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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of  
guyegwoni (july)  
1-7, 2026

## Jurisdiction in Indian Country explained

By BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT  
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The One Feather sat down with Cherokee Indian Police Department (CIPD) Attorney Cody White to discuss crime and case jurisdiction on the Qualla Boundary as part of an ongoing criminal justice reporting project supported by the International Women's Media Foundation's Fund for Indigenous Journalists: Reporting on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Two-Spirit and Transgender People (MMI-WG2T), and the 2026-27 Law & Justice Journalism Project (LJJP) Fellowship.

White said tribal jurisdiction involves either an "Indian perpetrator and/or victim in Indian Country." Crimes involving a non-Indian perpetrator and victim



The flags of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, right, and the United States, fly at the Anthony Edward Lossiah Justice Center in Cherokee, N.C. on Thursday, June 25. (BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT/One Feather photo)

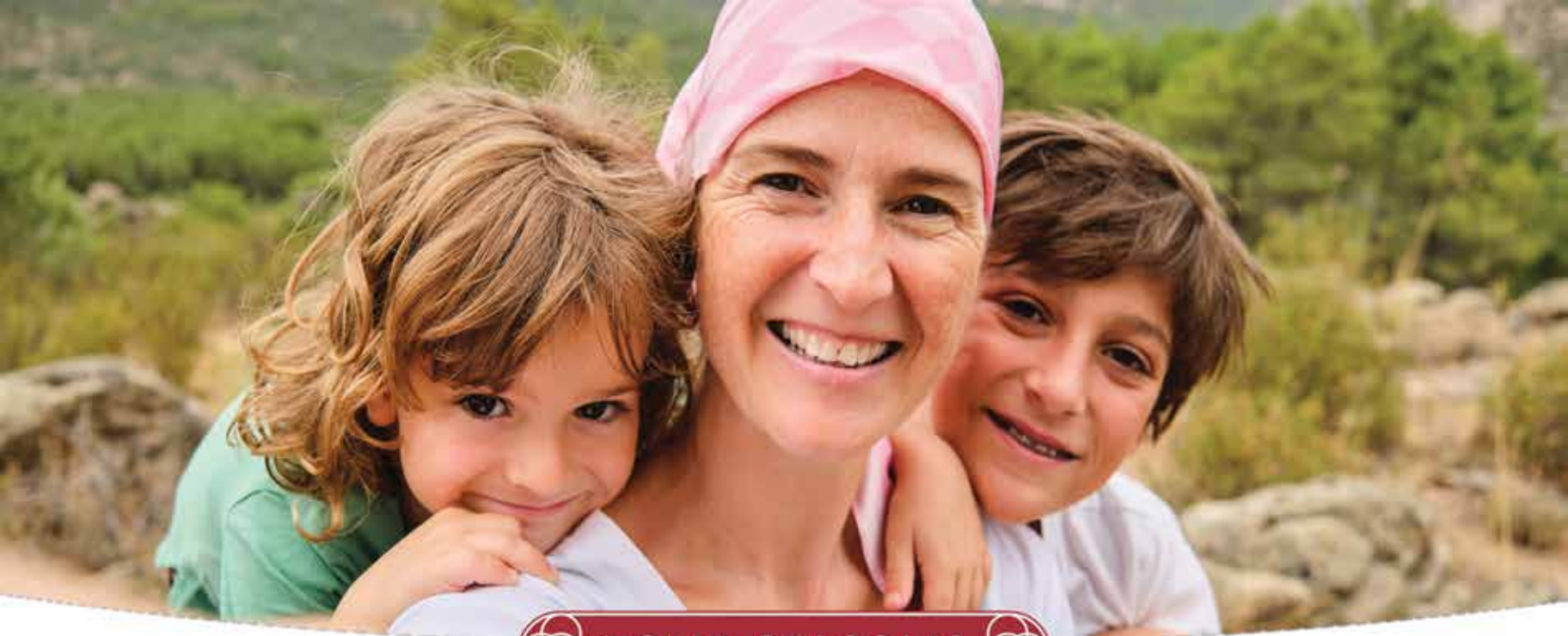
see **JURISDICTION** page 4

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

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

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

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**JURISDICTION:** From front page

in Indian Country do not follow under tribal jurisdiction, unless included in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which is a federal law that provides for protections for victims of domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Those crimes not protected under VAWA involving a non-Indian perpetrator and victim fall to the state. Federal jurisdiction must involve an “Indian perpetrator and/or victim in Indian Country,” and must be a major crime, or a

crime included under VAWA.

White noted, “I use the term ‘Indian’ because that is the legal definition that is given by the United States code. An Indian has to be involved, and the crime had to occur in ‘Indian Country,’ and that is also defined in federal law... Aside from that, if [tribes] don’t have jurisdiction, then it goes to state court. So, it’s not a free pass. Someone doesn’t get a free pass, it’s just about where we take them, and whether or not it fits in this box, this box, or this box, and sometimes it fits in both.”

White added that just because

there may be federal jurisdiction in a case, that does not mean the case will be picked up federally.

“Just because the federal court has jurisdiction, they are a court of discretionary jurisdiction. So, they don’t have to take the case. They may have the ability and the authority to, but they can choose not to. Sometimes that happens. And for better or worse, some people complain about it, but I see it as an opportunity for sovereignty. It’s like, ‘Well, we’re acknowledging that [tribes] can handle it.’”

White said in recent years, it is not often that federal prosecution

does not pursue a case under their jurisdiction on the Qualla Boundary. “The assistant United States attorney assigned to us is Alex Scott and he has done a fantastic job of picking up cases. Recently, they’ve picked up a lot. They’ve picked up almost all of our current pending homicides.”

The One Feather plans to follow several court cases for crimes occurring on the Qualla Boundary that are pending in tribal, state, and federal court to detail the various court processes.

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**JULY 31**

**TALKING TREES  
CHILDREN'S TROUT DERBY**

**AUGUST 1**

# Roads Commission meeting held

By **BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT**  
One Feather Reporter

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. - The Roads Commission of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians held their monthly meeting on the morning of Monday, June 22.

Uriah Maney, engineering technician for the Cherokee Department of Transportation (CDOT), provided a report for

CDOT. CDOT has hired Jeremy Gabe Wolfe as the radiation safety officer. Tsali Enola Bridge is complete. CDOT has been grading various backroads, road patching, and working with contractors on T.E.R.O. to assess and correct damage to guardrails in Wayohi (Wolftown) and Kolanvyi (Big Cove) communities. Shoulder and ditching maintenance in Kolanvyi has started, as well as building back road shoulders on Wrights Creek. They are working on forming a stronger relationship

with North Carolina DOT (NC-DOT) on road maintenance, and a preliminary meeting was held with NCDOT to discuss cutting the bank back at the exit of Tsali Care Center.

Chris Ledford, Cherokee Water & Sewer manager, provided program updates. The River Road project is complete. Sewer is almost complete on Johnson Arch, and water is 25 percent complete. The Acquoni Road project will begin July 13.

Cherokee Police Commissioner

and Kolanvyi community member Joseph "Buddy" Johnson returned for updates on his inquiries from the last meeting about Stoney Curve, Piney Grove Beach, and Wize Guyz parking lot. Johnson thanked Maney for attending the Kolanvyi community club meeting and answering questions from the community. Maney will talk to NCDOT about the Wize Guyz parking lot since it is technically a state road. CDOT is also working on signage at Piney Grove Beach.

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# Federal legislative updates of interest to EBCI citizens

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

The One Feather provides 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 with recent action

### **H.R. 7396 (Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act).**

This 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). The bill was passed by the House by a voice vote on June 23, 2026.

## Bills we’re currently watching

### **H.R. 226 (Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Re-acquisition Act).**

This bill would place 76 acres of land in eastern Tennessee into trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indi-

ans. 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.

### **Senate Bill 761 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act).**

This 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 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 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 bill would grant federal acknowledgement 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

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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).**

This bill would “direct Federal land management agencies of the Department of the Interior to establish Tribal Co-Management Plans and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for the performance of certain activities of the Forest Service, and for other purposes”.

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

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

Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Federal Lands on June 3, 2025, and a hearing was held in that subcommittee on June 10, 2025.

### **Senate Bill 2022 (Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act of 2025).**

This bill 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 sched-

uled 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.

### **Senate Bill 2160 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025).**

This bill 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.

### **Senate Bill 2211 (Special Diabetes Program Reauthorization Act of 2025).**

This 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

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

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**LEGISLATIVE:** From page 9

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. The bill was passed by a voice vote in the House on June 2, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 3, 2026.

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

This bill would “amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the right of members of federally recognized Indian Tribes in the United States and First Nations individuals in Canada to cross the borders of the United States”.

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

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

**H.R. 4750 (To extend federal recognition to the Patowomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia).** This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Patowomeck 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).**

This 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.

**Senate Bill 2452 (Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act).**

This 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.

**Senate Bill 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.

**Senate Bill 2577 (McCarren-Walter Technical Corrections Act).**

This bill 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 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-Ok-

la.) 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 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.

**Senate Bill 2832 (Native American Entrepreneurial and Opportunity Act of 2025).** This bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration.  
Introduced: Sen. John W. Hickenlooper (D-Colo.) on Sept. 17, 2025  
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on Sept. 17, 2025.

**H.R. 5488 (To extend funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians).** This bill would amend Title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. It would appropriate “\$160,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to remain available until expended”.  
Introduced: Rep. Paul Ruiz (D-Calif.) on Sept. 18, 2025  
Action: This bill was referred to

the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Sept. 18, 2025.

**H.R. 5739 (Italian Heroes and Heritage Act).** This bill would “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.

**Senate Resolution 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.

**House Resolution 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.

**Senate Bill 3041 (Tribal War-rant Fairness Act).** This 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. This was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders on May 19, 2026. This bill was passed in the Senate by a voice vote on June 10, 2026. It was sent to the House for consideration on June 12, 2026.

**H.R. 5820 (Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe Recognition Act).** This 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 bill would “amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to assistance for Indian Tribes”. According to the bill, “In addition to amounts otherwise made available under Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, there is authorized to be appropriated \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031 to make grants, in cooperation with the Director of the Indian Health Service...for (A) projects and activities eligible for assistance under 603(c) of such Act; and (B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs related to the operation and management of treatment works eligible for assistance...”  
Introduced: Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-Fla.) on Oct. 28, 2025  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on Oct. 28, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 5910 (To authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian Tribes).** As

see LEGISLATIVE next page

**LEGISLATIVE:** From page 11

stated in the title, this bill would amend 69 Stat. 539, Chapter 615, 25 U.S.C. 514(a) to authorize such leases.

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 4, 2025.

A Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session was held on Dec. 17, 2025, and the bill was reported and placed on the Union Calendar by the Committee on Jan. 14, 2026. This bill was passed by the House on a voice vote on March 3, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 4, 2026.

**Senate Bill 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 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 main 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”.

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.

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

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

**H.R. 7325 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act of 2026).**

This 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. 7490 (Tribal Warrant Fairness Act).** This bill 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 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.

**Senate Bill 3945 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act).**

This 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.

**Senate Bill 3946 (Tribal Firearm Access Act).**

This 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 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 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. 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.

**Senate Bill 3994 (PRIME Meat Processing in Indian Country Act).** This 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.

**Senate Bill 4179 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act).** This 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 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.

**Senate Bill 4276 (Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Modernization Act of 2026).** This bill would simply “reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996”. It is an identical bill to H.R. 8092.

Introduced: Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) on March 26, 2026

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 8092 (Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Modernization Act of 2026).** This bill seeks “to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996”.

Introduced: Rep. Troy Downing (R-Mont.) on March 26, 2026

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services on March 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 8658. (Indian Health Service Emergency Claims Parity Act).** The full text of this bill was not available by press time.

Introduced: May 4, 2026 by Rep. Mike Kennedy (R-Utah)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on May 4, 2026. It was referred to the Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Activities on May 12, 2026. A hearing was held in the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 21, 2026.

**H.R. 8954 (Tribal Regulatory Reform Implementation Act of 2026).** This bill would “amend the Indian Tribal Regulatory Reform and Business Development Act of 2000 to transfer certain administrative responsibilities to the Secretary of the Interior”.

Introduced: May 21, 2026 by Rep. Jeff Hurd (R-Colo.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 21, 2026. It was further referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on June 3, 2026. A hearing was held on this bill in the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 9, 2026.

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>



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





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Supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health, Development, Disability and Substance Abuse Services with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Docket ID: 15-0144 (April 15, 2015) and 15-0144 (April 15, 2015).



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## **PUBLIC NOTICE AND TESTIMONY**

*Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Cherokee Code Chapter 117 Article III-A*  
**Confirmation hearing for re-appointment of Barbara Parker to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Governing Board (attorney), re-appointment of Pamela Brady to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Governing Board (dentist), and appointment of Savannah H. Baylon to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Governing Board (Health Services Administration)**

**Tuesday, July 7 at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Tribal Council Chambers; Cherokee, N.C.**



These hearings are open to the public, and Tribal Council invites public testimony only in accordance with Cherokee Code Chapter 117, Article III-A.  
Anonymous comments will not be accepted.

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

**The final date for public comment will be**  
**Tuesday, June 30.**

# This week in Native News

COMPILED By ANN TOINEETA

One Feather Intern

## ARIZONA

The Tohono O'odham Nation in southern Arizona has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) "over its plans to construct a border wall on the tribe's lands."

• Indian Country Today

## DELAWARE

The House of Representatives has passed a bill that would create Delaware's first ever Commission on Indigenous Affairs. The goal of the commission is to strengthen

ties and communication between the state government and the Native nations.

• Spotlight Delaware

## MAINE

Signs on climate change and the Wabanaki Nation at Acadia National Park will be restored after a federal judge ordered the Trump administration to restore signs at many national parks across the country.

• Maine Morning Star

## MONTANA

The National Park Service will be partnering with Tribal Nations and a variety of Indigenous individuals and organizations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Little Bighorn at the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Mon-

ument in southeastern Montana on June 25, 26, and 27.

• Native News Online,  
Visit Southeast Montana

## NEVADA

A South Carolina federal judge ruled that the Environmental Protection Agency's decision to terminate the \$2.8 billion Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grant Program was illegal. This ruling could impact the \$20 million in federal funding that was eliminated from the Walker River Paiute Tribe in Nevada.

• Nevada Current

## NEW YORK

Nonprofit organizations, INDIGiQUEER and Urban Indigenous Collective, hosted a pride event for Indigenous LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit people in Brooklyn on June 24.

• INDIGiQUEER

## NORTH CAROLINA

Citizens of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina have voted to reject a constitutional amendment that would have "cleared the way for tribal gaming and a proposed casino resort development in Robeson County."

• Native News Online

## OKLAHOMA

The Caddo Nation in Binger, Okla., which is "situated in an extreme childcare desert," will be opening a new childcare facility this fall.

• Indian Country Today

## OREGON

The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians in Roseburg, Oregon will be partnering with local schools to bring Takelma language classes to students this fall. The language has been brought back from the edge of extinction in the past 14 years due to revitalization efforts.

• Native News Online

## WASHINGTON

The University of Washington School of Medicine Student Education Program has received a \$25 million donation that will go towards a scholarship aimed to increase physicians in Indigenous and rural communities.

• Indian Country Today

The Lummi Nation has asked a federal court to halt construction activities in Point Roberts, Washington due to the continued disturbance of ancestral burial grounds and human remains.

• Native News Online

## WASHINGTON D.C.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will be "allocating millions to strengthen mental health and substance use prevention, treatment, recovery, and crisis response services among Native tribes."

• Native News Online



**EBCI TRIBAL HOUSING FORECLOSURE PREVENTION**

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

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

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

**EBCI Tribal ABC Commission**  
**(828) 788-4261**

## CIPD Arrest Report for June 15-21, 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.*

Driver Jr., Thomas – age 50  
Arrested: June 15  
Released: June 15  
Charges: Probation Violation

Armachain Jr., Phillip Sampson – age 36  
Arrested: June 16

Released: June 16  
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Bumgarner, Lewis Ray – age 57  
Arrested: June 16  
Released: June 16  
Charges: Full Extradition Warrant

Flying, Tristin Byrd – age 28  
Arrested: June 16  
Released: June 16  
Charges: Driving While Impaired

Bark, Darrin Shaderick – age 48  
Arrested: June 18  
Released: Not released as of report date (June 22)  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Evans, Walter – age 60  
Arrested: June 18

Released: June 19  
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Kelso, Quentin Nathaniel – age 23  
Arrested: June 18  
Released: June 18  
Charges: Resisting Public Officer

Screamer Jr., James Albert – age 51  
Arrested: June 18  
Released: Not released as of report date (June 22)  
Charges: Public Intoxication

Smith, Nathan Keith – age 35  
Arrested: June 18  
Released: Not released as of report date (June 22)  
Charges: Public Intoxication, Violation of a Court Order, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Cucumber, Saith St. Christopher – age 31  
Arrested: June 19  
Released: June 19  
Charges: Simple Assault, Assault and Battery, Simple Affray; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

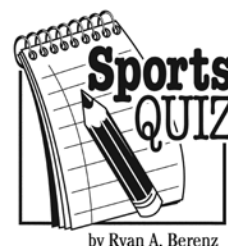
Scales, Destiney Marie – age 52  
Arrested: June 19  
Released: Not released as of report date (June 22)  
Charges: Disorderly Conduct, Simple Assault, Probation Violation

Swayney, Thadius Ray – age 28  
Arrested: June 19  
Released: Not released as of report date (June 22)  
Charges: Simple Assault, Assault and Battery, Simple Affray; Probation Violation

Hsukey, Savannah Kay – age 25  
Arrested: June 22

Released: Not released as of report date (June 22)  
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree, Assault on Child

Saunooke, Trixie Makayla Lee – age 24  
Arrested: June 21  
Released: Not released as of report date (June 22)  
Charges: Aggravated Weapons Offense, Driving While Impaired, Child Abuse in the Second Degree



1. Which racetrack, site of the 1959 Formula 1 German Grand Prix, had a 43-degree banked turn known as the "Wall of Death"?

2. What large-scale video display, produced by Mitsubishi Electric, was first installed at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles for the 1980 MLB All-Star Game?

3. In April 2001, 43 people were killed in an over-capacity crowd surge during a soccer match at Ellis Park Stadium, located in which country?

4. Who knocked out "Oklahoma Giant" Carl Morris 14 seconds into the first round of a December 1918 heavyweight boxing match in New Orleans?

5. The NFL's 1979 rule banning tear-away jerseys was inspired by and informally named after what Cleveland Browns running back?

6. In December 2021, which team defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder 152-79, making the 73-point win the biggest blowout in NBA history?

7. In 1974, Ted Giannoulas first donned the costume of which world-famous sports mascot?

### Answers

1. AVUS (Automobil-Verkehrs- und Übungsstraße).

2. Diamond Vision.

3. South Africa.

4. Jack Dempsey.

5. Greg Pruitt.

6. The Memphis Grizzlies.

7. The San Diego Chicken.

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## The Qualla Boundary Public Library's summer reading program is something to roar about

By ANN TOINEETA  
One Feather Intern

CHEROKEE, N.C. - This summer, the Qualla Boundary Public Library has transformed into Jurassic Park for their 2026 Summer Reading Challenge, "Unearth a Story." With snacks, crafts, prizes, and more, this year's dinosaur themed program is holding events every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the library from now until July 27.

Open to all ages, the program encourages people to read and engage with topics in an exciting and creative way. Each week has a different theme and craft, with this week's being "Digging for Info" where readers learn about paleontology and archaeology. Snacks are given out at the beginning of every event as well. As for the reading part of the program, everyone who fills out a sheet recording their reading time and turns it into the library will be entered into a raffle for a prize.

Chi Shipman, Qualla Boundary Public Library manager, said they want this program to encourage the community, especially children, to read and come to the library.

"Our goals are really to get people excited about coming in the library and visiting and seeing what all we do because we don't just do reading," she said. "We



This summer, the Qualla Boundary Public Library has transformed into Jurassic Park for their 2026 Summer Reading Challenge, "Unearth a Story." Shown, left to right, are Brennan Laney, intern; Chi Shipman, Qualla Boundary Public Library manager; Amy Postoak, Qualla Boundary Public Library assistant; and Chloe Locust, TERO employee working with the Library. (ANN TOINEETA/ One Feather photo)

do a lot of cultural crafts. We do book clubs for the adults, and we do other programming. So, really getting people in the library and seeing what we have to offer, but then also getting the kids excited about reading because it is very important for them to start reading at a young age."

Amy Postoak, the library assistant, echoed this sentiment and said that it's a fun way to keep kids

reading.

"It's getting kids in and seeing that they can have fun with all this and trying to promote reading throughout the summer because we don't want that summer slide."

How to join and participate:

- Pick up a summer reading log at the library or sign up online at <https://quallalib.beanstack.com/reader365>
- Read, read, read!

- Record your reading until July 27
- Report your reading to the library for an entry into the prize raffle
- Attend a summer event at the library - every Tuesday, drop-in hours are between 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Visit the Library in person on Acquoni Road in Cherokee, N.C. or call (828) 359-6725 for more information.

# Beloved Man honored in Hayesville

By DAWN ARNEACH

One Feather Ad Sales Coordinator

**H**AYESVILLE, N.C. – Davy Arch, Beloved Man of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, was honored during the Open House and Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Moss Memorial Library in Hayesville, N.C. on Sunday, June 28. Darry Wood, who made a display for the Library entitled “The Young Cherokee Hunter”, presented Beloved Man Davy Arch with a blanket.

Wood worked with Rob Tiger, of Hayesville, to write a grant from Blue Ridge National Heritage to help fund the creation of the display. The grant was not awarded. Tiger shared this news with Beloved Man Arch and noted his response was, “Tell Darry to go ahead and build it. I will fund it.”

The display is a full-sized mannequin, dressed in 1800s style Cherokee clothing complete with a blowgun and darts.

After everyone had a chance to see the display, Beloved Man Arch and Wood talked about the process of making a blowgun from rivercane and the process for making the darts as well. While Wood pulled out the thistle, locust splint and sinew, and proceeded to show how the process is done, Beloved Man Arch explained each step, from how to hold the thistle in your hand, along with the locust splint and how to control the sinew and roll the splint to place the thistle on the locust splint.

To show that it truly was a



Davy Arch, Beloved Man of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, was honored during the Open House and Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Moss Memorial Library in Hayesville, N.C. on Sunday, June 28. Darry Wood, who made a display for the Library entitled “The Young Cherokee Hunter”, presented Beloved Man Davy Arch with a blanket. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photos)

working dart, Wood got his blowgun and shot the dart at a target across the room. To end the event, both he and Beloved Man Arch each shot a few darts at the target.

**To see the new display, visit the Moss Memorial Library located at 26 Anderson St. in Hayesville, N.C.**

>>

Darry Wood, from Hayesville, N.C., is shown with a display mannequin he made entitled “The Young Cherokee Hunter”.



# CNH Youth Conservation Clubs: Growing the next generation of Cherokee environmental stewards

Submitted by  
The Center for Native Health

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Center for Native Health (CNH), in partnership with New Kituwah Academy (NKA), Cherokee Central Schools (CCS), the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Natural Resources Department, and Smokies Life, is proud to support the creation and ongoing operation of the Youth Conservation Clubs (YCC).

By blending outdoor exploration, storytelling, conservation projects, and cultural teachings, the YCC helps students understand their role as future care-

takers. The program integrates Cherokee Ecological Knowledge with contemporary conservation practices such as water quality monitoring, offering a holistic, place-based approach to environmental education rooted in community and culture.

Executive Director of CNH, Trey Adcock Ph.D., hopes “that this program will help these students develop cultural awareness with blended skills that will propel them further in their education and in their respective career choices. I hope they pursue these ideas in their education and then come home to work within the ancestral landscape”

Storytelling serves as the program’s foundation. Students engage with traditional Cherokee stories, exploring how these teachings relate to modern challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, water protection, and community health. This connection between ancestral wisdom and current environmental issues gives youth a deeper, more personal understanding of sustainability.

As part of CNH’s Weaving Intergenerational Pathways program, the YCC currently serves approximately 50 students from elementary through high school. It includes two after-school clubs: Judaculla’s Kids and the Cherokee

Central Youth Conservation Club. Guided by the Cherokee principles of Duyvktv (right relationships) and Tohi (balance and wellbeing), the clubs emphasize that healthy communities depend on healthy relationships with the land, water, plants, animals, and one another.

Throughout the year, students participate in hands-on activities ranging from habitat restoration and pollinator protection to native plant identification and climate resilience strategies. They learn directly from Elders, cultural practitioners, language instructors, and conservation professionals, gaining both practical skills and a sense of responsibility for Cher-



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Cherokee homelands. Beyond environmental education, the clubs foster leadership, teamwork, and confidence, encouraging youth to see themselves as active change-makers.

Katie Tiger, program director of CNH's Weaving Intergenerational Pathways states, "As climate challenges impact communities, programs like the YCC ensure the next generation is equipped with both traditional knowledge and modern conservation tools. By nurturing a strong sense of cultural identity and stewardship, these clubs cultivate future leaders dedicated to Cherokee values of balance and respect."

Judaculla's Kids, the New Kituwah Academy's club, serves 30 students in grades 3-6. Named for the legendary Cherokee guardian of the natural world, the club is grounded in teachings of reciprocity and sustainability. According to tradition, Judaculla's handprint on Jackson County's Judaculla Rock serves as a lasting reminder of collective responsibility to care for the land.

The Cherokee Central Youth Conservation Club (CCYC) currently serves 10-25 students in grades 8-12. In the coming year, students will have the opportunity



Students from Cherokee Central Schools (CCS) Youth Conservation Club (YCC) are shown learning about macroinvertebrates and water quality monitoring with the help of EBCI NRD. (Photo courtesy of The Center for Native Health)

ty to design a logo and select an official name for the club.

Through these teachings, Cherokee youth are learning that caring for the land is more than a responsibility; it is a sacred relationship connecting past, present, and future generations. Last school year the students in the clubs:

- Attended field trips to Devil's Courthouse, CNH Garden, Judaculla Rock, N.C. Arboretum, and a river cane patch, planted a pollinator garden, collected ramps, participated in water quality monitoring, started bee keeping, and built Cherokee creatures out of recycled materials.

CNH officials noted, "We are

incredibly grateful to the Cherokee Preservation Foundation and First Nations Development Institute for their grant funding, which supports Youth Conservation Clubs for the 2026/2027 academic year. Their commitment helps us sustain these vital services for Cherokee youth."

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# TRIBAL FOOD SOVEREIGNTY INITIATIVES

## EBCI Red Meat Processing Facility: Common Community Concerns



We hear you. There are a lot of concerns and questions about how this facility might impact your life. Here are some answers to the most common questions we have been asked.

### *“Cherokee is getting a Red Meat Processing Facility? But what about ...”*



#### The Smell?

Our facility will process no more than 10 animals per day, which means animals are only on-site for a short time — minimizing manure and odor. Byproducts like bones and organs are stored in sealed barrels inside a climate-controlled room, then picked up weekly by a licensed rendering company. And the strongest smell you're likely to notice? Delicious smoked meats from our bacon making smoker — just like a bonfire!



#### The Location? Isn't it near some homes?

We had lots of things to consider when picking a location; so many we made another infographic! In summary, all operations will be indoors, with no waste exposure, no feedlot, and no visual impact to nearby homes. Since this is EBCI Tribal Land in Jackson County we will manage it under tribal land-use codes and county regulations. The location will receive approval from both the EBCI Planning Board and Environmental Office, ensuring it's suited for meat-processing operations without conflict to residential zones.



#### The Money? Will this be another Tribal Expense?

The facility is being built with a \$6.46 million USDA grant specifically awarded to support indigenous meat processing. To ensure long-term sustainability, the facility will generate income through, Processing Fees, Retail Meat Sales, Value-added Products, and Byproduct Sales. These revenue streams will help cover operating costs and reduce future financial burden on the Tribe, all while feeding community members and supporting local food production!

- For more details, check out our "Financial Opportunities & Savings" infographic.



#### The Environmental Impacts? Will this facility pollute the River?

This facility is designed with strong safeguards for land, water, and air — including a USDA-approved waste collection system, NEPA compliance, and there will be no animal discharge into the river or sewer. All processing operations are indoors, with overnight animal holding pens limiting manure waste.

- For more details, check out our "Place & Planet" infographic.



#### Recruiting & Keeping Employees?

We're building a workplace that values and invests in its people by offering competitive pay and part to full time, stable employment; Training and certification for meat cutting, food safety, and equipment use; Work-life balance with daytime shifts and no feedlot or overnight animal care; A safe, respectful environment aligned with Tribal values and food sovereignty. Our goal is to create career pathways, not just jobs — building skills that support the community for generations.

- We will probably start hiring in Fall 2026 — keep an eye out if you'd like to apply!



#### The Employees? Isn't it Dangerous to work at a Meat Processing Facility?

The facility will follow all OSHA and USDA FSIS safety standards, including, Proper Protective Equipment, Cold Storage Safeguards, Sanitation and Hygiene Protocols. We're also working with Friesla, whose "Safe, Robust, Human Processing" model prioritizes ergonomics, injury prevention, and respectful working conditions — creating a safer environment for every employee.



#### The Noise?

All processing happens indoors, and animals are only present for a few hours at a time, with no feedlot. The design follows Temple Grandin's noise audit principles to reduce stress on animals and maintain a quiet environment. Calm handling, quiet equipment, and sound-dampening measures help protect both animals and nearby neighbors.



#### Animal Well-Being? Will this be Humane?

In alignment with Cherokee values, we're committed to the respectful, humane treatment of all animals — especially those offering themselves to nourish our community. Unlike large-scale industrial operations, our small-scale processing allows for calmer environments and gentler handling. We will use captive bolt stunning, a USDA-approved method that renders animals instantly unconscious and without pain, minimizing suffering. Following Temple Grandin's low-stress handling principles, our facility uses quiet equipment, minimal wait times, and respectful care in an animal's final moments. Animals are only on site for a few hours, not days — reducing fear, stress, and exposure to unfamiliar surroundings.

Have more questions about our facility?



Come by the EBCI Cooperative Extension Office or Give us a Call! We'd love to talk with you.

828.359.6939  
876 Acquoni Rd.,  
Cherokee, NC 28719





## TRIBAL FOOD SOVEREIGNTY INITIATIVES

# EBCI Red Meat Processing Facility: Financial Opportunities & Savings

Big Picture information on how the EBCI Red Meat Processing Facility will be self-sustaining, create Tribal Economic Opportunities, and save households Money!

### Revenue Streams:

We are creating an EBCI Specific Tribal Meat Brand featuring jerky, ground meat, sausage, and premium cuts. These products will be created from meat purchased from local farmers and raised by Tribal Extension. Additionally, processing fees and pay-to-raise fees will be collected from clients needing to process domestic and wild animals.



#### Pay to Raise Fees

Allows tribal members without land the ability to buy an animal that the facility or extension raises and processes.



#### Processing Fees

Collected from ranchers, hunters, households and food businesses who need animals processed.



#### Value Added Processing

For anyone looking to turn their meat into jerky, sausage, bacon, burgers and more! Farm-Raised Animals will have a USDA Label so the meat can be sold.



#### Sales Channels of Tribally Branded Meat

We will get our product to the people through *Direct-to-Consumer Sales* (Tribal Grocery Store is in the works!) *Wholesale to Institutions* (CCS, CIH, Casino & more!)

Preserving Food Traditions & Building Food Sovereignty is the biggest Benefit of all for Tribal Members; a priceless investment in our future!

### Potential Bonus Revenue Opportunities!



We are also exploring **Byproduct Sales** of hides for leather, bones for broth or bone meal, organs for pet or fish food, skulls for artisans, and more! This aligns with the Cherokee Tradition of using the whole animal and revitalizing traditional leather working processes.

### How do Tribal & Local Farmers Benefit Financially from this Facility?



- Local processing saves Farmers **Time and Money**; currently farmers are driving 4+ hours and sometimes have to wait a year to get on a processing schedule! We can offer **reliable, consistent processing** that farmers can depend on.
- A variety of high quality, USDA Certified Value Added Products allows Farmers to **diversify the items their business sells**, creating new market opportunities.
- A Cohesive Tribal Brand allows Small Farmers the opportunity to sell their food to larger institutional buyers they otherwise couldn't. This means **access to larger markets, more consistent customers, and increased product demand**.



### How does this Facility help Households save Money?

- We will be implementing an optional **Gadugi Fee** to offset the customer's processing costs. Customers can donate cuts of their processed meat to the Tribe to cover some or all of the costs of processing an animal. This way, everyone who wants to be more food sovereign in their food choices can participate regardless of cost barriers. Plus, the Tribe can build a surplus of meat to donate to our community now or in case of a future emergency.
- This facility will be run as a **non-profit model**, meaning we only need to cover our costs, then we will reinvest profits into expansion, local buying programs and more! This keeps our meat affordable to those wishing to purchase fresh, local meat from our up-and-coming retail location, keeping more money in your pocket.
- We plan to sell our meat to ourselves! Tribal entities will be able to purchase our Tribal Brand of Local Meat to feed to community members accessing their services at **competitive, low prices**. So someday when someone you love is at the hospital or your kids are heading to school, local, healthy, fresh meat will be on the menu!
- Local food keeps money in our economy where **we are more resilient during inflation and less dependent on outside suppliers**. This will help all of us save money and achieve some of our Food Sovereignty Goals.



Have more questions about our facility's financial plans?

Come by the EBCI Cooperative Extension Office or Give us a Call! We'd love to talk with you.

828 359 6939  
876 Acquaní Rd.,  
Cherokee, NC 28719



## OBITUARIES ǝɹɹɹ

**Howard "Skipper" Vincent Sneed**  
Howard "Skipper" Vincent Sneed, 85, of the Painttown Community in Cherokee, N.C., passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 20, 2026.

Born on March 2, 1941, Skipper lived a life rooted in faith, family, service, and love for others. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and friend. He shared 64 wonderful years of marriage with the love of his life, Rosie Sneed. Together, they built a family that was the pride and joy of his life. Throughout his life, Skipper faithfully served his community through his work with the Cherokee Boys Club, Cherokee Transit, and childcare transportation,

where he spent many years as a driver and bus driver. His dedication, reliability, and caring spirit touched countless lives throughout the Cherokee community. More than anything, Skipper was a man of unwavering faith and devotion to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A longtime member of Acquoni Baptist Church, he faithfully served as a deacon for many years. He lived his faith daily and shared the love of Christ with everyone he met. His life was a testament to humility, kindness, compassion, and service. Skipper will be remembered for his steadfast dedication to God, his love for his family, and the example he set as an outstanding son, husband, father, brother, and friend. His gentle spirit, strong faith, and caring heart leave a lasting legacy that

will continue to inspire all who knew him.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Rosie Sneed; six children; 15 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; three sisters, Carla Ballew, Patsy Lambert, and Louise Welch; and numerous extended family members and friends who will cherish his memory.

Funeral services were held on Friday, June 26 at Acquoni Baptist Church, with burial immediately following at Sneed Cemetery.

Though he has departed from this earthly life, the love, faith, and wisdom he shared will remain forever in the hearts of those who loved him.

"Well done, good and faithful servant." – Matthew 25:23

Long House Funeral Service was in charge of arrangements.

## John Lawrence Laney Jr.

John Lawrence Laney Jr., 59, of Cherokee, passed away on Sunday, June 21, 2026, after a period of declining health.

John was born Dec. 7, 1966 to the late John Lawrence Laney and Ataloo Welch Laney. He attended Valley Day School and Andrews High School. He attended Cherokee First Baptist Church. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Kamie Helen Calhoun; and his nephews, Justin Hayes Calhoun and Thomas Pheasant.

He is survived by brother, William Laney of Cherokee; sisters, Sherry Laney and Leitha (Dannie) Calhoun, both of Cherokee; Ataloo and (James) Anderson of Bensalem, Pa.; Tonyah Rivers of Mastic,



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## **Weekly Fishing Report**

**June 29-July 5, 2026**

| WATERSHED                                                 | STOCKING | PRODUCTIVITY          | ACTIVE SPECIES                                 | FLY/BAIT                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tuckaseegee River</b>                                  | N/A      | Productivity: Morning | Rainbow Brown and Brook trout, Smallmouth Bass | Fly-Crayfish Streamer, Woolly Bugger, Girdle Bug, Stimulator, Chubby Chernobyl, Micro Dungeon, Beetles |
| <b>Chattooga &amp; Whitewater Rivers</b>                  | N/A      | Productivity: Morning | Brown Trout                                    | Fly-Cinnamon Ant, Yellow Sally, Small Stoneflies, Yellow Soft Hackle, Purple Parachute                 |
| <b>Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River &amp; Small Streams</b> | N/A      | Productivity: Morning | Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout,                  | Stimulator, Small Hoppers, Ants, Peacock Soft Hackle, Pheasant Tail, Midge                             |

**COURTESY OF TUCKASEEGEE FLY SHOP**

**BEST FISHING TIMES BASED ON THE LUNAR CYCLE**

| MONDAY, June 29                    | TUESDAY, June 30                 | WEDNESDAY, July 1                   | THURSDAY, July 2                     | FRIDAY, July 3                        | SATURDAY, July 4                       | SUNDAY, July 5    |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| SEASONS BEST                       | Best++                           | BETTER                              | GOOD                                 | Average                               | Average                                | Average           |
| 5:09 AM-6:09 AM<br>8:36 PM-9:36 PM | 6:05 AM-7:05 AM<br>9:18 PM-10:18 | 7:05 AM-8:05 AM<br>9:53 PM-10:53 PM | 8:05 AM-9:05 AM<br>10:24 PM-11:24 PM | 9:07 AM-10:07 AM<br>10:52 PM-11:52 PM | 10:07 AM-11:07 AM<br>11:18 PM-12:18 AM | 11:08 AM-12:08 PM |

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New York; and Denise (Austin) Cochran of Marble, N.C. Several nieces and nephews also survive. John loved to travel, and he loved the Lord

A memorial service was held on Friday, June 26 at Cherokee First Baptist Church with Pastor Rick Eddings officiating.

Long House Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

### **Lewis Hamilton Harding, Sr.**

Aug. 2, 1938 – June 25, 2026

Commander Lewis Hamilton Harding, Sr., age 87, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 25, 2026, in his beloved hometown of Cherokee, North Carolina. An enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), a highly decorated naval aviator, and a steadfast community leader, Lewis lived a life defined by the highest ideals of service, leadership, and “service above self.”

### **Early Life and Education**

Born in Cherokee on Aug. 2, 1938, Lewis was raised across the Southern United States, living in Virginia, near the Norfolk Naval Air Station, and in several locations in Florida. He went on to graduate from the University of Florida, then entered the United States Navy and completed the Navy JAG program, the United States Naval Justice School, and eventually the Naval Warfare Nuclear Weapons Program.

### **A Distinguished Military Career**

Lewis was commissioned as a Naval Officer in September 1960, initially serving as a Legal Officer aboard the USS Shangri-La. However, his true calling lay in the skies. He applied for and eventually completed the Navy Flight Training Program in August 1963 and assigned to Attack Squadron 176 (VA-176) flying the Douglas

A-1 Skyraider at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, eventually deploying to the Vietnam War aboard the aircraft carrier USS Intrepid.

As a carrier-based attack pilot flying the Douglas A-1 Skyraider, Lewis flew 80 grueling combat missions. During an intensive eight month tour in the South China Sea, his ship’s deployment on Yankee Station was critically extended after its sister carrier, the USS Oriskany, suffered a tragic shipboard fire. His squadron’s precision and bravery earned them the Fleet “E” for Excellence, and Lewis himself was honored with the Carrier AirWing 10 “Top Gun” award for air-to-ground weapons delivery.

For his extraordinary heroism and achievement in aerial flight, Lewis was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, 10 Air Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat “V”, the Presidential Unit Citation, the National Defense Service Medal, the Naval Reserve Medal, and both the Republic of Vietnam Service and Campaign Medals. Upon returning to the United States, he shared his elite expertise as a flight instructor with Training Squadron Four (VT-4) at NAS Pensacola until his release from active duty in late 1968.

### **A Career in the Skies and Devotion to Cherokee**

Leaving the Navy to fly commercially in 1969, Lewis embarked on a distinguished 21-year career as an airline pilot for Eastern Airlines, accumulating over 15,000 hours of flight time. In the winter of 1978, feeling the need to secure a post-aviation career and with a desire to return to his hometown of Cherokee, Lewis purchased the Homestead Motel in Wofftown, where he spent 48 years deeply

immersed in the tourism, hospitality, and civic landscape. He poured his leadership into preserving and advancing his community, serving as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Cherokee Historical Association, and on the boards of the Tribal Gaming Enterprise and the Cherokee Indian Museum Board. Driven by a lifelong passion to honor fellow indigenous service members, he successfully led efforts, with generous Tribal funding, to build the Veterans Memorial Park in Cherokee, which is visible in front of the Tribal council house. He was also able to dedicate a Veterans Memorial Museum in the American Legion post building in Cherokee. In June of 2022, he was celebrated for his 25 years of dedicated service to the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143, where he had proudly served as its Commander.

### **Family and Legacy**

Lewis was a man of profound depth, quiet strength, and fierce devotion to his family. He is survived by his beloved wife, the former Helen Lambert Brown of Cherokee; his children, Lewis Hamilton Harding II, Kristin Danielle Harding, and Joseph Stanley Brown; his seven cherished grandchildren; and his six adored great-grandchildren.

Lewis’s life was a testament to the triumph of the human spirit and an unyielding commitment to community preservation. He has written an indelible chapter in the history of his nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. He will be missed beyond measure, but his legacy will stand as a guidepost for generations to come.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, July 1 at the Chapel of Long House Funeral Home. Interment followed at the Burgess

- Oocumma Veterans Cemetery in Cherokee, N.C. with military honors provided by the US Navy and the Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143.

Long House Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

### **Kent (Coach) Briggs**

Sept. 22, 1957 – June 19, 2026

With strong roots and deep love for western North Carolina communities, coach leaves behind a legacy in resilience, strength, kindness and loyalty.

Even up to his final days, Kent lived by Rocky’s quote... “It ain’t about how hard you hit. It’s about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward; how much you can take and keep moving forward.”

Coach fought and truly battled cancer off and on for the last 20 years. You might have been part of one of those rounds with cancer. You have probably witnessed a form of strength, of resilience, of hard-headedness, of advocacy, of sorrow and of joy...you have witnessed the winning and losing and his unwavering character during both... in one of those rounds with life likely you cheered, you provided, you prayed, you rallied, you showed you played hard for, or you held his hand. One of the last things I heard my dad communicate was how he appreciated the people who helped him. So, thank you and he loves you.

Though Kent was a son, brother, father and friend; he had a coach’s heart. Briggs found purpose, pride and joy in teaching and coaching young people to be the best that they could be.

Kent will be missed during his family’s traditions, at WCU foot-

see **OBITUARIES** next page

**OBITUARIES:** From page 25

ball games, and during the good times by people who knew him. Some of Kent's remains will be spread at his favorite places and laid to rest in the middle of WCU campus at the Briggs family plot at Cullowhee Methodist Church next to his son, Cody and close to his hero, coach Bob Waters.

He is survived by his wife, Lisa Briggs; daughter, Alex Briggs Allison his son-in-law, Sam Allison and their son, Briggs Allison. He was preceded in death by his parents, Violet and Corkey Briggs and his son, Cody Kent Briggs. Service will be on Saturday, June 27 at 1:30 p.m. at the Biltmore Church at East Asheville 801 Fairview Rd, Asheville, N.C. 28803. The family invites you to come early from 11:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. for opportunities to socialize. Kent grew up in East Asheville, and we

are closing out his life there too.

In lieu of flowers, please take yourself out to dinner and enjoy a meal and appreciate the goodness of food and quality time with the people you love

Appalachian Funeral Services is in charge of the arrangements.

#### **Jean Marie (Derry) Curren**

Jean Marie (Derry) Curren was born July 1, 1932 to Albert and Irene Derry and raised in Newtown, Pa. After a long battle with illness, she fell asleep in death peacefully on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at the age of 93, in Sylva, N.C.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Irene Derry; brothers, John Derry, Butch Derry; and loving husbands, Homer Phillips, Louis Curren.

Being the granddaughter of the late Russel Driver, from Big Cove, she was a member of the Eastern

Band of the Cherokee Indians.

She is survived by her sisters, Pat Derry and Darlene Derry; her children, Joanne Priester (Keith), Homer Phillips, Sherry Guarnieri (Anthony) and Bradley Phillips; along with 12 Grandchildren and 19 Great Grandchildren.

She was very devoted to all her family and friends, and always encouraged everyone to do things Jehovah's way, often saying, "Always do the right thing."

In 1955, after experiencing the loving brotherhood from complete strangers while attending a convention in New York City at Yankee Stadium, Jean told her sister Pat, "This is the truth, Pat. I want to become one of Jehovah's Witness!"

As soon as she arrived home in New Jersey, she was baptized in the Delaware River.

Afterwards, arrangements were made for her bi-ble study

with Lolly Cross. And because of her zeal and love for Jehovah, she helped many people in the family, as well as in the community, to learn the truth about God and become Jehovah's Witness.

Some of her passions were playing the piano, tennis, being a nurse, showing generous hospitality, and of course, reading the bible every day and sharing in the door-to-door ministry.

We will all dearly miss her laughter and sense of humor. And, most of all, we won't forget her steadfastness despite years of illness and trials.

Jean remained faithful and said, "I never gave up on Jehovah." Her Memorial will be held at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 864 West Piney Mountain Road, Whittier, N.C. 28789 on Sunday, July 5 at 4 p.m.

## Tsalagi Uwoduhi (Beautiful Cherokee)

The One Feather is launching a new feature called Tsalagi Uwoduhi (Beautiful Cherokee) to showcase the natural beauty of the lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Submit clear, high resolution photos of plants, wildlife, or landscapes to us at

**Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com.**

Photos must have been taken on EBCI tribal lands on the Qualla Boundary, Tutiya (Snowbird), or Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee Co.).

**GWY ƆV OYLC**  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

## Attention EBCI Artists/Craftspeople

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



# "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"**



# Coach Briggs' legacy of compassion and dedication will be felt for years to come

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Kent Briggs, Coach Briggs to many of us, will be remembered as a man dedicated to helping young people reach their full potential. He led. He mentored. He inspired. He dreamed.

Coach Briggs passed away on Friday, June 19, 2026. His legacy will remain.

He coached the Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) from 2014-19. The program flourished during his tenure which included the first and only football state championship in Cherokee High School history in 2017.

It was on a cold, snowy December day at North Carolina State University's Carter-Finley Stadium that his encouragement and belief in the players culminated in the Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi lifting that trophy.

Cherokee Central Schools spoke of his impact in a statement on June 20, 2026, "With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our legendary State Champion Cherokee Braves Football Coach, Kent Briggs. Coach Briggs changed countless lives at Cherokee High School through his unwavering dedication to mentoring, coaching, and building lasting relationships. He was a powerful motivator, a loyal friend, and a father figure to many of his players. He taught them to overcome obstacles with strength, grit, and determination



Kent Briggs, then-Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) head football coach, is shown on the sidelines of the 1A State Championship game on Dec. 9, 2017 at North Carolina State University's Carter-Finley Stadium. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./ One Feather photos)

in pursuit of greatness. Coach Briggs exemplified resilience and embodied the true heart of a Brave. ʘY to you, Coach Briggs. You will always hold a special place in our hearts. Fly high, Coach."

Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks praised Coach Briggs' dedication in a statement on June 21, 2026, "It is with a heavy heart that I join our community in mourning the loss of Coach Kent Briggs. Coach Briggs dedicated so much to Cherokee High School, our students, and

our community. While many will remember him for the championships and success on the football field, those who knew him best will remember the way he invested in people.

The impact Coach Briggs had on Cherokee cannot be measured by wins and losses alone. His legacy lives on in the generations of former players, students, and families whose lives were touched by his guidance, encouragement, and friendship. His commitment to developing student-athletes also continued at Western Carolina

University, where he shared the same passion for mentoring and helping young people succeed. On behalf of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, I extend my deepest condolences to Coach Briggs' family, friends, former players, fellow coaches, and everyone who had the privilege of knowing him."

Western Carolina University's Athletic Program issued a statement following his passing. "Western Carolina Athletics and Catamount football were saddened to learn Friday evening of the

passing of former quarterback, assistant coach, and head coach Kent Briggs. An assistant coach for nine seasons, Briggs, 68, was the head coach at his alma mater from 2002 through 2007. A true Catamount, Briggs spent 15 of his 36-year coaching career at Western Carolina, including the six seasons as the head coach.”

Eight years ago, Coach Briggs was named an Honorary Member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). During its regular session on March 1, 2018, Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) passed unanimously Res. No. 143 (2018), which was submitted by his players – no surprise there, the respect they have for him is immense.

That legislation reads, “Mr. Kent Briggs has given selflessly and built a strong foundation for our students and athletes through his empathy, encouragement, determination, commitment, and enthusiasm as he inspires our students to reach down into their souls to bring forth their very best. Despite his recent health and battle with cancer, he continued to be present for our students and athletes as a coach, leader, and mentor. His inspiration and motivation have created more than a team. He has created a family.”

Following being bestowed the honor, Coach Briggs noted, “I’m completely without words. This



Coach Briggs is shown waving to the crowd in Ray Kinsland Stadium during the ring ceremony for the 2017 State Championship Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi on May 4, 2018.

is the greatest honor I’ve ever had or will ever have...I don’t know what to say except for I’m very, very proud and very honored, and I will do all I can do to uphold the representation of being part of this Tribe.”

He was a man passionate about football, but, more importantly, he was passionate about life and helping student-athletes build

a positive life. Even if the team had lost every single game during his tenure, we’d still be remembering Coach Briggs as a man of integrity and encouraging words for everyone.

His feelings towards the EBCI and the Cherokee community are illustrated in the ending of a letter to the community he submitted to the One Feather following his

retirement. “I want to thank the Cherokee people and community for all the love that they have given me. I consider becoming an Honorary Member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians my highest honor that I will ever be bestowed.”



Visit <https://theonefeather.com/links/>

For cultural links, tourism links,  
and EBCI tribal program/entity links

## SPEAKING OF FAITH

# Take your pick.

## Part 1 of 2

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

Scripture references: Proverbs 16:9, Isaiah 55:11, Revelation 3:7, Psalm 73:28, 2 Samuel 7:28

God, through His Word and us, accomplishes what He intends. God's sovereignty is manifested either by divine intervention or the leading of the Spirit. He creates and changes man's destiny through man's free will. Other times His will changes our destination by opening doors that none can shut and closing doors only He can open.

Often we intend to do one thing, and the outcome is another. I love those stories people tell about how their lives were

changed instantly. God's sovereignty reigns in our lives. Sometimes we accept it; other times, we fight it. Then there are times when we have no choice in the matter. People should consider all those times when God makes a different pick for our future. It isn't good luck or bad luck; it's God. Christians should expect His will and prepare to accept His will.

Consider the story in the Bible of Mary and Joseph. They intended to get married and live happily ever after. Then God, through His messengers, changed their lives in ways they could not have imagined. God has a way of getting His way through changing our ways. Maybe you have a story like that.

You can take your pick on anything, but the Lord gets His way when you have given your life to Him. If you have earnestly told the Lord that your life is His to

use, hang on! You had better have meant it because He will use you for His glory and your blessing. Think of a time when you had plans to do one thing, and God took control and changed your plans. I'm talking about life-changing plans. Maybe something has happened in your life that you didn't expect or happened entirely out of your control. A list of possible life-changing events would be too numerous and unique to record. But, if one or more happens to you, you'll know.

The change He set into my life altered my entire life's path. Becoming a chef was my life's ambition. I liked cooking and preparing food, baking, and fry-cooking. I was good at it because my first several high school jobs were cooking short orders at restaurants. I desired to become a chef by attending a local culi-

nary college in my town. It was a well-established vocational school, turning out some excellent chefs. While attending there, my grades and progress allowed me to look forward to a bright future doing what I enjoyed. Then the bottom fell out. Life-changing news came to me in the mail that required me to leave the program three-quarters through the course.

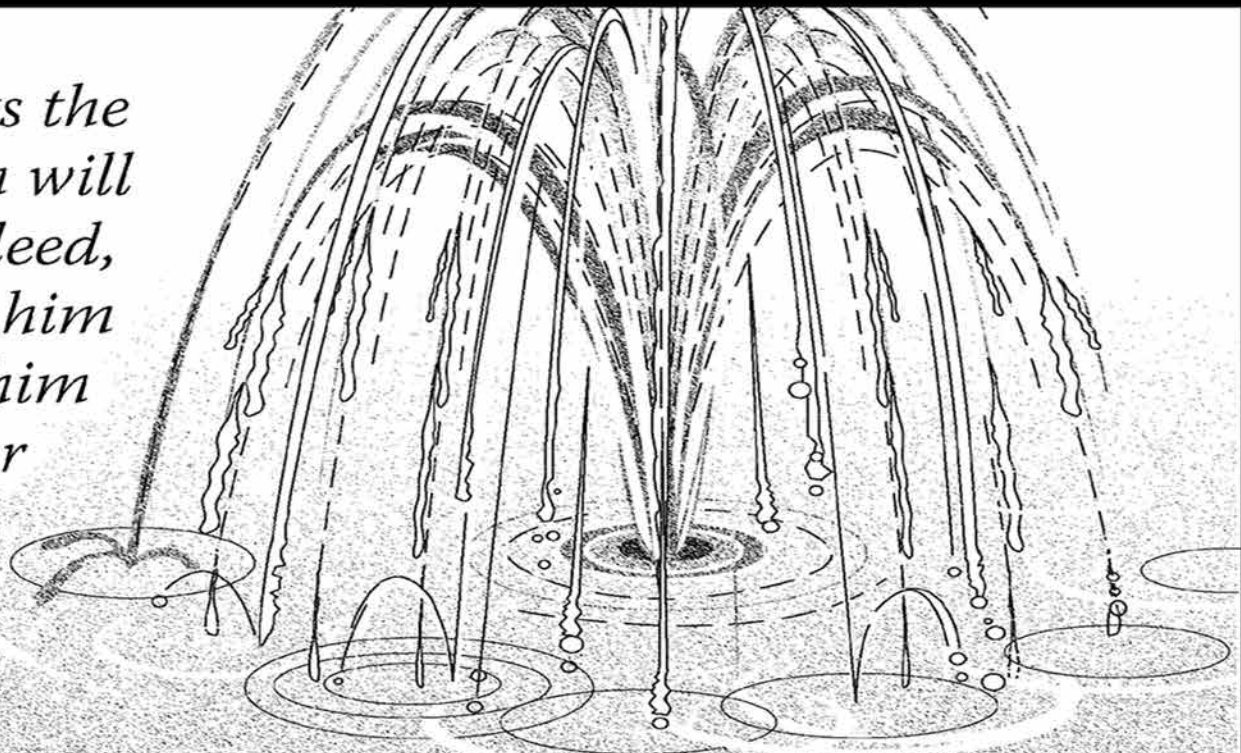
God, Father, and Sovereign Lord of all the earth, bless us with Your countenance and favor. Use us to be Your hands and feet to accomplish Your will in our lives and the lives of others. Guide us, Holy Spirit, wherever we walk with You. Keep us from temptation and deliver us from evil. We ask these things in Your Heavenly name, Jesus, amen.



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*...whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.*

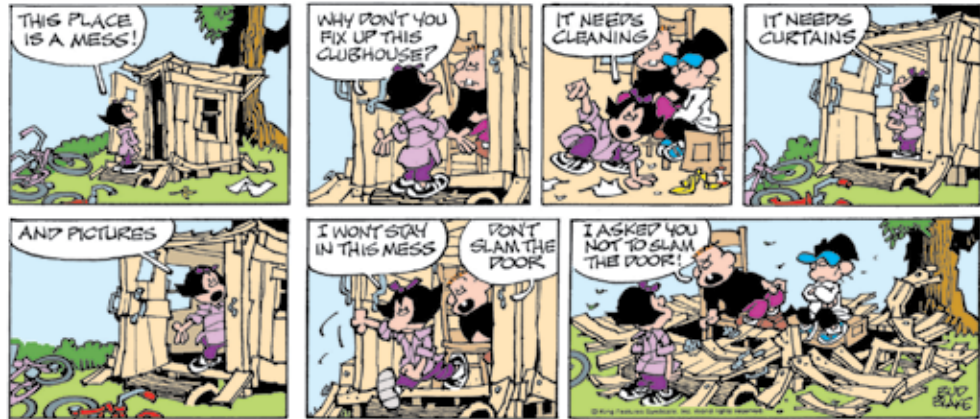
JOHN 4:14



## King Crossword



**TIGER**



## The Spats



## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦

◆ Moderate    ◆◆ Challenging  
                  ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Store windows are moved. 2. License plate is missing. 3. Bow tie is added. 4. Bumper is missing. 5. Coat is longer. 6. Hair is longer.

**ACROSS**

- 1 "Chocolat"  
actor  
5 Audio giant  
9 Prune  
12 Antioxidant  
berry  
13 Egg  
14 — budget  
15 Plumbing  
problem  
16 Firsties  
17 TiVo precursor  
18 Foolproof  
19 Sch. URL  
ender  
20 Borscht base  
21 Sailing hazard  
23 — Victor  
25 Daughter of  
Muhammad  
28 Lynx  
32 "West Side  
Story" role  
33 Prefix mean-  
ing "water"  
34 Ocean bot-  
toms  
36 Grapevine talk  
37 Chow down  
38 "— was say-  
ing ..."  
39 Scoff  
42 Half of bi-  
44 Sod  
48 Napoleon's  
title (Abbr.)  
49 Mideast gulf  
50 Verifiable  
51 Brit. record  
label

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
|---|---|

- |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|
| 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    |    |  | 14 |    |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |  | 17 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    |    |  | 19 |    |    |    |
| 20 | 21 |    |    |    |    | 22 | 23 |  |    |    |    |    |
| 24 |    |    |    |    | 25 |    |    |  |    | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 |    |    |    |    | 30 |    |    |  |    | 31 |    |    |
| 32 |    |    |    | 33 |    |    |    |  |    | 34 |    |    |
|    |    |    |    | 35 |    |    |    |  | 36 |    |    |    |
| 37 | 38 | 39 |    |    |    |    | 40 |  |    |    |    |    |
| 41 |    |    |    |    | 42 | 43 |    |  |    |    | 44 | 45 |
| 46 |    |    |    |    | 47 |    |    |  |    | 48 |    |    |
| 49 |    |    |    |    | 50 |    |    |  |    | 51 |    |    |
- 
- |                                              |                        |                         |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 52 Get up                                    | 7 Outlying area        | 31 Pinnacle             |
| 53 Perimeter                                 | 8 Ambulance letters    | 35 Recording site       |
| 54 Lobbyists' org.                           | 9 Zero, in tennis      | 36 Olympic swimmer      |
| 55 Pitch                                     | 10 Formerly            | Rowdy                   |
| 56 Reddish brown                             | 11 Section             | 39 "M*A*S*H" vehicle    |
|                                              | 20 Date night hire     | 40 Tennis star          |
| <b>DOWN</b>                                  | 22 D-Day beach         | Raducanu                |
| 1 June honorees                              | 24 Some Pacific salmon | 41 Grand tale           |
| 2 Beige                                      | 25 Passing craze       | 43 Legendary loch       |
| 3 Two of a kind                              | 26 Chemical suffix     | 45 Language of Pakistan |
| 4 Specialist in the heating/cooling industry | 27 Gratuity            | 46 Carpets              |
| 5 Grocery store                              | 29 LP successors       | 47 Shoe fillers         |
| 6 Roman poet                                 | 30 NPR's Shapiro       | 49 Illustrations        |

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# Trivia

*test* by Fifi Rodríguez

1. MOVIES: Who was the only actress to appear in the 1961 and 2021 film versions of "West Side Story"?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which month of the year has the most letters in its name?
3. SCIENCE: What protects the Earth from solar winds?
4. TELEVISION: What is the name of the bar in "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"?
5. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the first Ben & Jerry's ice cream shop?
6. LITERATURE: What are the names of the two brothers in the "Hardy Boys" novel series?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a polyglot?
8. FOOD & DRINK: Which herb is most often used in traditional pesto?
9. ANATOMY: Membranes called pleurae cover the surface of which human organs?
10. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of South Korea?

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

— Weekly SUDOKU —

[illegible]

Solution time: 26 mins.

— King Crossword —  
Answers

**Trivia Test Answers**

1. Rita Moreno; 2. September; 3. The magnetosphere, an invisible magnetic bubble generated inside the Earth; 4. Paddy's Pub; 5. Vermont; 6. Frank and Joe; 7. A person who speaks several languages; 8. Basil; 9. The lungs; 10. Seoul

## EBCI Community Events

### VA Disability Claims Clinic.

July 7-8 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort Convention Center. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Winston-Salem VA Regional Office have partnered to bring the PACT ACT VA Disability Claims event to Cherokee. Tribal health service programs will be available at the event along with staff from the Winston-Salem VA Regional Office who will answer questions related to veteran and survivor benefits, assist with filing claims, and provide updates on existing claims. Info: <https://benefits.va.gov/winstonsalem/>

### Battle of the Badges Blood Drive.

July 8 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Cherokee Indian Hospital, Welch Top Conference Room, 1 Hospital Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Info: [www.redcross-blood.org](http://www.redcross-blood.org) and enter "28719"

### Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual Inc. New Membership and Biannual Meeting.

July 9 at 4:30 p.m. at Yellowhill Activity Center at 1416 Acquoni rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. for a catered meal. Voting will be held for new membership from June demonstrations. Please RSVP by June 30 to reserve your meal by calling or come by the shop (828) 497-3103

### Wolftown Community Day.

July 11 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Wolftown Field & Gym, Wolftown Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Traditional songs and dances, kids fun run, water, fun, axe throwing, stickball games. Info: Abe Jackson (828) 736-3082.

### Tim Hill Memorial Fishing Tournament.

July 11 and 12. Must purchase a valid fishing permit that covers both days of the tournament. Info: [fishcherokee.com](http://fishcherokee.com) or on Facebook: Fish Cherokee.

### NAIWA Blueberry Festival.

Aug. 15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center in Cherokee, N.C. Featuring blueberry pancakes. Vendor space available at \$10 per table. To reserve a table, call Hope Pheasant (828) 736-5453

### Cherokee Family Safety Program Ride.

Aug. 29 register at 9 a.m. ride at 12 noon. Meet at 7923 Big Cove Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. All proceeds go to the Family Safety Program in Cherokee, N.C. Info: Thomas Wolfe (828) 269-8989.

## 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

### Sequoyah Remembrance Day.

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

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

### Cornhusk Doll Workshop.

Aug. 7 from 3 p.m. – 5p.m. at Red Clay State Historic Park. 1140 Red Clay Park Rd SW, Cleveland, Tenn. 37311. Learn to craft traditional cornhusk dolls. Taught by EBCI Member Laura Walkingstick. Info: (828) 707-6122 or email [Rezdoga-artstudio@gmail.com](mailto:Rezdoga-artstudio@gmail.com)

### 35th Annual Cherokee Festival.

Sept. 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum at 576 HWY 360 Vonore,

Tenn. 37885. Cherokee Arts and crafts demonstrations, Cherokee storytelling, flute playing, Cherokee dances, name written in Cherokee, genealogy help, craft vendors and food vendors. Info: (423) 884-6246

## Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

### Dinilawigi Regular Session.

July 1 at 8:30 a.m.

## Pow Wow Listings

### Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Pow Wow.

July 3-5 at the old Cherokee High School

## CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

## SOHI AD RVLTAD D&WYL



**Roscoe**, a 9-month-old Mini Dachshund, lives in Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) and Tso Iyagayvli Tali Sgohits(v) Sgwa Itsutsiloda (3200 Acre Tract) with humans Dantee Alonzo and Koen Smith.

Sponsored by:



**CHEROKEE**  
ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

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



site in Cherokee, N.C. Emcees: Rob Daugherty, Jace Whitehouse. Invited Northern Drums: Battle River, Rattlesnake Mountain, Medicine Tail, Tha Tribe. Invited Southern Drums: Wild Band of Comanches, Cozad, Pawnee Yellow Horse, Red Arrow. Info: Daniel Tramper (828) 399-0835, dtramper@gmail.com

**154th Annual Quapaw Nation Pow Wow.** July 2-5 at the Quapaw Pow Wow Grounds at Beaver Springs Park in Quapaw, Okla. Emcees: JR Ross, John Arkeketa. Head Singer: Jade Roubedeaux. Info: Shawn Ellick (918) 290-0026



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Is someone at work resisting your Aries charm? Hard to believe. But seriously, Lamb, you might want to back up your ideas with some solid data, then watch the “yeas” pile on.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Your hard work could pay off in ways that you didn't expect but certainly deserve. Tend to a pesky health problem now so that you'll be in top shape to tackle the new projects coming up.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Planning a family event can be stressful, unless you make it clear from the start that you're in charge. You might accept suggestions, but it'll be your decisions that count.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You still have a way to go to bring a professional matter to a satisfactory conclusion. Meanwhile, an important personal situation could require more of your attention by week's end.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) There's something about you Fine Felines that makes people want to tell you secrets. But once again, be wary of who's doing the telling. You might not want to be this person's confidante.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Creating a fuss about a family matter might get everyone's attention. But it might be better to talk one-on-one with family members in order to spare a loved one from unnecessary embarrassment.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) You're making progress on

**63rd Annual Northern Cheyenne Chiefs Pow Wow.** July 2 at Kenneth Beartusk Memorial Pow Wow Grounds in Lame Deer, Mont. Emcees: Shawn Old Mouse, RD Bailey. Host Northern Drum: Ft. Peck Sioux. Host Southern Drum: Youngblood. Info: Nolan Limberhand (406) 740-1084

**Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate 4th of July Wacipi.** July 3-5 at the Agency Village Ceremonial Grounds in Sisseton, S.D. Emcees: Tommy Christian, Eric Jens. Host Drum: Standing Horse. Local Host Drum: Long Elk. Info: No contact

see **EVENTS** next page

a career move, albeit not as quickly as you had hoped. But stay with it. Meanwhile, your personal life takes an unexpected (but very welcome) new turn.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) If you feel like you've been unfairly treated in a workplace decision, correct the situation now while there's still time to do so. Arm yourself with facts and go to it. Good luck!

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Devising your own system of doing things might be the best way to handle an increasingly complex situation. But do it tactfully in order to avoid ruffling too many of your colleagues' feathers.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A family member's health problem might once again require you to shift some of your current priorities around. But this time, make certain that other relatives will be around to help.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Catching up on tasks that you've left undone will take a while to accomplish. But the sooner you complete them, the sooner you'll be able to take on another time-sensitive project.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) You might feel swamped by everything that you're expected to do. But take a moment to come up for air, then handle things one at a time. You'll soon get through them all.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Although you love being at home with your family and furry ones, you also enjoy traveling, exploring, and making new friends.

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## VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

### Avoid foreclosure on a VA home loan

The VA Partial Claim Program begins now. The purpose? To help veterans avoid foreclosure on their homes.

The program was started last summer when the VA Home Loan Reform Act was signed into law. In this partial claim program, the VA can pay up to 25% of the unpaid principal.

Veterans in danger of losing their home to foreclosure should call the mortgage servicer to find out about eligibility to participate in the partial claim program.

To be eligible, you must have a VA loan, not FHA or conventional. The home has to be your primary residence; no vacation homes or investment properties can qualify. You have to be at risk of default on the loan. And, the biggie here, you have to prove you can make your payments.

It's not a handout, but it can be a hand up. One of the first steps is that the VA will advance funds to bring the mortgage current and then the veteran needs to prove he or she can stay current by making payments on a trial basis for three months.

If a trial repayment doesn't work, it's possible that a loan modification might (although those can be risky if the interest rate goes up on the new loan). There are a number of ways for veterans to keep their homes (it helped 173,000 veterans last year alone). Some of those include making modifications to traditional loans, disaster modifications, and 30- and 40-year loan modifications.

If you're having trouble dealing with your mortgage servicer, call the VA at 877-827-3702 and press 6 to get help.

Mortgage servicers have until November this year to get the program into their system.

For information on avoiding foreclosure, see [www.va.gov/housing-assistance/home-loans/trouble-making-payments](http://www.va.gov/housing-assistance/home-loans/trouble-making-payments). Scroll down to see the seven ways to avoid foreclosure.

As always, beware the possibility of scams. If you suddenly receive calls about foreclosure help, don't give any information. Instead, call the VA or mortgage servicer yourself to be sure who you're talking to.

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### Fireworks and pets do not mix

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** I am so frustrated by the incredible amount of fireworks set off by neighbors on July Fourth. My two dogs, “Skip” and “Marbles,” cower in the farthest corner of the house and are emotionally wrecked for days afterward. People need to be considerate of pets and not set off unregulated fireworks in neighborhoods. They should go and watch the professional fireworks displays instead; it'll be a better experience for everyone. — Jill S. in Orlando, Florida

**DEAR JILL:** You're absolutely right, and thank you for telling them. There is no reason to set off loud fireworks in the driveway or backyard; it's a dangerous activity (14,700 injuries and 11 deaths occurred in 2024, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission). Loud fireworks stress out pets to the point that many need medical attention. Some dogs and cats react aggressively to the sudden loud noise, turning and snapping at anyone in reach.

You get the picture. Fireworks are not fun for pets, and they can injure themselves or others in a frenzy of fear.

Great, some of you are saying; how does that help my pet? I know that completely stopping neighborhood fireworks is difficult, perhaps impossible.

As a pet owner, you can take proactive steps to keep your pet comfortable. Talk to the veterinarian and create a strategy. For example, take your pet for a long walk or play session in the afternoon of the Fourth of July to tire them out. Before sunset, give your dog or cat anti-anxiety medication and set up a cozy nook — or even their carrier crate — with their favorite blankets, water and snacks. This can help them stay calmer during the hours after sunset as random fireworks go off.

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

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**EVENTS:** From page 33

information provided

**Kiowa Tia-Piah Society Annual Celebration.** July 2-4 at the Redbone Apache Tribal Dance Grounds in Ft. Cobb, Okla. Emcees: Alonzo Chalepah, Chris “CC” Whitewolf. Head Singer: Ronald “Ross” Gilmore-Bointy. Info: Lance Queton (512) 536-0400, Rudolph Andokobo (405) 933-4501, Theodore Toppah (580) 530-2375, or Dennis Kopepassah (580) 678-5476

**Swan Lake First Nation 28th Annual Competition Pow Wow.** July 3-5 at Swan Lake First Nation in Swan Lake, Manitoba, Canada. Emcees: Kaylib Eagle, Darcy Malcolm. Host Drum: Ho-Chunk Station. Info: Pauline Cameron (204) 245-0285, Rod Elk (204) 245-0285, slfnpow-wow.2026@gmail.com

**126th Annual Arlee Celebration Esyapqeyni.** June 30 – July 5 at the Arlee Pow Wow Grounds in Arlee, Mont. Emcees: Hal Eagle Tail, Howey Thomson. Host Drum: Cree Confederation. Honorary Local Host Drum: Yamncut. Info: Ron Matt (406) 529-5464, Patricia Young Running Crane (406) 781-5470

**4th of July Pow Wow.** July 3-5 in Owyhee, Nev. Emcees: Tyson Shay, Martin Montgomery. Host Drum: Bear Creek. Local Host Drum: Duck Valley Singers. Info: Daliah Abel (775) 388-3552, dv.powwows@gmail.com

**Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians 44th Annual Bahweting Homecoming Pow Wow.** July 3-5 in Sault Ste.

Marie, Mich. Emcees: Shannon Martin, Beedahsiga Elliot. Info: (906) 635-6510, culture@sault-tribe.net

### Support Groups

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

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

**Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society meeting.** July 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Swain County Regional Business Education and Training Center at 45 East Ridge Dr. in Bryson City, N.C. Frank March will present “The Lumber Camps, Setoff Houses, and Railroad Grades in the Smokemont Area”. Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation. This event is free and open to the public.

**Pet Food Giveaway.** July 15 starting at 10 a.m. at the Cherokee Animal Care Clinic 1100 US HWY 441N, Whittier, N.C. 28789.

**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

**2026 Trade Fair.** Aug. 21 – 22 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, 522 W Madison Ave., Athens., Tenn. 37303. Crafts, music, history, food, textiles, quilting and more. Info: (423) 745-0329

### Cherokee Community Clubs

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

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

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

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

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

**Tutiya (Snowbird) Community** meets the first Tuesday of each month, or the Tuesday before Tribal Council, at the Jacob Cornsilk Complex, at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Elijah Wachacha (828) 735-6453, ewachacha@ebci-nsn.gov

**Toledvyi (Tow String) Community** meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community building at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Jacob Long (828) 736-9128, 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. Pastor Brandon Harrell (828) 777-4923

**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. (828) 538-0301

**Buffalo Baptist Church.** 2686 Snowbird Rd. in Robbinsville, N.C. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m., Sunday Evening 5 p.m., Wednesday Evening 6:30 p.m. Info: (828) 507-2271

**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

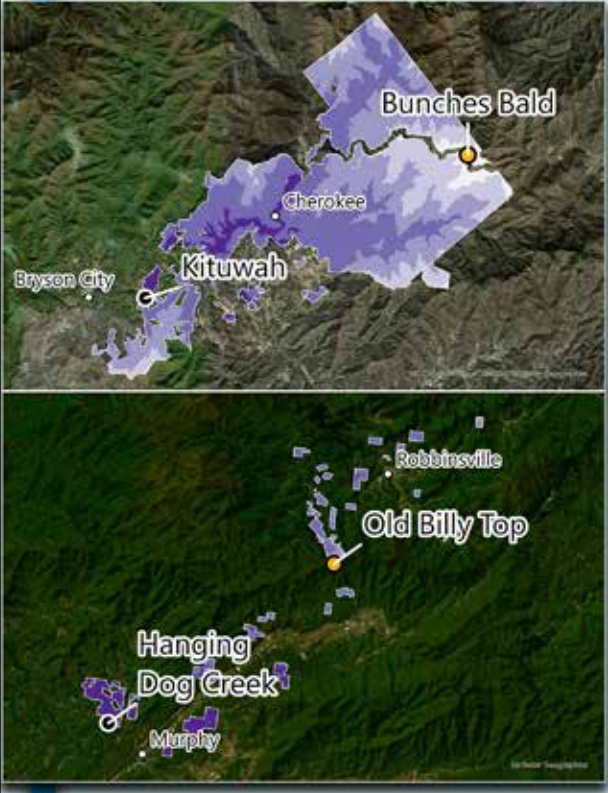
**Cherokee Bible Church.** Olivet Church Road. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Service 7 p.m. Pastor Randy Miller 497-2286

**Cherokee Church of Christ.**

# Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with  
EBCI Natural Resources





Have you ever wondered what the highest and lowest elevations are on EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) lands? According to our department's GIS information, here are a few notable elevation points:

**Highest point on EBCI land:**  
Bunches Bald - 5,486 ft

**Lowest point on EBCI land:**  
Hanging Dog Creek as it enters Hiwassee Lake in Cherokee County - 1,500 ft

**Highest point in Tutiya (Snowbird):**  
Old Billy Top - 4,124 ft

**Lowest point in tribal land near Cherokee, N.C.:**  
Kituwah area - 1,764 ft

see **EVENTS** next page

## EVENTS: From page 35

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

**Cherokee Church of God.** 21 Church of God Drive. Sunday School 10:30 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



**The Garden Bug**

**Indian shot** is another name for *canna indica*, a wildflower of the Caribbean and tropical Americas.

Its spherical black seeds are hard and perfectly round, resembling oversized BBs or buckshot from a shotgun shell. They are also used as beads.

Sources: usf.edu, waynesword.palomar.edu

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**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

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Jude (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Acts 17, in what city were Paul and his companions accused of turning the world upside down? *Antioch, Smyrna, Thessalonica, Galatia*
3. How many days did it take Nehemiah to get the wall around Jerusalem completed? *6, 52, 100, 1,000*
4. From Genesis 3:15, the snake is supposed to strike at what part of man? *Throat, Hand, Heel, Eyes*
5. In Christianity, what's the title given to the head of a diocese? *Arch, Cardinal, Bishop, Reverend*
6. From Revelation 12, what angel fights against Satan? *Gabriel, Angel of the Lord, Cherubim, Michael*

ANSWERS: (1) New, (2) Thessalonica, (3) 52, (4) Heel, (5) Bishop, (6) Michael

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

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## Moments in time

• On **July 13, 2013**, Patrisse Cullors, a Los Angeles community organizer, read a friend's Facebook post expressing distress over the acquittal of George Zimmerman, who'd killed Trayvon Martin the year before, and replied to the post with the first instance of the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag.

• On **July 14, 1918**, Quentin Roosevelt, a 20-year-old pilot in the United States Air Service and the fourth son of former President Theodore Roosevelt, was shot down and killed by a German Fokker plane over the Marne River in France.

• On **July 15, 1953**, John Christie, one of England's most notorious killers, was executed. Four months earlier, police and a tenant in West London had discovered the remains of four women, one of whom was Christie's wife, at a house where he'd lived, and he was apprehended and confessed a week later. Detectives soon found additional bodies buried in the yard behind the house as well.

• On **July 16, 1862**, Ida B. Wells, a future educator, investigative journalist and civil rights activist, was born into slavery in Holly Springs, Mississippi. Motivated in part by racism within the women's suffrage movement, she would eventually found and co-found the NAACP, the National Association of Colored Women, and the Alpha Suffrage Club.

• On **July 17, 1996**, a TWA Boeing 747 jetliner headed for Paris exploded over the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 passengers and crew aboard and creating a fireball seen along most of the Long Island coastline. A highly criticized investigation ended two years later with the conclusion that the tragedy had been caused by mechanical failure rather than a suspected bomb or missile.

• On **July 18 1995**, "Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance," a memoir by a law professor by the name of Barack Obama, was published prior to its author's entry into the political realm. Thirteen years later, that largely unknown professor would be elected America's 44th president.

• On **July 19, 1952**, air traffic controllers in Washington, D.C., sighted UFOs flying over the White House and U.S. Capitol. More would appear a week later, but all were dismissed as simply a weather phenomenon.

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(828) 835-2359 or [embassymedia-group@gmail.com](mailto:embassymedia-group@gmail.com)

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

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

**Grace Community Church of Cherokee.** 320 Highway 441

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

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

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

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

**Macedonia Baptist Church.** 1181 Wolftown Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship

11a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 6pm, Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6pm. Pastor Bro. Dan Conseen, 497-1611, [mbccherokee@outlook.com](mailto:mbccherokee@outlook.com), Website: [www.macedoniabaptistcherokee.church](http://www.macedoniabaptistcherokee.church)

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

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

**Olivet United Methodist**

see **EVENTS** next page

# Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Time slows down so dramatically near a black hole that if you stood close enough to it, years could pass for the universe while just minutes passed for you.

- After trading \$3 billion worth of Pepsi-Cola to the U.S.S.R. in exchange for vodka, submarines and other military hardware, the Pepsi company briefly had the sixth largest military in the world.

- Iceland's parliament, the Icelandic Althingi, first formed in 930 A.D., is the oldest in the world.

- The tradition of carrying the bride across the threshold started in medieval Europe when many people believed that a bride was especially vulnerable to evil spirits through the soles of her feet. To guard her from such attacks, the chivalric groom would carry her into their new home.

- Los Angeles has the world's largest Korean population outside of Korea.

- In J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," dragon blood is revealed to be an effective oven cleaner.

- The Pyramids of Giza are the only Great Wonder of the ancient world still standing.

- During WWII, the Polish army adopted a brown bear named Wojtek into their ranks. The animal was fond of cigarettes and beer, and even received a promotion from private to corporal.

- A sloth can take up to two weeks to digest a single meal.

- Actress Roseanne Barr once attempted to run for president and got as far as filing with the Federal Election Commission, under the "Green Tea Party Ticket."

- Lightning isn't limited to thunderstorms, but can also occur in volcanic eruptions, wildfires and snowstorms.

- During certain periods in feudal Japan, executions of condemned criminals were used by some samurais to test their new swords.

\*\*\*

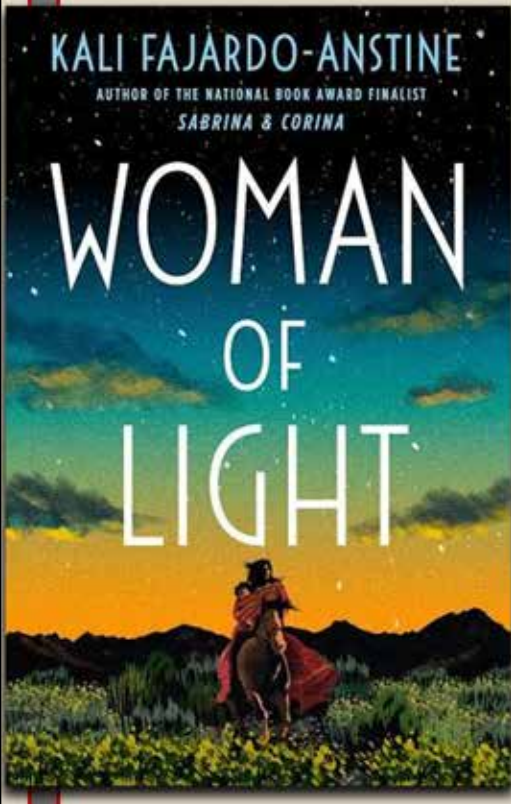
**Thought for the Day:** "It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference." — *Tom Brokaw*

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## Qualla

### BOOK OF THE WEEK

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



### "Woman of Light"

Author Kali Fajardo-Anstine

Luz "Little Light" Lopez, a tea leaf reader and laundress, is left to fend for herself after her older brother, Diego, a snake charmer and factory worker, is run out of town by a violent white mob. As Luz navigates 1930s Denver, she begins to have visions that transport her to her Indigenous homeland in the nearby Lost Territory. Luz recollects her ancestors' origins, how her family flourished, and how they were threatened. She bears witness to the sinister forces that have devastated her people and their homelands for generations. In the end, it is up to Luz to save her family stories from disappearing into oblivion.

Enjoy this transfixing novel about survival, family secrets, and love—filled with an unforgettable cast of characters, all of whom are just as special, memorable, and complicated as our beloved heroine, Luz.

**EVENTS:** From page 37

**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. (828) 373-0068, or [www.stjosephbryson.org](http://www.stjosephbryson.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday morning worship service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday evening service 7 p.m., third Saturday singing 7 p.m. Pastor Ernie Cable

**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.** Thom-

as Valley Road. Sunday school: 10 a.m., Worship: 11a.m., Sunday night worship: 6 p.m., Wednesday prayer service: 7 p.m., every other Monday night (Youth night) singing, bible study and crafts: 6 p.m.

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

**Yellowhill Baptist Church.** Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 5 p.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor Foreman Bradley 506-0123 or 736-4872

Event listings are  
**FREE of charge.**  
Send your flyers/info to Dawn at [dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov) or to [Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com](mailto:Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com)



**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

#### Cherokee County Clinic

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

#### DCC

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



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



# 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.<br><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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Property transfers will be done by the owner to the home buyer at Tribal Realty.<br><input type="checkbox"/> The home buyer must own the property for financing purposes.<br><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<br/>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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will assist applicant with packaging loan applications to lender.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Lender will issue a prequalification letter indicating maximum loan amount.<br><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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Legal description proving ownership of the property must be included.<br><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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Borrower will request a sales quote, floor plans and foundation plan for their home.<br><input type="checkbox"/> After receiving quote and house plans, Borrower will submit all documents and drawings to Homebuyer Services Coordinator.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Homebuyer Services Coordinator will submit estimate, plans and drawings to Infrastructure.<br><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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will submit to Loan Compliance Committee for review. Committee will review for completeness of application.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Completed applications are submitted to Secretary of Housing for approval and signature.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Approved applications are then submitted to the Principal Chief for approval and signature.<br><input type="checkbox"/> The approved and signed applications are returned to Homebuyer Services Coordinator.<br><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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will also send a letter to lender to notify approval of DPA and RBD.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Once OS, lease and assignment are received, these documents will be forwarded to the lending institution.<br><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.<br><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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Closing attorney will send copy of recorded documents back to Coordinator.<br><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.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator will notify Site Prep that loan has closed.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Home construction may start after loan close.<br><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.<br><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:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site Prep, Footers, Block Foundation, Block Underpinning, Vinyl Underpinning, Gutter System and Final Grade to prevent erosion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **Tribal Realty**

Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913

Kaila Cucumber: (828) 359-7442

Renee Long-Cole: (828) 359-6971

### **Infrastructure Dept.**

Denny Ensley: (828) 359-6841

Sarah Crowe: (828) 359-6121

Nekyle Lossiah: (828) 359-6839

Joel Queen: (828) 359-6844

### **Housing Services**

Michelle Stamper: (828) 359-6904

Misty Milsaps: (828) 359-6919

Tina Larch: (828) 359-6912

### **Timber Permits**

Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Lefty's Lawn Service.** Mowing and weed eating services. (828) 735-3586. 7/29

## EMPLOYMENT

### Now Hiring Cleaners

1 Stop Cabin Group is hiring an experienced cleaner to our team! We have a total of 7 properties in Cherokee that we need you to service! Must pay attention to detail and be a self motivated person. Please reach out via call/text/email 865-719-5415 1stopcabin2025@gmail.com 7/15

## LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-048

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**BERNADINE BRADLEY**

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

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS  
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICA-TION

Jarrett W. Bradley  
P.O. Box 1527  
Cherokee, N.C. 28719  
7/1

### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,  
JACKSON COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF  
JUSTICE, DISTRICT COURT  
DIVISION

22JA000081-490 (PETITION  
REGARDING NEGLECT AND  
DEPENDENCY)

IN RE: Brayleigh Iris Jones  
TO: Richard Calvin Jay Teesa-tuskie

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action, filed originally on or about October 17th, 2022 in Swain County, North Carolina. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: the Jackson County Department of Social Services is seeking to adjudicate you as the biological father of Brayleigh Iris Jones, born October 14th, 2022 and have you participate in future permanency planning hearings regarding said juvenile.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than 40 days after the running of this first notice, by July 24th, 2026 and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. You may contact the

Jackson County Clerk of Court at (828) 631-6400, for more information and to inquire about making application of a court-appointed attorney, if you so desire.

This, the 10th day of June, 2026.  
/s/ Virginia Jordan  
Virginia Jordan (Contract Attorney for Jackson County D.S.S.)  
P.O. Box 28  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
7/1

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-051

### Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

**CHARLOTTE GEORGE**

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

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS  
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICA-TION

Fiduciary 1  
Daniel Crowe  
1316 Newbury Dr.  
Norman, OK 73071  
Fiduciary 2



## 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@mandaraspa.com  
Email: HRRecruitment@onespaworld.com

## JOIN OUR TEAM



### WE ARE HIRING

**Open Positions**

- Security Technician
- Security Guard
- Cook I
- Steward

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

**More Information**  
828.589.8285

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

Nathaniel Crowe  
PO. Box 1101  
Cherokee NC 28719  
7/22

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-053  
**Notice to Creditors and  
Debtors of:  
DUSTIN THOMAS SMITH**

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

Christina Marie Lee  
101 C Bradley Drive  
Cherokee, NC 28719  
7/22

**BIDS, RFPs, etc.**

**Notice of Finding of No  
Significant Impact and Notice  
of Intent to Request Release  
of Funds (Olivet Church Road  
Housing Development  
Project)**

June 10, 2026  
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
687 Acquoni Road  
Cherokee, NC 28719  
828-497-7000

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI).

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF  
FUNDS**

On or about July 13, 2026, the EBCI will submit a request to the HUD/North Carolina for the release of Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) funds under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 to undertake a project known as the Olivet Church Road Housing Development for the purpose of developing 19 residential lots. The estimated HUD funds amount to \$1,569,935.23 with a total estimated project cost of \$6,300,000. The Project is located on Olivet Church Road approximately 0.4 mile east of the intersection with US 441 in Jackson County, NC.

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT  
IMPACT**

The EBCI has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at 687 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC 28719 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the EBCI Cherokee Indian Housing Division, 687 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC 27894. All comments received by June 29, 2026, will be considered by the EBCI prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

The EBCI certifies to HUD/North Carolina that T.W. Saunooke in his capacity as Interim Director

of Construction Management for EBCI's Cherokee Indian Housing Division consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's North Carolina's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the EBCI to use Program funds.

**OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF  
FUNDS**

HUD/North Carolina will accept objections to its release of fund and the EBCI's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the EBCI; (b) the EBCI has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD/North Carolina; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD/North Carolina at 1500 Pinecroft Road #401, Greensboro, NC 27407. Potential

see **TRADING POST** next page

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or [amivie.com](https://amivie.com), or text "amiviejobs" to 97211.

**TRADING POST:** From page 41

objectors should contact HUD/ North Carolina to verify the actual last day of the objection period. T.W. Saunooke

Interim Director of Construction Management

Cherokee Indian Housing Division

Note: The fifteen or eighteen-day public comment periods are the minimum time periods required by regulation prior to submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Certification (form HUD-7015.15) to HUD/State. The Responsible Entity may choose to allow a longer comment period. 24 CFR Part 58 requires, at Section 58.46, "Time delays for exceptional circumstances," a 30-day comment period for controversial or unique projects or those similar to projects

normally requiring preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. The fifteen-day objection period is a statutory requirement. The objection period follows the submission date specified in the Notice or the actual date of receipt by HUD/State, whichever is later. Following completion of the comment period recipients may FAX the form HUD-7015.15 to HUD/State together with a copy of the public notice and a cover letter stating whether comments were received and, if so, how the recipient responded to the comment. The Request for Release of Funds and Certification should not be submitted before the recipient has responded. If the request is sent by FAX, the original signed form should be mailed to HUD/State. The date of receipt by FAX will be

counted as the submission date. However, HUD will not issue the 7015.16 "Authority to Use Grant Funds" until after the original signed form is received. 7/1

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OR  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE  
INDIANS  
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA  
CV 25-004**

Benjamin Sierra v. Mattie Brady  
and John Ray Bigmeat  
Person to be served: JOHN RAY  
BIGMEAT

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action filed in the Cherokee Tribal Court. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Plaintiff entered into a contract for the purchase of a mobile home from John Ray Bigmeat and paid money for the purchase. John Ray Bigmeat did not convey the home to the Plaintiff after the purchase and Plaintiff seeks rescission of the purchase and return of funds in the amount of \$90,000.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within 40 days after June 24, 2026 exclusive of such date, which date so stated shall be the date of the first publication of notice, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought This 24th day of June, 2026  
Singleton Schreiber LLP  
Robert O. Saunooke, Esq.  
State Bar number 62100  
PO Box 309  
Cherokee, NC 28719  
ndnlawyer@hotmail.com  
Attorney for Benjamin Sierra  
7/15

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Sealed proposals will be received until 3:00pm, on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, in the Ginger Lynn Welch Building Spicewood Room 133, 810 Acquoni Rd, Cherokee, North Carolina, and immediately thereafter opened in a closed session in accordance with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) policies and procedures for the furnishing of labor, material and equipment for the Cherokee Family Enrichment Center (IDD Facility).

Mailed proposals shall be sent to the attention of Becky Bowe at the following address: PO BOX 455, Cherokee, NC, 28719. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the bids arrive before the bid opening time of 3:00 EST.

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

**PRE-BID MEETING**

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting and site walk-through will be held for interested bidders on July 14, 2026 at 2:00 pm, beginning at the project site, 53 Echota Church Rd, Cherokee, NC 28719. Followed by a walkthrough of the site.

Complete plans, specifications and contract documents may be obtained at the office of Architect which is located at 47 Rankin Ave, Suite 141, Asheville, NC 28801. Digital (pdf) versions of the Bid Documents may be obtained upon request of Ethan Ward (eward@mcmillanpazdansmith.com). A Newforma Info Exchange link will be provided to allow the Bidder to access and download the Bid Documents.

For purposes of coordination,



**Cherokee Cinemas & More has the following job opportunities:**

**Janitor – Part Time**

A Janitor cleans the theater and theater property during non-operating hours. Responsible for cleaning floors, carpets, walls, doors, seats, restrooms, sidewalks, parking lots, concession stands, etc. Works after the theater closes or before the first show of the day. Ensures that the next day's Customers will walk into a sparkling clean theater.

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



**Clarion Pointe has the following jobs available:**

**Room Attendant – Part Time – Non Exempt, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

The Room Attendant plays a crucial role in maintaining the overall cleanliness of the hotel's guestrooms. Their duties include being able to stand and bend for several hours. You must be able to clean guest rooms and common areas to Choice Hotels' standards. Ability to work in a diverse, fast-paced environment. Room attendants are required to disinfect and fully clean guest rooms and common areas within the required time.

Anyone interested should pick up an application and position description at the Kituwah Office across the road from the Waffle House, between the hours of 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday -Friday or email [kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com](mailto:kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com).

primary contact for project information is:  
Project Architect: Ethan Ward, AIA  
Title: Architect  
E-Mail Address: eward@mcmillanpazdansmith.com  
7/1

### BIDS

Kituwah Technologies is accepting bids from interested parties for the Reserve Auction of the following vehicles:  
2012 Chevy Equinox  
2007 Ford Focus  
2015 Ford Escape  
2014 Dodge Journey  
2004 GMC 1500  
1998 Hallmark Trailer

Vehicle inspections will be conducted on : July 13th and July 17th 2026, between 1:00pm and 4:00pm at 180 Clearwood

Drive, Whittier NC 28789.

Successful bidder will be required to pay the full bid price within three working days from the date of the successful award.

Submit the bid forms to be supplied by Kituwah Technologies, properly filled with all the required information in a plain sealed envelope marked "Bid for Purchase of Kituwah Vehicle" Bids may be dropped off anytime between the hours of 08:00 and 4:00, Monday through Friday, to: Brent Younce at 180 Clearwood Drive, Whittier NC, 28789

Deadline for submission of bids will be July 17th, by 4:00pm.

Change of legal ownership (including address) must be completed prior to taking delivery of the vehicle. All registration fees are the responsibility of the purchaser.

For inquiries and further inspection arrangements, bidders may call 828-497-3315 ext. 2008 or e-mail; brent.younce@kituwahtechnologies.com.  
7/1

### Notice of Intent to Repatriate

The National Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution plans to repatriate the following to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Warren K. Moorehead collected human remains of a minimum of 30 individuals from the Willis Farm site, Christian County, Kentucky in 1903 and exchanged or gifted them to the Smithsonian in 1910 and 1927. The individuals sent to the Smithsonian all date to the Tinsley Hill phase (ca. 1300-1500 AD). Beginning around 1450 AD, large parts of the Cumberland River Basin, including Willis Farm, were depopulated with residents moving to live with other neighboring groups. These groups include Creek, Cherokee, Dhegiha Siouan, and Shawnee. Given this broader dispersal into neighboring groups, the human remains from the Willis

Farm site have been found to be culturally affiliated with the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town, Cherokee Nation, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, Kaw Nation, Kialegee Tribal Town, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Quapaw Nation, Shawnee Tribe, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Seminole Tribe of Florida, The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, The Osage Nation, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town of Oklahoma, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma.

For more information, please contact Matthew Sanger (646-670-6644) by July 31, 2026, Repatriation Office, Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, NMNH, MRC 138, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. 7/29



**Cherokee Central Schools**  
**Job Openings**

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

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

**Instructional Facilitator**  
**Assistant Athletic Director**  
**JV Girls Head Basketball Coach**  
**K-6 P.E. Teacher**  
**K-6 Elementary School Nurse (RN or LPN)**  
**K-6 Cherokee Language Instructor**  
**K-6 Teacher Assistant**  
**K-6 Music Teacher**  
**K-6 Special Education Teacher Assistant**  
**K-6 Mental Health Classroom Teacher Assistant (Grant Funded)**  
**6th Grade Math Teacher**  
**7-8 Cherokee Language Instructor**  
**7-12 Performing Arts Teacher**  
**9-12 Math II Teacher**  
**9-12 Special Education Teacher Assistant**  
**9-12 ISS Teacher Assistant**  
**K-12 School Psychologist**

**GWY ᏉᏚᏍᏔᏅ ᏅᏚᏗᏍᏔᏅ**  
**CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI**

*For ads:*

**Ad Sales Coordinator –**  
**Dawn Arneach, 359-6489,**  
**dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov**



**CHEROKEE INDIAN  
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

# OPEN POSITIONS



## NEW POSITIONS

Dental Coordinator  
Tsali Care Center Housekeeper  
Patient Access Specialist  
Targeted Case Manager – Family Safety  
Primary Care - Case Management Support  
License Practical Nurse – TJCC - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health Therapist - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus  
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family –  
Snowbird, Dora Reed, Family Safety, Family Inten-  
sive Treatment, Medication Assisted Treatment,  
Kanvwotiyi)  
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwotiyi  
Targeted Case Manager – Child and Family, MAT,  
Adult Outpatient Services  
Residential Technician - Female - Part Time without  
Benefits  
Behavioral Health Training and Development Coordi-  
nator  
Behavioral Health Consultant I

## DENTAL

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

## EYE CLINIC

Optometrist

## MEDICAL

Psychiatrist  
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

## NURSING

Certified Nursing Assistant – Emergency De-  
partment - \$3,000 Hiring Bonus  
License Practical Nurse – Primary Care  
-\$5,000 Hiring Bonus  
Registered Nurse ED – PTI – Night Shift  
RN Inpatient – Nights - PTI  
Specialty Services Registered Nurse -  
\$10,000 Hiring Bonus  
Clinical Care Manager – Float \$10,000  
Hiring Bonus  
RN Inpatient – Dayshift – PTI  
C.N.A Medical Clerk FT - \$3,000 Hiring  
Bonus  
C.N.A Medical Clerk PTI  
Telemetry Nursing Assistant – PTI

## NUTRITION

Clinical Dietician

## Radiology

Radiology Technologist I

## TRIBAL OPTION

Tribal Option Medical Social Worker

## TSALI CARE

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  
Cook Aide -Temp -Tsali Care Center  
RN Wound Care – Tsali Care Center

# CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

**CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS**

**828.497.9163 EXT. 6343**



# Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, July 05, 2026

1. Rounds Tech/Operator – Water Treatment – Operations  
(L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)

Open Until Filled

1. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health  
and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) per  
hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION

2. Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law  
Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY  
SENSITIVE POSITION

3. Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police  
Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52  
per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION

4. Sergeant (Patrol) – Cherokee Indian Police Department  
– EBCI Law Enforcement (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour)  
SAFETY SENSITIVE

5. Part-time Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services –  
Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY  
SENSITIVE POSITION

6. FT Paramedic – Emergency Medical Services –  
Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY  
SENSITIVE

7. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start –  
CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)

8. Teacher – Qualla Boundary Head Start – CERS (L10  
\$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)

9. Registered Nurse – Tribal In Home Care Services –  
Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per  
hour)

10. Mental Health Therapist – Child Advocacy – Public  
Health and Human Services (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,763)

11. Certified Biological Waste Water Treatment Operator –  
Waste Water – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)  
SAFETY SENSITIVE

12. Driver – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per  
hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE

13. WWT Operator – Waste Water Treatment – Operations  
(L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE

14. Truck Driver/Crew Leader – Solid Waste – Operations  
(L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE

15. Truck Driver/WWT Maintenance – Waste Water  
Treatment – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)  
SAFETY SENSITIVE

16. Teacher – Kituwah Academy – CERS (L12 \$22.26 -  
\$27.83 per hour)

17. Field Technician II – Water & Sewer – Operations (L10  
\$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)

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

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## Here Are Just a Few Reasons to Consider Drafting a Will

### EBCI Tribal Court

\*\*\*Please be advised this list is not all-inclusive, but simply outlines several important details

1. **A Will Protects Your Wishes** – It ensures that your belongings, property, and treasured family items go exactly where you want them to go. Without a Will, others will make that decision. A Will is a way to keep control over your own legacy and ensure your wishes are honored.
2. **Reduces Family Stress** – Losing a loved one is extremely difficult. When you have a Will, it removes confusion and helps to prevent disagreements among family members. A Will provides clarity, so your children and grandchildren are not left trying to guess what you wanted.
3. **Protects Your Personal Possessions** – A Will ensures that items are kept within the family, if that is your wish, and that the items are passed to the individual you desire.
4. **Can Help Prevent Land Disputes** – A Will can help prevent conflicts over land by assigning property beforehand.
5. **Choosing Guardians for Children or Dependents** – If you are raising your grandchild/grandchildren, or caring for someone with disabilities, a Will allows you to choose who continues that care. This protects the child/children or dependent.

When someone passes away, a Will can help everything move smoothly and respectfully. It is an act of love for your family to have a Will and accompanying documentation prepared.

It is never too early or too late to draft your Will. You may change your Will at any time if necessary. You do not have to get it perfect the first time. A simple Will can be made now and adjusted later.

If you have questions or need assistance in drafting a simple will, please contact Legal Assistance at (828) 359-7400.



## Marriage

Ana and Kolbi Sampson were married at the Sylva Courthouse on Friday, June 19. (Photo contributed)



## Summer gardening

This year, the Thomas/Ledford kids ditched the tablets and grew a garden in Wayohi (Wolftown) for the first time. While they are growing, they are learning Cherokee language and how to pronounce the veggies. Their parents noted, "It's a learning experience for mom and dad too! We are so proud of all of you Josephine, Harrison Lee, Myles, Me-Li, and Noah." Pictured is Me-Li Joy Thomas proudly holding up her first harvest of the season with a squash and a zucchini. (Photo courtesy of family)



<<

## Adidas Track Nationals

Corbin Wade, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, competed in the 2026 Adidas Track Nationals in Greensboro, N.C. on June 18-19. In the middle school division, he finished 10th in the discus throw and fifth in the shot put. (Photo by Shona Wade)



<<

## Basketball tournament

Rory Wachacha, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, playing with her Lady Royals basketball team (4th grade), had the opportunity to play at the NTBA 2026 Girls National Championship held in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on the weekend of June 25-28. The team finished fourth overall. (Photo courtesy of Sarah Bradley)

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LOOKING FOR ONE?  
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