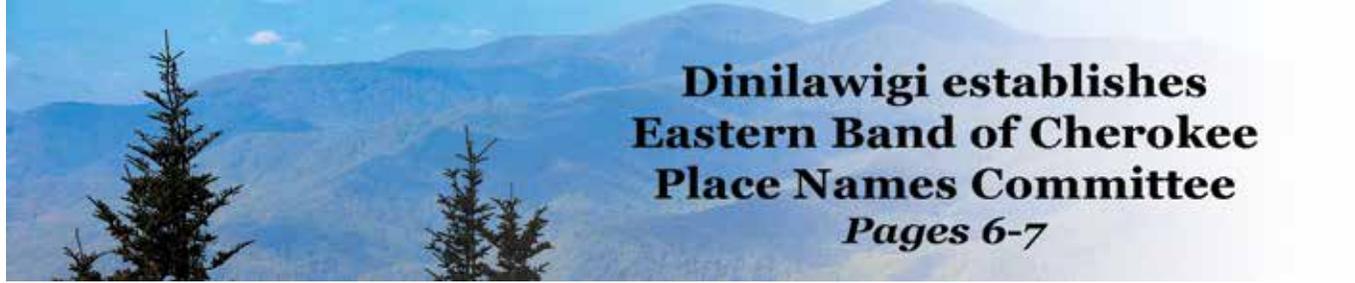


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Cherokee One Feather website



Dinilawigi establishes Eastern Band of Cherokee Place Names Committee
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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of
anvyi (march) 18-24,
2026

Three in a row

Lady Braves make history with third consecutive state basketball championship

By BROOKLYN BROWN
One Feather Reporter

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - The Tsalagi Anata Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Lady Braves) are the 2025-2026 NCHSAA 2A State Champions. The Lady Braves dominated the state game, earning their third state title in a row with the largest winning margin in NCHSAA history for women's basketball on the

see BASKETBALL page 4



The Tsalagi Anata Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Lady Braves) won the 2025-2026 NCHSAA 2A Basketball State Championship on the evening of Thursday, March 12 in Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Winston-Salem, N.C. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photos)



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- Session 1: June 14-19
- Session 2: June 21-26
- Session 3: June 28-July 3
- Session 4: July 5-10
- Session 5: July 12-17
- Session 6: July 19-24
- Session 7: July 26-31
- Session 8: Aug. 2-7
- Session 9: Aug. 9-14



For more information call: 828-359-6934 or contact Megan Stamer at megastam@ebcci-nsn.gov

ymcacampwatia.org



Image of the Week:

Miranda Stamper, Tsalagi Anata Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Lady Braves) head coach, and Will Poolaw, team manager, embrace as the team won their third state title in a row with the largest winning margin in NCHSAA history for women's basketball on the evening of Thursday, March 12 in Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Winston-Salem, N.C. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)

Quote of the Week

"Anybody, anywhere, anyplace. That's just how we carry ourselves. No matter if you're way bigger than us, faster, smarter, older, we're gonna give it all we have. We're gonna put our heads down and go to work. It's a good reminder and it's also a warning for the other team, really, of what we're coming for."

In the post-game press conference for the 2A NCHSAA women's basketball championship, Joscelyn Stamper (second from left), a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Tsalagi Anata Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Lady Braves), said the team motto is *lyusdigwo*, a Cherokee term printed on the back of their warm-ups

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



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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Jr. (#1) Madison Rogers earns the title of Most Valuable Player for the 2025-2026 NCHSAA 2A State Championship game.

BASKETBALL: From front page

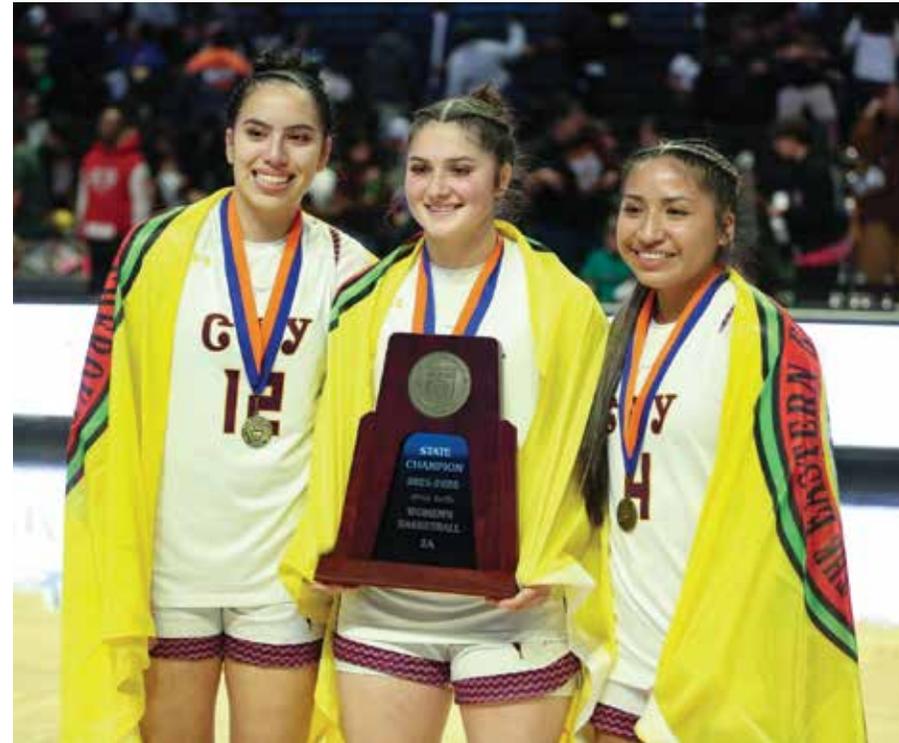
evening of Thursday, March 12 in Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum. The final score, with a margin of 61 points, was 76-15.

Jr. guard (#1) Madison Rogers was named the Most Valuable Player of the NCHSAA 2A State Championship game. She was the leading scorer with a total of 25 points and a shooting percentage of 66.67 percent.

Jr. center (#13) Joscelyn Stamper was named Most Outstanding Player from the Lady Braves. She was the next leading

scorer with 15 points. She also tallied 10 rebounds and 5 blocks. Stamper earned Most Outstanding Player her freshman year when the Lady Braves won the 2023-24 NCHSAA 1A State Championship. Sr. forward (#12) Yvonne Saunooke received the Sportsmanship Award.

Sr. (#4) Dvdaya Swimmer was the third leading scorer with 10 points. Sr. (#14) Marlee Hicks also played a great final game of her high school career, earning the fourth highest scoring tally with 8 points and a shooting percentage of 100 percent.



Seniors Yvonne Saunooke, Marlee Hicks, and Dvdaya Swimmer pose with the NCHSAA 2A State Championship trophy.

The Lady Braves came out strong, leading the first quarter 33-4. They would continue to dominate, with Cherokee's starting five sitting out much of the third and fourth quarter.

Freshman (#2) Cambry Stamper came off the bench in the second half, scoring the final points of the game by sinking a three-pointer in the last 24 seconds. Stamper is the daughter of head coach Miranda Long Stamper and the sister of Joscelyn Stamper.

The Lady Braves end the season with an overall record of 30-1, and 17-0 in conference play.

In the post-game press conference, Joscelyn Stamper said the team motto is Iyusdigwo, a Cherokee term printed on the back of their warm-ups, "Anybody, anywhere, anyplace. That's just how we carry ourselves. No matter if you're way bigger than us, faster, smarter, older, we're gonna give it all we have. We're gonna put our heads down and go to work. It's a good reminder and it's also a warning for the other team, really, of what we're coming for."

The EBCI Tribal Member Information Portal

<http://wayvsdodi.ebc.gov>

Preregistration required.

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

"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"



Dinilawigi establishes Eastern Band of Cherokee Place Names Committee

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) approved a resolution that establishes the Eastern Band of Cherokee Place Names Committee. Res. No. 92 (2026) passed 11-1 {Wayohi (Wolf-town) Rep. Mike Parker dissenting} during the regular session of

Dinilawigi on Thursday, March 5.

The resolution was submitted by Kimberly Smith, an EBCI tribal member and former member of the Federal Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names; Jessica Lambert, a member of the Choctaw Nation with EBCI heritage and co-chair of the Coalition for Outdoor Renaming and Education; and Avery Weatherly, an EBCI tribal member and EBCI Natural Resources Dept. conservation outreach coordinator.

The resolution states, “The Eastern Band of Cherokee has a profound relationship to their ancestral homelands and has stewarded them since time immemorial and recognizes that place names carry deep cultural, historical, and spiritual meaning; and as a

sovereign nation, it is the inherent responsibility of the Eastern Band of Cherokee to lead with courage and conviction in confronting and opposing social injustice wherever it arises.”

Three points were approved as part of the resolution including:

- “Tribal Council establishes an Eastern Band of Cherokee Place Names Committee to coordinate EBCI-led renaming efforts to identify and lead official tribal renaming initiatives, to ensure community voices guide committee decisions, to build relationships with partners in ancestral homelands, and to expand the Cherokee narrative around place names.”
- “The Eastern Band of Cherokee Place Names Committee will actively engage with state and

federal renaming place names boards to ensure decisions about place names in Cherokee ancestral homelands have the insight of the original people.”

• “The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians shall make advocacy for the Reconciliation in Place Names Act a priority within its lobbying and legislative agenda in the United States Congress, and shall direct its representatives, legal counsel, and federal partners to actively pursue passage of this legislation, ensuring the voices and values of the Cherokee people are represented in all federal decision-making regarding place names.”

Smith commented, “There’s a lot of work to be done, and what we’re looking to do is to be able to

5K WALK/RUN FOR CHEROKEE LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION

When: Saturday March 28, 2026

Where: Kituwah Field (Ferguson Fields)

Open registration is from 8am-10:30am
5K starts at 11am

March is Indigenous Languages Month for our GWY community. To celebrate this, adult second language learners are creating a **community free event** in efforts to bring language and health to our people. The event will be a 5K walk/run for GWY Language Revitalization during the morning-afternoon hours of March 28th. Along with the 5K we to plan on having songs, social dances, and storytelling during the event. The event will be held at our Mother Town, also known as Kituwah Fields, as this place is central to our history and where our language began.

Event Organizer:

Madison Hye Long - OWΘYC
828.736.4335
madisonhye1@gmail.com

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2026 5K WALK/RUN FOR CHEROKEE LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION

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have the Tribe be one of the leading voices in that initiative to help us build the narrative back of what this land looks like.”

She added, “The Wilderness Society has allocated funds to help support a tribal committee in getting established this year. So, we’ll have some resources that can provide some of that infrastructure to create this collective of EBCI representatives to do the work and have that Cherokee lens to all of the research that needs to be done to create that narrative with our voice and our people included. (EBCI) Natural Resources Department has been willing to facilitate and the reason we’re asking that Council give a blessing to establish the committee is so that when they do work and they have to go off-Boundary, when they write a statement, this is vetted and backed by the Tribe. So, it’s not just a collective of community members doing this work, it has the endorsement of the Tribe behind when they go to the national boards for renaming, when they go to local communities who want to do a name change, it has that vetted Tribal support to it.”

The Reconciliation in Place Names Act was submitted in the U.S. Senate by Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) on Sept. 18, 2025. It is currently in the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The purpose of the Act states that it would “establish a process for the Board on Geographic Names to review and revise offensive place names, to create an advisory committee to recommend offensive place names to be reviewed by the Board”.

A successful name restoration effort was led recently for an area in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park known for thousands

of years as Kuwohi (‘mulberry place’ in the Cherokee language). From 1859 to 2024, that area was known as Clingman’s Dome. The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) approved the application for the name restoration to Kuwohi on Sept. 18, 2024.

The name restoration effort was led by Dinilawigi Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Lavita Hill and Mary Crowe, an EBCI tribal elder.

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Shannon Swimmer commented, “I appreciate and support what you all are trying to do. My concern is just the timing of it because you already mentioned what’s going on with the current administration. So, bringing more attention to it...I’m just concerned about the timing. What are your thoughts on how drawing attention to this may further efforts to take back names like Kuwohi?”

Lambert replied, “It’s a great question and something that we’ve been thinking about a lot. Currently, our strategy with the legislation is to get as many members of Congress on board that we think would support this. We’re really trying to grow that base of support so that when we have a more favorable political administration we can push it forward easily.”

Rep. Hill said during Thursday’s discussion, “I fully support the work that you want to do in this. I do agree with Shannon that the timing could be off. But, I just think that, grass roots, this work can begin now.

This is really hard, long work, but I think it’s totally worth it and that we should support them however we can.”

Weatherly said working on the resolution caused her to reflect on an internship she did with the Great Smoky Mountains National

Park. “When I was there, that was the time when Lavita and Missy were working on getting the name change from Clingman’s Dome back to Kuwohi...it was very inspiring to know that there are other Cherokee people out here that are very passionate about the land like I was, and were using their strength to make sure good work happens and get the name back to where it was supposed to be.”

Ugwwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks said, “My perspective is, you have to begin to talk about something to make change. And how do we do that? I definitely get the point of putting this up to an administration that may not be supportive, but I still think the work has to be done.

From our perspective, the more that we can announce these types of relationships and exchanges, I think the better off we’re going to be. So, I think there’s definitely a way to get this done, but it’s all about perspective and perception. I want to see this work continue. We have a lot to do, and we all know that, but we can’t sit quiet. We’ve got to have the vehicle to help to move this along.”

Keith Nibbs, BIA Cherokee agency superintendent, commented, “I just want to applaud your efforts and let you know, from my perspective, personally, I definitely support this. However, you very astutely pointed out the timing of this is critical. Just know that, if this work continues, I will certainly support it.”

Weatherly summed up the overall intent of the committee. “I think it would be really cool to have a group that would be working on this so eventually a lot of the places we visit and the places we have connection to will have

the names that we gave them.”

The resolution doesn’t include language regarding the formation of the committee nor how committee members will be selected. The One Feather will continue to follow this story as it evolves and the committee is formed.



1. What NASCAR driver, 1970 Grand National Series champion, quit in the middle of the 1973 Talladega 500 because he’d heard a voice telling him to get out of the car?
2. Before joining the Florida Gators in 1990 and leading them to a national championship in 1996, Steve Spurrier was head coach of what college football team from 1987-1989?
3. The 2003 Presidents Cup golf tournament was declared a 17-17 tie after three undecided playoff holes between what two golfers?
4. What Pennsylvania sportswear manufacturer was the official supplier of uniforms and apparel to Major League Baseball teams from 2005-2019?
5. Who created the Greater Oakland Professional Pigskin Prognosticators League in the early 1960s and became widely known as the father of modern fantasy sports?
6. What professional football league played only eight of the scheduled 10 weeks in its lone 2019 season and included teams like the Orlando Apollos, Arizona Hotshots, Salt Lake Stallions and San Diego Fleet?
7. A case of the yips for a baseball fielder is named after which Los Angeles Dodgers second baseman who struggled to complete routine throws to first and committed 30 errors in 1983?

Answers

1. Bobby Isaac.
2. The Duke Blue Devils.
3. Tiger Woods and Ernie Els.
4. Majestic Athletic.
5. Bill Winkenbach.
6. The Alliance of American Football (AAF).
7. Steve Sax (“Steve Sax Syndrome”).

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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. 3945 (A bill to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply equally to tribal law enforcement agencies).

The full text of this bill is not yet available as of press time.
Introduced: Feb. 26, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Feb. 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

S. 3946 (A bill to allow members of federally recognized tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer).

The full text of this bill is not yet available as of press time.
Introduced: Feb. 26, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7698 (A bill to allow members of federally recognized tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer). The full text of this bill is not yet available as of press time.

Introduced: Feb. 25, 2026 by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 25, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7699 (A bill to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply equally to tribal law enforcement agencies).

The full text of this bill is not yet available by press time.
Introduced: Feb. 25, 2026 by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 25, 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-Man-

agement 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 mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent.

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

see LEGISLATIVE next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 9

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 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, “The House of Representatives (1) recognizes 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-Okla.) 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 appropriate “\$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. This bill was passed by the House on a voice vote on March 3, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March

4, 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 (Native Arts and Culture Promotion Act).

This House bill would amend the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Culture and Art Development Act Section 1521 to add the following subsection (c), “(2) For any grants made with respect to Native Hawaiian art and culture, the members of the governing board which is required to be established under paragraph (1) shall (A) include Native Hawaiians and individuals widely recognized in the field of Native Hawaiian art and culture.”

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

see LEGISLATIVE next page

EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS
HOUSING DIVISION

HOUSING LOTTERY

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EBCI TRIBAL HOUSING FORECLOSURE PREVENTION



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are seriously delinquent. Those
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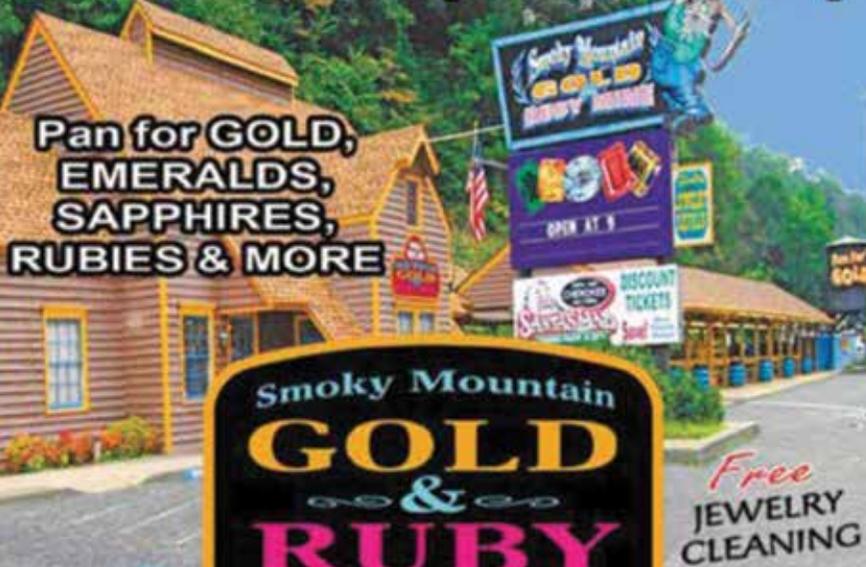
Call or email for more information:

Michelle Stamper
Tina Larch-Rivera
Misty Millsaps

michstam@ebci-nsn.gov
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**CIPD Arrest Report for
March 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 online at theonefeather.com.

Blanton, Tylina Rae – age 24

Arrested: March 2
Released: March 2
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Mathis, Fredrick Jerome – age 56
Arrested: March 2
Released: March 5
Charges: Exploitation of an Elder or Vulnerable Adult, Neglect of an Elder or Vulnerable Adult

Driver, Kendall Juanye – age 27
Arrested: March 3
Released: March 5
Charges: Breaking and Entering,

Pre-Trial Release Violation

Beck, Jackie Lynn – age 48
Arrested: March 4
Released: March 5
Charges: Violation of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders

Taylor, Jalen Robert – age 32
Arrested: March 4
Released: Not released as of report date (March 9)
Charges: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Possession Schedule III Controlled Substance

Roland, Davita Clinstel – age 43
Arrested: March 6
Released: March 7
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Hill-Maney, Ariyonna Jade – age 21
Arrested: March 8
Released: March 8
Charges: Breaking and Entering; Simple Assault and Battery, Simple Affray

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Automatic Notices & Reminders
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If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact our support team at 828-359-6911.

Sincerely,
Cherokee Indian Housing Division



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Pam is a longtime advocate of the social work profession. She joined Tribal In-Home Care Services in 2019 and has been serving WNC since 1996.

oᎮᎮ Sgi, Pam!

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A-NV-YI MARCH

**SOCIAL WORK
MONTH 2026**

Agency wins awards for Cherokee “Find Your Spirit” ad campaign

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – French West Vaughan (FWV), with Rooster Media Productions, on behalf of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and Visit Cherokee, won several awards at the local 2025-26 American Advertising Awards Gala hosted by AAF (American Advertising Federation) of the Triangle on Thursday, March 6.

The Cherokee “Find Your Spirit” Campaign won the Mosaic Award which, according to the American Advertising Federation, “is given to the entry, from any category that best exemplifies a spirit of diversity and inclusion. The criteria for this award are a demonstration of understanding of and sensitivity to the needs, concerns, and buying practices of multicultural audiences.”

That campaign also was awarded a Silver Addy Award.

These entries now advance to the District 3 Competition

comprising all of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

EBCI Secretary of Commerce Sean Ross commented, “We have been quite pleased with the passion and energy that FWV/Rooster has brought to the role as our agency of record. The team has spent an exhaustive amount of time visiting Cherokee to better understand who we truly are as a people. And the community, in turn, has shown acceptance of the agency and has shared pieces of themselves in a collective effort to tell our story to the masses. The end result has been a series of campaigns that have scored very well and has moved the needle in an effort to create stronger awareness and impulse visits to the Qualla Boundary.”

Spencer McCoy, EBCI Destination Marketing director, said, “The French West Vaughan/Rooster Media team adds significant value to our marketing and advertising efforts. By coming to Cherokee and immersing themselves in our community, they have been able



French West Vaughan (FWV), with Rooster Media Productions, on behalf of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and Visit Cherokee, won several awards at the local 2025-26 American Advertising Awards Gala hosted by AAF (American Advertising Federation) of the Triangle on Thursday, March 6. The Cherokee “Find Your Spirit” Campaign won the Mosaic Award. (Photo courtesy of EBCI Commerce Division)

to accurately represent Cherokee to the masses. These awards are a reflection of such. Proud of the work we have been able to collaborate on and excited for further Campaign Developments.”

Rick French, FWV chairman and chief executive officer, said in

a statement, “We’re proud to see campaigns recognized that tell meaningful stories, from celebrating Native American culture to promoting public safety.”

French West Vaughn also won a Gold Addy Award for the EBCI 2024 Annual Report.

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PROPERTY SURVEY, TRANSFER & RIGHT OF WAYS	<input type="checkbox"/> Surveying requests for approved buildable sites will be done by the Tribal Surveying dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Property transfers will be done by the owner to the home buyer at Tribal Realty. <input type="checkbox"/> The home buyer must own the property for financing purposes. <input type="checkbox"/> All road and utility right of ways or utility easements must be in place before any site work begins.
PRE-APPROVAL PRE-QUALIFICATION	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant will meet with Homebuyer Services Coordinator where they are required to have Site Inspection forms completed, unless applicant is wishing to purchase a home. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will assist applicant with packaging loan applications to lender. <input type="checkbox"/> Lender will issue a prequalification letter indicating maximum loan amount. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send Infrastructure a copy of the prequalification letter
INFRASTRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Once pre-approved/qualified, the infrastructure application must be completed. <input type="checkbox"/> Legal description proving ownership of the property must be included. <input type="checkbox"/> Must be an EBCI enrolled member constructing a permanent residence on trust lands to receive Infrastructure services.
HOME BUYING SEARCH & QUOTE	<input type="checkbox"/> Prequalified borrower will begin their house search, keeping in mind the size of the site that was approved. <input type="checkbox"/> Borrower will request a sales quote, floor plans and foundation plan for their home. <input type="checkbox"/> After receiving quote and house plans, Borrower will submit all documents and drawings to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will submit estimate, plans and drawings to Infrastructure. <input type="checkbox"/> Simultaneously, HBS Coordinator will submit same plans to the lending institution, as well as financial documents to keep loan active. Financial documents are updated with lender every 30 days.
DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE (DPA) & LOAN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will process documents to request Down Payment Assistance for 20% of sales contract amount, up to \$50,000.00, and will request \$5,000.00 in Rate Buy Down (RBD) gift funds simultaneously. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will submit to Loan Compliance Committee for review. Committee will review for completeness of application. <input type="checkbox"/> Completed applications are submitted to Secretary of Housing for approval and signature. <input type="checkbox"/> Approved applications are then submitted to the Principal Chief for approval and signature. <input type="checkbox"/> The approved and signed applications are returned to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will continue to send financial docs on a continual basis to lender until loan close is scheduled.
CIDH & REALTY – On Trust Lands	<input type="checkbox"/> After receiving signed loan approvals, the Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send DPA firm commitment to Tribal Realty to initiate Ownership Statement (OS), Lease and Assignment. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will also send a letter to lender to notify approval of DPA and RBD. <input type="checkbox"/> Once OS, lease and assignment are received, these documents will be forwarded to the lending institution. <input type="checkbox"/> Lending Institution will contact client to “lock in” their interest rate, taking into consideration the gift funds to purchase discount points.
DPA funds – Off Trust Lands	<input type="checkbox"/> After loan approvals are received, Coordinator will send letter notifying lender the borrower has been approved for DPA and RBD funds and request closing attorney information. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will complete the Promissory Note and Deed of Trust and to be signed at closing and recorded at Register of Deeds in the county of purchase. <input type="checkbox"/> Closing attorney will send copy of recorded documents back to Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will submit recorded documents to Realty to be recorded for off-boundary loans.
LOAN CLOSE	<input type="checkbox"/> Prior to loan close, Coordinator will request AP checks for issuance of DPA and RBD to be disbursed to the lender at closing. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will notify Site Prep that loan has closed. <input type="checkbox"/> Home construction may start after loan close. <input type="checkbox"/> Client will begin working with Lender’s Construction Loan Specialist for completion of construction.
SITE PREP SCHEDULING	<input type="checkbox"/> Signed purchase agreement, house floor plans and firm commitment must on file with homebuyer services and Infrastructure. <input type="checkbox"/> If 1 acre or more will be disturbed during site prep construction, a SWPP (Storm Water Protection Plan) must be completed by our contractor before any work can begin.
SERVICES PROVIDED BY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NEW HOMES	<input type="checkbox"/> For qualified EBCI enrolled members residing on trust land, Infrastructure provides: <input type="checkbox"/> Site Prep, Footers, Block Foundation, Block Underpinning, Vinyl Underpinning, Gutter System and Final Grade to prevent erosion.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tribal Realty	Infrastructure Dept.	Housing Services	Timber Permits
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		



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EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Typo found on recent Cherokee Water & Sewer bills

Cherokee Water & Sewer would like to inform customers of a typographical error on recent billing statements regarding the shut-off date for past due balances.

The correct shut-off date for past due accounts is March 23, 2026.

If your bill indicates a different shut-off date, please disregard that date and refer to March 20, 2026 as the correct deadline for payment to avoid service interruption.

Cherokee Water & Sewer officials noted, "We apologize for any confusion this may have caused and appreciate your understanding."

If you have any questions or need assistance with your account, please contact their office (828) 359-6102 or 359-6106.

- Cherokee Water & Sewer

Cherokee Supreme Court sessions for 2026:

- April 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
- July 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
- Sept. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
- Oct. 9

- Cherokee Tribal Court

Foundation accepting nominations for Lula Owl Gloyne Award

The nominations for the annual Lula Owl Gloyne – Person of Excellence Award are officially open. Following the standard of excellence first set by Beloved Woman Lula Owl Gloyne, who worked as the first registered nurse of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), this annual award serves to honor a deserving individual whose actions and contributions

have improved the healthcare of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

The inaugural Lula Owl Gloyne Award was presented in memoriam to Lula's daughter, the late Mary Wachacha in June 2022. Since 2022, other recipients have included Dr. Victoria Harlan and Susan Crowe. The 2025 award was presented to Mistee Cutshaw just before she passed away from pancreatic and liver cancer.

"The Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation is honored to help carry forward Lula Owl Gloyne's legacy through the annual award that bears her name," said Foundation Chairman Sheyaheshe Littledave. "Her example set a standard of service and commitment that continues to guide our work today. By recognizing those who follow in her footsteps, we both honor her impact and ensure her legacy lives on as we continue advancing health care for the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians."

Nominees are expected to reflect the following core values:

- Contributions to Healthcare: Nominee has made significant contributions to the advancement of healthcare on behalf of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
- Selflessness: Nominee acts in the best interests of others and promotes their health & wellness.
- Accomplished: Nominee has risen above and beyond the call of duty to achieve results. This includes educational and professional achievements and serving as role model and mentor to others.
- Resilient: Nominee is an advocate on behalf of others to ensure the prosperity of the next seven generations of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.
- Visionary: Nominee demonstrated forward thinking and a vision

for the future of healthcare for the EBCI – regardless of barriers.

Nomination forms are available on the Foundation's website at cihfoundation.org or by emailing Foundation Director Brittney Lofthouse at Brittney.lofthouse@cherokeehospital.org. Nomination must be submitted to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation by March 31. The CIH Foundation Board will review all nominations and will announce this year's recipient on May 1. The 2026 recipient of the Lula Owl Gloyne – Person of Excellence Award will also be recognized at the 15th Annual Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation Gala scheduled for June 27 at the Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort.

- Cherokee Indian Hospital
Authority

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@CherokeeAdventure.com by April 1. You may also email with questions if needed.

- Cherokee Historical Association

NATIONAL PARK NEWS

Great Smoky Mountains National Park seeks Elk Rover volunteers for 2026 Season

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

Volunteer duties include:

- Sharing information with visitors about elk and wildlife safety
- Assisting with traffic management along US 441/Newfound Gap Road
- Assisting and guiding visitors
- Standing and walking for extended periods
- Answering general questions about the park

Interested volunteers should commit to one, four-hour afternoon shift per week on either Friday, Saturday or Sunday between May and mid-November.

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

Interested in joining the team? Learn more at <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/getinvolved/volunteer.htm>

- National Park Service release

Greening Up the Mountains set for April 25

Submitted by Greening Up the Mountains Committee

Spring is coming soon for Sylva and the surrounding areas of western North Carolina. After a colder than average winter, residents of this small town will be happy to see the blooms, fresh leaves and new growth and most importantly the warmer temperatures by April. Along with the fresh growth of green foliage creeping from the lowest to the highest elevations comes Sylva's annual Greening Up the Mountains Festival. This year's festival takes place on April 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This festival provides a great opportunity for folks to be outside and experience all the various elements of Sylva's largest annual festival. There is something for all attendees! Over 140 arts and crafts vendors will have items displayed on Main Street and in Bridge Park. There will also be 20 food, snack and beverage vendors set up to satisfy any hunger or thirst desires. There will be live music being played at Bridge Park throughout the day featur-

ing local musicians and bands. There will be a demonstration area with demonstrations from Green Energy Park and others. Kids can enjoy getting their face painted, visit with our balloon artist or have their photo made with PAWS the mascot from Western Carolina University.

Non-profit organizations will be scattered within the footprint of this year's festival to help remind everyone of our responsibility to take care of and support the beautiful environment of these mountains. The festival planning committees throughout the years have worked diligently to have little or no negative impact to the environment due to this large event. Efforts have been directed to eliminating plastic bags and bottles from the festival. Merchants from Mainstreet Sylva have created a recycle program for the other waste produced on festival date. Water stations have been established by Tuckasegee Water and Sewer as attendees are encouraged to bring their individual water containers. These efforts reflect the desire of festival founding members who began the festival as a celebration of Earth Day in 1998.

Many of the merchants of downtown businesses open their

doors on this Saturday to offer additional shopping and dining opportunities.

Event coordinators, Mark and Tammy Haskett, have lived in Jackson County since graduating from Western Carolina University in the early 1980's and have attended many of the festivals over the past 28 years. Since being named festival coordinators in 2023 the vendor registration has reached capacity within the first couple of weeks as vendors anxiously anticipate this annual event. Tammy who oversees the vendor registration is excited about the vendors coming this year. "We have a great variety of high-end products from many talented artists this year"

Sponsorships from community businesses and partners play a huge roll in the ability to stage an event which has drawn over 12,000 attendees each year since the Covid affected years. We honestly could not make this happen if not for the great support from our community, Haskett says. Sponsorships cover nearly half the cost of the festival.

So, mark your calendars now so that you will not miss Greening Up the Mountains 2026!

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Adding bubbles to your bath keeps the water warm for a longer amount of time.

- To perform Kermit's early swamp scene in "The Muppet Movie," Jim Henson had to spend a day in a 50-gallon steel drum under a pond.

- Wakes were originally held in case the apparently deceased returned to life.

- The word "love" or "zero" in tennis possibly derives from the French word "l'oeuf," meaning "egg," which may represent the figure zero.

- Giraffes have the highest blood pressure of any mammal.

- Because the speed of Earth's rotation changes over time, a day in the age of dinosaurs was 23 hours long.

- The Pyramid of Khufu at Giza, the largest Egyptian pyramid, weighs as much as 16 Empire State buildings.

- A stork shot by a hunter in Germany in 1822 was found with a Central African spear piercing its throat, providing scientists with the first evidence for long-distance bird migration.

- Soccer stars Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi were born 869 days apart, and their respective eldest sons were also born exactly 869 days apart.

- The SkyWheel in Helsinki is the only Ferris wheel in the world featuring a sauna in one of its gondolas.

- "To Have and Have Not," starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, was made into a movie after director Howard Hawks told Ernest Hemingway he could make a great film from what Hemingway called his worst book.

- Peru is the only country whose English-language name can be typed on a single row of a standard QWERTY keyboard.

- Pulmonary arteries are the only ones in the human body that carry deoxygenated blood.

Thought for the Day: "An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves." — *Bill Vaughan*

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Check out our new Qualla: Our Community video series at the Cherokee One Feather YouTube channel

@CherokeeOneFeather on YouTube



Dr. Gwang Soo Han
(1939-2026)

Dr. Gwang Soo Han, a dedicated and leading physician, a tireless advocate for the community, and a devoted husband of 60 years,



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passed away peacefully on Jan. 16, 2026, at the age of 86 following a brief illness. He leaves behind a legacy defined by resilience, a deep love of learning, and a lifetime spent in the service of his communities.

A Journey of Resilience

Born on June 30, 1939, in the northern region of Korea to Yung Il Han and Jung Soon Choi, Gwang Soo’s early life was shaped by the turbulent history of the Korean peninsula. His father, working as a banker and in many other businesses, moved his family to Busan in the southernmost part of Korea. Gwang Soo was a brilliant student, leaving his home in Busan at the age of 14 and graduating from the prestigious Seoul High School before earning his medical degree from Seoul National University (SNU) in 1963. Following his studies, he served his military service as a medical officer in the South Korean Army.

In Seoul, while living in a modest rooming house during college, he met the love of his life, Gwang Ja Lee. Their union, spanning seven decades, became the cornerstone of his world. In search of greater opportunity, he immigrated to the United States in 1967 where he completed his residency and internship at SUNY-Downstate Medical Center. After training and living in Washington D.C., New York City, and Detroit, he eventually settled in Sylva, North Carolina in 1974, where he would leave an indelible mark on the communities of western North Carolina

A Healer of Thousands

In June of 1974, Dr. Han was the first and only board-certified Obstetrician and Gynecologist (OB/GYN) in western North Carolina west of Asheville. He quick-

ly became a lifeline to that area serving not only Sylva and Jackson County but many of the underserved communities in Cherokee, Franklin, Robbinsville, Andrews, and beyond. Over a career that spanned more than three decades, he delivered more than 6,200 babies and was instrumental in raising the standards of women’s health care introducing fetal monitoring, fetal ultrasounds and laparoscopic surgery to an area where many hospitals did not even do those things.

His passion was in the operating room where he performed his own urogynecology and gynecologic oncology surgeries and brought cutting-edge technology to a region where that was not routine. He held monthly clinics in rural mountain towns and served the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians for decades. Even after retiring from private practice in 2007, he continued his clinic in Cherokee until 2014. Upon his retirement, he was one of the first non-Native Americans invited into the Tribal Council and was honored for his lifelong service to the community. To many in his community, he was more than a doctor; he was the first pair of hands to welcome them into the world. His patients remember him for his steady calm, his tireless work ethic, and his profound respect for the miracle of life.

A Lifelong Learner

Beyond the walls of the hospital, Gwang Soo was a man of immense intellectual curiosity. He was a “lifelong learner” in the truest sense, often found immersed in a biography or a history book. He possessed a refined appreciation for the smaller joys of life—a thoughtful conversation, a beautiful piece of music, or a fine

glass of wine shared with family and friends. He loved to travel the world and immerse himself in the history of great people. He especially loved to share this learning with his children and grandchildren. After retirement, he still lived to serve the underserved, as he worked in hospitals in New Zealand and Kenya.

Legacy and Family

Dr. Han’s greatest pride was his family. He is survived by his beloved wife of over 60 years, Gwang Ja, his son Bobby and his wife Jae, his daughter Angie and her husband Russell Culin; and his cherished grandchildren Becker, Bensen, and Bowen Han, and Ellie and Noah Culin. He taught them, by example, that a life is built on a strong foundation of education, integrity, and devotion to those you love.

While we will miss the warmth of his hand and the wisdom of his voice, we find comfort in knowing that his legacy lives on in the thousands of lives he touched and the family he adored.

Memorial Service Information

A celebration of Dr. Gwang Soo Han’s life will be held on Saturday, March 21 at 10 a.m. at the Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home at 9902 Braddock Road in Fairfax, Virginia where his remains will be interred.

A second memorial service will be held in Sylva, the place that he called home for 52 years on Saturday, April 18 at 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church at 77 Jackson Street, Sylva, North Carolina.

In keeping with his spirit of service, the family suggests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Center for Domestic Peace (<https://www.cdpjaxcountync.org/>) or Circles of Jackson County

(<https://www.circlesofjackson-county.com/>) – two organizations that helped the underserved in Jackson County, N.C.

Donald A. "Duck" Brady

Donald Allen Brady, age 76, of Cherokee, N.C., went home to be with the Lord on March 10, 2026 at Tsali Care Center, Cherokee, N.C. surrounded by his loving sisters. He was born on Sept. 8, 1949 to Floyd and Margaret Taylor Brady. Donald was a member of Echota Baptist Church. Donald was away from Cherokee for approximately 40 years and met the love of his life, Sandra Moore.

Donald is survived by his sisters, Mary B. Lambert (Robert), Theresa B. Tahquette, and Juanita Curtis (Darrell). Nephews, Christian Cyle Reed, Kevin McCoy; niece, Charlene McCoy all of Cherokee, N.C.; step-children, Chester Moore of Bernardsville, N.C., Larry Moore of Madison County, N.C., Jimmy Moore of Canton, N.C., and Cassie Moore of Laurens, S.C.

Donald was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Sandra Moore Brady; his beloved mother and father, Floyd Brady and Margaret Taylor Brady; baby brother, Tony Ricky Brady; maternal grandparents, John Taylor and Nora Squirrel Taylor; paternal Grandparents, John Andy Brady and Susie Smith Brady; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Funeral Services were held Friday, March 13 at the Chapel of Crisp Funeral Home. Brother

Joe Wolfe officiated with burial at Birdtown Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Robert Lambert, Christian Cyle Reed, Kevin McCoy, Tyler McCoy, and Tsali McCoy.

The family takes comfort in knowing Donald is in the presence of Jesus, healed, with no pain and rejoicing in eternal life.

Lola Owl Blankenship

Lola Owl Blankenship, age 65, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. She was born on June 5, 1960, in Toombs County, Ga., and spent most of her life in Cherokee, N.C., where she built a life centered on family, friendship, and laughter. Lola was preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Nell Owl; her beloved husband, Jack Ray Blankenship; her daughter, Misty Marie Blythe; and her sister, Linda Sue Arch.

She will be remembered as one of the funnest aunts anyone could grow up with. Lola had a gift for bringing people together, often around a table where she happily taught her nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and friends how to play various card games. Those moments of laughter, friendly competition, and storytelling became cherished memories for everyone lucky enough to sit across from her.

Lola wore her heart on her sleeve and believed deeply that family wasn't always defined by blood. That belief was reflected in

the close bonds she shared with her best friends, Cathey Woodard, Shirley Taylor, and Karen Larch, who were like sisters to her.

She leaves behind her grandchildren, Logan Blankenship (Maggie) and Emily Blankenship, and her son-in-law, Sam Blythe. She is also survived by additional children, Dennis Blankenship, Leroy Blankenship, Tony Blankenship, and Denise Neesam.

Lola also leaves behind her favorite aunt, Louise Thigpen; her favorite niece, April Bird (Angela might disagree); and her favorite great-niece, Angel Kirby ("favorite" according to them). She loved her Georgia and Cherokee families so much. Additional surviving family members include her brother-in-law, Robert Arch, and siblings Gerrelle Bazemore Owl and Jason (Hattie) Owl.

Graveside services were held on Saturday, March 14 at the Owl Family Cemetery on Joe Owl Drive. Officiating was Pastor David Watkins. Singer was Regina Parks. Pallbearers were Logan Blankenship, Sam Blythe, Ike Bird, Christian Wilson, Shepherd Martin, and Josh Owl.

Lola will be remembered for her warmth, her humor, her honesty, and the way she made people feel like family. Her love, laughter, and the lessons she shared will live on in the many lives she touched. Her memory will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Kellie Ann Bridgeman

Kellie Ann Bridgeman, born on Sept. 7, 1976, in Haywood County, N.C., passed away on Sunday, March 8, 2026. Kellie's life was defined by her deep love for her family, friends, and the animals she cherished. Kellie's passions included camping, immersing herself in music, embarking on road trips filled with adventure, unleashing her creativity through crafts, and losing herself in the pages of a good book.

She is survived by her father, Alan Bridgeman; her sister, Amanda Bridgeman; her niece, Madison Lane; and her best friends, Darren Webb and Kristie Loyer. Kellie also leaves behind several cousins. She was preceded in death by her beloved mother, Helen Sneed Bridgeman, and her cherished grandparents, Mack and Melitia Saunooke Sneed, and Eugenia and Sherman Bridgeman.

A visitation was held in her honor at Appalachian Funeral Services in Sylva, N.C. on Friday, March 13. Family and friends were invited to come together to remember Kellie's life, celebrating the impact she had on all who knew her.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Qualla Volunteer Fire department or to Easterseals <https://eastersealsport.com/donate-now/>

An online registry is available at www.appalachianfuneralservices.com



Free rabies shots are available for pets of tribal members at the Cherokee Animal Care Clinic! Call the clinic at 497-3401 for more information and to make an appointment.

COMMENTARY

At what cost unity?

By **ROBERT JUMPER**

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

It doesn't take a lot to create unity. Take a gullible group of people who want something and provide them with a person or organization that promises better outcomes and will fulfill that want, and you have yourself a unified group.

Many of us are old enough to remember Nov. 18, 1978, when Jim Jones led 918 members of the Peoples Temple cult to their deaths. By all accounts, most of the 918 drank their cyanide-laced Flavor Aid, many of them serving it to their children, and all died horrible deaths in the name of Jim Jones's brand of unity. Jones is just one of many in history who unified a group of people only to lead them to destruction and death.

So, unity for the sake of unity, or a lost cause, is not a good thing. How do we know what a lost cause is? That is a tough question. For years, I have referred to modern society's idea of truth as situational. I still believe that a person's truth is a matter of faith and perspective. There is a fact, which is absolute, and then there is situa-

tional truth.

For example, the United States is currently in a military conflict with Iran. That is a fact. Now, there are many schools of thought on justification. The Iranian government looks at the fact and says they were unjustifiably attacked by the United States and their allies, and they had no choice but to defend themselves. And that is their truth. The United States government says that it and its allies have been attacked over time by Iran, and they had no choice but to defend themselves. And that is their truth. If you factor in all the other opinion ideologies that produce additional perspectives on the fact, you could have tens, if not hundreds, of "truths" coming out of the single fact that the United States is in a military conflict with Iran. To the families of the thousands who have died in the conflict, these truths mean little either way.

Here is another example that hits a little closer to home. It is a fact that people are arrested for human and drug trafficking on the Qualla Boundary. Some are even prosecuted. And some are banished. Those are facts. Now, both tribal members and non-tribal members have been brought up on charges for these crimes. Another fact is that both tribal members and non-tribal members have been convicted of these charges. And it is a fact that non-tribal mem-

bers have been excluded from the Qualla Boundary for these crimes. And it is a fact that tribal members have not.

A truth that one group may hold is that this is a double standard. They would say it is unfair to punish one group of people with the punishment of exclusion or banishment, while another group of people does not face that penalty because of race or membership, with that being the sole basis for the difference in penalty. Another group will hold as truth that tribal members deserve a chance to be rehabilitated. They shouldn't be treated like non-members because they are one of us. To the victims and their families of drug and human traffickers, these truths mean little either way.

Millions of people are being swayed every day by pied pipers who use "truths" to convince us to join one group or another. Jim Jones was one. Adolf Hitler was one. Charles Manson was one. Each one of these men took facts, manipulated them into their truths, and created unity. In fact, a term that has come to mean doing things based on blind faith came from the massacre at Jonestown. When a person accepts someone else's truth blindly and becomes their follower, we identify that person as having "drank the Kool-Aid". This phrase is a reference to Jim Jones' ability to coerce people even to the point of death. Now we

might not allow ourselves to get into something so deeply or dramatically as to allow it to take our lives, but we surely have allowed it to affect communal unity. Capitalism versus socialism. Left versus Right. Liberal versus conservative. Traditional versus progressive. Tribal member versus non-tribal member. On-Boundary tribal member versus off-Boundary. We see it every day. Someone will get on a social media platform, spout their perspective, and end with "and that is my truth". In the society we live in, truth doesn't mean what it used to. It is now a collection of opinions. Fact is objective. It is what it is. Truth is subjective. It depends on the perspective of the person telling it. As you are daily bombarded with information, take time to notice the difference. The majority of what you will hear and see, whether that is coming from the media, the government, a tribal member, a friend, or a family member, will be someone's situational truth about the facts at hand. Don't be blown around like a reed in the wind. Motives matter. Look at the facts. Examine those things people tell you as truth. Know what they are saying and try to determine their motivation for saying it. Let's all strive for unity, but not for the sake of unity, but for a better community.



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RAINBOW & RAMPS

MARCH 28

OPENING DAY TROUT FISHING TOURNAMENT

MARCH 28-29

SPRING FORWARD CHILDREN'S EVENT

MARCH 28

COMMUNITY EASTER EVENT

MARCH 31

Honors Ceremony

hosted by the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post #143

— NATIONAL — **VIETNAM WAR**

Veterans day

MARCH 29 at 2 p.m.

In case of rain the event will be held at the
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at the Cherokee Veterans Park, hwy 441 Cherokee, NC. 28719

Kituwah Celebration to mark 30-year anniversary and much more

By **SCOTT MCKIE B.P.**

One Feather Asst. Editor

KITUWAH – For a sacred site with thousands of years of history, a mere 30 years doesn't seem like much, but an upcoming anniversary is very important to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). This year's annual Kituwah Celebration, set for Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will mark the 30th anniversary since Kituwah – the Mother Town of the Cherokee – came back under the control of the Cherokee people.

The event will feature Cherokee songs and dances, anetso (stickball), food, and more.

Kituwah, located just outside of Cherokee, N.C., near Bryson City, N.C. was purchased by the EBCI in 1996, and according to the Public Notice to Acquire Land into Trust, the site totals 307.03 acres. The property was placed

into trust for the EBCI by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Dept. of the Interior in 2021.

“Kituwah is not just a plot of land, or a quiet field, it is one of the most sacred places in Cherokee history,” Renissa McLaughlin, EBCI Youth & Adult Education director, told the crowd at last year's Kituwah Celebration held on June 6, 2025. “It is our Mother Town, the regional village where our ancestors first gathered as people, where the first fire was lit, and where Cherokee life, government, and traditions began.”

A week earlier, the new pavilion was opened officially at Kituwah. EBCI Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks spoke to the crowd at the ribbon cutting ceremony about the history of the EBCI getting Kituwah back. “Going back to when this land was originally being contemplated, I was a young finance officer. Chief Dugan had recruited me back, I

was working for a company in New York City, and it wasn't far into her term that we started looking at this opportunity...I didn't know a lot about it. In our generation, we just weren't told a whole lot about the importance of this land. So, the direction was 'I need you to find some resources'. And, at that time, it was a significant amount of resources that we were asked to put together...we found a way without much resources. The key was that we knew how important and what this meant to the future of our tribe, in addition to the historical aspect. So, I'm just glad to be a small part of that history of getting this back into the name of the Eastern Band of Cherokee. It's very important.”

Former Ugvwiyuhi Joyce Dugan was instrumental in getting Kituwah back for the Cherokee people. In 1996, she took a resolution to Tribal Council asking that they purchase the property, then known to most as Ferguson



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Fields, for \$2.1 million. Council passed the legislation unanimously.

“I think, looking back, it created a cultural renaissance because people began to learn about their culture,” she told the crowd at the Kituwah Celebration on May 21, 2022. “If anything, the legacy that I left and the Tribal Council at that time left, was a renaissance of our culture, of our language, our customs for future generations. And, for the first time, our people began to say, ‘our culture and our traditions are important’.”

Ugviyuhi Dugan went on to say, “Enjoy your day. Love each other. And think about what all went on down here on this piece of land. And listen to the sounds of those children, those mommas and daddies who lived here. I’ve been told that if you’re real quiet down here in the evenings you can hear them. I don’t doubt that.”

That same night, then-Ugviyuhi Richard G. Sneed said getting Kituwah put into trust status was a priority of his since taking office. “It is an historic day. We would not be here today if it were not for the vision and the leadership of Chief Dugan...Great leaders like Chief Dugan have several things in common and one is they have vision. If you’re going to be in leadership, you’re going to have to have vision for the generations of Cherokees that are coming after us.”

Taline Ugviyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. En-sley, was a Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) representative when the legislation was passed to purchase Kituwah. At the May 2025 ribbon cutting for the new pavilion, he noted, “This is a place that we all own and need to come down here and enjoy...we all need to learn to come down here and relax and enjoy our hometown.”

Organizers for the June 6 event have a call out for EBCI vendors including artists, crafters,



Members of the Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Indian Ball Team go for the ball during an exhibition stickball game held during the Annual Kituwah Celebration at Kituwah on the evening of Friday, May 31, 2024. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

farmers, demonstrators, etc. Call (828) 359-6406 if you’re interested in being a vendor at the event.

Everyone is welcome. Make plans to attend

this historic event as history continues to be made at Kituwah.

EBCI BANISHMENT LIST

[EBCI Banishment List - The Cherokee One Feather \(theonefeather.com\)](http://theonefeather.com)

Tribal Council may exclude anyone from tribal lands-including exclusion from residing, visiting, and/or doing business. (CC 2.1)

Tribal Court may impose fines up to \$5000 and 12 months in jail for harboring, hiding, or providing services to a excluded person. (CC 2.10)



Fireworks

Part 2 of 2

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

Scripture references:

Hebrews 12:1-3, Mark 8:34-37,
Exodus Chapters 36-38

The people who glorify the skies with fireworks displays, through their service and talent, exemplify humility for us. It is the way we should live our lives, glorifying God. We are his hands and feet, and His glory is the light and action, the flashes and sounds that get all the “oooohs” and “aaaahs” from those who witness the fury. We are supposed to be the ones who light the fuses, make the cannons, and coordinate the action to give God the glory.

Do you remember who Bezalel was? Read Exodus 36 through 38 again. He was a talented man. He was likely more talented than anyone in history for his artistry and creativity. We know of many ancient artists who gained great notoriety and fame. Bezalel is hardly remembered or famous by world standards, but he was greatly honored by biblical standards for his accomplishments. God inspired him with artistic talent like no other. He was gifted immensely by God. As a result, his fame and glory are lifted to heavenly places, and his name is in the everlasting Word of God.

No one wrote about his houses, cars, or jet planes. They didn't talk about his best-selling books or his millions in wealth. Instead, Moses wrote how Bezalel made a tabernacle, a tent temple of God that God ordered to be made to

His glory. But, of course, the glory was not Bezalel's, who we hardly remember, but to God and His Glory.

That's humility in a nutshell when it comes to ministry. But, unfortunately, for some ministers, preachers, teachers, and musical artists, the desire for the stage becomes a sin, and the crowd's adoration becomes a drug. None of us should wish to be on the pedestal of the crowd. We shouldn't desire to use the pulpit or sanctuary as a springboard to glorify ourselves. Instead, we are to point to the glory of God. We are to light the fuse of the Spirit and give God the stage of light, sound, and fury.

Check yourself. What are your motives? Are you an actor? Comedian? Great Orator? Are you good at playing an instrument or singing? Check yourself, and when you conclude honestly that your heart

and mind are in the right place to glorify God, His glory will manifest itself, and the fruit of the Spirit it yields will be glorious. If you find yourself on the other side of that inspection, do as you might be calling on others. Repent. Ask for forgiveness and get your priorities right. Jesus first, always.

Lord God and Father, protect those You have called into Your service. Keep Satan at bay, and don't allow him to pull our best, brightest, and most talented down into pride and malicious motivations. Lord, protect the servants You have called to draw others unto You. Lord, I ask Your Spirit to pour generous portions of wisdom, humility, grace, and peace over those in Your service. Thank You for each one of them and for all they do for You. Amen.



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Submit to God and be at peace with him;
in this way prosperity will come to you.
Accept instruction from his mouth and lay up his
words in your heart. If you return to the Almighty,
you will be restored...

Job 22: 21-23



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Amber Waves

BOY, MOM SEEMS KINDA DEPRESSED. IT'S HER BIRTHDAY AND SHE'S FEELING OLDER.



I NEED TO THINK OF A WAY TO CHEER HER UP AND BE HAPPY.



GOOD MORNING, MOM! WOW, I GOTTA SAY YOU DON'T LOOK A DAY OVER FORTY!



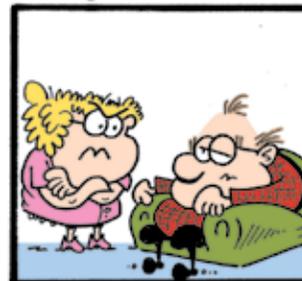
GEEZ, I'M A KID. HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW SHE WAS TURNING THIRTY?



TIGER



The Spats



by BUD BLAKE

by Jeff Pickering

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Briefcase is different. 3. Vest is missing. 4. Elbow patch is added. 5. Newspaper is larger. 6. Bush is moved.

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Banner
 - 5 Invoice fig.
 - 8 Experts
 - 12 Earring site
 - 13 Brit's restroom
 - 14 Carry on
 - 15 Capital of Paraguay
 - 17 Slender weapon
 - 18 Rationed (out)
 - 19 Urges forward
 - 21 "La Dolce —"
 - 24 Granola morsel
 - 25 Luke's teacher
 - 28 Folklore monster
 - 30 Mel of Cooperstown
 - 33 "Caught ya!"
 - 34 Welcome
 - 35 Bankroll
 - 36 "Tasty!"
 - 37 Give temporarily
 - 38 Burden
 - 39 Navarro on "The View"
 - 41 Mausoleum
 - 43 Continue
 - 46 Skiers' mecca
 - 50 Bank statement no.
 - 51 Capital of India

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
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21				22	23		24			
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33				34				35		
36				37				38		
39	40			41		42				
43	44			45		46		47	48	49
50				51	52	53				
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

- DOWN**
- 1 Two-stroke drumbeat
 - 2 Misplace
 - 3 Border on
 - 4 Swiss metropolis
 - 5 Foreman foe
 - 6 Cattle call
 - 7 Author
 - 8 Venezuelan corn patty
 - 9 Capital of South Africa
 - 10 Daring Knivel
 - 11 Beholds
 - 16 Roman 401 brand
 - 22 Ripped
 - 23 Rep
 - 25 Candied veggie
 - 26 Resistance unit
 - 27 Capital of Syria
 - 29 Make over
 - 31 Sigma follower
 - 32 QBs' goals
 - 34 Glitzy rock genre
 - 38 Fixate
 - 40 Peculiar
 - 42 Irate
 - 43 Grate
 - 44 Canyon comeback
 - 45 Concludes
 - 47 Conspiracy
 - 48 Barak of Israel
 - 49 Guitarist Lofgren
 - 52 Rock producer Brian
 - 53 Method

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- MOVIES: Who is the director of the Oscar-winning movie "Parasite"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is miso?
- LITERATURE: What are the names of the romantic couple in "Wuthering Heights"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which city's nickname is "Pearl of the Orient"?
- HISTORY: In what year were the first modern Olympic Games held?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Before becoming president, Barack Obama served as a senator from which state?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which peninsula is the largest in the world?
- MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek god of war?
- MUSIC: Who composed the opera "The Ring of Nibelung"?
- ACRONYMS: In computer emails, what does the acronym "CC" stand for?

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

P	S	O	S	A	S	O	P	S			
U	L	I	V	N	D	V	H	S			
L	O	S	V	N	D	V	H	S			
I	H	L	I	N	E	W	D	E			
A	C	T	N	E	W	D	E	L			
R	E	S	U	M	E	A	N	S			
A	N	A	T	O	M	B	A	N			
N	O	N	O	L	E	N	D	I			
G	O	A	M	G	R	E	E	T			
V	A	V	A	G	R	E	E	T			
L	I	V	I	T	A	O	L	E			
M	E	T	E	D	I	M	P	E	L	S	
A	S	U	N	C	I	O	N	R	A	V	E
L	O	B	E	L	O	O	R	A	V	E	
F	L	A	G	A	M	T	A	C	E	S	

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

- Trivia Test Answers
- Bong Joon Ho
 - Fermented soybean paste
 - Heathcliff and Catherine
 - Manila, Philippines
 - 1896 in Greece
 - Illinois
 - Arabian Peninsula
 - Ares
 - Richard Wagner
 - Carbon Copy (once used in typewriters)

EVENT LISTINGS

Event listings are FREE of charge. Send your flyers/info to Dawn at dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov or to Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

Benefits/Fundraisers

NAIWA Indian Dinner Fund-raiser. March 20 at 11 a.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center in Cherokee, N.C. Indian Dinners and a drink for \$15. This is a fundraiser for NAIWA. Info: Lucille Wolfe (828) 736-5285

Senior Citizens Trip Fundraiser. March 21 starting at 7 a.m. at the Deb West Senior Center 145 Tsali Manor St., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Breakfast, yard sale and bake sale. To reserve a table, call (828) 359-6299

Turkey Shoot. March 21 at 3 p.m. at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. This is a fundraiser for Jesse Welch Jr. Good fun, great prizes, great benefit.

EBCI Community Events

MANNA Foodbank Community Market. March 19 from 11:30 a.m. p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Wolf-town Gym 27 Long Branch Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Stop by for free grocery staples, produce and other perishable items. Bring your own bags. Free and Open to all community members. Info: (828) 359-6934

Community Night BINGO. March 19 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrel Sports and Recreation Complex, 1212 Birdtown Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719

FREE Lunch and Learn. March 25 from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. at Cherokee Choices, 806 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Talk about the new food pyramid as well as how to know if some of the nutri-

tion “trends” out there are really going to make you healthier. Info: April (828) 359-6201 or email: aprinni@ebci-nsn.gov.

Screening of “A Sacred Thread”. March 25 from 5 :30 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Bardo Arts Center 241 Centennial Dr., Cullowhee, N.C. 28723. This is a free event, but registration via Eventbrite is required. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please email events@pbsnc.org with questions. This PBS NC documentary follows the Snowbird Cherokee of western North Carolina as they fight to preserve their language, customs and ancestral traditions before they disappear. Through intimate storytelling about the Snowbird Cherokee’s art, culture and deep connections to their sacred land, the film offers a powerful portrait of a resilient community safeguarding its heritage. Arrive at 5 p.m. to tour a special Cherokee Language and Culture Exhibition or visit the WCU Fine Art Museum. Info: (828) 227-2505

Easter Vendor Extravaganza. March 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Pam Taylor Painttown Gym, 10 Old Gap Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Come shop with your local artisans and vendors. There will be food onsite. Info: Angie Garcia (828) 778-4585

Egg-cellent 5K fun run and egg hunt. April 4 starting at 9a.m. at Cherokee High School, 86 Elk Crossing Ln., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Support the Junior Class at Cherokee High School and help fund this year’s prom. Along the 3.1-mile course, runners will find color-coded eggs hidden throughout each mile. Participants may collect one

egg per color – so keep your eyes open and choose wisely! Eggs may contain candy, small prizes, or a few “egg-stra” special surprises. Whether you’re racing for time or just out for a fun jog with friends, this event is designed to be family-friendly, festive, and just the right amount of competitive. Come ready to run, have fun, and make an egg-cellent difference for our Juniors. Info: runsignup.com/race/nc/Cherokee/eggcellent5kfunrun.

Super Hero Walk/ Ride. April 4 from 10:15 a.m. – 2 p.m. meet at the Museum of the Cherokee People parking lot 589 Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Everyone is invited to join PHHS family Safety and community partners for an afternoon dedicated to raising

awareness and providing education about child abuse. Walk, Bike or ride! Motorcycles, side by sides and cars are welcome to join. Activities to follow at Unity Field. Info: Amy Nations (828) 359-1520.

Spring Rod Run. April 24- 25 Old Cherokee High School Site, 1501 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Thousands in Cash Give-aways, Early Bird Show and Shine Thursday after Lunch, Tool Box and Cooler Scooter Raffles, 50/50, Cruise Thru the Great Smokies National 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 PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

SŌHi ႠD RVLႠႠJ DႠႠYL



Edna Joyce, a 1-year-old English Bulldog, lives in Tsalisdoni (Bryson City) with her humans, Alvin and Thereasa Green.



Sponsored by:

CHEROKEE
ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

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

Annual Kituwah Celebration.

June 6 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Kituwah Mound, 3831 Ela Rd., Bryson City, N.C. 28713. Social dances, entertainment, stickball demonstrations, food, community gathering. Call (828) 359-6406 to be a vendor, artisan, farmer, crafter or demonstrator.

EBCI Community Regular Meetings

NAIWA (North American Indian Women's Association, Inc.)

Cherokee Chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the West Senior Center in Cherokee, N.C. Eligibility for membership: any American Indian

or Alaska Native or Canadian First Nations woman, 18 years of age or older, who is officially identified as a member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe/Nation. The meetings contain information on purpose and further aims. All who meet the eligibility are invited to attend.

Cherokee Cultural/Historic Events

Cherokee Singers Gatherings.

March 18 and March 25 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Big Y Gym, 2641 Wrights Creek Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Gatherings will be led by various men in the community

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This week offers new opportunities for adventurous Sheep, both personally and professionally. Single Sheep could find romance with a Taurus or Scorpio.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your big break is about to happen in the workplace. Expect to hear more about it within a few days. Meanwhile, enjoy some much-needed fun time.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your past tendency for breaking promises could be catching up with you. You need to reassure a certain someone in your life that, this time, you'll keep your word. Good luck!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Watch your tendency to be overcautious in your personal relationships. Give people a chance to show who they are — not who you assume them to be.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Aspects favor closer attention to family matters, especially where it concerns older relatives who might need special care. A co-worker has information that can help.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A workplace change causes a temporary delay in your plans. Continue working on your project so that you'll be ready when it's time to start up again.

LIBRA (September 23 to Octo-

ber 22) Stick with your plans despite some recent disappointments. Persistence will pay off. Meanwhile, a family member's health takes a happy turn for the better.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your gift for seeing through to the heart of a matter (or the heart of a person) impresses someone who is in a position to make you a very interesting offer.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your colleagues believe in your leadership abilities because you believe in yourself. Your strength inspires others to follow your example.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A sensitive situation needs careful handling. Show more patience than you usually do. This will allow everyone time for some really hard thinking.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You are determined to take charge of a difficult situation and turn it around. Good for you! Accept much-needed help and advice from a Libra.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You are able to help people by sensing their deepest pain, but be careful not to let your own emotions get injured. Try to maintain a safe balance.

BORN THIS WEEK: Not many people know this, but yours is the most emotional sign of the zodiac. You are empathetic and have a deep spiritual core that gives you great strength.

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VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

Fake prescriptions scam

How much would you trust a prescription cream compound that was whipped up in a back room by a bunch of untrained teenagers? Sounds dangerous, and it turned out to be just that by patients who used the fake cream and ended up with painful rashes. It was a real moneymaker for some scammers however: Have some kids mix up \$15 worth of ingredients in the back of a pharmacy, and then charge the government \$16,000 for each prescription.

The VA Office of Inspector General (VAOIG) was one of a handful of agencies who investigated a doctor who was part of this \$145 million scam, as well as his pharmacist pals. Besides the VA, the Department of Labor, the Post Office and the IRS were involved. There were bribes and kickbacks paid by unscrupulous pharmacy owners, unnecessary prescriptions written by the doctor (an orthopedic surgeon) and, of course, thieves don't pay taxes on their ill-gotten millions.

The operation was a well-oiled machine devoted to making money. Special prescription pads were provided to the doctor that referred patients to a specific pharmacy, and the doctor's staff were instructed to write prescriptions for each patient seen that day, whether or not they even needed the compounded cream. One of the pharmacists checked several times a day to see how much had been billed that day. If out of the office, staff would text him the amount of money made.

The doctor was sentenced to eight years in prison and has to pay back \$13 million in restitution. One pharmacist was sentenced to 17 years in prison and will repay \$115 million in restitution. The other pharmacist will serve 15 years in prison. Together with his thief pharmacist buddy, they will forfeit \$405 million in seized assets.

So there is some justice here. None of them will be out of prison quickly, and when they are out, their family homes and cars won't be there, and neither will the millions they stashed in multiple accounts and shell companies.

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Keeping pets safe from poisons

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: We had a scary incident a few weeks ago. Our puppy "Terah" got into the cabinet under the kitchen sink and chewed on a plastic spray bottle with cleaning solution in it. When the plastic cracked liquid went everywhere, and she licked up quite a bit of it. I caught her just after it happened and rushed her to the emergency vet. By the time we got there, she was shaking, drooling and vomiting. Terah stayed there for two days, getting IV fluids, and she was still weak and not very hungry when we brought her home. She's doing very well now, and I am putting child-safe locks on all the cabinets! Please warn your readers to keep pets away from cleaning products and other poisons. I never thought my puppy would chew through a spray bottle. — Billy in Asheville, North Carolina

DEAR BILLY: Thank you for this important reminder. Puppies are curious and love to chew on just about everything. The best way to keep them safe is to use "exclusion" measures like cabinet locks, high shelves and baby gates to prevent them from accessing cleaning products.

Cleaning products aren't the only danger to dogs, cats and other mammals in the house. Foods like avocados, onions, garlic, chocolate and grapes (including raisins) can be deadly. Xylitol, a sweetener used in sugar-free candies but also in unexpected places like peanut butter, is especially dangerous.

Some plants are deadly to cats and dogs and should be kept out of the house or well out of reach. And medications are another huge danger if left out where a pet can reach.

Next week, I'll go over the common symptoms of poisoning and what to do if you suspect your pet has ingested something poisonous. Meantime, you can find a list of substances to keep away from your pets at fairfaxvet.com/pet-poison-control-foods-and-substances-to-keep-away-from-your-dog-or-cat

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

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EVENTS: From page 31

in an effort to pass on the social songs and dances. All ages are invited. Each gathering will focus on different social dances - for Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians enrolled members and non-enrolled spouses/parents. Children must be accompanied by a parent/ guardian. Info: Cherokee Winter Social on Facebook and Instagram.

The Future of Tribal Sovereignty, Powered by the Past.

March 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bardo Arts Center room 130 199 Centennial Dr., Cullowhee, NC. 28723. Stacy Leeds, LLM, JD, MBS is a Cherokee Nation Citizen. This is part of the James A. Cooper Lecture Series of Cherokee Studies.

2026 James A. Cooper Memorial Lecture in Cherokee Studies: Stacy Leeds (Cherokee Nation).

March 20 at 5 p.m. in the TJ Holland Education Room, Museum of the Cherokee People 589 Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Presented by Western Carolina University's Cherokee Studies program, the 2026 James A. Cooper Memorial Lecture welcomes Dean Stacy Leeds (Cherokee Nation), Willard H. Pedrick Dean, Regents Professor and Foundation Professor of Law at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, for her presentation "The Future of Tribal Sovereignty, Powered by the Past." This event is free of charge and open to all; registration is not required. Info: (828) 497-3481

5K Walk/ Run for Cherokee Language Revitalization.

March 28 registration starts at 8 a.m. 5K will start at 11 a.m. at Kituwah Mother town, 3831 Ela rd., Bryson City, N.C. 28713. Along with the

5K, there will also be songs, social dances and storytelling. Info: Madison Hye Long (828) 736-4335, madisonhye1@gmail.com

Cherokee Voices in the Beinecke.

March 28 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library on the campus of Yale University in New Haven, Conn. Join Cherokee scholars in a cross-temporal discussion of Cherokee history through the Beinecke's archival materials. Curated by Avery Mables, Constance Owl, Noah Ramage, and Patricia Dawson. Info: YGSNA.sites.yale.edu

Statehood Day.

May 31 from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum at 576 HWY 360 Vonore, Tenn. 37885. Celebration of Tennessee Statehood Day. On June 1, 1796, Congress approved the admission of Tennessee as the sixteenth state of the Union. The 1809 Blacksmith shop will be open with demonstrations going on throughout the afternoon. Come out and share the afternoon with living history in the 1800's Dog-trot Log cabin. Learn about Cherokees in the Civil War. The acorn printing press will be doing demonstrations throughout the day. All Statehood Day activities are free, and people can also enjoy free admission to the museum. Info: (423) 884-6246

Sequoyah Remembrance Day.

Aug. 3 from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum at 576 HWY 360 Vonore, Tenn. 37885. Come by and learn about the amazing history of Sequoyah at the museum dedicated to the life and story of Sequoyah, creator of the Cherokee written language. Info: (423) 884-6246

35th Annual Cherokee Festival.

Sept. 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum at 576 HWY 360 Vonore, Tenn. 37885. Cherokee Arts and crafts demonstrations, Cherokee storytelling, flute playing, Cherokee dances, name written in Cherokee, genealogy help, craft vendors and food vendors. Info: (423) 884-6246

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

Health Board. March 18 at 8:30 a.m.

Enrollment Committee. March 23 at 9 a.m.

Lands Committee. March 26 at 9 a.m.

Work Session on Tabled Res. No. 30 (Enhance transparency in tribal government). March 31 at 9 a.m.

Work Session on Tabled Res. No. 27 (Transparency in tribal government). March 31 at 10 a.m.

Pow Wow Listings

50th Annual Denver March Pow Wow. March 20-22 at the Denver Coliseum in Denver, Colo. Emcees: Lawrence Baker, Chris Eagle Hawk, and Redwing Thomas. Info: <https://denvermarchpowwow.com/>

Hardeeville Low Country Pow Wow. March 21-22 in Hardeeville, S.C. Host Northern Drum: Bird-chopper. Host Southern Drum: Bad Boyz. Info: Mike Benton (843)

384-5551

Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Pow Wow. March 21 at the Daybreak Star Cultural Center in Seattle, Wash. Info: kariel@unkita-wa.org

4th Annual Marin Pow Wow.

March 22 in the College of Marin Kentfield Campus Gymnasium in Kentfield, Calif. MC: Tom Phillips. Host Northern Drum: All Nations. Host Southern Drum: Red Buffalo. Info: (415) 342-2049 or <https://marinamericanindianalliance.org/>

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: Tamera 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 McMullan (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. 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

A Return to our Roots: Herbal Oils and Salves class. March 21 starting at 10:15 a.m. at the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center 123 Cromwell Dr., Townsend, TN. 37882. Join us as we learn how to make healing topical herbal oils and salve! Another ancient remedy for all kinds of skin, muscle, and pain issues. We will also touch on culinary herbal oils! Then we will demonstrate how to make a healing salve. Info: (865) 448-0044 online at: gsmheritagecenter.org

Family Program: A Celebration of Storytelling. March 21 from 12 p.m. – 2:30p.m. at McClung Museum of Natural History and Culture, 1327 Circle park Dr., Knoxville, Tenn. 37996. Come meet Eli Langley (Coushatta tribe of Louisiana) as he takes us on a

narrative journey through time and traditions, and work with Tatiana Potts, printmaker, who will guide us through a bookmaking workshop. Families are invited to explore storytelling through hands-on activities inspired by the exhibition Homelands: Connecting to Mounds through Native Art. Info: (865) 974-2144

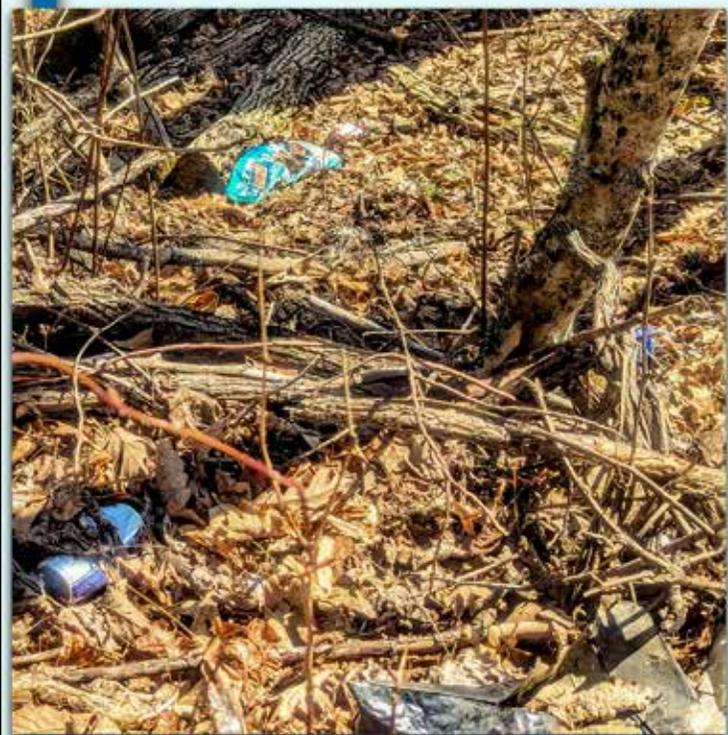
Palm Sunday Service. March 29 at 11 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church 18 Jackson St., Sylva, N.C. 28779. Join us as they begin Holy Week with Palm Sunday, remembering Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The service includes the blessing of palms, scripture, prayer, and Holy Eucharist as we walk together toward Christ's passion. Info: (828) 586-8358

Maundy Thursday. April 2 at 6 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church 18 Jackson St., Sylva, N.C. 28779. On Maundy Thursday, they remember the night Jesus gathered with his disciples for the Last Supper, washed the disciples' feet, and gave the commandment that we love one another. This solemn and beautiful service includes the opportunity for footwashing as a sign of their commitment to love and service, Holy Eucharist, and the Stripping of the Altar - a powerful tradition that prepares the church for the sorrow of Good Friday. All are welcome. Info: (828) 586-8358

Good Friday Community Service. April 3 at 12 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church 18 Jackson St., Sylva, N.C. 28779. On Good Friday, they gather at noon to remember the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and reflect on the depth of God's love for the world. This community ser-

Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with EBCI Natural Resources



Natural Resources Dept. staff and community members have noticed the presence of trash scattered throughout the tribal reserve lands. Trash in our forests is not just an eyesore; it also causes harm to the ecosystem. Leaving trash contaminates the soil and groundwater, disrupts biodiversity balance, releases microplastics into the environment, and blocks access to light and nutrients for the forest floor. Please be respectful of our natural relatives and take away any trash you bring with you and try to make sure the reserve is left better than you found it.

see **EVENTS** next page

EVENTS: From page 33

vice brings several local churches together. It includes Holy Eucharist and is followed by the Stations of the Cross: a solemn procession through downtown which commemorates the events of Christ's final hours and helps to connect Jesus' suffering to the suffering present in the world today. All are invited. Info: (828) 586-8358

The Great Vigil of Easter. April 4 at 8 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church 18 Jackson St., Sylva, N.C. 28779. The Great Vigil of Easter is the first celebration of Easter and is one of the most beautiful and ancient services in the Christian tradition. They begin in darkness with the lighting of a fire outside. The fire is used to light a large Paschal candle, celebrating the victory of love and life over hatred and death. Through scripture, prayer, and song we remember God's saving work throughout history, renew our baptismal covenant, and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. This powerful and joyful service moves from darkness into light as we proclaim together: Alleluia! Christ is risen! All are welcome to this special night

of celebration. Desserts will follow. Info: (828) 586-8358

Easter Sunday. April 5 at 11 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church 18 Jackson St., Sylva, N.C. 28779. Join for a joyful Easter Sunday celebration as they gather to proclaim the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the power of God's resurrecting love in our world. The service will include Holy Eucharist, special music, prayer, and the celebration of new life. They'll also attempt to sing Handel's Halleluja Chorus. Following the service, children are invited to participate in an Easter Egg Hunt on the church grounds. All are welcome. Info: (828) 586-8358

Appalachian True Heritage Festival. April 17 and 18 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Downtown Historic Waynesville, N.C. 28786. A day of activities celebrating Appalachian heritage, including a vendor market for handmade art and heritage craft demonstrations. Info: www.visit-waynesvillenc.com

5th Annual Fiber Fair. April 24 and 25 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. both days. At the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center 123

Cromwell Dr., Townsend, TN. 37882. A celebration of time-honored craftsmanship where wool is spun, skills are shared, and fiber art lovers can browse to their heart's content. Over two days, more than 20 vendors will fill the Heritage Center's historic grounds. Throughout the weekend, experienced fiber artists will demonstrate traditional techniques and lead hands-on workshops rooted in Appalachian tradition. Local spinners and weavers will also be onsite, showcasing the enduring skills that shaped many aspects of mountain life. Info: (865) 448-0044 online at: gsmheritagecenter.org

150th Anniversary Celebration. April 26 at 4:30 p.m. at the Shelton House 49 Shelton St., Waynesville, N.C. 28786. Enjoy an

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Tamar (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. 2 Kings 19 and which other book's chapter are almost alike word for word? *Deuteronomy 7, Isaiah 37, Jeremiah 50, Job 16*
3. From Genesis 29, which of Jacob's wives was first to bear children? *Leah, Naomi, Bilhah, Zilpah*
4. Of these, who stole idols from her father? *Elisabeth, Martha, Rachel, Deborah*
5. In Acts 22, what famous rabbi was Paul's teacher? *Hillel, Turkel, Zakkai, Gamaliel*
6. From Genesis 4, who invented farming? *Adam, Cain, Abel, Jubal*

ANSWERS: (1) Neither, (2) Isaiah 37, (3) Leah, (4) Rachel, (5) Gamaliel, (6) Cain
Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at www.patreon.com/triviaguy. **FREE TRIAL!**

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Moments in time

• On **March 30, 1858**, Philadelphia inventor Hymen Lipman received a patent for the first pencil with an attached eraser. Years later, however, the U.S. Supreme Court erased the patent, ruling that his combination of two existing devices made Lipman's invention unworthy of a patent.

• On **March 31, 1995**, pop star Selena Quintanilla Perez was shot to death in a Corpus Christi, Texas, motel by the president of her fan club, Yolanda Saldivar, who then engaged the police in a nine-hour standoff in the motel's parking lot until her arrest. She was tried and convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison.

• On **April 1, 1970**, President Richard Nixon, who was known to enjoy the occasional cigar himself, signed legislation officially banning cigarette ads on television and radio. The last such TV ad aired during "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" on Jan. 1, 1971.

• On **April 2, 1917**, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to send U.S. troops into battle against Germany in World War I. In his address to Congress that day, he called it "a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war." Four days later, Congress obliged.

• On **April 3, 1876**, following a public fistfight the previous day between policeman Wyatt Earp (who won) and William Smith, a candidate for Wichita, Kansas, county sheriff, Earp was fined \$30 and fired from his position.

• On **April 4, 2007**, syndicated talk radio host Don Imus incited a nationwide storm of criticism after making racially disparaging remarks about the Rutgers University women's basketball team, insulting their appearance, tattoos and, most infamously, dubbing them "nappy-headed hos." He apologized on his show two days later but lost his job and a number of sponsors, though he was ultimately able to save his career.

• On **April 5, 1945**, U.S. Pvt. 1st Class Sadao S. Munemori destroyed two German machine gun nests and fell on a live hand grenade to save his comrades. He became the first Japanese American awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, posthumously.

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The Garden Bug **Ox-eye daisy**
When in bloom, it's easy to see why this European native was introduced in the U.S. as a garden and florist ornamental in the 1800s.
It now threatens as an invasive species in the wild. It is commonly found along roadways or spread across fields, meadows and lakeshores. Once established, it can spread rapidly by means of roots and seeds, crowding out native plants. The end result is of use to few wildlife species.
Source: www.nps.gov – Brenda Weaver



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evening craft, music, food and history. Guest Speaker Ron Rash. Info: www.shelton-house.org/events.

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/).

Kids Take over the Museum. May 4 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. At the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center 123 Cromwell Dr., Townsend, TN. 37882. There is no shortage of activities for your young crafter or artist, get their hands and minds busy on basket weav-

ing, blacksmithing, and pottery making. Over 25 demonstrations, on-site vendors and special events are lined up for this huge day at the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center. Visitors play loads of games that were popular choices for kids on the mountain homestead. Plus, representatives from the Museum of the Cherokee will be on hand to share their cultural heritage. Info: (865) 448-0044 online at: gsmheritagecenter.org

First Annual Spring Men's Retreat. May 9 – 10 at Camp Living Waters 1510 W Dep Creek Rd., Bryson City, NC. 28713. All men, all churches, all invited. Speaker Jonathan Frady. FREE, signs up are now open. INFO: Foreman Bradley (423) 579-2807 or Eddie Morrow (828) 507-2271.

Living History. May 30 and 31 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. both days at Sam Houston School House, 3650 Old Sam Houston School Rd., Maryville, Tenn. 37804. Vendors, food truck, kettle corn, re-enactors and so much more! Info: (865) 983-1550.

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 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

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

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

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, 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, 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

see EVENTS next page

MEET YOUR CIHA STAFF



CHARLENE MCCOY

Galvgodiyu Peer Support Specialist

Years at CIHA: In first year at CIHA
Community/Hometown: Birdtown

"Being a Galvgodiyu Peer Support Specialist has opened up an appreciation of being able to offer my help to others which brings me great joy and happiness. I appreciate how this program is structured in its outreach education and offers to our people a deeper understanding of our lives with the Galvgodiyu Trainings available and open to all employees and enrolled members. Its wonderful being a part of the entire team that I work with that makes me feel so much like family. Working here at Cherokee Indian Hospital is absolutely wonderful."- Charlene McCoy

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

EVENTS: From page 35

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. Pas-

tor 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 Naz-

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

Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church.

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

Cherokee United Methodist Church.

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

Cherokee Wesleyan Church.

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

Christian Acts Church at the

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

Echota Baptist Church.

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

Ela Baptist Church.

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

Embassy Christian Center

Church of God in Christ. 87 Vinewood Circle, Whittier, located on the campus of Church of God Gateway Campground and Conference Center. Full season starts Aug. 4. Sunday School 10 a.m. and Morning Worship 11 a.m. Year-round services – church online live streamed from the 24/7 church channel, Embassy TV <https://embassytv.net> Tuesday Night Bible Study 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Will Chambliss, Thursday Night Women’s Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Brenda Miller-Chambliss (828) 835-2359 or embassymediagroup@gmail.com

Goose Creek Baptist Church.

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

Grace Bible Church.

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

Grace Community Church of

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

Grace Fellowship Church.

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

Jesus is the Light Full Gospel Ministries.

1921 US 441 N. Sunday service 10 a.m. Thursday service 7 p.m. Pastor Margie Hall 736-9383

Living Waters Lutheran

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

Macedonia Baptist Church.

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

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

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

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Mission. 82 Lambert Branch Road. Saturday Mass at 4:30 p.m. in English and 6 p.m. in Spanish. Pastor Fr. Victor Ameh, MSP. For

more information, go to www.stjosephbryson.org.

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

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

Rock Springs Baptist Church. 129 Old Gap Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m. Pastor Greg Morgan 497-

9455, 736-1245 (cell)

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

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

Spruce Grove Baptist Church. 780 Lands Creek Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday School 10 a.m.,

Sunday morning worship service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 7 p.m., Wednesday evening service 7 p.m., third Saturday singing 7 p.m. Pastor Ernie Cable. Email: sprucegrovebc.1920@gmail.com

Straight Fork Baptist Church. Big Cove Loop. Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening worship 6 p.m. Wednesday night prayer service 7 p.m. Youth group meetings also. Interim Pastor – Harley Maney Jr.

Waterfalls Baptist Church. 82 Waterfalls Church Rd., Sunday School 10 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 5 p.m., Wednesday evening service 6 p.m. Praying for a Pastor.

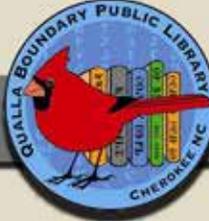
Whittier United Methodist Church. 150 Church St., Whittier, N.C. 28789. Sunday worship service 10 a.m. Rev. Beverly Parker-Reece

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.

Wright's 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

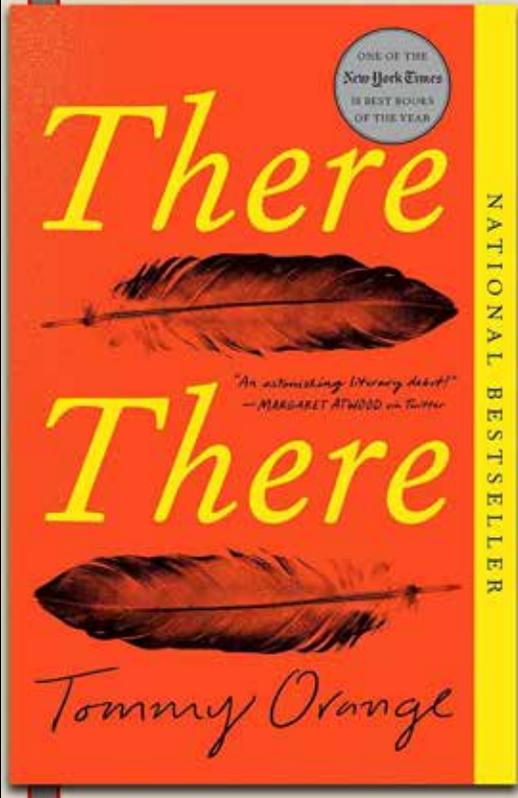
Yellowhill Baptist Church. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor Foreman Bradley 506-0123 or 736-4872

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



Qualla

BOOK OF THE WEEK



"There There"
By Tommy Orange

"There There" is the debut novel of Cheyenne/Arapaho author Tommy Orange. This book alternates between first, second, and third person perspectives, following 12 characters who are Native American. The characters struggle with a wide range of challenges, including depression and alcoholism, unemployment, fetal alcohol syndrome, and the challenges of living with an "ambiguously nonwhite" ethnic identity in the United States. All the characters unite at a community powwow and its attempted robbery.

The book explores Native peoples living in urban spaces and Native struggles with identity and authenticity. For Native people, Orange writes that cities and towns represent "buried ancestral land, glass and concrete and wire and steel, unreturnable covered memory. There is no there there."

Orange's second novel, "Wandering Stars", serves as both a prequel and sequel to "There There".

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**

Land wanted to buy by Enrolled Member.

1 to 5 acres with a buildable spot. I expect to pay a lot more than \$500 an acre. My family is from Big Cove but anywhere on the boundary is fantastic. I'm not holding out for an acre from the tribe. I don't think that's ever going to happen, so I hope someone can help. Please contact me on

352-809-9131 and leave a message if I don't answer!! I would be a good neighbor. **3/25**

Indoor Yard Sale. April 18 from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center, 1416 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Info: Virginia (828) 788-8659 or Dakota (828) 7336-8092. **4/15**

EMPLOYMENT

Now Hiring

Cherokee/Great Smokies KOA is hiring for Summer 2026. Several 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**

Volunteers Needed: Museum Education Advisory Committee

The Museum Education Advisory Committee (MEAC) will serve as key community advisors in supporting our mission to preserve and perpetuate the history, culture and stories of the Cherokee People. This volunteer role contributes to the development and evaluation of culturally accurate, engaging, and First Voice educational programs and resources. We will offer volunteer credit hours to go towards program requirements for undergraduates, resumes or general experience for educators, and professional develop-

ment opportunities. You must be eighteen years of age to apply. Learn more and apply at motcp.org/2026/03/9volunteers-needed. **4/1**

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-018

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

DONALD LEE SWIMMER

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



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
Email: HRRrecruitment@onespaworld.com



Cherokee Boys Club Job Announcements

Admin--Finance
Accounts Receivable Specialist--\$47,700--\$53,000

Agelink
3 Agelink Teachers--\$31,800--\$39,750 per year with benefits

Children's Home
2 Residential Counselor--Full Time--\$17.00 per hour with benefits
2 Residential Counselor--Part Time--\$17.00 per hour w/out benefits

Service Department
1 Master Technician--\$31,800--\$39,750 per year with Benefits
1 Technician--\$21,200--\$29,150 per year with Benefits
3 Seasonal Mowers

Bus & Truck Department
Seasonal Bus Drivers
Truck Drivers

SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITIONS

Application and job description can be picked up from the receptionist at the Boys Club information window between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The selected applicant must submit to a pre-employment drug screen and local, state, and federal civil and criminal background and sexual offender screens.

Payroll direct deposit is mandatory. Indian preference does apply in the filling of this position.

If claiming Indian preference, applicant must submit the appropriate certificate.

Cherokee Boys Club
P.O. Box 507,
Cherokee, NC, 28719
828-497-2101



CIHA COLLEGE SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Jump-start your career with a summer internship at Cherokee Indian Hospital!

Applications open March 13, 2026 until filled

INTERNSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE IN:

- ✔ Nutrition
- ✔ Radiology
- ✔ Contracting
- ✔ Supply
- ✔ Physical Therapy
- ✔ Primary Care
- ✔ Human Resources
- ✔ Public Relations
- ✔ Performance Improvement
- ✔ Maintenance
- ✔ Information Technology

"I really enjoyed doing my internship at CIHA. I appreciated the hands-on experience and how the internship was tailored to support my education while giving me the opportunity to come back and serve my community. The CIHA environment was very supportive and welcoming." - Destiny Mills (HR Generalist and 2025 Summer Intern)

General dates for internship are May 11- August 7, 2026. Dates can be adjusted due to department needs and student schedules

APPLY ONLINE AT: CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS

For any questions email: Lisa.Webster@cherokeehospital.org or Sierra.Bates@cherokeehospital.org



View thousands of One Feather photos online at:
Cherokeepics.com

All are available for purchase and can be made into various gifts.

JOIN OUR TEAM



WE ARE HIRING

Open Positions

- Surveillance Officer

 **Apply Online**
www.qualla.com/careers

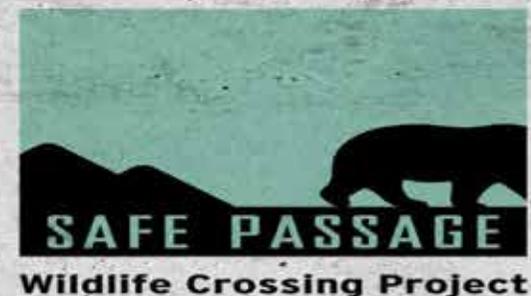
 **More Information**
828.589.8285

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



Home. Dinner. Family time. All on the other side.

Help animals safely cross our mountain highways. Take the pledge.
smokiessafepassage.org





Cherokee Cinemas & More has the following job opportunities:

Theater Assistant Manager – Full Time – \$16.00 - \$21.00

The primary responsibility of the Assistant Theater Manager is to assist the Theater Manager in overseeing the daily operations of the theater. The Assistant Manager is responsible for establishing and maintaining guest services. The Assistant Manager supervises employees at the location. The position is responsible for the various tasks involved in the overall operation of the theater, including maximizing sales/profitability with staff and by controlling expenses, shortages, and all aspects of merchandising and inventory control.

Job Description and Applications can be picked up at the offices of the Kituwah, LLC, 1158 Seven Clans Lane, KG3 Building across the road from Waffle House, if you have any questions, please contact Kristin Smith at 828-929 4257 or by email kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com. **Open until filled.**



Kituwah LLC has the following jobs available:

Resident Technician – 2nd/3rd Shift – Salary Depends on Experience

The Residence Technician works directly with the Maintenance Supervisor in order to maintain the overall property Kituwah LLC oversees, primarily including Workforce Housing (Chestnut Tree), Clarion Pointe, and Cherokee Cinemas. Duties will include maintaining the overall condition and appearance of the external and internal areas, including support functions of the operations, such as entry to rooms, basic janitorial, and issues that arise after hours. The Maintenance Assistant will promote professionalism and excellent customer service and respond in a timely manner to all work orders.

Anyone interested should submit resumes, request the job description, and application from Kristin Smith at kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com or at the Kituwah G3 Office (Across the Street from Waffle House) between the hours of 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.

Job Fair

Take Your Shot at Success!

MARCH 19 | 1pm - 5pm

Employment Office
 Located on the second floor
 of the casino parking garage

Harrah's
CHEROKEE
 CASINO RESORT

Must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble, and must present a valid state or federal photo ID upon request. Know When To Stop: Before You Start. © Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. ©2026 - Gossens License Company, LLC.



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



OPEN POSITIONS

New Positions

Summer Internship Program
(Radiology, Nutrition, Contracting, Primary Care, Supply, Human Resources, Physical Therapy, Performance Improvement, Public Relations, Maintenance, Information Technology (IT))
Housekeeping - Tsali Care Center
EVS Technician

Behavioral Health

Mental Health Therapist - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family – Snowbird, Family Safety, Family Intensive Treatment, Medication Assisted Treatment)
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwtiyi
Targeted Case Manager – Child and Family, MAT
Residential Technician – Kanvwtiyi
MAT Manager
Residential Technician - Female - Part Time without Benefits
Assistant Director of IDD

Complementary Medicine

Acupuncturist
Massage Therapist

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

Nursing

License Practical Nurse – Primary Care
Registered Nurse ED – Day Shift or Night Shift - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Registered Nurse ED – PTI – Night Shift
RN Inpatient – Nights - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
RN Inpatient – Nights - PTI
Specialty Services Registered Nurse - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Medical Social Worker

Nutrition

Clinical Dietician

Pharmacy

Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner

Physical Therapy

Occupational Therapist I
Physical Therapist I

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

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, March 22, 2026

1. **Adult Language Educator – Kituwah Preservation & Education Program – CERS (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)**
2. **Lead Environmental Lab Technician – Environmental & Natural Resources – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)**
3. **Air Quality Specialist – Environmental & Natural Resources – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)**
4. **WWT Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)**
SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION

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. **Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
7. **Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)**
8. **Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (Starting rate of \$20.00/hour)**
9. **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.
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Kituwah Technologies LLC has the following jobs available:

Low Voltage Technician I

A Low Voltage Cable Technician installs and tests low-power systems like security, fire alarms, data networks (Cat5/6, Fiber), and AV/home theaters, cable pulling, termination, troubleshooting, documentation, and ensuring code compliance, often working in residential, commercial, or data center settings. Follow safety protocols (OSHA) while working with specialized low-voltage (<50V) wiring

- 2+ years of experience in cable repair and installation (preferred, not required)
- High School Diploma

Low Voltage Cable Technician II

A Low Voltage Cable Technician installs, tests, and maintains low-power systems like security, fire alarms, data networks (Cat5/6, Fiber), and AV/home theaters, reading blueprints, cable pulling, termination, troubleshooting, documentation, and ensuring code compliance, often working in residential, commercial, or data center settings. Configure devices, provide customer training, and follow safety protocols (OSHA) while working with specialized low-voltage (<50V) wiring

- 2+ years commercial and/or industrial low voltage experience
- BICSI, NICET, ESA & OSHA Certifications are a PLUS but not required

Low Voltage Cable Technician III

A Low Voltage Cable Technician installs, tests, and maintains low-power systems like security, fire alarms, data networks (Cat5/6, Fiber), and AV/home theaters, reading blueprints, cable pulling, termination, troubleshooting, documentation, and ensuring code compliance, often working in residential, commercial, or data center settings. Configure devices, provide customer training, and follow safety protocols (OSHA) while working with specialized low-voltage (<50V) wiring

- 5+ years commercial and/or industrial low voltage experience
- 2+ years supervisory experience
- BICSI, NICET, ESA & OSHA Certifications are a PLUS but not required

Anyone interested should submit resumes, request the job description, and application to Kristin Smith at kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com or at the Kituwah G3 Office (Across the Street from Waffle House) between the hours of 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.



For a limited time, the One Feather is in Tennessee at the fine outlets below. Pick up your free copy today.

- **Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center** (Townsend, Tenn.)
- **Smokies Life** (Gatlinburg, Tenn.)
- **Townsend Visitor Center** (Townsend, Tenn.)
- **Sequoyah Birthplace Museum** (Vonore, Tenn.)
- **Charles Hall Museum** (Tellico Plains, Tenn.)
- **Tennessee Overhill Heritage Association** (Etowah, Tenn.)
- **Sam Houston Schoolhouse** (Maryville, Tenn.)

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

MISSING

Herbert Paul Hamilton

Alias/Nickname: Herbert P. Hamilton, Herbie Hamilton, Herbert Hamilton, Herbert Paul Hampton, Herbert Hampton, Herbie Paul Hamilton

American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 5'5" Weight: 185 lbs

Male Age: 58

Hair: Black Eyes: Black

Date of last contact: January 1, 2026

Last Known Location: Anchorage, Alaska



Circumstances of Disappearance: Herbert left his assisted living facility and never returned. He is currently experiencing homelessness. Herbert was last seen wearing jeans and a black and yellow jacket.

If you have seen or have information about Herbert Hamilton 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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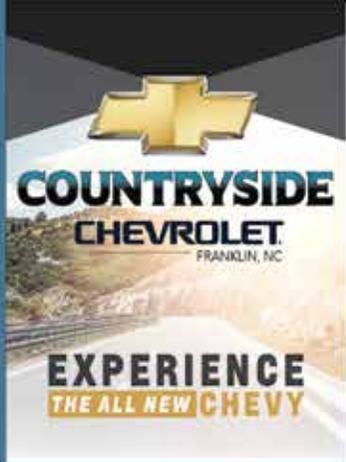
828.507.2783 | STOKELYROB@GMAIL.COM



Cherokee Indians Housing Division's (CIHD) Financial Lending Services Program, congratulates our new homeowner! CIDH was happy to assist with Down Payment Assistance and Rate Buy Down Funds for Mr. Aidan Allison on the purchase of his home in the Birdtown Community!



Congratulations, Aidan on becoming a homeowner!! We would like to thank Aidan for allowing CIHD to assist him in making his homeownership dream become a reality. Congratulations!!!



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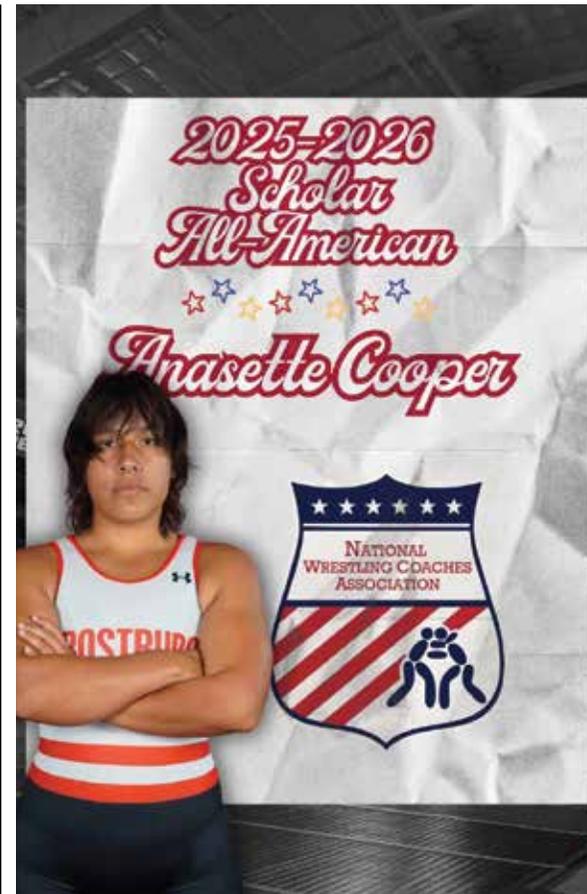
*The Atlanta Braves congratulate the
Cherokee Lady Braves on becoming
Basketball State Champions!*





60th Wedding Anniversary

Alethea Thomas Smith and Dock Smith Jr., an elder of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, will celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary on March 19, 2026. They were married on March 19, 1966 by Rev. John Freeman in Bryson City, N.C. The couple currently resides in the Shepherds Creek Community and will be celebrating with their only son and daughter-in-law Alan and Mary Jane Smith and their grandchildren, David, Gabby, Kody and Mali who all reside in Cherokee. (Photo courtesy of family)



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NCAA Scholar All-American

Anasette Cooper, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from Aniwodihhi (Painttown), has been named a NCAA Scholar All-American. A freshman at Frostburg State University, she also participated in the inaugural 2026 NCAA Women's Wrestling Regional (Region III) in the 207lb weight class. (Photo contributed)

The GOOD STUFF

The One Feather wants to hear your good news and/or accomplishments. Send us your "good stuff" such as:

- * birth, engagement, and wedding announcements
- * awards or other accomplishments (both civilian and military)
- * and other areas of life such as finishing restoring an old car, building a new deck, etc.

**Send your photos and info to us at:
Cherokeefather1966@gmail.com**

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