsel or obtain further information. These are new cases and any attorney appointed previously will only represent you provisionally unless you make an appearance in this court proceeding. Upon your failure to appear, the Petitioner, the Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency, seeking service against you, will apply to the Court

for the relief sought.

This the 11th day of February 2026.

Rachael J. Hawes, Attorney for Petitioner  
Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency  
157 Paragon Parkway, Suite 300  
Clyde, North Carolina 28721  
828-452-6620  
Attorney Bar# 39135  
**2/25**

**Updated Flood Risk Data**  
Public Open House to Review Updated Flood Risk Data for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), North Carolina Residents, business owners, and community leaders of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians are invited to attend a public open house meeting on Thursday, February 26th at the Yellowhill Community Building, 1416 Acquoni Road, Cherokee NC 28719 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The purpose of this event is to review and discuss the latest updates to local flood hazard and flood risk data.

The open house will give participants the opportunity to:  
\* Review the results of the preliminary flood risk data  
\* Learn how to submit appeals and

comments on the revised studies  
\* Ask questions about the updated flood studies and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Local staff will be available to help residents locate their properties on the updated maps and better understand their level of flood risk. Representatives from the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program will also be on site to explain the preliminary map update process, answer questions about flood insurance, and provide guidance on floodplain management.

The flood hazard data is accessible online at <https://fris.nc.gov/>. Select the Preliminary tab to view the preliminary data to determine whether your property is affected by this update.

This event is open to the public. All interested stakeholders are encouraged to attend. Info: Derek Tahquette, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Natural Resources Department at 828-359-6141. **2/25**

### Request for Bids

The Deadline for submitting Electronic Bids on the following projects as well as the public reading will be March 17, 2026, at 2:00 pm. The public reading will be held in Contract Standards and

Development Unit Conference Room (Room 156 A/B), Building B, North Carolina Department of Transportation, Century Center Complex, 1020 Birch Ridge Dr., Raleigh, NC 27610. Please enter door B-2.

(C205088) WAKE, FRANKLIN;  
(C205167) GRANVILLE;  
(C205175) ONSLOW;  
(C205156) WILSON;  
(C205181) DURHAM, WAKE;  
(C204512) WAKE;  
(C205038) WAKE;  
(C204996) ROBESON, CUMBERLAND;  
(C205176) RICHMOND;  
(C205179) UNION;  
(C205013) MECKLENBURG;  
(C205165) POLK

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

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

Plans, proposal forms, and specifications may be obtained at the Raleigh Office of the Department of Transportation, Telephone # 919-707-6925. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MR. PATRICK NORMAN, PE, CHIEF ENGINEER  
**2/18**

# IMMEDIATE

# CARE

# CLINIC



## CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

**75 Paint Town Rd  
Cherokee, NC**

**NO APPOINTMENTS NEEDED, WALK-INS WELCOME!**

**LOCATED NEXT TO THE CASINO**

# NEW YEAR NEW JOB



**CHEROKEE INDIAN  
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



## OPEN POSITIONS

### New Positions

Acupuncturist  
Massage Therapist  
EVS Technician – 3rd Shift  
Dietary Manager

### Behavioral Health

IDD Autism Director  
Mental Health Therapist - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus  
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family – Snowbird,  
Family Safety, Family Intensive Treatment, Medication As-  
sisted Treatment)  
Employment Specialist - Kanvwotiyi  
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwotiyi  
Targeted Case Manager – Child and Family, , MAT  
Residential Technician – Male - Kanvwotiyi

### Dental

Dental Assistant II  
Dental Hygienist  
Dentist - CIHA and Satellite - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus  
Dentist- Pediatrics - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus

### Eye Clinic

Optometrist  
Optometric Assistant

### Medical

Physician - Primary Care  
Physician - Pediatrics  
Psychiatrist  
Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant  
Hospitalist

### Nutrition

Clinical Dietician

### Nursing

Case Management Support – Primary Care  
Case Management Support – Cherokee County  
Clinic  
Certified Medical Assistant or LPN – Primary  
Care  
LPN TJCC  
Registered Nurse ED – Mid Shift or Night Shift -  
\$10,000 Hiring Bonus  
Registered Nurse ED – PTI – Night Shift  
RN Inpatient – Part Time with Benefits  
RN Inpatient – Nights - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus  
RN Inpatient – Nights - PTI  
Unit Coordinator

### Pharmacy

Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner  
Pharmacy Technician II

### Physical Therapy

Occupational Therapist I – Temporary  
Physical Therapist I – Temporary

### Tsali Care Center

Certified Nursing Assistant - \$5,000 Hiring  
Bonus  
Licensed Practical Nurse - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus  
Registered Nurse – \$10,000 Hiring Bonus

### Tribal Option

Tribal Option Medical Social Worker  
Tribal Option Care Manager - Float  
Tribal Option Specialty Team Care Manager –  
IDD

CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

[CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS](http://CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS)

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



# **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**



## Basketball tournament

The Smoky Mountain Blitz 12U team traveled to Knoxville, Tenn. to compete in the K2 Madness Clash on Feb. 7-8. The team finished second in the Silver Division out of seven teams. The team is shown, left to right, back row - Coach Felicia Laryea, Payton Pratama, Cadyn Lovingood, TaLeah Arch, Justiahna West; front row - Kimbo Crowe, Kree Stephenson, Breckyn Cochran, and Lucy Herren. Pratama, Arch, West, and Crowe are members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. (Photo courtesy of Karyl Frankiewicz)



<<

## Parade fun

John Kemp, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from Kolanvyi (Big Cove), is shown enjoying the Mardi Gras parade held in Asheville, N.C., on Sunday, Feb. 15. (Photo courtesy of Aubrey Little)



## Job Opportunities



**Closing Sunday, February 22, 2026**

1. **WWT Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
2. **Housekeeper I – Housekeeping – Operations (L6 \$16.37 - \$20.47 per hour)**
3. **Grounds Maintenance – Public Works – Operations (L7 \$16.61 – \$20.77 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
4. **Electrician Assistant/Generator Maintenance – Facility Management – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
5. **Office Administrator – Cherokee Fire Department – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.3 per hour)**
6. **Manager (Realty Land records) – Realty Services – Office of the Attorney General (L15 \$61,776 - \$77,230)**
7. **Early Childhood Language Specialist Assistant – Kituwah Academy – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)**
8. **Supervisor (Speaker Services) – Kituwah Academy – CERS (L13 \$50,669 - \$63,357)**

## Open Until Filled

1. **Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
2. **Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
3. **Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
4. **Sergeant - Corrections - EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
5. **Sergeant (Patrol) - CIPD - EBCI Law Enforcement (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
6. **FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Public Safety (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
7. **Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
8. **Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)**
9. **Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (Starting rate of \$20.00/hour)**
10. **Supervisor – Biological/Waste Water Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
11. **Registered Nurse – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour)**

**EBCI Human Resources Mon- Fri 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Call us (828) 359-6388  
[www.ebci.com/jobs](http://www.ebci.com/jobs)**

# *Good Luck This Season!*



*The Atlanta Braves are proud to support  
Cherokee Central Schools Braves  
baseball and softball teams on  
their upcoming season!*