

FREE



**Cherokee Growing Readers Initiative launches new book**  
pages 22-23



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Pages 24-25

# GWY ᏆᏍᏍᏁ ᏆᏍᏍᏁ

**CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI**

week of  
kawoni (april) 15-21,  
2026

# BINGO!

## Tribal Bingo Project back on after construction halt

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

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. – The Tribal Bingo Project is back on following a halt in construction that lasted a few weeks due to a right-of-way and easement dispute. A day after officials announced that the project was put on hold indefinitely, construction will commence again in about a week with the building – which has yet to be started – being moved slightly on the lot to avoid an encroachment of the adjacent



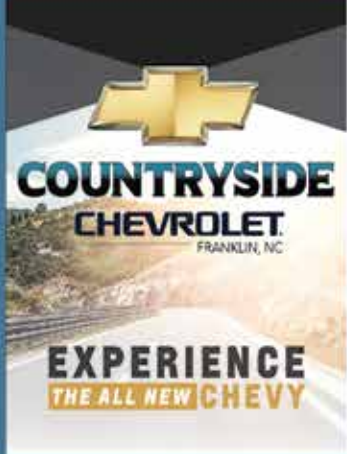
The Tribal Bingo Project is back on following a halt in construction that lasted a few weeks due to a right-of-way and easement dispute. The project site is shown in this photo taken Monday, April 13. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

see **BINGO** page 4

# THE RIVER

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**BINGO:** From front page

property.

Leaders of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) broke ground on The Boundary Bingo & Slots Class II gaming establishment in Elawodi (Yellowhill) in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Feb. 24. The 35,000 square foot building, a project of the Tribal Casino Gaming Enterprise (TCGE) and Tribal Bingo Enterprise (TBE), is set to offer bingo, Class II gaming machines, and a concession area and is still scheduled to open in summer 2027.

A three-hour special session of Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) was held on Thursday, April 9 to discuss Res. No. 182 (2026), submitted by Dinilawigi as a whole, for the purpose of “establishing an easement for ingress, egress, and utilities over leased property”.

The property in question is being leased by Collette Coggins, Barry Coggins, and Corey Coggins and is the site of Native Brews Tap & Grill.

After much discussion during the special session, Tommy Lambert, TCGE chairperson, stated that the project would be halted indefinitely and another site would be selected to build the facility. A day later, things were worked out.

Lambert happily told the One Feather on the afternoon of Friday, April 10, “We’ll use the same site that we’re at. So, we will stay mobilized on that site. The only thing we’re going to do is we’ll reposition the building some so that we’re not encroaching on the backside of it. We spoke with the general contractor and their design and construction team and got all of them back on board after a lot of discussion and some

additions to their contract that we would help them out.”

He said construction activity should continue in the next 7 to 10 days. “The downed trees that are up there will be all cleared up. Tribal Construction is going to clear those trees up and we’ll do some native hydro seeding back there. It is just a matter of moving the building. We’ll move it about 50 to 75 feet forward and about 25 feet to the right-hand side toward the Parkway. We were sitting at the very back of the lot anyway.”

Lambert said the project should be on time even with the construction delay. “We had a few weeks built into our timeline so we think if we can get remobilized and get things going that we can still hit the 2027 timeline that we had published up there - Summer 2027. The parking will have to be reworked. We were going to rework the parking some anyway, but we’ll have to rework the parking just a little bit more.”

The legislation discussed during Thursday’s meeting (Res. No. 182) states in part, “In Lease No. S52-2451-19/44, by and between the Tribe as Lessor and Collette Coggins, Barry Coggins, and Corey Coggins as Lessees, as amended by the parties and approved by the Tribal Business Committee and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Lessor and Lessees were each granted, in general terms, a right-of-way over the leased property for reasonable and common ingress, egress, and utilities; and the Tribe hereby exercises its rights to establish the right-of-way and easement referenced in the lease.”

At the end of the session, Res. No. 182 was withdrawn by Dinilawigi by a vote of 8-0 with

four absent including: Dinilawigi Gahvsgi (Tribal Council Chairman) Jim Owle, Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Venita Wolfe, Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shennelle Feather, and Wayohi (Wolftown) Rep. Mike Parker.

Robert Saunooke, an EBCI tribal member and attorney for the Coggins, told the One Feather on Friday, April 10, “We have only asked for communication. And as of now, that still has not occurred. We support tribal progress and will not stand in the way of things that hopefully will benefit the entire tribe. We continue to want to work to resolve the mistake and the actions unilaterally taken by the tribe and hope the tribe will work with us for a resolution that benefits everyone. In the meantime, we’ll be taking no legal action to stop the progress already begun to complete the bingo hall as soon as possible.”

***NOTE: The following article was published on the One Feather website (onefeather.com) on the afternoon of Friday, April 10. We provide it here to provide clarity on the meeting mentioned in this article.***

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

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. – Less than two months after ground was broken on the new bingo operation of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), the project has been halted indefinitely. That revelation came at the end of a three-hour special session of Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) on Thursday, April 9.

Leaders of the EBCI broke

ground on The Boundary Bingo & Slots Class II gaming establishment in Elawodi (Yellowhill) in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Feb. 24. The 35,000 square foot building, a project of the Tribal Casino Gaming Enterprise (TCGE) and Tribal Bingo Enterprise (TBE), was set to offer bingo, Class II gaming machines, and a concession area and was originally scheduled to open in summer 2027.

Following Thursday’s Dinilawigi session, those plans are on hold following a right-of-way and easement dispute.

At the end of the lengthy discussion, Tommy Lambert, an EBCI tribal member and TCGE chairperson, announced, “We’ll decommission the site by taking all of the construction fencing down and removing the construction trailers. We have a lot we can store those on. We’ll meet with Tribal Construction to see about cleaning the site up and hydroseeding it down. We’ll wait until the Chief gets back into town to make a final decision on how to move forward.”

During the session, Res. No. 182 (2026) was submitted by Dinilawigi as a whole for the purpose of “establishing an easement for ingress, egress, and utilities over leased property”.

That legislation states in part, “In Lease No. S52-2451-19/44, by and between the Tribe as Lessor and Collette Coggins, Barry Coggins, and Corey Coggins as Lessees, as amended by the parties and approved by the Tribal Business Committee and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Lessor and Lessees were each granted, in general terms, a right-of-way over the leased property for reasonable and common ingress, egress, and utilities; and the Tribe hereby

exercises its rights to establish the right-of-way and easement referenced in the lease.”

The One Feather requested a copy of the lease from the EBCI Office of the Attorney General. That Office related that a redacted copy will be provided, but it will take some time and it was not available by press time.

At the end of the session, Res. No. 182 was withdrawn by Dinilawigi by a vote of 8-0 with four absent including: Dinilawigi Gahvsgi (Tribal Council Chairman) Jim Owle, Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Venita Wolfe, Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shennelle Feather, and Wayohi (Wolftown) Rep. Mike Parker.

Lambert noted, “Our GC (general contractor) has said that even with the easement you have in front of you, he will not return to the job site. The reason he will not return to the job site is the statements made here by Mr. Saunooke that he would sue the general contractor with or without an easement. So, the general contractor will not go back on that site.

So, at this point and time, that bingo project is on an indefinite hold without a GC.”

Prior to Res. No. 182 being withdrawn, Dinilawigi Taline Gahvsgi (Tribal Council Vice Chairman) David Wolfe said there was no benefit to passing the resolution. “The project is on hold indefinitely. It’s going to take a whole new contractor it sounds to me.”

As Thursday’s discussion began, Robert Saunooke, an EBCI tribal member and attorney representing the Coggins, commented, “The Tribe, for whatever reason, individuals here went to the people that were doing the work and said, ‘take the mountain down,

period’. They didn’t talk to Ms. Coggins, didn’t reach out to her knowing full well there was a lease and that she had development plans for that mountain – she has development plans for that mountain to put hotels and cottages up there.”

He added, “We’re not here today saying, ‘stop your progress’. What we’re saying is, ‘don’t ask for forgiveness, get permission’. That’s the way to approach things here. We talk about respect and culture and conversation, that’s never happened. And the reality is there’s a lease in place that had rights attached to it.

This is what will happen if you guys pass this today – the contractor, they’re not sovereign. I’ll file a lawsuit and adjourn them from doing any work, and I’ll keep that in court for the next year. That’s just the reality because I’ve got to protect my client’s rights to this property. We don’t want to do that. We want to talk. We want to sit down and figure it out.”

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Shannon Swimmer stated, “We as Tribal Council, our duty is to do what’s in the best interest of the Tribe and to protect tribal assets as well, tribal money. That’s why I was asking the question...because, to me, it boils down to money. What’s going to be the least expensive route for the Tribe to go forward? Is it going to be more expensive for us to stay where we are, push forward with this in the location where it is right now, pay Collette however much money she’s wanting, and possibly more in the future? Or, is it better to go ahead and move it to a completely different location, which, yeah, is going to be starting all over?”

That’s what I’m looking for is a path forward. I know that the

elders want bingo...and now we’ve hit another roadblock. How do we go forward? What is the most cost-efficient way to go forward?”

She asked Saunooke, “What do you want? How much money do you want?”

He replied, “We don’t know. We have to talk to our accountant about what this does to the plans for the cottages that were going to go up there. If we can still build them up there and it’s not impacted, then the answer is nothing. But, if it’s taken out something so that now there’s less of what she was going to put up there, then the number might be...who knows what it might be. I think it will be somewhere around what the cost savings have happened because they don’t have to do a retaining wall right now.”

EBCI Secretary of Operations Anthony Sequoyah spoke some to the issue of the power lines. “We have worked almost two years with Duke Energy on the power lines coming into the Boundary... as everybody in here is aware, Big Cove community has probably one of the largest power failures of any community on the Boundary. So, when we got up to the Peter’s Pancake area for the redesign of the power lines, it became a huge interest of the Tribe as far as what was going to be done and what wasn’t. As we got up to the Native Brews, the project had started as far as the ground moving. There’s a corner pole that sits in the curve in the banking behind Native Brews and behind the holding tanks for the brewery. That pole is the main pole that feeds the Big Cove community and Piney Grove. So, the intentions of that, it has to have an ingress/egress.

As it stands, the only access is to come through the backside

of the brewery. My understanding is that that will eventually be developed in some sense...that’s what we were told. So, there’s no other option except to have a new ingress/egress.”

EBCI Attorney General Michael McConnell noted, “I know we’re going to disagree with Rob (Saunooke) and Collette (Coggins). I do appreciate them being here. I just ask for accuracy. The Tribe, or the contractor, has not taken down the mountain. The contractor has cut trees. Rob said that Collette had plans, but I think at this time she has an idea. She has not submitted any plans. Now, in the lease amendment that was just completed, we did give her some time to develop those plans and bring them into Business Committee. At that time, she’ll have that opportunity. But, as of today, I have not seen any plans.”

On Res. No. 182, he stated, “My intent in writing this is this would give the contractor sufficient authority from the Tribe to move forward. Rob could, I guess, still try to file a lawsuit and challenge it. I think his job would be more difficult if this resolution is passed.

The easement is not defined. It is impossible to exceed an easement that is not set out with any specificity. So, we have not exceeded the easement.”

Lambert described some of the issue, “As you know, we were given this site from the Tribe, the old theater site, for the Bingo operations. We were given a certain area there. When we started construction on it with our civil engineering plans, we had some issues at the back of the property with a retaining wall. Then, met

see **BINGO** next page

**BINGO:** From page 5

with Anthony (Sequoyah), talked to him, and he said that they'd have to move that power pole on up the hill. And, if it would help our retaining wall issue, then we could go up there to where those pine trees were and take those out to slope that bank down, which would save us about \$1.1 million on the project itself to have a step-down earthen wall instead of a soil nail wall or a block wall. No matter what type of wall we put behind that Bingo facility, it will require an easement.

At the time we were working on it, we did not have a copy of Ms. Coggins' lease. So, we had no idea that that was her leased property back there until she came over to our construction trailer and told our guys we were on her property.

At the moment she did that, we stopped all construction, removed everybody from the job site. So, currently, there's no mobilization there for construction, GC (general contractor), or anything like that. It's costing us approximately \$2,000 a day, currently as it sits, and the project has been shut down for 14 days."

Lambert did add, "We could move the project somewhere else, but it would have a cost of about \$300,000 that we've spent to finish cleaning that up and put it back to a native state."

Secretary Sequoyah said, "Regardless of what happens now, we've got to fix our problem for the power. Our power has got to continue. So, it's still going to be an issue on easement versus right-of-way. It doesn't pinpoint what the easement is. The easement could

be the whole 25 acres.

We've got to fix what's there – what's happened already – to make access, regardless of whether the bingo goes in or it doesn't go in there. The issue is still there of us getting the ingress, egress to that pole."

Several EBCI tribal members spoke during the meeting. Mary "Missy" Crowe, an EBCI tribal elder from Elawodi (Yellowhill), commented, "At the end of the day, when it comes to what is the best interest of the tribe as a whole, when this bingo hall gets built, and the gaming enterprise gets built, where's that money going to go to? It's going to go to distribution, isn't it? To every enrolled member of this tribe...but at the end of the day, we have an entity here that was approved by this body. And your attorney told you,

regardless of who, what, when, where, this body is in control of property, both real and personal, of the Eastern Band of Cherokee – of the Tribe, all of us."

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# "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"



# Constitution Committee holds April meeting

By **ROBERT JUMPER**  
One Feather Editor

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. - The Constitution Committee of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) began their meeting on Thursday, April 9 without a quorum. Gahvsgi (Chairperson) Nancy Pheasant called for a roll call as she opened the meeting at 5:37 p.m. In attendance were EBCI Associate Judge Barbara Parker, Constitution Committee Chairperson Nancy Pheasant, Lloyd Arneach, EBCI Beloved Woman Carmaleta Monteith, and Jack Cooper. Counted absent were Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shenelle Feather, Aniwodihhi (Painttown) Rep. Shannon Swimmer, Pam Straughn, Randall Crowe, EBCI Chief Justice Brad Letts, Dakota Bone, Janet Arch, Peggy Hill, Avery Maples, and Colby Taylor. Jack Cooper announced that Avery Maples was resigning from the committee and Raylen Bark would be replacing Maples.

Gahvsgi Pheasant called for and took a vote on the agenda without the presence of a quorum. Those present “approved” the agenda.

11 minutes into the discussion, Rep. Shannon Swimmer arrived, and that gave the committee enough delegates to have a quorum. Gahvsgi Pheasant stopped all discussion to catch Rep. Swimmer up on what had taken place in the meeting. Gahvsgi Pheasant directed Lloyd Arneach to go back and read the March 26 minutes

for the record and for the vote. They did not vote on the minutes because Beloved Woman Monteith requested that the names of those who seconded motions be included in the minutes. So, the minutes vote was put off to the next meeting.

Gahvsgi Pheasant called for discussion on a “timeline review”. Judge Parker stated that the committee should prepare Charter changes just in case the committee cannot get the entirety of the constitution delivered for a referendum consideration by Dinilawigi (Tribal Council). Gahvsgi Pheasant prefers direct meetings with the community to attempt to educate and feedback sessions to print or digital communication. Suggestions ranged from the entire committee meeting with some or all the community to asking for a specific time from each community club to speak. Beloved Woman Monteith stated that the regular business in a community club meeting usually takes a significant amount of time, and it would be difficult to add a constitution discussion to a regular community club meeting. Gahvsgi Pheasant plans to ask community clubs for a separate meeting with their communities for the constitution-specific discussion.

Rep. Swimmer expressed frustration at the process, “I wasn’t a big fan of how the ‘Constitution Convention’ came about; that these particular branches had to be represented, and there needing to be a quorum. And now it is

almost 7 o’clock, and we’ve done absolutely nothing because we have to go through all these motions and agreeing on them, when before, we could have just texted Community Club Council chair and asked if that is something we can do. Instead, we have to act as a body with clear and concise language to make a motion and then pass that motion and then send it to the Community Club Council. Folks, we are not going to make a lot of progress this way. I wanted to strongly voice my frustration with how long this is taking us to accomplish anything.”

The “Constitution Convention” was established by resolution in 2023, when a proposed constitution was halted by Dinilawigi because of what EBCI Attorney General Michael McConnell termed “unintended consequences” of the language in the proposal. The same draft constitution from 2023 was voted in by the Constitution Convention as a basis to proceed with this new constitution initiative.

Jack Cooper said he would like to see the community vote redistributed, particularly splitting the Tutiya (Snowbird) and Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee County) voting communities. Judge Parker and Jack Cooper said they had feedback from community members wanting to realign voting to allow the two communities to be separate.

Rep. Swimmer indicated that “people” had been dissatisfied with the weighted vote for a “long

time”. Gahvsgi Pheasant added that she thought additional communities like Wayohi (Wolfstown) and Widagalinidigv (Big Y) are not being “fairly” represented. Then discussion wandered to off-Boundary voters. Jack Cooper also wanted to mention the potential for Tribal Council representative pay changing based on any changes to community weights and potential for the number of seats to increase.

Jack Cooper wanted to “still push” the idea of having the “self-identified as a community” areas to have their own representations with a portion of the weighted vote, saying that an area with a community club is a self-identified community, including Tsisqwohi (Birdtown), Tso Iyagayvli Tali Sgohits(v) Sgwa Itsutsiloda (3200-Acre Tract), Wayohi, Widagalinidigv, Kolanvhi (Big Cove), Toledvyi (Towstring), Elawodi, Tutiya, Cherokee County. The committee also discussed changes to the minimum age to run for office, the ages mentioned were 18 and 25. The committee discussed being in favor of recommending 25 years old for voting. Judge Parker noted that some community members she had discussed this with felt that 18 year olds should have the opportunity to run. Differences in discussion were how mature individuals are at the ages discussed. With that, the committee voted to end the session.



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- Gross motor skills: moving the body by swaying, marching, or stepping to the beat
- Whole-body coordination: head-to-toe movement, like tapping feet or clapping along with others

Founded in 2007, Voices Together™ is a nonprofit that supports children, teens, and adults across the Carolinas. Our board-certified music therapists work with people with Autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), mental health needs, and complex medical needs. What makes Voices Music Therapy (VMT™) special is its caring, research-based approach. Music is used to help people share their thoughts, feelings, and ideas. For some people, music becomes a new way to communicate when words are hard to use.

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For updates on the Enrichment Center Project, visit: [cherokeehospital.org/idd-enrichment-center-project-progress](http://cherokeehospital.org/idd-enrichment-center-project-progress)

# 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

There are no new bills this week.

## Bills we're currently watching

**H.R. 226 (Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Reacquisition Act).** This House bill would place 76 acres of land

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

Introduced: Jan. 7, 2025 by Rep. Charles J. "Chuck" Fleischmann (R-Tenn.)

Action: This bill was passed in the House by a voice vote on Feb. 4, 2025. It was received in the Senate the next day and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**S.761 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies**

**Act).** This Senate bill would establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. According to Congress.gov, "Among other duties, the Commission must investigate the impacts and ongoing effects of the Indian Boarding School Policies – federal policies under which American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian children were forcibly removed from their family homes and placed in boarding schools."

Introduced: Feb. 26, 2025 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)  
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. It was "ordered to be reported without amendment favorably" by the Committee on March 5, 2025. It was reported without amendment by Sen. Murkowski (R-Alaska), Senate Committee on Indian Affairs chairperson, on July 31, 2025. That same day, it was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders (Calendar No. 139).

**H.R. 2412 (Indigenous Diplomacy and Engagement Act).**

This House bill would establish an Office for Indigenous Affairs and an Advisory Commission for Indigenous Peoples within the Department of State.

Introduced: March 27, 2025 by Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawai'i)

Action: This bill was referred to both the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 27, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 2929. (Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe recognition bill).**

This House bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group. Introduced: April 17, 2025 by Rep. Donald G. Davis (D-N.C.)  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 17, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 3255. (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025).**

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

Introduced: May 7, 2025 by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 7, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 3444. (Tribal Self-Determination and Co-Management in Forestry Act of 2025).**

According to the bill text, this House bill is "To direct Federal land management agencies of the Department of the Interior to establish Tribal Co-Management Plans and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for the performance of certain activities of the Forest Service, and for other purposes".

Introduced: May 15, 2025 by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-Calif.)

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



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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. It was reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 2, 2026 and was placed on the Union Calendar that same day.

**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

see LEGISLATIVE next page

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Misty Millsaps	mistmill@ebci-nsn.gov	828-359-6919

federally recognized Indian Tribes in the United States and First Nations individuals in Canada to cross the borders of the United States”.

Introduced: July 22, 2025 by Rep. Timothy M. Kennedy (D-New York)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 22, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 4750 (To extend federal recognition to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia).**

This House bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.

Introduced: July 23, 2025 by Rep. Eugene Simon Vindman (D-Va.)

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

**H.R. 4712 (Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act).**

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

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary as well as the House 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 ap-

prove “\$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

see LEGISLATIVE next page

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**LEGISLATIVE:** From page 13

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 authorizes 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 Com-

mittee 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 of culturally sensitive information

provided by Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, and Native Hawaiian Organizations to the federal government;

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

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

(4) to advance repatriation of cultural items, including human remains, under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA); and  
(5) to strengthen support for the policy of the United States of protecting and preserving traditional, cultural, and ceremonial rites and practices in accordance with Public Law 95-341 (commonly known as the American Indian Religious Freedom Act).

Introduced: Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-N.M.) on Nov. 20, 2025  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 20, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

partment of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health”.

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

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

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

**H.R. 7396 (Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act).** This House bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration which “shall be responsible for establishing a working relationship with Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations by targeting programs

of the Administration relating to entrepreneurial development, contracting, and capital access...”

Introduced: Feb. 5, 2026 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Small Business on Feb. 5, 2026, and a mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026 where it was reported favorably (24-0 vote). It was placed on the Union Calendar on Feb. 17, 2026.

### **H.R. 7490 (Tribal Warrant Fairness Act).**

This House will “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain Tribal criminal matters.”

Introduced: Feb. 11, 2026 by Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 11, 2026. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

### **H.R. 7627 (Tribal Conservation Priorities Inclusion Act).**

This House bill aims “to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to include Indian Tribes in certain provisions relating to priority resource concerns”.

Introduced: Feb. 20, 2026 by Rep. Joe Neguse (D-Colo.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture on Feb. 20, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

### **S. 3945 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act).**

This Senate bill aims “to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply to Tribal law enforcement agencies”.

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 (Tribal Firearm Access Act).**

This Senate bill seeks “to allow members of federally recognized Tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer”.

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 (Tribal Firearm Access Act).**

This House bill seeks “to allow members of federally recognized tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer”.

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 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act).**

This House aims “to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply to tribal law enforcement agencies”.

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.

### **S. 3994 (PRIME Meat Processing in Indian Country Act).**

This Senate bill aims “to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to authorize tribal meat inspection under that Act by tribal personnel”. In the title, PRIME means “Promoting Regulatory Independence, Mastery, and Expansion”.

Introduced: Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.) on March 4, 2026

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 4, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

### **S. 4179 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act).**

This Senate bill seeks “to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations”.

Introduced: Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) on March 24, 2026

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on March 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

### **H.R. 8048 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act).**

This House bill seeks “to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable

distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations”. Introduced: Rep. Adelita S. Grijalva (D-Ariz.) on March 24, 2026

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce on March 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

Here is the contact information for your federal legislators:

Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.): <https://www.tillis.senate.gov/email-me>

Sen. Tedd Budd (R-N.C.): <https://www.budd.senate.gov/contact/>

11th District Congressional Rep.

Chuck Edwards (R-N.C.): <https://edwards.house.gov/contact>



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**Cherokee Tribal Court  
Disposition Summary for  
March 1-31**

**Submitted by Cherokee Tribal Court**

*Note: The following cases were disposed of in Cherokee Tribal Court during the time period of March 1-31. The date of each offense is in parenthesis.*

Alexis, Christian

- No Operators License (Jan. 22, 2026). Guilty/Responsible.

Arch, Melisa D.

- Failure to Wear a Seat Belt - Rear Seat (Dec. 31, 2024). Guilty/Responsible.  
- Failure to Wear a Seat Belt - Rear Seat (June 8, 2023). Guilty/Responsible.

Best, Jeffrey A.

- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V). (Dec. 4, 2025). Guilty. 6 months, suspended, 12 months supervised probation.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (Dec. 31, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- No Operators License/Drivers License (Feb. 14, 2024). Dismissed per plea.

Bowman, Skyler C.

- No Operators License (Jan. 3, 2026). VD.

Bradley, Amber C.

- Disorderly Conduct (Dec. 27, 2025). Guilty. 30 days, suspended, 6 months supervised probation.

Bradley, Nichole D.

- Expired Registration Card/Tag (April 24, 2024). Dismissed per plea.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (April 24, 2024). Dismissed per plea.

- Probation Revocation (Feb. 9, 2024). Admitted. 6 months, credit for 180 days served.

- Second Degree Trespass (Feb. 4, 2024). Guilty.

- Possession of a Controlled Substance (April 24, 2024). Guilty. 12 months, credit for 213 days served, suspended, 18 months supervised probation.

- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (March 26, 2024). Dismissed per plea.

Bradley, Connie L.

- Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers (Oct. 2, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (Oct. 2, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

- Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court (Oct. 2, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

- Escape from Imprisonment and Custody (Oct. 2, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

- Resisting Lawful Arrest (Oct. 2, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

- Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (Oct. 2, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

- Probation Revocation (Oct. 6, 2025). Admitted.

- Probation Revocation (Oct. 6, 2025). Admitted.

- Probation Revocation (Oct. 6, 2025). Admitted.

- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Oct. 2, 2025). Guilty. 1,097 days, credit for 176 days served, Date of Release Oct. 3, 2028.

Bradley, Eddie R.

- Violation of Registration Provisions (Dec. 28, 2017). Dismissed.

Brady, Steven E.

- Disorderly Conduct (July 18, 2025). Guilty. 1 day, credit for 1 day served.

Broome, Davyn J.

- Simple Assault; Assault and Battery; Simple Affray (Nov. 6, 2025). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

- Simple Assault; Assault and Battery; Simple Affray (Nov. 6, 2025). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

Brown, Diamond W.

- No Liability Insurance (Nov. 20, 2025). VD.

Calhoun, Chad

- Unlawful to Drive while License Revoked, after Notification, or While Disqualified (Oct. 25, 2022). Dismissed per plea.

- Violation of Registration Provisions (Oct. 25, 2022). Dismissed per plea.

- Unlawful to Drive while License Revoked, after Notification, or While Disqualified (May 21, 2023). Dismissed per plea.

Cline, Damion D.

- Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (Octopus. 14, 2025). Guilty. 30 days, suspended, 12 months supervised probation.

Cline, William D.

- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Dec. 10, 2025). Guilty. 1 month, suspended 12 months supervised probation.

Crowe, Amber S.

- Probation Revocation (July 12, 2025). Admitted.

- Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (July 11, 2025). Guilty.

- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (July 11, 2025). Guilty. 12 months, suspended, 24 months supervised

probation, special condition of probation serve 6 months with credit. Credit for 180 days served.

- Public Intoxication (July 11, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Cruz Hernandez, Jorge R.

- No Operators License (Feb. 26, 2026). Guilty/Responsible.

Daniel, Kristian H.

- Larceny (March 15, 2026). Dismissed without leave. Defendant returned the property.

Dardeen, Bianca J.

- Compulsory School Attendance (Nov. 6, 2025). Guilty. 30 days, suspended, 6 months supervised.

- Expired Registration Card/Tag (Dec. 4, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (Dec. 4, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Davis, Vincent C.

- Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (Feb. 10, 2026). Dismissed per plea.

- Assault by Strangulation (Sept. 21, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Driver, Derek W.

- Unsafe Passing Yellow Line (Sept. 11, 2025). VD.

- Drug Trafficking (Sept. 11, 2025). Guilty.

- Violations of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders (Sept. 11, 2025). Guilty. 18 months, credit for 40 days served. Date of Release Aug. 13, 2027.

- Criminal Conspiracy (Octopus. 15, 2025). Guilty. 12 months, suspended, 36 months supervised probation (Begins at end of prior sentence).

- Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (Sept. 11, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Ellwood, Jalyynn

- Elder Abuse and Neglect (Aug. 21, 2025). Dismissed at request of complainant and/or complainant's failure/refusal to appear and/or testify.

Ensley, Charles D.  
- Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (Dec. 21, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- Injuring Telephone Wires, Wires, or Other Communication Equipment; Interfering with Emergency Communication (Dec. 21, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Garcia, Jaime L.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (Feb. 28, 2026). Guilty/Responsible.  
- Reckless Driving - Wanton Disregard (Feb. 28, 2026). VD>

George, Kelcie C.  
- Probation Revocation (Oct. 31, 2025). Admitted. Probation extended until Oct. 30, 2026.

George, Charles E.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (Feb. 4, 2026). Guilty per plea. 6 months, credit for 5 days served, suspended. 12 months supervised probation.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (Nov. 21, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

George, Elizabeth S.  
- Driving while Impaired (July 7, 2025). Guilty per plea. 60 days suspended, 6 months supervised probation, surrender license, 24 hours community service.

Gloyne, Frances A.  
- No Operators License (Jan. 17, 2026). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.  
- Illegal Parking (Jan. 17, 2026).

VD.

Harris, Robert L.  
- Expired Registration Card/Tag (march 10, 2026). VD.

Holmes, Kihrie W.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (March 6, 2026). Dismissed due to lack of jurisdiction.

Hughes, Kevin M.  
- Probation Revocation (Nov. 9, 2025). Admitted.  
- Probation Revocation (Nov. 9, 2025). Admitted. 67 days, credit for 67 days served, probation extended to Sept. 10, 2026.

Jenkins, James D.  
- Probation Revocation (Dec. 20, 2025). Guilty. 3 years. Date of Release Jan. 22, 2029.

Jenkins, Randall  
- Probation Revocation (July 22, 2025). Dismissed per prior plea.

Johnson, Anthony D.  
- Larceny (June 18, 2025). Guilty.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (March 12, 2026). Guilty. 12 months, credit for 14 days served, suspended, 24 months supervised probation.  
- Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers (Aug. 28, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Kazhe, Patrick D.  
- Simple Assault; Assault and Battery; Simple Affray (Nov. 6, 2025). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

Kilby, Nicole  
- No Liability Insurance (March 20, 2026). VD.  
- Expired Registration Card/Tag

(March 20, 2026). VD.

Lakins, Charles E.  
- Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers (Dec. 18, 2025). Guilty. 3 months, credit for 1 day served, suspended, 6 months unsupervised probation.  
- Assault on Law Enforcement, Probation, or Parole Officer (Dec. 18, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Lambert, Nikki N.  
- Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (Sept. 11, 2025). Guilty. 30 days, suspended, 6 months supervised probation.

Ledford III, Noah  
- Probation Revocation (Jan. 13, 2026). Admitted. Probation ends Dec. 9, 2026.

Lossiah, Brent J.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (March 14, 2024). Guilty/Responsible.

Lossiah, Johnnie R.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (Nov. 30, 2023). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

McCoy, John H.  
- Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court (Jan. 17, 2026). Dismissed at request of complainant and/or complainant's failure/refusal to appear and/or testify.  
- Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (Jan. 17, 2026). Dismissed at request of complainant and/or complainant's failure/refusal to appear and/or testify.  
- Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (Dec. 29, 2025). Dismissed at request of complainant and/or complainant's failure/refusal to appear and/or testify.

Mitchell, Lloyd J.

- Manufacture, Sell or Deliver, or Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver a Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine) (April 6, 2025). Guilty.  
- Drug Paraphernalia (Delivering, Manufacturing) (April 6, 2025). Guilty.  
- Drug Trafficking (Jan. 24, 2025). Guilty.  
- Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court (March 27, 2025). Guilty.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (April 6, 2025). Guilty.  
- Manufacture, Sell or Deliver, or Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (Jan. 24, 2025). Guilty.  
- Child Abuse in the Second Degree (Jan. 24, 2025). Guilty.  
- Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers (Jan. 24, 2025). Guilty. Sentence activated due to lack of compliance with Willness Court. Date of Release Jan. 14, 2029.

Montelongo Jr., David  
- Second Degree Trespass (July 31, 2024). Guilty. 6 months, suspended, 6 months supervised probation.

O'Kelley, Sophia M.  
- Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (Feb. 21, 2026). Dismissed at request of complainant and/or complainant's failure/refusal to appear and/or testify.

Reed, Seth P.  
- Elder Abuse and Neglect (June 16, 2025). Guilty.  
- Resisting, Delaying, or Obstruct-

see **DISPOSITION** next page

**DISPOSITION:** From page 17

ing Officers (Jan. 11, 2026). Guilty. 18 months, suspended. 18 months unsupervised probation, special condition serve 14 days, credit for 14 days served.

Reyes, Rosa A.  
- Hit/Run Fail Stop Prop Damage (Oct. 18, 2025). Dismissed without leave.

Robles, Abriana N.  
- Assault on Law Enforcement, Probation, or Parole Officer (Dec. 6, 2025). Guilty.

- Disorderly Conduct (Dec. 6, 2025). Guilty.  
- Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers (Dec. 6, 2025). Guilty. 12 months, suspended, 12 months supervised probation.

Saunooke, Heather L.  
- Compulsory School Attendance (Feb. 11, 2012). Dismissed without leave - Dismissed in 2013, in the system in error.  
- Simple Assault; Assault and Battery; Simple Affray (Dec. 6, 2025) Dismissed at request of complainant and/or complainant's failure/refusal to appear and/or testify.

Sequoyah Jr., Gary L.  
- License Plate Frame/Cover Viol. (Nov. 22, 2025). VD

Shell, Anthony J.  
- Sex Offender Crimes (Sept. 30, 2025). Guilty. 36 months, suspended, 24 months supervised probation. 12 months on EHC for monitoring (does not count toward underlying sentence).

Sierra, Benjamin I.  
- Simple Assault; Assault and Battery; Simple Affray (Nov. 6,

2025). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

Smith, Travis  
- Fail to Stop for Stopped Bus (Oct. 29, 2025). Prayer for Judgment continued for 12 months on condition Defendant commit no criminal offense in any jurisdiction.

Smoker, Adrian  
- Larceny (April 25, 2024). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

Smoker, Keri  
- Filing a False Emergency Report (Dec. 15, 2025). Prayer for judgment continued for 12 months on condition Defendant commit no criminal offense in any jurisdiction.

Sneed, Brandon H.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Oct. 29, 2025). Guilty. 12 months, suspended, 12 months supervised probation.

Sneed, Samuel O.  
- Probation Revocation (Aug. 27, 2025). Admitted. 180 days, credit for 2 days served. Date of Release Sept. 19, 2026.

Stamper, Ned E.  
- Simple Assault; Assault and Battery; Simple Affray (Nov. 6, 2025). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

Taylor, James A.  
- Second Degree Trespass (June 12, 2025). Guilty. 6 months, suspended, 12 months supervised.  
- Probation Revocation (July 28, 2025). Admitted.

- Second Degree Trespass (July 27, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (July 27, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

Taylor, Terrance B.  
- Probation Revocation (Aug. 27, 2025). Admitted.  
- Leaving the Scene of an Accident (Aug. 23, 2025). Guilty. 90 days, suspended, 5 months supervised probation, total probationary sentence ends Aug. 23, 2026.

Taylor, Salvador H.  
- Aggravated Weapons Offense (July 3, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- Disorderly Conduct (July 3, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (July 12, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (July 3, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- Child Abuse in the Second Degree (Dec. 25, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- Criminal Mischief to Property (Dec. 25, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
- Assault with a Deadly Weapon (Dec. 25, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

- Second Degree Trespass (May 17, 2025). Guilty.  
- Communicating Threats (May 17, 2025). Guilty.  
- Telephone Harassment (May 18, 2025). Guilty. 12 months, suspended, 60 months supervised probation.  
- Criminal Mischief to Property (July 3, 2025). Guilty.  
- Second Degree Trespass (July 3, 2025). Guilty.  
- Assault with a Deadly Weapon with Intent to Kill and Inflicting Serious Injury (July 3, 2025). Guilty.  
- Child Abuse in the Second De-

gree (July 3, 2025). Guilty.  
- Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers (Dec. 25, 2025). Guilty. 36 months, suspended, 60 months supervised probation. All sentences run consecutively.

Taylor, Stephanie N.  
- Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (March 12, 2026). Guilty.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (Dec. 2, 2025). Guilty.  
- Fict/Alt Title/Reg Card/Tag (Dec. 2, 2025). Guilty.  
- No Liability Insurance (Dec. 2, 2025). Guilty.  
- Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (Dec. 4, 2025). Guilty.  
- Expired Registration Card/Tag (Nov. 12, 2025). Guilty.  
- No Liability Insurance (Nov. 12, 2025). Guilty.  
- DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (Nov. 12, 2025). Guilty.  
- DWLR (Oct. 2, 2025). Guilty. 4 days, credit for 4 days served.  
- No Liability Insurance (Oct. 2, 2025). VD

Teesatuskie, Misty D.  
- Expired Registration Card/Tag (March 2, 2026). VD.  
- Expired/No Inspection (March 2, 2026). VD.

Thomas, Angela D.  
- Larceny (Dec. 2, 2024). Guilty. 1 year, suspended, 24 months supervised probation.  
- Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property (Dec. 2, 2024). Guilty. 1 year, suspended, 24 months supervised probation. Sentences run consecutively.

Waldroup, Brandon E.  
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (Jan. 14, 2026). Guilty. 24 months, suspended, 12 months supervised probation. Special condition of probation serve 12

months, credit for 76 days served.  
 Date of Release Jan. 14, 2027.  
 - Assault Inflicting Serious Bodily Injury (Feb. 12, 2026). Dismissed per plea.  
 - Assault on a Female (Nov. 11, 2014). Dismissed per plea.  
 - Child Abuse in the Second Degree (Nov. 11, 2014). Dismissed per plea.  
 - Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (Jan. 14, 2026). Guilty.  
 - Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (Jan. 14, 2026). Guilty.  
 - Communicating Threats (Feb. 22, 2026). Guilty.  
 - Drug Paraphernalia (Using, Possessing) (Aug. 12, 2025). Guilty.  
 - Possession of a Controlled Substance (Aug. 12, 2025). Guilty.

Walkingstick Jr., Mike D.  
 - Loitering for Illegal Drug Activity (March 7, 2024). Guilty. 3 months, suspended, 6 months supervised probation.

Watty, Steven D.

- Communicating Threats (Jan. 2, 2025). Dismissed at request of complainant and/or complainant's failure/refusal to appear and/or testify.

Watty, Justina E.  
 - Injuring Real Property (Jan. 21, 2026). Prayer for judgement continued for 6 months on condition defendant commit no criminal offense in any jurisdiction.

Watty, Stephan E.  
 - Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (Feb. 8, 2026). Guilty. 3 months, suspended, 12 months supervised probation.  
 - Child Abuse in the Second Degree (Feb. 8, 2026). Dismissed per plea.  
 - Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers (Feb. 8, 2026). Dismissed per plea.

Watty, Kevin R.  
 - Larceny (March 15, 2026). Dismissed without leave.

Welch, Susan A.  
 - Probation Revocation (Oct. 16, 2025). Admitted.  
 - Probation Revocation (Oct. 16, 2025). Admitted.  
 - Probation Revocation (Oct. 16, 2025). Admitted.  
 - Probation Revocation (Oct. 16, 2025). Admitted. 127 days on electronic home confinement. Date of Release July 29, 2026.

Welch, Anthony D.  
 - Possession of a Controlled Substance (Schedules I-V) (July 31, 2025). Dismissed per plea.

West, Brandy C.  
 - Canc/Revok/Susp Certif/Tag (Jan. 7, 2026). VD.  
 - DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (Jan. 7, 2026). VD.

West, Philip C.  
 - Simple Assault; Assault and Battery; Simple Affray (Nov. 6, 2025). Dismissed upon compliance/proof/successful completion of deferred sentence.

Wilnoty, Megan D.  
 - Probation Revocation (Dec. 5, 2025). Admitted.  
 - Probation Revocation (Dec. 5, 2025). Admitted. Remain on current terms of probation, update substance abuse assessment and comply with recommendations.

Wolfe, Russell M.  
 - Possession of Firearms, etc., by Felon Prohibited (July 31, 2025). Guilty. 24 months, suspended, 24 months supervised probation.  
 - Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property (April 26, 2025). Guilty. 24 months, suspended, 24 months supervised probation.  
 - Dr/Allow Reg Plate not Display (April 26, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
 - No Motorcycle Endorsement (April 26, 2025). Dismissed per plea.  
 - DWLR Not Impaired Rev. (April 26, 2025). Dismissed per plea.



**CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

**PRIMARY CARE PHONE NUMBERS**

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

hAGVP (Ni hi tsa tse li)  
 "It belongs to you."

**Eagle Clinic**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Seven Clans Clinic**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Satellite Clinics**

**Snowbird**

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

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**Cherokee County Clinic**

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

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**DCC**

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

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



**CIPD Arrest Report for  
March 30 to April 5, 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.*

Gonzalez Jr., Roberto  
Arrested: March 30  
Released: March 30  
Charges: Temporary Hold Fugitive Warrant from Florida

Walkingstick, Louiza Gail – age 19  
Arrested: March 30  
Released: Not released as of report date (April 6)  
Charges: Non-compliance with Wellness Court

Wolfe, Roberta Irene – age 53  
Arrested: March 31  
Released: March 31  
Charges: Temporary Hold for Haywood County

Barnes, Alaina Victoria Rose – age 26  
Arrested: April 1

Released: April 1  
Charges: Temporary Hold for Haywood County

Bradley, Keanan Seth – age 30  
Arrested: April 1  
Released: April 1  
Charges: False Pretenses (three counts)

Hollifield, Tiffany Michelle – age 25  
Arrested: April 1  
Released: Not released as of report date (April 6)  
Charges: Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver, or Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver a Controlled Substance; Felony Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle; Drug Paraphernalia – Delivering of Manufacturing; Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedules I-V

Calhoun, Chad Lawrence – age 42  
Arrested: April 2  
Released: Not released as of report date (April 6)  
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedule I-V

Maye Jr., Cecil Dean – age 42  
Arrested: April 2  
Released: April 3  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence; Child Abuse in

the First Degree; Child Abuse in the Second Degree; Contributing to the Delinquency, Undiscipline, Neglect, or Abuse of Minors; Reckless Endangerment

Stokes, Joseph Garret – age 31  
Arrested: April 2  
Released: April 3  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Cucumber, Bobby Joe – age 47  
Arrested: April 3  
Released: April 3  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Arch, Willie Wayne – age 33  
Arrested: April 4  
Released: April 4  
Charges: Disorderly Conduct

Reeves, Rebecca – age 34  
Arrested: April 4  
Released: April 5  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Toineeta, Lisa Renee – age 60  
Arrested: April 4  
Released: Not released as of report date (April 6)  
Charges: Possession Drug Paraphernalia, Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Catolster, Teresa Anne – age 47  
Arrested: April 5  
Released: April 5  
Charges: Driving While Impaired

# Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Most volcanoes spit out magma, ash and gas when they erupt, but a few rarer ones have been known to eject diamonds.

- The longest recorded burp lasted one minute and 13 seconds.

- Some German nursing homes use fake bus stops as a way to round up patients with Alzheimer's or dementia who seek to return home via public transportation. A staff member approaches and lets them know that the bus will be late, then invites them inside to wait more comfortably. Within a short time, the incident is typically forgotten.

- Bald himself, Hippocrates recommended a treatment consisting of pigeon droppings, opium, beetroot, horseradish and spices to cure hair loss. No, it wasn't successful.

- The wood frog can hold its urine for up to eight months.

- The Cannabis Cup is the largest marijuana festival in the world, featuring music, food and comedy, as well as awards for best new product, hash, glass, booth and seed company.

- Due to their rare appearance, blood oranges were once considered an exclusive delicacy reserved for royalty.

- Some libraries and museums loan out taxidermed animals as teaching aids.

- For decades, Iceland maintained one of the strictest naming regimes in the world through the Icelandic Naming Committee, which reviewed applications to ensure personal names complied with Icelandic grammar and cultural tradition.

- Folks with less nose hair have a higher risk of developing asthma.

- In 2018, six medical professionals each swallowed a LEGO minifigure head to determine whether it could pass without medical intervention, and how long it would take. (In case you're wondering, it was in an average of 1.7 days.)

- Shaquille O'Neal missed 5,317 free throws over the course of his career.

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**Thought for the Day:** "The happiness of your life depends upon the quality of your thoughts." — *Marcus Aurelius*

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**Are you interested in supporting EBCI's homebound elders?**

The Senior Center is launching a new volunteer-based program this spring!

Seeking volunteers to deliver meals on Tribal employee holidays and provide social connection.

Please join us at the Deb West Senior Center, 145 Tsali Manor St., Cherokee, NC. 28719 from 4:30 - 6pm. on Monday, April 27, for a FREE Cherokee dinner and a short presentation.

**QUESTIONS Call (828) 400-4281.**

GWY ᏫᏍᏍᏁ ᏅᏍᏈᏁ  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

**Deadline:  
Fridays at  
12 p.m.**



# Thinking About Building A Home?

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

## **BUILDING HOMES TOGETHER**

<b>SITE INSPECTION APPLICATION</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Inspection application process begins at Tribal Realty by the property owner. <input type="checkbox"/> The property will be inspected by five tribal departments and will be determined if site is buildable or not buildable.
<b>PROPERTY SURVEY, TRANSFER &amp; RIGHT OF WAYS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Surveying requests for approved buildable sites will be done by the Tribal Surveying dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Property transfers will be done by the owner to the home buyer at Tribal Realty. <input type="checkbox"/> The home buyer must own the property for financing purposes. <input type="checkbox"/> All road and utility right of ways or utility easements must be in place before any site work begins.
<b>PRE-APPROVAL PRE-QUALIFICATION</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant will meet with Homebuyer Services Coordinator where they are required to have Site Inspection forms completed, unless applicant is wishing to purchase a home. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will assist applicant with packaging loan applications to lender. <input type="checkbox"/> Lender will issue a prequalification letter indicating maximum loan amount. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send Infrastructure a copy of the prequalification letter
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Once pre-approved/qualified, the infrastructure application must be completed. <input type="checkbox"/> Legal description proving ownership of the property must be included. <input type="checkbox"/> Must be an EBCI enrolled member constructing a permanent residence on trust lands to receive Infrastructure services.
<b>HOME BUYING SEARCH &amp; QUOTE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prequalified borrower will begin their house search, keeping in mind the size of the site that was approved. <input type="checkbox"/> Borrower will request a sales quote, floor plans and foundation plan for their home. <input type="checkbox"/> After receiving quote and house plans, Borrower will submit all documents and drawings to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will submit estimate, plans and drawings to Infrastructure. <input type="checkbox"/> Simultaneously, HBS Coordinator will submit same plans to the lending institution, as well as financial documents to keep loan active. Financial documents are updated with lender every 30 days.
<b>DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE (DPA) &amp; LOAN PROCESS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will process documents to request Down Payment Assistance for 20% of sales contract amount, up to \$50,000.00, and will request \$5,000.00 in Rate Buy Down (RBD) gift funds simultaneously. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will submit to Loan Compliance Committee for review. Committee will review for completeness of application. <input type="checkbox"/> Completed applications are submitted to Secretary of Housing for approval and signature. <input type="checkbox"/> Approved applications are then submitted to the Principal Chief for approval and signature. <input type="checkbox"/> The approved and signed applications are returned to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will continue to send financial docs on a continual basis to lender until loan close is scheduled.
<b>CIDH &amp; REALTY – On Trust Lands</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> After receiving signed loan approvals, the Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send DPA firm commitment to Tribal Realty to initiate Ownership Statement (OS), Lease and Assignment. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will also send a letter to lender to notify approval of DPA and RBD. <input type="checkbox"/> Once OS, lease and assignment are received, these documents will be forwarded to the lending institution. <input type="checkbox"/> Lending Institution will contact client to “lock in” their interest rate, taking into consideration the gift funds to purchase discount points.
<b>DPA funds – Off Trust Lands</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> After loan approvals are received, Coordinator will send letter notifying lender the borrower has been approved for DPA and RBD funds and request closing attorney information. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will complete the Promissory Note and Deed of Trust and to be signed at closing and recorded at Register of Deeds in the county of purchase. <input type="checkbox"/> Closing attorney will send copy of recorded documents back to Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will submit recorded documents to Realty to be recorded for off-boundary loans.
<b>LOAN CLOSE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prior to loan close, Coordinator will request AP checks for issuance of DPA and RBD to be disbursed to the lender at closing. <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will notify Site Prep that loan has closed. <input type="checkbox"/> Home construction may start after loan close. <input type="checkbox"/> Client will begin working with Lender’s Construction Loan Specialist for completion of construction.
<b>SITE PREP SCHEDULING</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Signed purchase agreement, house floor plans and firm commitment must on file with homebuyer services and Infrastructure. <input type="checkbox"/> If 1 acre or more will be disturbed during site prep construction, a SWPP (Storm Water Protection Plan) must be completed by our contractor before any work can begin.
<b>SERVICES PROVIDED BY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NEW HOMES</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> For qualified EBCI enrolled members residing on trust land, Infrastructure provides: <input type="checkbox"/> Site Prep, Footers, Block Foundation, Block Underpinning, Vinyl Underpinning, Gutter System and Final Grade to prevent erosion.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>Tribal Realty</b>	<b>Infrastructure Dept.</b>	<b>Housing Services</b>	<b>Timber Permits</b>
Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913	Denny Ensley: (828) 359-6841	Michelle Stamper: (828) 359-6904	Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913
Kaila 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		

# “Brush, Book, Bed”

Cherokee Growing Readers Initiative launches new book

By **BROOKLYN BROWN**  
One Feather Reporter

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. - Kristina Hyatt, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and the relational health program director for the Center for Native Health, recently authored a book for the Cherokee Growing Readers Initiative through Unite for Literacy. Hyatt presented the initiative to Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) in September 2025 and is now the first to author a book through the initiative.

Hyatt’s two children are the stars of the book.

Hyatt worked in collaboration with Chi Shipman, manager of Qualla Boundary Public Library, and Mellie Burns, manager of Children’s Dental, to produce “Brush, Book, Bed,” which is an initiative of Children’s Dental that began a few years ago to promote children’s dental hygiene.

The group formed by happenstance at a Unite for Literacy writer’s workshop. “Things fall in line for a reason and are put together in a very specific way. So, I know that wasn’t chance that the three of us sat down together at that table. It was meant to be to bring us to where we’re at now,” Burns said.

“It’s so impactful as a program manager for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, I am thrilled over the fact that this project and things that we continue to work on falls in line with [Principal Chief Michell Hicks’] strategic plan. One of the goals, and I’m going to read it, is ‘increase representation of community identity and Cherokee language on all tribal levels by FY 2027,’ and then under that is ‘enhanced visibility and accessibility of Cherokee language and culture through coordinated media, public communication strategies and cross departmental partnerships.’ So, we have been able to hit all those measures and fall in line with his strategic plan. And like I said, we’ll continue to do that for the foreseeable future.”

The book combines Cherokee language, dental hygiene, and reading, and is authored by and features Cherokee community members. Hyatt said, “I’m a dental hygienist. I don’t work clinically, but in all of the work that I do, I make sure to incorporate why it’s important to take care of your teeth. That’s kind of how this collaboration piece has come together. And also, I’m a mom of two boys, and just being right now in this moment, living in that, raising my boys, reading with them is like one of my favorite activities to do with them. And I’ve even started learning more about that. Before I started this job with the Center for Native Health, I knew it was important to read to your kids, but I didn’t really understand why and how parents actually have the ability to build their child’s brains by reading and by interacting and talking to them.

One of my goals is to be able to share that information with other parents that are going through that.



Kristina Hyatt, author of “Brush, Book, Bed,” is shown placing the book at the book garden at Family Safety in Cherokee, N.C. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photos)

As a mom and even as a dental hygienist, brushing can be very challenging. Being able to share those tips and tricks that I have learned in dental hygiene school or when working with the children's dental program, with families and parents just to make that a little bit easier. And even with this, the 'brush, book, bed' routine, of course me and my boys, we try to follow that. Does it happen every single night? Absolutely not. And there's going to be some nights that it's not this routine exactly, but it gives us kind of a template."

Hyatt said her children are excited about being featured in the book. "My older one said, 'Mom, I want to make sure that all of my classmates have a copy of it.' To me, that's what's special about this project, too, is being able to get our community members involved and so that they're able to see their friends and their family in these books."

Shipman added, "I think that's like one of the biggest pieces I'm excited about with this one being done is that it has community members in it and it's done by a community member. And this was done on an iPhone, so it's very easy to do. The process is super simple to follow. Another thing that was great and made me excited is the Cherokee language in this was translated by Garfield [Axe Long], and then we changed



Shown, left to right, are Mellie Burns, manager of Children's Dental; Chi Shipman, manager of Qualla Boundary Public Library; Kristina Hyatt, relational health program director for the Center for Native Health; and Terri Burton, administrative assistant for the Family Safety Program.

a little bit of the wording like using one of the inclusive, instead of just saying brush your teeth or I'm brushing my teeth, we said we all, me and them brush our teeth together, to be inclusive of the community."

Shipman said there is a QR code in the book that includes narration. "That opens so many doors to hear your community members, because I mean, after losing my mother-in-law, I would give anything to hear her read my kids

a book. To think that you could save your grandma's voice in this, save our [Cherokee fluent] speakers' voices in this, and it's all ours. [Unite for Literacy] doesn't keep anything. They just help us make them and distribute them, and it's all owned by us."

Shipman said she is meeting with the Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program and Dadiwonisi Language Program in Tutiya (Snowbird) to produce more books for the initiative that incor-

porate Cherokee language, and she is planning to write a book herself about the library.

"Brush, Book, Bed" will be available at all the free community book gardens which include Cherokee Central Schools, Qualla Boundary Head Start, Qualla Boundary Public Library, Cherokee Boys Club, Cherokee Dental Clinic, the Center for Native Health Mothers' Gatherings, Nurse-Family Partnership and Family Safety.

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# Continued adventures

Tribal member releases new titles in “Angelina the Adventure Cat” book series

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

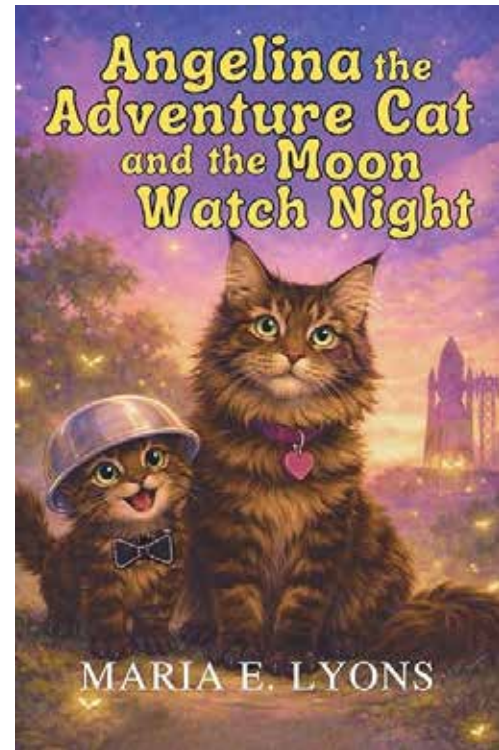
CHEROKEE, N.C. – Maria E. Lyons, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is expanding on a book series based on her beloved Maine Coon cat, Angelina.

Two new titles have come out recently including: “Angelina the Adventure Cat and the Secret of Moonberry Hollow” and “Angelina the Adventure Cat and the Moon Watch Night” which introduces Angelina’s real-life brother, Solomon. An “Angelina the Adventure Cat” coloring book was also released recently.

Lyons commented, “We have been incredibly blessed by the growth of the Angelina the Adventure Cat series, and the support from the community continues to amaze me. One of the most exciting developments has been the response to our live readings and book signings. Barnes & Noble has been wonderfully supportive.

We’re also excited to be expanding into other local venues. On April 25, we’ll be at Sassafra on Main in Waynesville for a family-friendly storytime and signing event, with readings scheduled for 11 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., along with time for signings and photos in between. It’s especially meaningful to continue bringing Angelina’s stories into places that already have such a strong connection with families and children.”

Lyons has future plans for the series. “In addition to live events, we’re continuing to grow the Angelina brand through new books, the coloring book, and other creative projects. Long term, my vision is to build Angelina into a recognizable children’s brand that inspires imagination, adventure, and a love for animals in young readers



everywhere.”

She is excited about the coloring book and noted, “The coloring book came about because so many families and children at book signings kept asking for more Angelina-themed activities beyond the storybooks. Parents would tell me their children loved the illustrations so much they wished they could color Angelina themselves, so I knew there was a demand for something interactive and creative.

I also wanted to create something that encourages children to step away from screens for a little while. In today’s world, so many kids spend their free time on phones, tablets, and electronics, and I wanted to offer something that helps bring them back to simple childhood joys—using their imagination, being creative, coloring, and enjoying life the way kids are meant to.”

Lyons added, “As a graphic artist myself with over 30 years of design experience, I personally designed and



Maria E. Lyons, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is shown with her beloved cat, Angelina, a Maine Coon, who is the star of the “Angelina the Adventure Cat” series. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

illustrated the coloring book. It has been incredibly rewarding to combine my love of art, storytelling, and creativity into something families can enjoy together while encouraging hands-on play and imagination.”

She noted that Solomon has become “a beloved little sidekick” in the series. “He and Angelina actually look very similar physically—both are beautiful Maine Coons with fluffy coats and big personalities—but their temperaments are quite different. Angelina is confident and poised, carrying herself like the queen she knows she is. She has always had a calm, intelligent spirit and seems to

understand everything going on around her. Solomon, on the other hand, is our playful, mischievous little brother. He is full of kitten energy, curiosity, and comedy. Where Angelina is graceful and polished, Solomon is silly and adventurous in a more chaotic way. Together, they create the perfect balance, and readers have really fallen in love with watching their sibling dynamic grow.”

Fans of the series can look forward to a new release this fall. “The Christmas book I’m working on is titled “Angelina the Adventure Cat and the Winter Whisker Wind”. This story is part of the Angelina the Adventure Cat

world set in Whiskerwink Garden, where Angelina once again joins her squirrel fairy friend, Mistleaf, whom readers first met in the original books.

In this winter adventure, Angelina finds herself in Whiskerwink just before Christmas, helping Mistleaf restore light to the garden during the magical winter season. It is a beautiful, whimsical story filled with friendship, wonder, and holiday magic that expands the enchanting world of Whiskerwink even further. It will also carry a gentle Christian undertone, reflecting themes of light, hope, and the deeper meaning of the Christmas season. The book is planned

for release in Fall 2026, just in time for the Christmas season.”

Lyons is very appreciative of the support she has been shown. “I remain deeply grateful that all of this began with simply sharing the story of my real-life best friend, Angelina, and watching others fall in love with her just as much as I have.”

For more information, visit <http://www.angelinatheadventurecat.com>, and you can follow Angelina on Instagram @angelina\_the\_adventure\_cat.

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



**APRIL 13-APRIL 19, 2026**



WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
<b>Tuckasegee River</b>	N/A	Based on water temperatures	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout, Smallmouth Bass	Parachute Adams, Parachute Hares Ear, Chubby Chernobyl, Elk Hair Caddis, Pheasant Tail Nymph, Hares Ear Soft Hackle, Eggs, Mops, Girdle Bugs
<b>Chattooga &amp; Whitewater Rivers</b>	N/A	Based on water temperatures	Brown Trout	Parachute Adams, Parachute Hares Ear, Elk Hair Caddis, Prince Nymph, Pheasant Tail Nymph, Hares Ear Nymph
<b>Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River &amp; Small Streams</b>	N/A	Based on water temperatures	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout, Smallmouth Bass	Thunderhead, Stimulator, Foam Caddis, Soft Hackles, Caddis Larva, Prince Nymph

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AVERAGE	GOOD	BETTER	BEST++	SEASON'S BEST	BETTER	GOOD
8:52 AM-10:52 AM 9:15 PM-11:15 PM	9:38 AM-11:38 AM 10:01 PM-12:01 AM	10:18 AM-12:18 PM 10:48 PM-12:48 AM	11:13 AM-1:13 PM	12:06 PM-2:06 PM	12:34 AM-2:34 AM 1:03 PM-3:03 PM	1:33 AM-3:33 AM 2:04 PM-4:04 PM

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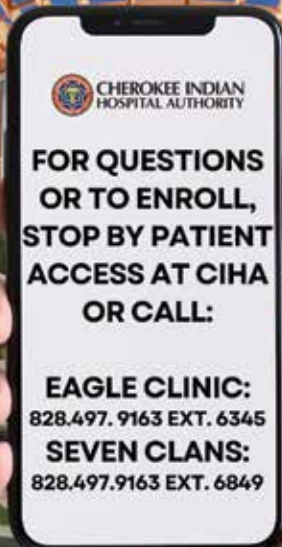
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## OBITUARIES ǝɹɹɹ

### Michael Glenn Murphy

Michael Glenn Murphy, 64, passed away on Friday, April 3, 2026, at 9:06 a.m. at Rainey Hospice House in Anderson, S.C., following a period of declining health.

A graveside service was held on Thursday, April 9 at Birdtown Cemetery, with interment to follow.

Long House Funeral Services, Cherokee, N.C., was in charge of arrangements.

### Martha Walkingstick Sampson

Martha Walkingstick Sampson, 66 of Cherokee, N.C., passed away on Sunday, April 5, 2026, at Mission Hospital.

Martha was born in Cherokee,

N.C., on Feb. 1, 1960, to the late Russell Walkingstick and Annie Arch. She worked at McDonald's for many years, where she made lots of friends. She also devoted many years to working with children in the community at The Dora Reed Daycare Center and Cherokee Elementary School. Additionally, she worked at the Unto These Hills Outdoor Drama for 49 years as a crowd scene actress, costume designer, and manager. She lived a life that touched many hearts through her kindness and motherly love. She will be deeply missed by her family, many friends, and everyone who knew her.

In addition to her parents, Martha was predeceased by her grandson, McKinnley Shuler; her brothers, Allen Walkingstick, Wil-

son Walkingstick, and Mike Walkingstick; and her sister, Juanita Hornbuckle and her close friends Carolyn Bird, Shirley West Welch, and Linda Crowe.

Martha is survived by her children, Austin (Sarah) Sampson, April Shuler, and Alyssa (Kyle) Streets, all of Cherokee. She is also survived by her sisters, Margaret (PeeWee) Walkingstick and Melinda (Agustin) Walkingstick, as well as Aunt Lizzie Hull. Martha leaves behind seven grandchildren, Faith Shuler, Hailey Owle, Ahnewake Streets, Tili Streets, Matthias Crow, Waleli Crow, and Damion Lossiah. She had many nieces, nephews, and cousins whom she loved dearly.

A visitation was held at Goose Creek Baptist Church on Friday, April 10. This was followed by

a graveside service at Birdtown Cemetery, with Pastor David Lotts officiating.

Pallbearers were Austin Sampson, Kurt Stewart, Stanley Ledford, Woody Walkingstick, Stephan Walkingstick, Matthias Crow, and James Plummer.

Long House Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



1. Which Arizona Cardinals quarterback set a new NFL record for passes completed in a regular-season game with 47 versus the San Francisco 49ers in November 2025?

2. King Power Stadium, formerly known as Walkers Stadium, is the home field of which English Football League Championship team?

3. In November 1895, J. Frank Duryea won the first auto race in the United States — a 54-mile race from Chicago to Evanston, Illinois, and back in heavy snow - with what average speed in miles per hour?

4. After being drafted into the U.S. Army, New York Giants outfielder Willie Mays played for what Virginia military baseball team from 1952 to 1953?

5. Soviets Leonid Spirin, Antanas Mikenas and Bruno Junk swept the medals in what athletics event at the 1956 Melbourne Summer Olympics?

6. What multisport college coach and sports innovator was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1951 and the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 1959?

7. In 1991, gambler Howard Spira was convicted of trying to extort \$110,000 from what Major League Baseball team owner?

#### Answers

1. Jacoby Brissett.
2. Leicester City Football Club.
3. Approximately 5.25 mph.
4. The Fort Eustis Wheels.
5. The men's 20-kilometer race walk.
6. Amos Alonzo Stagg.
7. George Steinbrenner, owner of the New York Yankees.

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## EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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*

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS

#### Celebrate American Sign Language Day at Signs of Spring Event at Great Smoky Mountains National Park

GATLINBURG, Tenn. - Great Smoky Mountains National Park invites the public to the annual Signs of Spring event on April 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Cades Cove. The event celebrates National American Sign Language Day. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about the Smokies from park rangers and members of the Deaf community.

This year's theme, "Communities: Together and Apart," highlights how the relative remoteness of places like Cades Cove helped shape strong community bonds and distinctive local cultures.

Event stations throughout the cove will explore how these communities changed as they became more connected to nearby towns and cities and more influenced by outside events.

Maryville High School students and Smokies Life staff will present a special Junior Ranger station in the Cable Mill area. Visitors can participate in historic activities that shaped the communities' strong social ties while working towards earning their Junior Ranger badges.

Park rangers and members of the Deaf community will jointly

present educational programs throughout the day. Certified American Sign Language interpreters and students will provide interpretation at all stations. They are coming from University of Tennessee; Maryville College; Knoxville Center of the Deaf; and Partnership for Families, Children and Adults.

Program locations and time:

**Cades Cove Orientation Shelter:** 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Methodist Church:** 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 12 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Cable Mill Area:** Drop in at the Junior Ranger station anytime between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

**Dan Lawson Place:** 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m., 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**Lequire Cemetery:** 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

While visitors are welcome to attend any of the programs individually, stations are designed to build on one another, and participants are encouraged to attend in the order listed.

- *National Park Service*

#### National Park Service requests public input on proposed Oconaluftee River Trail improvements

GATLINBURG, Tenn.—The National Park Service is seeking public input on proposed improvements to the Oconaluftee River Trail in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Through this project, the park would improve connectivity with the gateway community of Cherokee, increase accessibility, repair riverbank erosion and enhance safety and the visitor experience. The NPS will accept comments through April

22.

The Oconaluftee River Trail is a 1.6-mile-long pedestrian and bike trail that connects the park's Oconaluftee Visitor Center and Mountain Farm Museum to downtown Cherokee. More than 100,000 people use the trail each year.

Proposed trail improvements include:

- Improving accessibility and trail surface durability
- Restoring approximately 275 feet of eroded bank along the Oconaluftee River
- Replacing or repairing four existing footbridges
- Building an accessible riverside viewing area along the Oconaluftee River
- Creating a new connection between the park and Cherokee by building a trail from the Oconaluftee River Trail to Saunooke Bridge Road

Public input will inform planning, designing, and compliance to account for factors such as natural resources and cultural resources. Work on some or all the proposed improvements could begin in late 2026 or 2027. The park anticipates a series of partial and full trail closures to accomplish the work, which is estimated to take 12 months to complete.

#### **How to comment:**

The preferred manner for providing comments is via an online form through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website. From the project website (<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/ORT>), navigate the menu on the left-hand side of the page to "Open for Comment," then open the "Oconaluftee River Trail" folder. Background materials are at the site, and the green "Comment Now" button links to the online

form.

Comments can also be submitted in writing and postmarked by April 22 to:

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

ATTN: Oconaluftee River Trail Project

107 Park Headquarters Rd, Gatlinburg, TN 37738

- *National Park Service release*

### THANK YOU LETTERS

#### Thank you from family of Lloyd Arneach Sr.

The family of Lloyd Arneach Sr. would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Cherokee Indian Hospital for the exceptional care and compassion shown to him in his final days. We are also grateful to Tsali Care Center for the kindness and attention he received during his stay.

Our sincere appreciation goes to Tribal EMS for transporting him to Asheville and for their continued care and support during his Life Alert calls. We would also like to thank the Elawodi Community for the use of the community building for his celebration of life.

Special thanks to the American Legion Steve Youngdeer Post #143 and the United States Air Force Honor Guard of South Carolina for providing his graveside services. Ben Reed and Long House Funeral Home.

Finally, we thank the many family members and friends who, over the years, shared in his love of storytelling and his sense of humor. He lived an incredible life, and we are truly grateful to have shared it with him.

From the bottom of our hearts, from the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Lloyd Arneach Sr., thank you.

# Breaking News & Alerts

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## COMMENTARY

# A lesson in transparency from a funeral home

By **ROBERT JUMPER**

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

Transparency is a byword in our society. We all seem to understand its importance, but we don't seem to know what it is. And that is surprising.

If you had transparent clothing, you would not have a problem understanding what that meant. Granted, many of the things acceptable to wear in modern society are at least partially transparent (or nonexistent).

But true transparency is not partial seeing. It is total exposure. In the example above, old folks would call it "being in your birthday suit". For most of us, it is not an exciting prospect. Indeed, there are certain parts of everyone's "birthday suit" that should not be transparent, and we would prefer to remain a mystery (aka nontransparent). The old saying goes, "Beauty may be skin deep, but ugly is to the bone."

I hope that you have had an opportunity to read Brooklyn Brown's article on the happenings in Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) concerning the Qualla Enterprises LLC Board of Directors. And I hope her article prompted you to see for yourself the recording of the session on the EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) Communications Facebook page. If there was

ever a gleaming example of why the members of our tribe need to insist on transparency, it played out in that session.

A resolution was put forward to remove one of the organization's board members from office for alleged violations of the organization's bylaws. For approximately two hours, a battle at the podium ensued. Members of the LLC board leveled accusations of inappropriate behavior and haphazard handling of confidential information against the board member at the center of the resolution to remove.

Now, for the uninitiated, Dinilawigi seemed firm in its conviction that personal and personnel situations shouldn't be a part of public access. Typically, they will go into closed sessions or use off-camera sessions to address things like

the quasi-judicial handling of a board member's removal. So, at least for some of the discussion, transparency seemed important to the government. At one point, during the public portion of the discussion, there was a call made for a motion to close the session.

Uncharacteristically of Dinilawigi, a request from the resolution submitter to go into closed session was met with silence. The Chair asked for a motion to go into closed, and no motion was offered. This session was apparently going to allow the community a next-level view of transparency.

The result? After those hours of public testimony, the Dinilawigi concluded that an Ethics Committee investigation was warranted, not only on the individual board member identified by the Qualla

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Enterprises LLC board, but the board in its entirety needed to be investigated and suspended until a recommendation from the Ethics Committee may be rendered to the Dinilawigi. And Dinilawigi also found that the chairperson of the Qualla Enterprises LLC board had provided a statement that warranted her removal. So, they did. And while they did go into an off-camera discussion after lunch to allow time to draft the appropriate legislation to execute their decision, the meat of the discussion was held in the public eye so that the community was able to see the rhyme behind the reason. It was one of the most transparent discussions held in Dinilawigi in quite some time. Why am I bringing this up? Again, because our tribe has a hard time with transparency. Yes, there

are legitimate pieces of information that we must protect. But we cloak-and-dagger way too much of our information. We, the community, are not the “they” that so many of our government officials point to when they say that there are “adversarial entities” that we deal with that prevent the community from knowing what is going on with their information and finances. The discussion about the Qualla Enterprises LLC board is a great example of how we can be more transparent in the future. Our Dinilawigi resisted the urge of the resolution submitter, and their own habit, to hold these discussions in closed session. Why? I can only guess that they felt that the people needed to hear the arguments and Dinilawigi’s reasoning for what they would decide.

We need to see more of this level of transparency. If it takes having the Attorney General comb through each piece of proposed legislation and determine if it will hurt specific areas of our business, and to weigh the effect of releasing data to our community members, then maybe it would be prudent for our government to consider doing it. Because saying everything must be hidden is not a believable or defensible position. I am not sure there is anyone who believes that a \$500 gift amount or a thousand dollars’ worth of grant funding announcement will damage the tribe in the least. And yet an innocuous per-capita distribution of less than \$200 per person was deemed necessary to be hidden from the public.

A little fear typically leads to a lot of fear. Check out this definition from the Better Health Channel: “Paranoid Personality Disorder (PPD) is a mental health condition characterized by a pervasive, irrational, and long-standing distrust of others, featuring the belief that people are deliberately out to harm, deceive, or exploit you, even without evidence. It involves interpreting benign remarks as threats, holding grudges, and severe suspicion”.

And when a person or a government is not transparent, and they begin to withdraw, the behavior tends to look like PPD.

I was looking at our local funeral home’s website in search of an obituary of a friend. As I was browsing the site, I noticed a tab titled “General Price List”. It was odd to me that they would do that. I was expecting a list of “package prices” with aggregate information. When I clicked the tab, I was presented with five detailed pages of all goods and services, complete with detailed pricing. Their website

is robust and transparent. I thought about those in need of their services and what a reassurance it would be to be able to review this type of information in detail. And I thought about the fact that it didn’t matter if I was in Birdtown or Australia, I could literally pull up this information anywhere in the world. Could competitors, or maybe adversarial entities, of the funeral home see it? You bet. Could bad actors use that information to undercut their prices or craft proposals for services to them based on the financial information provided? Sure, they could. But the leadership of that business weighed the value of that information for their client and community against the potential for adversarial entities using it, and this business decided it was more important for the community to know, and that the benefit to the business would be greater in sharing that information.

I know that the tribe is not a funeral home, but I hope you get the point. And no, I don’t want to see the tribe’s birthday suit. I just think our government can do a better job of balancing the things that need to be confidential and the things that should be transparent.

Just a side note. During the discussion and the voting process, Wayohi (Wolfstown) Representative Bo Crowe didn’t participate in the discussion and abstained from voting on the three resulting resolutions from that discussion. He did so because a member of his family was part of the debate. What he did was the ethical and right thing to do. He could have fought it or argued it, which would be a normal response to having someone accuse your loved one. Instead, he chose to act with dignity and integrity. I appreciated that.



The Jones-Bowman Leadership Award Program is currently accepting applications for the 2026 - 2027 program year.

The Jones-Bowman Leadership Award Program is a culturally based leadership program for EBCI college undergraduates. EBCI members that are attending trade school, college, or a university this Fall 2026-Spring 2027 may apply. Fellowships of up to \$4000 are awarded annually to assist with completing leadership and cultural goals.

To apply, please visit [www.rkli.org/jones-bowman/](http://www.rkli.org/jones-bowman/) or visit the Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute at 171 Boys Club Loop, Cherokee. Applications are due by April 17, 2026 at 4:30pm.



# Dr. Hartwell Francis is positively dedicated to the Cherokee language

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – For more than two decades, Dr. Hartwell Francis has been dedicated to the preservation of the Cherokee language, and his dedication to the Cherokee people is immense. His smiles and positivity drive his energy in language preservation and learning.

Dr. Francis, an honorary member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, currently works as the New Kituwah Academy education curriculum developer.

In 2021, then-One Feather Reporter Jonah Lossiah, wrote an article when Dr. Francis was given the honorary member honor. “It’s an overwhelming honor to be given the opportunity to work with the language,” Dr. Francis said. “It’s special. I’ve made great friends here, with the speakers especially. The speakers have been very welcoming and shared their language. It’s been an honor to work with them and give them the opportunity to share their language the way they want to share it.”

To show how much he is admired by Cherokee language speakers, Res. No. 603, which designated Dr. Francis as an honorary member, was submitted by the Cherokee Speakers Council.

That legislation speaks to his work with the language, “Dr. Hartwell Francis has been a great friend to all three federally recognized Cherokee tribes by recording meetings and presenting materials for preservation; and Dr. Hartwell Francis has shared all his developmental works with all tribes and any of the Eastern Band of Cherokee programs that have made a request.”

The day he was made an EBCI honorary member, EBCI Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver Johnson commented on Dr. Francis, “I’ve never seen anyone that works as hard as Hartwell



Dr. Hartwell Francis, Meshay Long, Aaliyah Swimmer, Elvia Walkingstick, Michelle Long, Madison Long, and Olivia Owle pose with their 2025 Impact Award for Community-Engaged Teaching, Learning & Research presented by the WCU Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning on Monday, April 28, 2025 for their children’s book project in collaboration with WCU professor Tatiana Potts and her printmaking class. (Photo contributed)

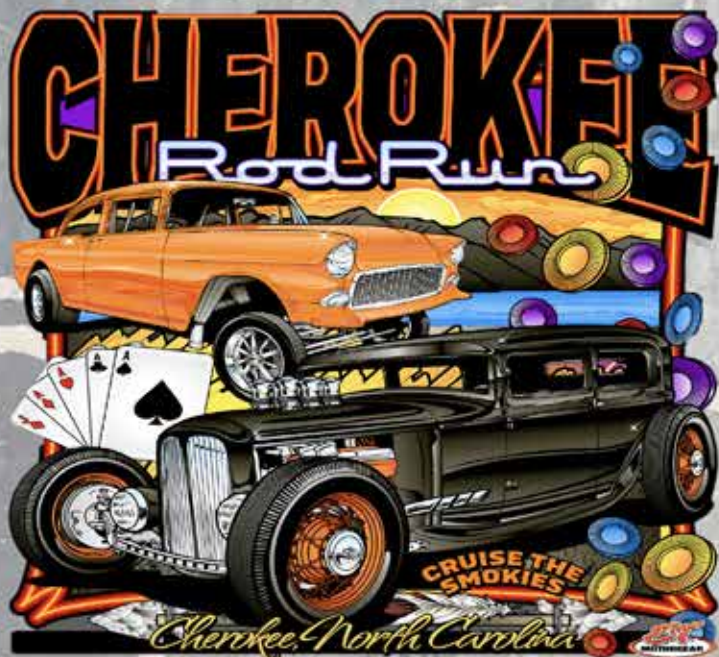
does. When he first came to us, I named him White Rabbit. I think that’s stuck with him. He works. I never see him slow down. He just works all the time. And you heard for yourself how well he’s learning to speak the language. A lot of Cherokees could sit back and take notes on how well he’s learning the language. We’re very fortunate to have someone like Dr. Hartwell Francis helping us to preserve the language. And when he makes me mad and I scold him, he just laughs at me.”

Last year, he was part of a group which received the Impact Award for Community-Engaged Teaching, Learning & Research presented by the WCU Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning. A One Feather article on the award, written by my colleague Brooklyn Brown, states, “Hartwell Francis, ed-

ucation curriculum developer for New Kituwah Academy, along with several students from the CLMAP program including Meshay Long, Aaliyah Swimmer, Elvia Walkingstick, Michelle Long, Madison Long, and Olivia Owle, provided key consultation on the project to produce culturally relevant books for Cherokee youth.”

Dr. Francis, who received a Ph.D. in theoretical linguistics from the University of Colorado Boulder, was the founding director of the WCU Cherokee Language Program.

His work with the language has been outstanding, and his work will be felt for generations to come. Dr. Francis is an incredibly hard-working man who loves his work and is dedicated to seeing the Cherokee language grow and grow and grow.



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**SPEAKING OF FAITH**

# He Thinks of Us

*Part 2 of 2*

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

Scripture reference: Psalm 139

The Psalm begins with how God knows us (ALL of us) and our every move, regardless of how small or insignificant. He also knows our thoughts. He knows where you are going, when you will rest, and all your ways of doing things. It goes on to relate how there is nowhere you can go where God is not there with you, beside you, in front of you, and behind you. He is within you.

It says He knows you better than you know yourself. He has

known you since before you were born. He made you. He put you together. He gave you all the talent you need. He protects and surrounds you. He thinks about you more often than there are pebbles of sand. He is with you, always everywhere. You can't even hide. He loves you more than you love yourself.

Yes, He made you. He knew you from the beginning of this life and before you were given life. He sees your entire life string, and you haven't even finished yet. He knows when you don't even know what you will do next or what you will do when you get there. He knows.

He gave you your soul before He gave you life. He will deal with you as long as you are alive and

after you die. God is with us.

What should our response be? They are in verses 19-22. In a nutshell, we need to know what side we are on and live like it. Identify our enemies and shed the wickedness in our lives.

“Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: Depart from me therefore, ye bloodthirsty men. For they speak against thee wickedly, And thine enemies take thy name in vain. Do not I hate them, O Jehovah, that hate thee? And am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: They are become mine enemies.”

Finally, concede what you can't ignore. Embrace the sovereignty of God and request His way to overcome your life to live righteously.

“Search me, O God, and know my heart: Try me, and know my thoughts; And see if there be any wicked way in me. And lead me in the way everlasting.”

If you want to put some icing on this cake, now read Psalm 39. Father God in Heaven and on earth, my prayer today matches verses 23-24. I need You every hour, Lord. Let me lean on you for everything in my life. My life is Yours. You have given me everything to nurture and mold me; everything I am is what You have made me be. Thank You, Lord, for being my God and making Yourself known to me through Your Word. Amen.



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

“Now acquaint yourself with Him, and be at peace; thereby good will come to you.

Receive, please, instruction from His mouth, and lay up His words in your heart.”

— Job 22:21-22 —

*Detail of “Jugend” cover art for April by Otto Eckmann (1896)*



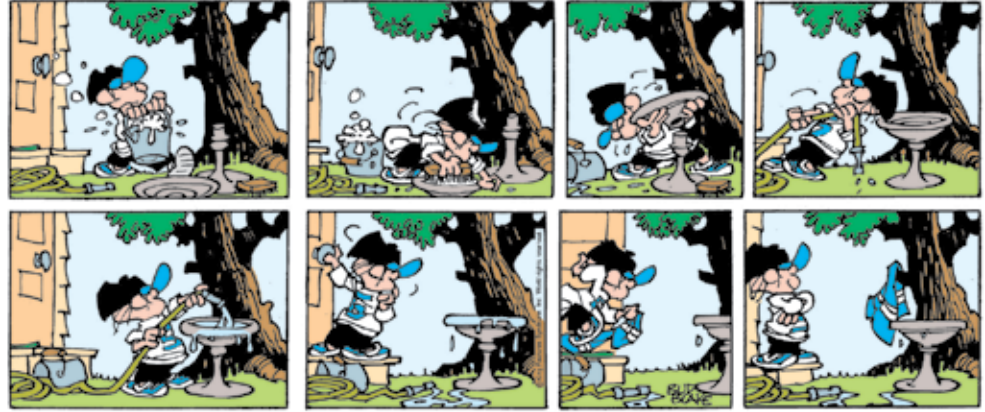
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# Amber Waves



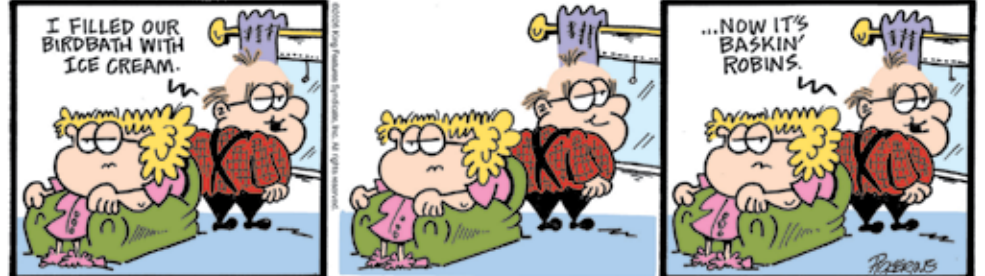
by Dave T. Phipps

## TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

## The Spats

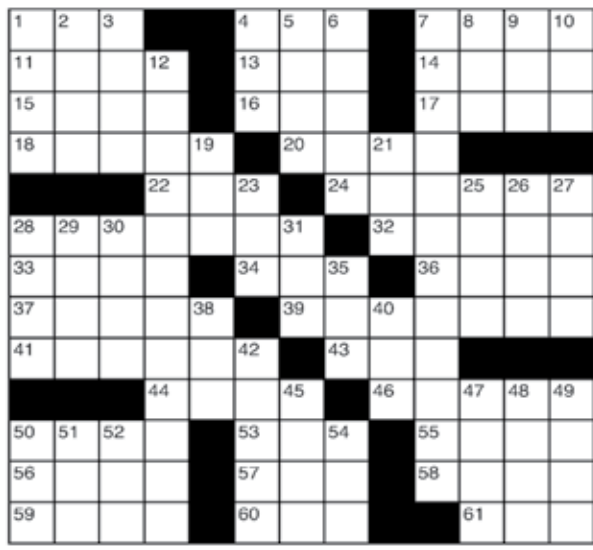


by Jeff Pickering

# King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Soak (up)
- 4 "Nova" channel
- 7 South Pacific nation
- 11 Grouch
- 13 Ump's call
- 14 Tehran's country
- 15 Rights org.
- 16 Peyton's brother
- 17 Dweeb
- 18 Spars
- 20 Boast
- 22 Prom outfit
- 24 TV detective Remington
- 28 Shirt parts
- 32 Flynn of film
- 33 Frankfurt fellow
- 34 Cleaning cloth
- 36 Fine cotton
- 37 "Shake —" (Taylor Swift hit)
- 39 "Be serious!"
- 41 More of a snoop
- 43 Hosp. scan
- 44 Inert gas
- 46 Accord
- 50 Pizzazz
- 53 Bro, maybe
- 55 Half a sextet
- 56 Actress Falco
- 57 — tizzy (worked up)



- 58 Lingerie fabric
- 59 Beloved
- 60 A gazillion years
- 61 Park — -joon of "The Marvels"
- 9 Pickle holder
- 10 Hoosier st.
- 12 Crunchy candy bar
- 19 Minivan alternative
- 21 Consumed
- 23 Gen- — (baby boomer's kid)
- 25 One of HOMES
- 26 — Linda, Calif.
- 27 Mideast airline
- 28 Tibia's place
- 29 Jared of "Panic Room"
- 30 Cupid's alias
- 31 Droop
- 35 Tiara jewel
- 38 Service charge
- 40 Capote nickname
- 42 Wartime riveter
- 45 Boy, in Barcelona
- 47 Showy flower
- 48 Scrabble piece
- 49 Singer Ono
- 50 Last letter in London
- 51 Chemical suffix
- 52 Actress Long
- 54 Prohibit

### DOWN

- 1 Con job
- 2 Killer whale
- 3 Buddies
- 4 "The Raven" writer
- 5 Future tulip
- 6 Mixes up
- 7 Crime-solving aids
- 8 Rage

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## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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 Answers  
 1. Greece; 2. Wyoming; 3. "In Living Color"; 4. The American Museum of Natural History in New York City; 5. April 22, 1970; 6. "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen; 7. Kiefer Sutherland; 8. Golf; 9. Newspeak; 10. A tower

## HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Brush is larger; 2. Painted area on fence is larger; 3. Shirt is longer; 4. Man has more hair; 5. Window is larger; 6. Ear is smaller.

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

Answer

### Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 22 mins.

### Answers

### King Crossword



1. GEOGRAPHY: Which country is also known to residents as Hellas?
2. U.S. STATES: Which state is the least populated?
3. ENTERTAINERS: Which show launched the career of comedian/actor Jim Carrey?
4. MOVIES: What museum is featured in the movie "Night at the Museum"?
5. HISTORY: When was Earth Day first celebrated?
6. MUSIC: Which song begins with the lines, "Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy"?
7. TELEVISION: Who starred in the title role of the TV drama "Designated Survivor"?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the only sport that has been played on the moon?
9. LITERATURE: What is the name of the language used in the novel "1984"?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of giraffes called?

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# 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

**Turkey Shoots** at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in Kolanvvi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. Good fun, great prizes, great benefits.

- April 18 at 3 p.m., Big Cove Free Labor Fundraiser. This shoot is in conjunction with the Annual Big Cove Free BBQ and Potluck at 2 p.m. – prior to the shoot. All Free Labor and friends are invited. Bring a side dish if inclined.
- April 25 at 3 p.m., Deb West Senior Center Fundraiser for EBCI Senior Trip. Good food will also be available at this shoot.

## EBCI Community Events

**Spring Garden Fair.** April 24 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center 1416 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Featuring seeds, plants, yard art, education, and a re-purpose it contest for youth ages 5-17. Garden kits will be given away from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. (must show enrollment card). NAIWA will be serving sausage biscuits and Indian dinners. Info: Lucille (828) 736-5285, Mariah (828) 788-3071 or email Carmaleta at carmaleta@msn.com

**Spring Rod Run.** April 24- 25 Old Cherokee High School Site, 1501 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Thousands in Cash Giveaways, 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: Chero-

keerodders.com

**Veterans Stand Down.** May 1 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrel Sports & Recreation Complex at 1212 Birdtown Rd. in Cherokee, N.C. Available resources: Medicaid enrollment, health screenings, mental health services, housing/shelter assistance, peer support, veterans benefits assistance, gear distribution, haircuts, training opportunities, crisis and recovery services, and lunch is provided. Info: Gerard Ball (828) 359-6184, samuball@ebci-nsn.gov

**Visitors Celebration Day.** May 16 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Cherokee Welcome Center 498 Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Traditional dancing, music, arts and crafts, storytelling, stickball demonstrations, food trucks and more. Info: (828) 359-6490

## 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 Gathering.** April 22 from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Wolfstown Community

Building, 12 Burgess Dr., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Space is limited. EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) singers and dancers of all ages are invited to join. Each gathering will focus on different social dances. Info: Cherokee Winter Social on Facebook.

**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


**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.

**Sequoyah Remembrance Day.** Aug. 3 from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum

## CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK


Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

SŌHi ᄇD RVLLᄇJ DᄇᄇYL




**Maverick, a 1-year-old English Bulldog, lives with his parents, Hunter and Donna Lingerfelt, in Wayohi (Wolfstown).**

Sponsored by:



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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



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) You can easily handle your tasks this week, thanks to your high-energy levels that never seem to run down. But pace yourself, Lamb, for a demanding week ahead.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) With the arts dominant this week, you might want to pick up any creative projects that you've neglected. Meanwhile, a workplace situation benefits from some fresh insight.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Music helps replenish your energy levels. Press play and put your phone on Do Not Disturb if you must. However, a live concert could prove more rewarding, especially if you go with a very special someone.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Close friends reach out to help perk up your lagging social life. A workplace situation also eases, leaving you time to do more fun things by week's end.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A revelation clears up a perplexing job-related problem. Some changes will have to be made, which, no doubt, will have to meet the Big Cat's roaring approval. Good luck!

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Reaching out to someone in need is the noble thing to do. But try to restrain the temptation to add a lecture to your good deed, no matter how well-intended.

### Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

**Health Board.** April 15 at 8:30 a.m.

**Qualla Housing Committee.** April 16 at 8:30 a.m.

**Roads Commission.** April 20 at 9 a.m.

**Timber Committee.** April 20 at

see **EVENTS** next page

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) There could be another tough challenge to face before the month is over. But all your hard work is winning you lots of important recognition from your peers.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Keeping to your work schedule could prove difficult with some personal distractions. Best advice: Stay with it. There'll be time later for socializing.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Jumping hurdles this week might be vexing for most, but not for the sage Sagittarian who recognizes that meeting a challenge can open up opportunities.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) More obstacles might be thrown in your path as you try to finalize a new agreement. But the sure-footed Goat ignores the stumbling blocks and stays the course.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) We know the Water Bearer takes pleasure in giving to others. But why not let someone else enjoy the experience, too, by accepting an offer of help?

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) You might find that you need to ease up on your hectic schedule this week. Don't fret about it. It could be helpful to take a break and replenish your energy supply.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a way of finding practical solutions to complex problems, and you do it with grace.

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## VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

### Additional education benefits

Have you been using your veterans educational benefits? Are you running out of time because you're coming to the end of the standard 36 months of benefits you received? Because of two new rulings, you might be one of a million veterans who are eligible for an additional 12 months.

The rulings in question (*Rudisill v. McDonough* and *Perkins v. Collins*) say that certain veterans could get more education benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Adding 12 months of benefits will bring you up to 48 months.

It started two years ago when the Supreme Court decided that, under one of the rulings, veterans who had more than one qualifying period of service (one for the Montgomery GI Bill and another for the Post-9/11 GI Bill) were eligible to combine them for 48 months of benefits. Then, last year, the appeals court decided that veterans with only one qualifying period of service could get benefits under both the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 GI Bill programs.

Here is how it's going to work:

You no longer need to pick one program over the other and be limited to 36 months.

The VA is looking at eligibility under both of the rulings for any veteran who used benefits after August 2018 and who now has less than three months of benefits remaining or a veteran who was enrolled during the last six months.

Then, the VA is looking at veterans under one of the rulings to see if additional benefits are available. They're starting by automatically approving the standard 36 months of benefits. Those veterans who are eligible for the additional time will be told.

If you're new to filing for education benefits, download VA Form 22-1990 ([www.va.gov/forms/22-1990](http://www.va.gov/forms/22-1990)) to either apply or ask to change an existing benefit. Family members can scroll down to Form 22-1990e and use that form.

If you've previously filed for education benefits, download Form 22-1995 ([www.va.gov/forms/22-1995](http://www.va.gov/forms/22-1995)) to ask for any changes.

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### Pet first aid: Preparing before a dog or cat is in distress

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** My dog "Alfie" was rushed to the vet with bloat. My friend who was visiting first noticed the symptoms and told me it was an emergency. He's recovering well, but I feel so guilty. How could I not recognize that he was suffering and could have died? Are resources out there for pet owners who want to know more about how to recognize serious health issues in their pets? — Carl G. in San Francisco

**DEAR CARL:** I'm glad to hear Alfie is on the mend. To answer your question, yes, there are educational resources available to learn how to recognize illness or injury in pets and know what steps to take.

The American Red Cross now teaches a pet first aid course. It's a 35-minute online course, so you can sign up from anywhere and gain a good, basic foundation that will help you recognize and respond to pet health issues. Students learn to take pets' vital signs, do rescue breathing and respond to cardiac emergencies. First aid for injuries and bleeding is also covered, as is preventative care. Learn more at [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

Your local library or community center may offer a similar course. Check their online calendar or call and ask what they offer.

The Animal Humane Society recommends creating a first aid kit just for your pet. It should have many of the items in a regular first aid kit — gauze, non-stick pads, tape, saline wash, a thermometer, disposable gloves and antibiotic ointment. It should also include clean towels, a small flashlight, a muzzle, extra collar and leash, and a laminated card with the veterinarian's contact information and your pet's medications.

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

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**EVENTS:** From page 39

10:30 a.m.

**Planning Board.** April 20 at 1 p.m.

**Lands Committee.** April 23 at 9 a.m.

### Pow Wow Listings

**Northwest Indian College Traditions Coastal Jam & Pow Wow.** April 17-18 at the NWI Health & Wellness Center in Bellingham, Wash. MC: Michael Vendiola. Host Drum: The Northmen. Info: [nwicpowwow@nwic.edu](mailto:nwicpowwow@nwic.edu)

**Duke University Pow Wow.** April 18 in the Penn Pavilion on the campus of Duke University in Durham, N.C. MC: Keith Colston. Host Drums: Young Water, War Paint. Info: Monique Rochon or Shavonne Ross (919) 660-2820 or [dukepowwow@duke.edu](mailto:dukepowwow@duke.edu)

**First Nations University of Canada Spring Celebration Pow Wow.** April 18-19 at The Brandt Centre in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. Emcees: Clifton Goodwill, Jackson Tahuka, Sanford Strongarm. Info: Bonnie Rockthunder (204) 292-3253, [springpowwow@fnuniv.ca](mailto:springpowwow@fnuniv.ca)

**Sherman Indian High School 40th Annual Youth Pow Wow.** April 18 at Sherman Indian High School in Riverside, Calif. MC: Kelly Looking Horse. Host Northern Drum: White Cloud. Host Southern Drum: Red Warrior. Info: Daniel Iyotte (951) 515-0588, [daniel.iyotte@bie.edu](mailto:daniel.iyotte@bie.edu)

**Cal State University Domin-**

### **iguez Hills Spring Native Gathering and Pow Wow.**

April 18 at the Cal State Dominguez Hills Sculpture Garden in Carson, Calif. Host Northern Drum: The Shooters. Host Southern Drum: Shakeytown. Info: Ambyr Hardy (562) 685-3213, [ahardy@csuhd.edu](mailto:ahardy@csuhd.edu)

**18th Annual Rio Rancho Public Schools Pow Wow.** April 18 at Rio Rancho High School in Rio Rancho, N.M. Info: Suzanne.nguyen@rrps.net

**Villanova University 2nd Annual Pow Wow.** April 18 at Villanova University in Villanova, Pa. MC: Jeff Pegram. Host Drums: Young Blood, Old Sound. Info: Autumn Coard (631) 644-6771, [arayne3430@gmail.com](mailto:arayne3430@gmail.com)

**35th Annual Cherokee County Mother's Day Pow Wow & Indian Festival.** May 9-10 at Boling Park in Canton, Ga. MC: Ray Silva. Host Drum: Red Boys. Info: (770) 735-6275, [rollingthunder34@ymail.com](mailto:rollingthunder34@ymail.com), or visit [www.rthunder.com](http://www.rthunder.com)

### Support Groups

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Analenisgi. Info: [www.AAwnc80.com](http://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 Mc-Millan (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](http://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](http://www.NA.org)

**Western N.C. and Beyond Events**

**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.visitwaynesvillenc.com](http://www.visitwaynesvillenc.com)

**Monday Night Concert.** April 20 at 7 p.m. in the Keith House Community Room at the John C. Campbell Folk School 1 Folk School Road Brasstown, N.C. 28902. A seventh-generation ballad singer, storyteller, and musician, Sheila Kay Adams was born and raised in the Sodom Laurel community of Madison County, North Carolina, an area renowned for its unbroken tradition of unaccompanied ballad singing dating back to the early Scottish, Scots/Irish and English settlers in the mid-17th century. Adams is no stranger to the Folk School; she has graced campus many times with her captivating vocals, returning to serenade and entertain. The Folk School features some of the finest acts performing eclectic roots music. A donation of \$5-10 per adult is suggested, but all are welcome regardless of contribution. Any funds raised support traditional arts and help with equitable pay for performers. \*Lineup and schedule are subject to change. Info: [www.folkschool.org](http://www.folkschool.org)

**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](http://gsmheritagecenter.org)

**Greening up the Mountains.**

April 25 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in downtown Sylva, N.C. 28779. Greening Up the Mountains Festival, now in its 28th year, is a heritage arts festival that celebrates the arrival of Spring and Earth Day through both tradi-

tional and contemporary forms of Appalachian art, music, food, and beverage which honor our community and local artisans. The festival is sponsored by both the Town of Sylva and the Main Street Sylva Association. The Greening up the Mountains Festival enjoys crowds of upwards of 12,000 attendees and has 150 vendor booth spaces. In addition to a variety of arts, crafts, and food vendors, attendees can enjoy a 5k run, beverage arts featuring local craft breweries, and live music throughout the day. Info: [Greeningupthemountains.com](http://Greeningupthemountains.com)

**150th Anniversary Celebration.**

April 26 at 4:30 p.m. at the Shelton House 49 Shelton St., Waynesville, N.C. 28786. Enjoy an evening craft, music, food and

history. Guest Speaker Ron Rash. Info: [www.shelton-house.org/events](http://www.shelton-house.org/events).

**Forest Bathing Guided Walk.**

April 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Mingus Mill Parking Lot in Cherokee, N.C. Join certified guide Debby Singleton for a therapeutic stroll to experience the restorative benefits of the forest. This is a Smokies Life Branch Out event. Cost: For Park Keepers, \$45; to join and attend, \$85 (Park Keeper basic membership \$40+ event registration \$45). Info: <https://SmokiesLife.org/branch-out-events>, or email: [membership@smokieslife.org](mailto:membership@smokieslife.org)

**Stampede in the Smokies.**

May 1 and 2 gates open at 6 p.m. action begins at 8 p.m. at the Great

Smoky Mountains Event Park 113 Hyatt Creek Rd., Bryson City, NC. 28713 To enter text (864) 784 - 4110 by April 28. Info: [rodeoroadshow.rodeoticket.com/stampede-in-the-smokies/rodeo-information](http://rodeoroadshow.rodeoticket.com/stampede-in-the-smokies/rodeo-information)

**Peddler's Post at Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site.**

May 2 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site at 2620 South Roan St. in Johnson City, Tenn. Local artisans and merchant booths and local, historic-based demonstrators. Free admission. Info: (423) 926-3631 or [info@tipton-haynes.org](mailto:info@tipton-haynes.org)


**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 weaving, 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](http://gsmheritagecenter.org)

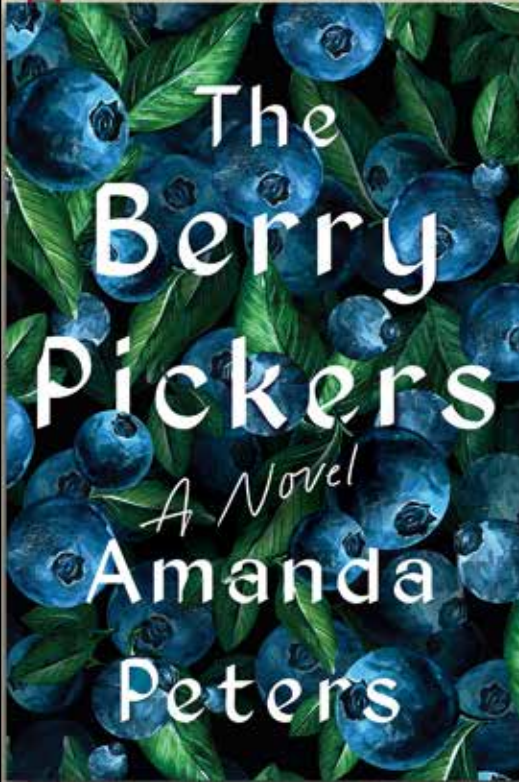
**Hummingbird Research Webinar.**

May 7 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Discover which plants best benefit hummingbirds and how small changes to a backyard can increase their population. Online webinar. This is a Smokies Life

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



## Qualla BOOK OF THE WEEK



### “The Berry Pickers” by Amanda Peters.

This novel begins, on a hot day in Maine, while Joe watches his little sister Ruthie, sitting on her favorite rock at the edge of the blueberry fields. That afternoon, Ruthie vanishes without a trace. As the last person to see her, Joe will be haunted by grief, guilt, and the agony of imagining how their lives could have been.

In an affluent suburb nearby, Norma is growing up as the only child of unhappy parents. She is intelligent and bursting with questions she isn't allowed to ask, regarding her missing baby photos; her dark skin; the vivid dreams that return night after night. Norma senses there are things her parents aren't telling her, but it will take decades to reveal the secrets they have hidden since she was a little girl.

The “Berry Pickers” is a moving story of hope, love, and the power of family..

see **EVENTS** next page

EVENTS: From page 41

Branch Out event. Cost: For Park Keepers, \$45; to join and attend, \$85 (Park Keeper basic membership \$40+ event registration \$45). Info: <https://SmokiesLife.org/branch-out-events>, or email: [membership@smokieslife.org](mailto:membership@smokieslife.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.

**High Elevation Birds & Blooms.** May 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Thomas Divide Trailhead in Bryson City, N.C. Starting at an elevation of 4,650 feet, stroll through a northern hardwoods forest and observe the birds and blooms that call the high peaks home. This is a Smokies Life Branch Out event. Cost: For Park Keepers, \$45; to join and attend, \$85 (Park Keeper basic membership \$40+ event registration \$45). Info: <https://SmokiesLife.org/branch-out-events>, or email: [membership@smokieslife.org](mailto:membership@smokieslife.org)

org/branch-out-events, or email: [membership@smokieslife.org](mailto:membership@smokieslife.org)

**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

**Intro to Night Sky Photography Webinar.** June 2 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Learn the fundamentals of astrophotography, including gear essentials, composition and camera settings, and ways to help reduce light pollution in your area. This is a Smokies Life Branch Out event. Cost: For Park Keepers, \$45; to join and attend, \$85 (Park Keeper basic membership \$40+ event registration \$45). Info: <https://SmokiesLife.org/branch-out-events>, or email: [membership@smokieslife.org](mailto:membership@smokieslife.org)

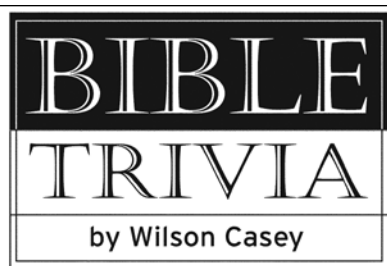
**Great Tellico History Day.** June 20 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Charles Hall Museum & Heritage Center, 229 Cherohala Skyway, Tellico Plains, Tenn. 37385. Cherokee Culture, Early History,

Traditional Skills, and Music., Free admission and parking. Handmade crafts for sale by Cherokee and Early Settler Demonstrators. Food trucks onsite Info: [charleshallmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:charleshallmuseum@hotmail.com)

**Smoky Mountain Summer Fest 2026.** July 25 from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the Sevierville Fairgrounds, 754 Old Knoxville Hwy. Sevierville, Tenn. 37862. Classic car shows, food trucks, live music, vendors. Free public admission. Info: (865) 388-0099

### 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



1. Is the book of Obadiah (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 9, after Jesus healed a paralyzed man, what did the man pick up and carry home? *Brother, Bed, Mother, Cart*
3. Which book begins, "And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai"? *Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*
4. What is the largest number phrase specifically mentioned in the Bible? *7 x 70, Ten hundred, Hundred thousand, Thousands of ten thousands*
5. According to Acts 25, what title belonged to Agrippa? *Priest, Apostle, King, General*
6. In Exodus 7, what river was turned into blood? *Red, Galilee, Marah, Nile*

ANSWERS: (1) Old, (2) Bed, (3) Numbers, (4) 'Thousands of ten thousands, (5) King, (6) Nile  
Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscribersite at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy).

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## Moments in time

• On April 27, 1521, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan was killed during a tribal skirmish on Mactar Island in the Philippines. Earlier in the month, he had met with the local chief on the Philippine island of Cebu, who, after converting to Christianity, had persuaded the Europeans to assist him in conquering a rival tribe on a neighboring island. During the ensuing conflict, Magellan was hit by a poisoned arrow and left to die by his retreating fellow fighters.

• On April 28, 1953, inventor Howard Ross received a patent for a useful, if rather curious, garment called a "double coat," with an outer layer that could be extended to cover two people at a time in athletic stadiums when it rained.

• On April 29, 1991, paroled felon Rodney King led police on a high-speed chase through the streets of Los Angeles County before eventually surrendering. Drunk and uncooperative, he resisted arrest and was beaten by three police officers who didn't know they were being filmed by a nearby citizen. Upon release to the press, the video triggered outrage around the country and started a national debate on police brutality.


• On April 30, 1977, more than 2,000 protesters carrying signs saying, "Split Wood, Not Atoms" and "Go Fishing, Not Fission" occupied the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant construction site in New Hampshire. More than half were taken into custody in what became one of the largest mass arrests in U.S. history.

• On May 1, 1958, the United States celebrated its first Law Day after President Eisenhower announced the observance to honor the role of law in the country's creation. Three years later, Congress followed suit by passing a joint resolution establishing May 1 as Law Day.

• On May 2, 1972, after serving nearly five decades as FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover died, leaving the agency without the administrator who'd turned it into an efficient crime-fighting machine.


• On May 3, 2007, shortly before her fourth birthday, Madeleine McCann of Rothley, England, disappeared during a family vacation at a resort in southern Portugal. Despite an international search, she remains missing.

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### Light needs for plants

Low light	Medium light	High light
Peace lily	Asparagus fern	Cactus
Snake plant	Boston fern	Hibiscus
Philodendron	Spider plant	Ti plant
English ivy	Jade plant	Gardenia
Diffenbachia	African violet	Geraniums



Spider plant

Source: [extension.umn.edu](http://extension.umn.edu)

- Brenda Weaver

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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 com-

munity building at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Jacob Long (828) 736-9128, jacoblong19982@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

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

**Bethabara Baptist Church.** 1088 Birdtown Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service

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

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

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

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

**Boiling Springs Missionary Baptist Church.** 960 Old Bryson City Road in the 3200 Acre Tract. 488-9202

**Cherokee Baptist Church.** 812 Tsalagi Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Adult Bible Study Wednesday 6 p.m. Pastor Ric Eddings 497-2761

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

**Cherokee Church of Christ.** 2350 Old Mission Road and Hwy. 19. Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m.

see **EVENTS** next page

## MEET YOUR CIHA STAFF



### LINDSAY AMMONS

Tribal Option Care Manager Supervisor

Education: Associate's degree in nursing at Southwestern Community College, and currently enrolled at Western Carolina University for BSN  
Years at CIHA: 4 Years  
Community/Hometown: Sylva, NC

"I feel so lucky to care for the kids and families who truly feel like my own. Watching them grow, celebrating milestones, and being there through the tough moments - it's the most rewarding part of my job."- Lindsay Ammons

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

**EVENTS:** From page 43

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 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Service 6:30 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited for any of the services and meals. Pastor Rev. Owen Isaacs (828) 242-0754

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

4-8 p.m. Pastors Lester and Lisa Hardesty 497-2819

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

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

**Cherokee Wesleyan Church.** Hwy 19 across from Happy Holiday Campground. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Interim Co-Pastors Lester and Lisa

Hardesty 497-2819

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

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

**Ela Baptist Church.** 4450 Ela Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday

morning service 11 a.m., Wednesday 6 p.m. Pastor Justin Hunt (828) 736-1155

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

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

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

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

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

# Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with EBCI Natural Resources



**Trillium rugelii** is a native perennial wildflower that blooms from mid-April to early May. Its flower hangs beneath the leaves, making it easy to miss! Trilliums are slow-growing, taking 5–7 years to mature from seed, and can live for more than 30 years. This flower was found along the Oconaluftee River Trail. There are many wildflowers out right now, so be sure to check them out!

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

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

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

**Newsong Church.** 3548 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: spruce-

grovebc.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

**THE TOWN OF SYLVA PRESENTS THE 28TH ANNUAL**  
**Greening Up the Mountains**  
**Saturday, April 25, 2026**  
**10am - 4pm. - Sylva, NC**

**Free Admission**  
**9am 5K Run/Walk**  
**Arts and Crafts Vendors**  
**Food and Drink Vendors**  
**Fun for the Entire Family**  
**Sylva's largest Street Festival**  
**Shop, Dine, Play, Stay in Sylva**

**LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**  
**BRIDGE PARK STAGE**  
**10:00AM JUNIOR APPALACHIAN MUSICIANS**  
**11:30AM BIRD IN HAND**  
**1:00PM FUZZY PEPPERS**  
**2:30 PM PMA**

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**Brown Haven HOMES THE RIGHT CHOICE**  
**Harris CHEROKEE CASINOS**  
**Southwestern**  
**Catamount Electric**  
**HARRIS**  
**STANBERRY INSURANCE**

**ALLISON OUTDOOR ADVERTISING**  
**CARDWELL DENTISTRY**  
**DUKE ENERGY**  
**JACKSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**JACKSON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**LAW OFFICE OF NATHAN EARWOOD, CRIMINAL DEFENSE**  
**SIGNATURE BREW, COFFEE ROASTING COMPANY**  
**SMOKY MOUNTAIN NEWS**  
**SYLVA INSURANCE AGENCY**  
**THE SYLVA HERALD**  
**WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY**

**www.greeningupthemountains.com**

## CLASSIFIEDS

**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**  
NC Commission of Indian Affairs is accepting applications for a Deputy Director/Program Analyst position through April 15. Learn more about this position and other opportunities at: <https://bit.ly/47yCKSj>. **4/15**

## LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-011  
**Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:**  
**LEONARD E. LOSSIAH**  
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.  
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION  
John Edward Saloli Lossiah  
P.O Box 12  
Cherokee, NC 28719  
**4/22**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-020  
**Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:**  
**JAMES BARNES**  
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.  
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION  
Jordan Price  
P.O Box 2383  
Cherokee, NC 28719

**4/15**  
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 22-100  
**Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:**  
**LAWRENCE “EDDY” HILL**  
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.  
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION  
Sandy Hill  
5395 Big Cove Rd



**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

**MISSING**

**Jada Alexis Dial**  
American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 5'2"-5'4" Weight: 117-125 lbs.  
Biological Sex: Male Age: 18  
Hair: Black Eyes: Brown  
Date of last contact: January 16, 2026  
Last Known Location: Fayetteville, NC

Circumstances of Disappearance: Jada Dial left her current residence to go to school on the bus. When she arrived at school, she was seen with another student walking out a back gate of the campus. Jada Dial did not return to the school, nor did she return to her current residence.

If you have seen or have information about Jada Dial contact Youth Services Detective, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office (910) 323-1500.

Source: Namus.gov




**GWY ᐅᑕᐱᐃᐱ ᐅᑦ ᓂᐱᐱᐱ**  
CHEROKEE ONE TRADER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Cherokee, NC 28719

4/29

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina

Estate File No. 26-026

**Notice to Creditors and**

**Debtors of:**

**BAMBI LYNN SNEED**

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

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

James Sneed

P.O Box 773

Cherokee, NC 28719

5/6

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina

Estate File No. 26-027

**Notice to Creditors and**

**Debtors of:**

**MICHAEL LAMBERT**

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fudiciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred

from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fudiciary(s) listed below.

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

Scott Lambert

88 Koga Cove

Cherokee, NC 28719

5/6

**BIDS, RFPs, etc.**

**Request for Proposals**

2026 Cherokee Indian Fair Sound,

Light Production,

Stage and Entertainment

The Eastern Band of Cherokee

Indians/Destination Marketing

is seeking a company to provide

quality sound, lighting, a SL320

stage package, headliner, and

entertainment for all productions

during the Cherokee Indian Fair

from October 5, 2026, through

October 10, 2026. This RFP covers

the requirements from a quali-

fied contractor to provide sound,

lighting, production, an SL320

stage package, secure a headliner,

and entertainment for the 2026

Cherokee Indian Fair.

Proposal Submission Deadline is

4pm EST.,

April 17, 2026

For full details and Packet,

contact Lisa Frady, Supervisor of Fairground Operations, Commerce Division – Destination Marketing. Mailing address: P.O. Box 460, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Phone #: (828)788-1708.

Email: [lisafrad@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:lisafrad@ebci-nsn.gov)

4/15



**Request for Proposals**

**Scope of Work/Deliverables**

This RFP is for the design and make of: 4 Crowns: Miss Cherokee, Teen Miss Cherokee, Jr. Miss Cherokee, and Little Miss Cherokee.

**2026 Teen, Jr. Miss, and Little Miss Crown Specifics**

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

- Use any colors/design for personal touch
- Must present design and type of beads that will be used on the crown to the Board. Bid will not be accepted without presentation of design.
- **2026 Miss Cherokee Crown** 9" high, EBCI seal in center (seal must have all wording)
- Use any colors/design for personal touch
- Must present design and type of beads that will be used on the crown to the Board. Bid will not be accepted without presentation of design.

All submissions and questions

must be sent to the EBCI Pageant Board at [ebci.pageant.board@gmail.com](mailto:ebci.pageant.board@gmail.com) or call Mollie Grant at 828- 736-2258. Deadline: No later than April 20, 2026. 4/15

**DESIGN-BUILD REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is requesting interested Design-Build Teams submit qualifications for an Express Design-Build Solicitation. The project, BO-2418, constructs a multi-use-path / sidewalk in Pitt County from Town Common to River Park North.

Interested parties should send a request, by e-mail only, to [rfq\\_package\\_request@ncdot.gov](mailto:rfq_package_request@ncdot.gov) for a formal package detailing the requirements for submitting a Statement of Qualifications. The following contact information must be included in the e-mail request: company name, physical address, city, state, zip code, contact person, phone number and current e-mail address. The Statements of Qualifications must be submitted, by e-mail only, to [db\\_soq\\_submittal@ncdot.gov](mailto:db_soq_submittal@ncdot.gov) by 3:00 p.m. on May 15, 2026.

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

Technical questions related to the RFQ package, or other project related questions, should be sent via e-mail to [altdelivery@ncdot.gov](mailto:altdelivery@ncdot.gov). For tracking purposes, questions will only be answered through e-mail requests. When

**JOIN OUR TEAM**



**WE ARE HIRING**

Open Positions

- Order Fulfillment Technician (Part Time)



Apply Online

[www.qualla.com/careers](http://www.qualla.com/careers)



More Information

828.589.8285

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

making requests by e-mail, it is advisable to request a return receipt for your records. **4/15**

#### **ADVERTISEMENT OF BIDS**

Sealed proposals will be received until 1:00 p.m., Thursday, May 14, 2026 by the Cherokee Boys Club ("Owner") at the Agelink Child Care Modular Building located at 31 Childrens Home Loop in Cherokee, NC 28719 and immediately thereafter opened and read aloud for the furnishing of labor, material and equipment entering into the construction for the following two (2) projects:

Building Addition and Renovations to the Existing Snowbird Child Development Center 1220 Old Tallulah Rd Robbinsville, NC 28771

AND

Building Addition and Renovations to the Existing Agelink School Age Building 81 Childrens Home Loop Cherokee, NC 28719 Prebid Meeting (It is strongly suggested that interested bidders attend).

Date: April 24, 2026 @ 11:00 A.M. (local time)

Location: 81 Childrens Home Loop, Cherokee, NC 28719.

(Both projects will be discussed at the Agelink School Age site only)

Bidders may submit a bid for one project or both. Separate bid forms, pricing, and sealed envelopes are REQUIRED for each project. ALL proposals shall be enclosed in a mailer and be clearly marked on the mailer:

"BID FOR CHEROKEE BOYS CLUB, INC.-SNOWBIRD DAY-CARE ADDITION AND RENOVATION. DO NOT OPEN UNTIL 1:00 P.M. THURSDAY MAY 14TH, 2026."

AND/OR

"BID FOR CHEROKEE BOYS CLUB, INC.-AGELINK SCHOOL AGE ADDITION AND RENOVATION. DO NOT OPEN UNTIL 1:00 P.M. THURSDAY MAY 14TH, 2026."

Bidders who mail their proposals SHALL address them to Anthony Swearingin, Cherokee Boys Club - at 31 Childrens Home Loop, Cherokee, N.C. 28719.

Tribal Business Preference Law for Indian preference in contracting and subcontracting through the Tribal Employment Rights Office (T.E.R.O) will be followed.

Complete plans and specifications for these projects can be obtained from the Architect, LS3P Associates, LTD., by contacting Jamie Haselhurst by phone or email: jamiehaselhurst@ls3p.com, 828-575-1804. Plans and specifications will be available beginning April 16th, 2026.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities. **4/22**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

Mural Design and Installation – Tribal ABC Store

The Tribal Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (TABCC)

is seeking sealed proposals from qualified artists or vendors for the design and installation of a mural at the Tribal ABC Store located at 111 Cherokee Crossing, Cherokee, NC.

The selected artist/vendor will be responsible for providing an original mural design, all materials, and completing the installation.

Sealed bids must be submitted to:

TABCC 93 Cherokee Boys Club Loop Cherokee, NC 28719  
Deadline: April 28, 2026, by 3:30 PM

For additional information, please contact: Sissy Toineeta stoineeta@ebci-tribalabc.org

**4/22**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

Treated Fencing Installation – Tribal ABC Store

The Tribal Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (TABCC) is seeking sealed proposals from qualified contractors for the installation of treated fencing to enclose a storage container at the Tribal ABC Store located at 111 Cherokee Crossing, Cherokee, NC.

The selected contractor will be responsible for providing all materials, labor, and installation necessary to complete the project.

Sealed bids must be submitted to:

TABCC 93 Cherokee Boys Club Loop Cherokee, NC 28719  
Deadline: April 28, 2026, by 3:30

PM

TABCC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

For additional information, please contact: Sissy Toineeta stoineeta@ebci-tribalabc.org

**4/22**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

Electrical Installation for Signage – Tribal ABC Store

The Tribal Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (TABCC) is seeking sealed proposals from qualified contractors for electrical installation services to support signage at the Tribal ABC Store located at 111 Cherokee Crossing, Cherokee, NC.

The selected contractor will be responsible for ensuring adequate electrical capacity, proper wiring, and installation to support illuminated signage, including compliance with all applicable codes and safety standards.

Sealed bids must be submitted to:

TABCC 93 Cherokee Boys Club Loop Cherokee, NC 28719  
Deadline: April 28, 2026, by 3:30 PM

TABCC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

For additional information, please contact: Sissy Toineeta stoineeta@ebci-tribalabc.org

**4/22**



**Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians**  
**CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD**  
Email: [info@ebci-ccb.org](mailto:info@ebci-ccb.org) Phone: 828-229-8650



April Forecast:  
100% Chance for Opportunity

# JOB FAIR

Located in the Employment Office  
on the second floor.

April 23, 1pm - 5pm



**Harrah's**  
**CHEROKEE**  
CASINO RESORT



Some positions require the ability to work flexible hours. Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo ID. Must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble. Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort is a world-class destination. Review Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort's Responsible Gaming Policy at [www.harrahsherokeecasino.com](http://www.harrahsherokeecasino.com). © 2020 Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort, LLC.



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Help animals  
safely cross  
mountain  
highways.  
Take the  
pledge.



Wildlife Crossing Project  
[smokiessafepassage.org](http://smokiessafepassage.org)



**CHEROKEE INDIAN  
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



# OPEN POSITIONS

## New Positions

Cook Aide – Tsali Care Center  
Helpdesk Support Specialist – Information Technology  
EVS Technician – EVS  
Summer Intern – High School Students

## Behavioral Health

Mental Health Therapist - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus  
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family – Snowbird, Dora  
Reed, Family Safety, Family Intensive Treatment, Medication Assisted  
Treatment)  
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwtiyi  
Targeted Case Manager – Child and Family, MAT  
Residential Technician - Female - Part Time without Benefits

## 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

## Finance

Accountant I – LTC Financial Support – Tsali Care Center  
Billing Analyst II

## Medical

Physician - Pediatrics  
Psychiatrist  
Hospitalist  
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

## 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 - PTI  
Specialty Services Registered Nurse - \$10,000 Hiring  
Bonus  
Medical Social Worker

## Nutrition

Clinical Dietician

## Pharmacy

Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner

## Summer Internships

Contracting  
Human Resource  
Information Technology  
Maintenance  
Occupational Therapy  
Performance improvement  
Physical Therapy  
Primary Care  
Radiology  
Supply

## Tsali Care Center

Certified Nursing Assistant - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus  
Certified Nursing Assistant – Night Shift – Tsali Care  
Center - \$5000 Hiring Bonus  
Licensed Practical Nurse - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus  
Registered Nurse – \$10,000 Hiring Bonus

## Tribal Option

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

# CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

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

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



# Job Opportunities



**Closing Sunday, April 19, 2026**

1. **Adult Language Educator – Kituwah Preservation & Education Program – CERS (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)**
2. **Air Quality Specialist – Environmental & Natural Resources – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)**
3. **Manager – Juvenile Services – Public Health & Human Services (L15 \$61,776 - \$77,230)**
4. **Advocate – Domestic Violence – Public Health & Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)**
5. **Truck Driver/Crew Leader (Multiple) – Solid Waste – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
6. **FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
7. **Grants Analyst – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,763)**

**Open Until Filled**

1. **Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
2. **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. **Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION**
5. **Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)**
6. **Certified Nursing Assistant (Multiple) – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (Starting rate of \$20.00/hour)**
7. **Registered Nurse – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14per hour)**

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



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KA-WO-NI  
APRIL  
SEXUAL  
ASSAULT  
AWARENESS  
MONTH

# MAKE A SOCIAL STATEMENT WITH YOUR FASHION STATEMENT



## DENIM DAY APRIL 29, 2026

**New Enrollees of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (Oct. 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026)**

*This is a list of new enrollees of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who were officially enrolled between October 1, 2025-March 31, 2026, who, unless otherwise prohibited by law, are eligible to receive a per capita distribution of distributable net gaming revenue for the period of Oct. 1, 2025-March 31, 2026. This list is being published according to Cherokee Code Section 16C-4.*

Ellieana Alice-Mae Aguillon  
Sofia Mayeli Muzzammil Muham-  
mad Al Zubair  
Augustus Keith Aldridge  
Kennedy Jamar Allison  
Everett Bear Anderson  
Kaison Drevan Armachain  
Liberty Anai Arneach  
Lainey Mae Autrey  
Amelia Jean Barlow  
Daxon Leandro-Oocumma Bart-  
low  
Atreus Kanoa Bell  
Adah Marie Berryman  
Elena Hope Bird  
Johnn Nathaniel Bird  
Oaklee Haize Blankenship  
Acadian Mathius Blanton  
Gianna Grace Bradley  
Jackson Isaiah Bradley  
Rebekah River Bredstrup

Evangeline Amelia Brimmer  
Tohi Lee Bryson  
Nova Rain Calangan Swayney  
Kimberly Caouette  
Journey Mickenly Chiltoskie  
Ralphio Cristiano Classe  
Kal-El Anidohi Climbingbear  
Knox Lee Thomas Cochran  
Lander Thomas Cole  
Rowan James Howard Collins  
Angelo Salatiel Corral  
Noah Nathaniel Crowe  
Samuel Arlo Denzer  
Roman Axel Dillard  
Macie Rosslyn Dorr  
Paxton James Duda  
Naomi Jean Effler  
Ellie Mae Ensley  
Amari Koa Espinoza  
Luka Koa Evans  
Melody Joy French  
Kiana Amelia Galanick  
Elijah Diamond Garcia  
Ezra Carson Gosnell  
Vivian Lane Griffith  
Stella Christine Henry  
Violet Marie Henry  
Lena Rose Hornbuckle  
Elowyn Yona Howard  
Robert Ambrose Huskey  
Charles Jrue Jackson  
Keaton Dostoni Jackson  
Gianna Gwen Johnson French  
Genesis Cole Johnson  
Brayleigh Iris Jones  
Troy Dean Jones  
Kainen Dean Jumper  
Brewer Blaine Junaluska  
Alana Grace Kapileo

Hailey Ruth Kemp  
Saylor Tennille Ketzler  
Rubi Cylas-Blake Klein  
Vernon Wudeligi James Lane  
Alpha Rogue Ledford  
Valerie May Little  
Alina Marie Littlejohn  
Aria Lovey Littlejohn  
Azalea Isabella Littlejohn  
Obadiah Aneaus Littlejohn  
James Noah Long  
Pablo Ezequiel Lozano Wolfe  
Demeriah No-Gwi-Shi Ma-Ga-Yi  
Lilyana Naomi Malloy  
Thrasher Guy Maney  
Suede Kaius McCoy  
Zaiel Meza  
Olivia Grace Miley  
Na-Nu Lo-Si Miller  
Charlie Gray Millsaps  
Oliver Hughes Murray  
Benni-Lu Blu Owle  
Indy Lou Owle  
Cheyenne Rose Palmer  
Elena Martha Paxton  
Jayme Kariiece-Oocumma Penland  
Asgiyayi Keya Perkins-Ledford  
Victoria Rose Phillips  
Gustaver Alvin-Rex Pitman  
Jackie James Powell  
Jaxon Edward Thomas Queen  
Taraji Carlotta Elikai Queen  
Amiri Zya Radford  
Jaxxon Cash Ramsey  
Isla-Mae Noelle Rattler  
Kenyan Tank Rattler  
Zayden Blaize Rattler  
Payton Cierra Rattler-Welch  
Aileen Jaime Reagan

Zeppelin Grey Rose  
Chosen Ditlihi Ruff  
Dwayne Awohali Ruff, III  
Waylon Taylor Salazar  
Danni Johanna Saylor  
Raelynn Atsila Scarborough  
Melanie Grace Shive  
Kevayla Michelle Simmons  
Legend Omari Simmons  
Alahnie Sarah Smith  
Josiah Keith Smith  
Usdi Wasoli Smith  
William Manley Smith  
Oaklyn Amy Smoker  
River David Tommy Smoker  
Wahya Cornell Spencer  
John Gregory Styles  
Willow Skye Sutton  
Halo Sorren Lyrick Taylor  
Jude Meriella Taylor  
Nakari Kalai Thompson  
Titus Lee Trejo  
Nech Allen Tsatoke  
Kobah Charginghorse Tush-  
ka-Reed  
Raelyn Ash Underwood  
Evangline Sky Villareal  
Asuyedv Adanvdo Walters  
Tobi Joe Ward  
Chenoa Sara Wildcatt  
Layla Lee Williams  
Lily Kate Williams  
Haven Reign Wirth  
Zahra Arlouine Wolfe  
Everett Timothy Daniel Wright  
Grayson David Wright  
Leo Grayson Yates  
Eleanor Ernestine Younce  
Conner Allen Young

**EBCI Constitution Committee**  
**MEETS 2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5:30 PM**  
**TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN THE COUNCIL HOUSE**  
**88 COUNCIL HOUSE LOOP, CHEROKEE, NC**  
**ACROSS FROM THE DRAMA INN**

The meetings are open to all tribal community members. Meetings are livestreamed by the EBCI Communications Department.  
Meeting schedule subject to change with short notice.





**“I needed to vent and decide what to do, and I felt like I was given some great information. Being anonymous made it easier to speak.”**

For domestic violence advocacy and support, contact StrongHearts Native Helpline.



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Native Helpline

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**[strongheartshelpline.org](http://strongheartshelpline.org)**

**Safe | Confidential | Anonymous | 24/7**

# THE GOOD STUFF



## Trailblazers at NAYO

The Cherokee Trailblazers, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, played in the NAYO Basketball Tournament 12-14 division, hosted by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, on April 2-4. They are shown, left to right, back row - Jeshua Lossiah, Tristan Tisho, Neymar Arkansas, Derreus Diaz, Colton Crowe; middle row - Michael Brown; front row - Jolden Kalonaheskie, Christian Saylor, Zeller Chekelelee, Colton Wilnoty, and Leilani Rhinehart. (Photo courtesy of Sky Sampson)



## Marine promoted

U.S. Marine Israel Ferguson, right, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, recently received his promotion to meritorious Corporal. The promotional process for Corporal is an arduous event involving interview boards, service record reviews, knowledge demonstrations, testing and other events to determine whether they are worthy of advancement. In a meritorious promotion, exemplary service and one's own Corporal and Sergeant all recommend an individual Marine for advancement. Ferguson currently serves in the 2nd battalion 5th Marines out of Camp Pendleton as a machine gun team leader and recently completed the advanced machine gunner course. He proudly plays for the Walelu (Hummingbirds) anetso (stickball) team. He's the son of Juliet Larch Ferguson and William Neil Ferguson of Wayohi (Wolfstown). He is shown with his friend Corporal Matthew Schrack. (Photo courtesy of family)

## 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:  
[Cherokeonefeather1966@gmail.com](mailto:Cherokeonefeather1966@gmail.com)

GWY ᏆᏆᏆ ᏆᏆᏆ



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

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



# SUNSHINE, SAVINGS, AND SOMETHING NEW.

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**2022 Ford Mustang**  
Stock #: P4640

**2025 Ford F-150 Tremor**  
Stock #: T9673A

**2023 Ford F-150 XLT**  
Stock #: V9606A

**2021 Kia K5 LXS**  
Stock #: 4580A

**\$23,746**

**\$66,459**

**\$42,585**

**\$14,852**



**Blake Parks**  
General Sales Manager



**Dustin Shuler**  
Assistant Sales Manager



**Greg Jamison**  
Sales Consultant/ Fleet Specialist



**Justin Varley**  
Sales Consultant



**Jason Foxworth**  
Sales Consultant



**Hollie Johnson**  
Finance Manager



**Brooke Borgmann**  
Delivery Specialist



**Service Team**



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