

FREE



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# GWY ᏆᏍᏍᏁ ᏅᏍᏈᏁ

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

week of  
dehaluyi (june) 3-9,  
2026

# “You’re one family”

## Remember the Removal Riders gather at Kituwah for send-off

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

**K**ITUWAH – A gentle breeze blew through the valley area of Kituwah, the Mother Town of the Cherokee, on the evening of Friday, May 29 as well-wishers gave the 2026 Remember the Removal (RTR) Riders a proper send-off before the riders embarked on a life-changing journey.

The ride is a 950-mile cycling event which retraces the northern route of the Trail of Tears through Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. A total of 18 riders, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and the Cherokee Nation, will go on this year’s ride. The ride is

see **REMEMBER** page 4

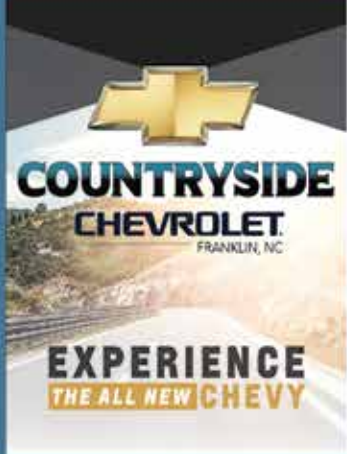


The 2026 Remember the Removal Riders representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians are shown at the send-off event for this year’s ride held at Kituwah on the evening of Friday, May 29. They will join 12 riders from the Cherokee Nation on the 950-mile bicycle ride retracing the northern route of the Trail of Tears. Shown, left to right, are Olivia Meli Jackson, Rachel Bruneel, Jean Arlenea Chapa, Steven Michael Smith, Kamiyo Lanning, and Ernest Pheasant. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



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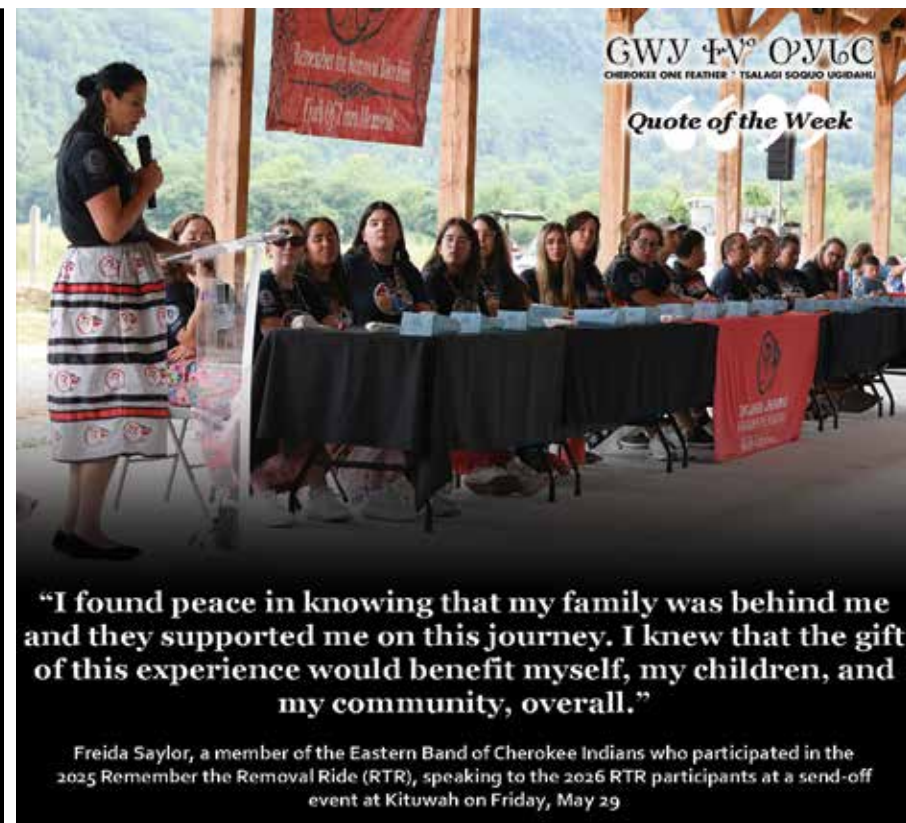
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**Quote of the Week**

**"I found peace in knowing that my family was behind me and they supported me on this journey. I knew that the gift of this experience would benefit myself, my children, and my community, overall."**

Freida Saylor, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who participated in the 2025 Remember the Removal Ride (RTR), speaking to the 2026 RTR participants at a send-off event at Kituwah on Friday, May 29

### Letters Policy

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

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

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

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

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The 2026 RTR Riders pose, with the Kituwah Mound in the background, with RTR Alumni Riders following Friday's event.

**REMEMBER:** From front page

cheduled to begin on Monday, June 1 at New Echota, Ga. and will end later this month in Tahlequah, Okla.

Jake Stephens, an EBCI tribal member and 2015 RTR alumni, emceed Friday's event. He is the EBCI co-ride coordinator along with Nelson Lambert.

Stephens commented, "We've got a great team of riders this year that have already started to bond well these first two days and are going to continue to do so over the next three weeks of this amazing journey they're about to be on."

The Riders representing the EBCI include: Olivia Meli Jackson, Wayohi (Wolftown); Steven Michael Smith, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Rachel Bruneel, Elawodi (Yellowhill); Kamiyo Lanning, Wayohi, Jean Arlenea Chapa, Wayohi; and Ernest Pheasant, Aniwodihhi (Painttown).

The Riders representing the Cherokee Nation include: Adrian Gaches, Stilwell, Okla.; Adrienne Keene, Tulsa, Okla.; Ashley Adair, Wagoner, Okla.; Christina Justice, Tahlequah, Okla.; Colton Brinsfield, Checotah, Okla.; Dugan Gibson, Talala, Okla.; Ella Mounce, Stilwell, Okla.; Jaden Carrol, Tahlequah, Okla.; Jaycee Gideon, Stilwell, Okla.; Kristen Mankiller, Tahlequah, Okla.; Taylor Pearce, Leach, Okla.; and Savannah Slayton, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Driver Blythe, an EBCI tribal member representing EBCI Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks who was unable to attend, commented, "I want to recognize the dedication, determination, and the countless hours of training you, the riders, have put in before embarking on this amazing journey.

I join everybody in saying that we are sending our love and prayers for you on this trip. This

is an experience like none other so take time to learn as much as you can when you're cycling. Find the time to understand the resilience and strength that it took for your ancestors and all of our ancestors to endure this grueling path. We are all Cherokee and we are all supporting you."

He added, "I'll leave you with words from Chief Hicks. Create memories. Reflect and know that you are making your tribe proud and you are making being Cherokee proud, and that you are all strong Cherokee."

Heather Fite, Cherokee Nation Youth Leadership manager and 2026 Cherokee Nation RTR coordinator, commented, "I stand here in our homelands filled with pride, admiration, and deep respect for the 2026 Remember the Removal team. It feels great to be back in our homelands."

Fite, a 2024 RTR alumni, went on to say, "This journey

we're about to embark on is such a life-changing accomplishment. It is far greater than a physical challenge. It is a living act of remembrance, sacrifice, unity, and honor. These riders have chosen to carry forward the memory of our ancestors, not only through words, but through sweat, tears, endurance, discipline, and their heart. I'm excited to witness this team become family over the next three weeks. Mile after mile, something powerful will happen. They will encourage one another when the road becomes difficult. They will learn to push through the pain. They will learn that success is never achieved alone. And, just as our ancestors relied on one another during the darkest days of Cherokee history, they will carry that same spirit and continue forward together, because together we are stronger."

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Venita Wolfe, a 2023 RTR alumni,

spoke of the importance of gathering at Kituwah. "This is our origin place. It's important to remember that this is our Mother Town. This is where we are from. Wherever our people ended up, this is where we began."

Addressing the riders, she noted, "You guys are going to make it, together. Don't forget - don't leave anyone behind. Be a team."

Journal. Take pictures. Take videos. You want to remember this time. It's amazing. When I look at you guys, I remember how I felt sitting right here in front of half of the strangers, half of your family. It's scary, you can do it."

Two EBCI tribal members who participated in last year's ride spoke to the crowd and encour-

aged the riders on their upcoming journey.

Daryl "DD" Martin noted, "Right now you are all probably excited, nervous, possibly wondering if you're ready for this journey. From what I witnessed this morning, you are. You're ready, you're prepared. And, your coordinators have done an awesome job."

You may all come from different backgrounds, different communities. You were raised different. But, you have to remember - you're all one Cherokee family. You're one family and you're going to get closer as the ride goes on."

He added, "The EBCI and the Cherokee Nation all share the same ancestors and the responsibility of carrying on our ancestors'

legacy. As you begin the journey, remember why you're here. You're riding for the ancestors, your family, and yourself."

Freida Saylor told the riders she had self-doubt prior to the ride. "I found peace in knowing that my family was behind me and they supported me on this journey. I knew that the gift of this experience would benefit myself, my children, and my community, overall. I wanted to be able to tell my children, grandchildren, family, friends, of the stories of our people - the stories of strength, resilience, and survival - in a way no history book could ever do."

Anita Finger-Smith and Robin Swayney, an EBCI tribal member, representing the North Carolina

Trail of Tears Association (TOTA), presented the riders with several gifts including: National Park Service video entitled "Trail of Tears"; National Park Service brochure showing all the various routes of the Trail, not just the Northern Route the riders will be retracing; a booklet from Middle Tennessee State University entitled "Rivers, Rails, and Roads" showing all the transportation methods used along the Trail; a booklet from the N.C. TOTA about the Removal era in North Carolina; a booklet from the N.C. TOTA entitled "A Guide to the Trail of Tears in North Carolina: Removal, Resistance, and Revival"; and the gift of a 1-year free membership to TOTA in memory of the late Troy Wayne Potet.

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

## June 1-7, 2026

WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
<b>Tuckasegee River</b>	N/A	Productivity-all day	Rainbow Brown and Brook trout, Smallmouth Bass	Small streamers, mops, eggs, squirmy worms, girdle bugs, Duracell, chubby Chernobyl
<b>Chattooga &amp; Whitewater Rivers</b>	N/A	Productivity-all day	Brown Trout	Yellow Sally's, light Cahill, parachute adams, hares ear nymph, Caddis larva, copper john
<b>Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River &amp; Small Streams</b>	N/A	Productivity-all day	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout,	Stimulator, Light Cahill, Ants, Pheasant tail nymph, soft hackles, hares ear nymph

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AVERAGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE	GOOD	BETTER	SEASONS BEST	BETTER
1:12 AM-3:12 AM 1:37 PM-3:37 PM	2:03 AM-4:03 AM 2:29 PM-4:29 PM	2:54 AM-4:54 AM 3:19 PM-5:19 PM	3:43 AM-5:43 AM 4:07 PM-6:07 PM	4:30 AM-6:30 AM 4:52 PM-6:52 PM	5:15 AM-7:15 AM 5:37 PM-7:37 PM	12:21 AM-2:21 AM 12:46 PM-2:46 PM

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# Constitution Meeting Report for May 29

By **ROBERT JUMPER**  
One Feather Editor

**C**HEROKEE, N.C. - The May 29 session of the Constitutional Convention for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) continued discussion on opportunities to expose some form of educational content and process for the community. The meeting started with a quorum present.

Chairperson Nancy Pheasant called the meeting to order and prompted Lloyd Arneach to do roll call.

Absent were (Judicial) Honorable Chief Justice Brad Letts, (Community Club Council) Janet Arch, (Past Constitution Committee represented as "Sgadugi") Peggy Hill, (Young Adults) Jack Cooper, Raylen Bark, and Coby Taylor.

In attendance were [Legislative-Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Elawodi (Yellowhill) Representative Shennelle Feather, Aniwo-dihi (Painttown) Representative Shannon Swimmer, (Executive) Pam Straughn, Randal Crowe, (Judicial) Honorable Judge Barbara

Parker, (Community Club Council) Nancy Pheasant, Dakota Bone, (Past Constitution Committee represented as "Sgadugi") Lloyd Arneach, and EBCI Beloved Woman Carmaleta Monteith.

Minutes for the March and April meetings were approved. Chairperson Pheasant stated that she had met with the Community Club Council (CCC) and learned that the CCC is open to educational meetings in addition to their regular meetings, indicating that making discussion part of regular meetings would be time-consuming. Chairperson Pheasant said she brought this information back to the Constitutional Convention for further discussion on content and how those meetings might proceed. Dakota Bone suggested an informational video to share the historical timeline of the work already done on the constitution and why it is important to have one. Lloyd Arneach agreed that a video might be more mentally palatable but expressed concerns that the Constitutional Convention didn't have a consensual document to present in the video. Carmaleta Monteith referenced the steady flow of constitution education and information published in the One Feather over the years leading up to the 2023 constitution vote,

and the need to continue keeping the community informed about the project calendar so the community can provide timely input. Chairperson Pheasant stated that she was open to the idea of a video and would need commitment and assistance from the Constitutional Convention delegates if she could confirm the use of resources to produce a video. Lloyd Arneach suggested creating with an eye toward social media. A vote was taken to "do a video" on the Constitution.

Chairwoman Pheasant addressed the need for substitutes for the legislative, executive, and judicial areas of government, since there are other commitments that take priority over the Constitution meetings for some. Carmaleta Monteith shared that the resolution that formed the Convention, and the policies prescribe that each of the community entities represented have an alternate representative named.

The Convention discussed Article 4 of the draft constitution, which establishes parameters for the legislative branch. Chairperson Pheasant expressed concern that not enough of the "communities" are engaged, possibly as Constitutional Convention delegates, to get representative feedback from

those communities. She shared concerns over the expense of adding any communal representation to the legislative branch.

Rep. Swimmer added that another concern is at-large representation and the inability to hold office if a member does not live on the Qualla Boundary.

She stated, "We really, desperately need a constitution."

Lloyd Arneach pointed out that the current governing document specifies that the weighted vote is determined by a census of those living on tribal lands, so those who live outside the Qualla Boundary, by law, are not to be counted to make that determination. Both Arneach and Rep. Swimmer suggested that is not fair and equal representation. She also expressed a need to discuss legislative staggered terms and adjustments to the legislative pension.

According to their stated policy, the June Constitutional Convention meetings will be held on June 11 and June 25. An additional work session was mentioned by the Chairperson. There was no additional discussion among the delegates on the work session, no specific date set, and no determination as to whether that would be a public meeting.

EBCI Constitution Committee

MEETS 2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5:30 PM

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The meetings are open to all tribal community members. Meetings are livestreamed by the EBCI Communications Department.

Meeting schedule subject to change with short notice.



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Lucille Lossiah, *Basket*, white oak and maple, 8.5 x 10 x 9.5 inches. Gift of Lambert Wilson. ©Lucille Lossiah. Photo Credit: Tim Burleson Photography.

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# Officials give project updates at recent Planning Board meeting

By ANN TOINEETA  
One Feather Intern

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Planning Board met at 1 p.m. on Monday, May 18 in the Tribal Council House.

David McCoy, vice chair of the Tribal Casino Gaming Enterprise and chair of the Tribal Bingo Enterprise, provided updates on the construction of the new class 2 gaming site in Elawodi (Yellow Hill). Tribal Construction has begun clearing trees for Duke Energy's preplanned utilities upgrade project, and once they are done, new power poles and lines will be constructed and current ones will be demolished. The slope of the mountain behind the site will also be graded to increase safety. Once these processes are completed, construction will begin. They hope to open the facility in June 2027 and the age limit will be 18.

T.W. Saunooke, interim director for construction management at Qualla Housing, said that they are finalizing plans for Whitetree Court in Aniwodihhi (Painttown). They are close to having grading plans and preparing for groundwork. The price of the low to medium income rental properties will be income based.

At Hyatt Cemetery in Whittier, N.C. they are preparing to

move forward with contracting for the infrastructure and site work. Construction and planning documents, driveway and encroachment permits, and utility construction and grading plans have all been approved. The environmental assessment is under review and should be returned within 30 days. They are looking to start the process within the next 30 to 45 days.

The environmental assessment for Cooper's Creek, which is near Bryson City, N.C., will be submitted by the end of the week and they will soon begin the hydraulic analysis. Construction documents for the first phase are expected to be completed by July and the bid process will begin after they are completed.

Rebecca Bowe, manager of EBCI project management, provided updates for multiple projects with the first one being that there is a punch walk scheduled for Fire Substation 3 in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) on Wednesday, May 20. Construction is expected to be completed June 5.

The new CIPD Evidence Building below the Anthony Edward Lossiah Justice Center is making good progress on construction and is expected to be completed in September. Interior framing is complete and they've begun hanging drywall and painting. Electrical and mechanical rough-ins are also ongoing.

At the cultural grounds in Elawodi, site utilities and grade and fill activities are ongoing. Concerns about runoff toward the museum have also been addressed.

Signage at the Nvdayeli Trail, which is near the Museum of the

Cherokee People, is being finalized and naming with the Speaker Council and CHA has been approved. There will be two or three items as well as updated signage at the Drama directing people to the trail. They hope to construct a set of stairs from the museum parking lot to the trail to create safer access and interconnect the museum with the cultural items on the hill.

The sewer project and grading at the John Crowe Sports Complex in Whittier are ongoing and logging is near completion. They are looking at repairing the 4 existing fields and potentially adding 2 more. They also hope to provide access to the lower fields.

For the new restroom at the Oconaluftee Indian Village in Elawodi, they are evaluating bids and the scope of the project. Utility construction is expected to be completed at the end of the 2026 season with water and sewer improvements. They are also considering adding a retail space next to the restroom.

The design for the project at the old high school site in Elawodi is 95 percent complete. The archaeological survey will start after the completion of the Boundary Tree Sewer effort. For phase 2 of the project, they've applied for a grant for a multi-use facility, which they should hear back about in August or September. Planning will begin in FY2027 and a pre-planning meeting with NCDOT will take place this week.

The Junaluska Memorial Site, in Robbinsville, N.C., is 60 percent complete with a new design and the bid for construction will begin in July.

The Family Enrichment Center design is 60 percent complete and construction documents are expected to be ready in June. It will go out for construction bid in July. The center will be located near the Cherokee Indian Hospital.

The infill design for the Cherokee Fitness Center pool in Elawodi is also 60 percent complete. They are reviewing the submittal and cost estimate.

The schematic design and design development for the Veterans' Cemetery in Wayohi (Wolfstown) are complete. Construction documents will be submitted June 6 and it will go out for construction bidding in July. Drainage concerns have been addressed with the design. They are working with Frontier and Balsam West to install underground cables.

The collection facility's schematic design, planning, and programming are complete. They plan to move into design development in June and the RFQ for Construction Manager at Risk is due June 2. The work session scheduled for June 3 at 1 p.m. will allow them to give updates to the community on the progress of the project.

Sean Ross, Secretary of Commerce, discussed plans for the new mural, which was recently unveiled in the downtown area. The current mural is meant to be a placeholder until they can find local artists to incorporate their own designs. They are in the process of looking at more sites and have found potential with two more sites in town.

*Do you see strays or pet abuse?*  
**EBCI Animal Control 359-2380**

# Cherokee Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting held

By BROOKLYN BROWN  
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting was held on the afternoon of Thursday, May 21 for the new term. Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Michael Stamper called the meeting to order. Tutiya

nole Tsalagi Gadugi (Snowbird/ Cherokee Co.) Rep. Michael Smoker led the prayer.

Members present included Rep. Stamper, Wayohi (Wolfstown) Rep. Bo Crowe, Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Lavita Hill, Tsisqwoshi (Birdtown) Rep. Boyd Owle, Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shenelle Feather, and Rep. Smoker.

Rep. Stamper took nominations for a new chair of the committee. Rep. Smoker nominated Feather. Rep. Crowe seconded the nomination. Rep. Feather was elected as the new chair.

Rep. Feather opened nominations for vice chair. Rep. Stamper was elected as vice chair.

Sky Sampson, secretary of Community, Education, and Recreation, provided program updates

for the Cherokee Fitness Complex. Sampson said gym membership has officially switched to a new system called Gym Master. She said members can book classes through an online portal and set up recurring payments.

Sampson said they are also working on a hyperice lounge across from the hydromassage room. They also designed the layout for the new workout area where the pool used to be, and they are waiting on EBCI Project Management to start the project.

Timmy Ray Smith, Cherokee Recreation Youth Sports and Events coordinator, provided updates for Cherokee Recreation. Kamiyo Lanning, Cherokee Recreation manager, was on travel in Raleigh attending the Governor's Proclamation Signing for Recognition of Older Americans Month. Lanning is a representative for the North Carolina Senior Games coordinators, and she is on the board of directors.

Summer camp is starting up June 1 to July 31 at Peaches Squirrel Sports and Recreation Complex in Tsisqwoshi (Birdtown).

The Pam Taylor Painttown Gym is hosting a lunchtime kickball league this summer and an evening basketball league, and a lunchtime walking group.

The Donald "Kool-Aid" Queen gym hosts Smoky Mountain Judo every week and started a self-defense class. They will also host a cultural camp this summer for teens, and the contact to sign-up is 359-4823.

Youth football sign-ups are open until June 26. The cutoff date is Aug. 1 for ages across the board for the Smoky Mountain Conference.

Smith said a suitable place

needs to be found for youth football practice. "The previous councils before sat in here and said, they would not move youth football. And I had nothing to do with it for 8 years, but I'm back now. And these kids deserve better. John Crowe Softball Complex is not a suitable place for football practice."

Sampson said, "We can work through that, Tim. We will find you a good location for practices...I'll work on that and we'll provide an update next time."

Smith said youth baseball and softball are winding down and it's been a great season. He said the reason our charter has been absorbed by Great Smoky Mountain Little League is because Cherokee does not have enough teams to field a league.

Western Carolina University's football team and coaches will be coming to Cherokee to do a youth football camp July 11.

Smith said he and Lanning met with Shalana Yates, WCU Cherokee Center director, and Elias Huskey, administrative support associate, and they had a great meeting about the Cherokee Center getting more involved with Cherokee Recreation youth sports to host EBCI Day at the WCU versus Wofford football game on Nov. 7.

Rep. Feather added that moving the date to Nov. 7 is great because it falls in line with Native American Heritage Month.

Rep. Feather added a congratulations to the Senior Games athletes. Rep. Feather and Smith added a shoutout to Janell Rattler and Kamiyo Lanning for their work on the senior games.

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# Federal legislative updates of interest to EBCI citizens

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

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

## New this week

There are no new bills this week.

## 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 east-

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

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

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

**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 ac-

knowledge 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 acknowledgment to the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians, a state-recognized group in Michigan.

Introduced: May 7, 2025 by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.)  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 7, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

## MISSING

### Timothy Lee Benally

Enrolled with Navajo Nation

Height: 5'10"-6'2" Weight: 200-300 lbs

Male Age: 69

Hair: Black Eyes: Brown

Date of last contact: January 1, 1992

Last Known Location: Mesa, Arizona

Circumstances of Disappearance: Timothy Lee Benally was reported missing by his wife stating he has been missing since 1992. She stated no one in the family has seen Timothy since he left her family's home up in the Navajo Nation in Summer of 1992. His wife claims she ventured to a homeless encampment in an unknown location within Mesa in 1998. There, she spoke with an unidentified pastor of a church who remembered hosting Timothy in the mid 90s. At this point, Timothy's whereabouts are unknown. The Department of Veteran Affairs confirmed no benefits have been claimed by Timothy, who is a US Navy Veteran. Additionally, the Social Security Administration advised no SSI benefits have been withdrawn on Timothy's behalf.

If you have information about Timothy Benally, contact Detective Adam Hayes, Chandler Police Department (480) 782-4000.

Source: Namus.gov



GWY 𐏎° 𐏎ꞤꞤ  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • Tsalagi Soqou Ugidahli

committee 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 scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture on June 12, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

#### **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 the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 16. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on Sept. 4, 2025, and a hearing was held on this legislation in the subcommittee on Sept. 9, 2025. A Committee mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. It was reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 2, 2026 and was placed on the Union Calendar that same day.

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

see LEGISLATIVE next page



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**LEGISLATIVE:** From page 13

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

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

**H.R. 4750 (To extend federal recognition to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia).** This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.

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

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

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

munities, 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-Okla.) on Sept. 10, 2025

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

**H.R. 5327 (To extend federal recognition to the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia).** This 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 approve “\$160,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to remain available until expended”.  
Introduced: Rep. Paul Ruiz (D-Calif.) on Sept. 18, 2025  
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Sept. 18, 2025.

**H.R. 5739 (Italian Heroes and Heritage Act).** This 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 Warrant 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. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

**H.R. 5820 (Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe Recognition Act).** This 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

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page



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**LEGISLATIVE:** From page 15

grants, in cooperation with the Director of the Indian Health Service...for (A) projects and activities eligible for assistance under 603(c) of such Act; and (B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs related to the operation and management of treatment works eligible for assistance...”

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

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

**H.R. 5910 (To authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian Tribes).** As stated in the title, this 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 con-

sultation 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. 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). It was placed on the Union Calendar on Feb. 17, 2026.

**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.

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>](https://www.budd.senate.gov/contact/11th-District-Congressional-Rep.-Chuck-Edwards-(R-N.C.):https://edwards.house.gov/contact)

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* Tsalagi Soqu Ugidahli

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

## CIPD Arrest Report for May 18-24, 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.*

Chekelelee, Kaleb B. – age 38  
Arrested: May 18  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court, Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Murphy, Reena Lashanda – age 34  
Arrested: May 18  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Johnson, Brandi Nichol – age 39  
Arrested: May 19  
Released: May 19  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence (two counts), Probation Violation

Washington Jr., Robert Lee – age 34  
Arrested: May 19  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court, Pre-Trial Release Violation, Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle

Holt, Stella – age 45  
Arrested: May 20

Released: May 21  
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Owl, Sierra Anna – age 40  
Arrested: May 20  
Released: May 20  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Wall, David Jason – age 52  
Arrested: May 20  
Released: May 20  
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Lespier, April Lee – age 44  
Arrested: May 21  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedule 1 through 5

Butts, Micah Samuel – age 27  
Arrested: May 22  
Released: May 22  
Charges: Resisting Public Officer

Smith, Nathan Keith – age 35  
Arrested: May 22  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Blanton, Tylina Rae – age 24  
Arrested: May 23  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Communicating Threats

Bradley, Ronald Albert – age 43  
Arrested: May 24  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Littlejohn, Curtis Ray – age 57  
Arrested: May 24

Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Drug Trafficking

McPherson, Shi Paul – age 26  
Arrested: May 24  
Released: May 24  
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Price, Brittany Taylor – age 32  
Arrested: May 24  
Released: Not released as of report date (May 25)  
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession Drug Paraphernalia



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury won three Stanley Cup titles (2009, 2016 and 2017) with what team?
2. Name the Kenyan runner who became the first man to run an official marathon in under two hours when he finished the 2026 London Marathon in 1:59:30.
3. In 1947, the Detroit Tigers' Roy Cullenbine set the Major League Baseball record for consecutive games with a walk with how many?
4. What placekicker from South Korea made 37 of 39 field goal attempts and led the Atlanta Falcons in scoring with 144 points in the 2020 NFL season?
5. What is the official mascot of San Jose State University's athletic teams?
6. Name the actor and martial artist from Sweden who played Soviet boxer Ivan Drago in the 1985 sports drama film "Rocky IV."
7. In November 2025, what troubled former Major League Baseball star received a presidential pardon for a 1995 tax evasion conviction?

### Answers

1. The Pittsburgh Penguins.
2. Sebastian Sawa.
3. 22.
4. Younghoe Koo.
5. Sammy the Spartan.
6. Dolph Lundgren.
7. Darryl Strawberry.

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## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Police officers in Thailand can be forced to wear Hello Kitty armbands as punishment for transgressions such as illegal parking or arriving late to work.

- Historians cite runaway inflation as a major cause of ancient Rome's fall.

- During World War II, the SS ran a wiretapped brothel named "The Kitty Salon" in Berlin where prostitutes would glean information from clients through seemingly innocuous conversations.

- "Hoover wagons," named after President Herbert Hoover, were broken down cars pulled by mules during the Great Depression.

- Actor Jimmy Stewart was rejected by the military after he was drafted, for being too thin.

- When Napoleon attacked Vienna in 1809, Beethoven hid in his brother's basement and covered his ears with pillows, afraid the noise would destroy his remaining hearing.

- The FIFA World Cup is the world's most-watched sporting event.

- Most tornadoes in the Southern Hemisphere rotate clockwise, while their Northern Hemisphere counterparts rotate counterclockwise.

- When serving as a lawyer, Abraham Lincoln only argued one case in front of the U.S. Supreme Court — which he lost.

- In ancient Egypt, chief embalmers often wore a mask of the god Anubis.

- Soccer is known as "football" everywhere except America. The name refers not to the fact that it's played with the feet, but that it's played on one's feet, rather than on horseback.

- About two-thirds of the world's lowest literate adults are women.

- Before the year 1000, all chess pieces were male figures or animals. The queen made her debut when the game was introduced in southern Europe.

\*\*\*

**Thought for the Day:** "After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him ... The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut." — *Will Rogers*

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# "IT'S TIME FOR GUTTER MAINTENANCE"

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

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

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

Here is a list of some of those reasons.

### PREVENT EROSION & MOLD



#### 1. Roof Damage

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

#### 2. Wood Fascia Damage

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

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

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

#### 4. Damage to Foundations and Landscaping

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

#### 5. Slip and fall

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

#### 6. Prevent Mold

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

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



"DON'T TRIM YOUR GUTTERS"



"CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS"



## CHS Athletic Awards 2025-26

Submitted by  
Cherokee High School Athletics

### Varsity Football

- Co-MVP - Jonathan Saylor
- Co-MVP - Javan Garcia
- Most Improved - Charlie Swayney
- Coach's Award - Jayden Tramper

### JV Football

- MVP - Jordan Panther
- Most Improved - Greyson Ledford
- Coach's Award - Greyson Panther

### Varsity Cheerleading

- MVP - Chloe Cooper
- Coach's Award - Zoe De Los Reyes

### JV Cheerleading

- MVP - Misha Slee
- Most Improved - Ava Davis
- Coach's Award - Nahnie George

### Varsity Volleyball

- MVP - Joscelyn Stamper
- Most Improved - Morgan Hernandez
- Coach's Award - Yvonne Saunooke

### JV Volleyball

- MVP - Nazari "Lolo" Bell
- Most Improved - Maya Lossiah
- Coach's Award - Kyla Keel-Aguilera

### Men's Cross Country

- MVP - Kingzlli Beheler
- Top Runner Award - Marek Brown
- Top Runner Award - Matix Stamper

### Women's Cross Country

- MVP - Dvdaya Swimmer
- Top Runner Award - Livia Crowe
- Top Runner Award - Lilly Lossiah

### Men's Golf

- Most Dedicated Golfer - Jae McMillan
- Most Improved - Zayden Crowe
- Most Consistent Golfer - Matix Stamper

### Men's Wrestling

- MVP - Levi Tramper
- Most Improved - Siah Teesateskie
- Coach's Award - Darius Taylor

### Women's Wrestling

- MVP - Pippa Welch
- Most Improved - Hailey Winchester
- Coach's Award - Livia Crowe

### Men's Indoor Track

- MVP - Zaynon Squirrel Taylor
- Most Improved - Reginald Hyatt
- Coach's Award - Johnny Long

### Women's Indoor Track

- MVP - Joscelyn Stamper




**EBCI TRIBAL HOUSING FORECLOSURE PREVENTION**

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

**Lending Services can HELP!**




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

Call or email for more information:

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

*We also can do seated chair yoga!*



**ALPACA YOGA & MAT PILATES CLASSES**

Classes April 24<sup>th</sup> - Oct 24<sup>th</sup>

- Gentle Yoga & Mat Pilates
- Blended Yoga

Outdoors under our covered pavilion surrounded by serene mountain views. Friendly Alpacas will be roaming nearby. We'll meet and feed Alpacas after every class. Our classes are for all levels and we rent yoga mats.

Classes Friday & Saturday mornings. See our website for class schedules, registration, & more. Private Group Sessions can also be scheduled.

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386 Walker Rd, Waynesville, NC 28786  
(828) 246-9486

- Most Improved - Roxy Solis
- Coach's Award - Dvdaya Swimmer

#### Varsity Men's Basketball

- MVP - Samuel Hernandez
- Most Improved - Matix Stamper
- Coach's Award - Zayden Crowe

#### Varsity Women's Basketball

- MVP - Madison Rogers
- Defensive Specialist - Lilly Lossiah
- Best All-Around - Dvdaya Swimmer
- Best All-Around - Joscelyn Stamper
- Playmaker Award - Daisee Fourkiller-Raby

#### JV Boys Basketball

- MVP - Felix Lossiah
- Most Improved - Gauge Gunter
- Coach's Award - Jeron Martens

#### JV Girls Basketball

- MVP - Morgan Hernandez
- Most Improved - Kyla Keel-Aguilera
- Coach's Award - Maya Lossiah

#### Varsity Soccer

- MVP - Brihana Burgos
- Most Improved - Audrina Cooper
- Coach's Award - Layla Thompson

#### JV Girls Soccer

- MVP - Khrystyna Armachain
- Most Improved - Jordin Eaglestar
- Coach's Award - Janessa Owl

#### Women's Golf

- Most Dedicated Player - Jayla Pheasant
- Most Improved - Jean Layne
- Most Consistent Golfer - Marlee Hicks

#### Softball

- Co-MVP - Livia Crowe
- Co-MVP - Emilee Brady
- Most Improved - Blaze Crowe
- Coach's Award - Taytem Saunooke

#### Baseball

- MVP - Emiliano "Mili" Garcia
- Most Improved - Jay Jay Ledford
- Coach's Award - Talan Crowe

#### Men's Track and Field

- Field MVP - Johnny Long
- Field Coach's Award - Marek Brown
- Track MVP - Tsula Howlingcrane
- Track Coach's Award - Kingzlli Beheler
- Field Coach's Award - Zaynon Squirrelr Taylor
- Track Coach's Award - Jonathan Saylor

#### Women's Track and Field

- Field MVP - Joscelyn Stamper
- Field Coach's Award - Briann Teesateskie
- Track MVP - Dvdaya Swimmer
- Track Coach's Award - Kyla Keel-Aguilera
- Field Coach's Award - Livia Crowe
- Track Coach's Award - Lilly Lossiah

#### Specialty Awards

- Barbara Sequoyah Most Determined Female Athlete - Lilly Lossiah
- Ray Owle Most Determined Male Athlete - Zayden Crowe
- Vernon Hornbuckle Christian Male Athlete - Reginald Hyatt
- Vernon Hornbuckle Christian Female Athlete - Morgan Hernandez
- Noah Powell Memorial Leadership Award: Male - Jonathan Saylor
- Noah Powell Memorial Leadership Award: Female - Daisee Fourkiller-Raby
- Ray Kinsland Memorial Sportsmanship

Award: Male - Kaden Stephens

- Ray Kinsland Memorial Sportsmanship

Award: Female - Marlee Hicks

- Chief John A. Crowe Memorial Most Dedicated Award: Male - Kingzlli Beheler

- Chief John A. Crowe Memorial Most Dedicated Award: Female - Yvonne Saunooke, Kyla Keel-Aguilera

- Noland Crowe Memorial: Mr. Brave - Samuel Hernandez

- Miranda Long Stamper Honorarium: Ms. Brave - Livia Crowe

- Tye Mintz Honorarium Male Braveheart Award - Johnny Long

- Peaches Squirrelr Memorial Female Braveheart Award - Emilee Brady

- CCS Booster Club Male Spirit of the Braves Award - Levi Tramper

- CCS Booster Club Female Spirit of the Braves Award - Jean Layno

- Mary Lambert Memorial Hustle Award: Male - Javan Garcia

- Mary Lambert Memorial Hustle Award: Female - Madison Rogers

- Pat Hornbuckle Memorial Outstanding Volunteer: Student - Jayla Pheasant

- Pat Hornbuckle Memorial Outstanding Volunteer: Community Member - Moe Hernandez

- James "Hogeye" Taylor Male Athlete of the Year - Matix Stamper, Johnny Long

- Bertha Saunooke Memorial Female Athlete of the Year - Joscelyn Stamper, Dvdaya Swimmer

- Sam Taylor Memorial Exemplary Assistant Coach Award - Mike Winchester

- Kent Briggs Honorarium Exemplary Coach Award - Ahli-sha Stephens, Miranda Stamper

- Charlie Stamper Memorial Academic Award: Male - Johnny Long

- Charlie Stamper Memorial Academic Award: Female - Nayaa Addo



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

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

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 station

**Tell It & Sell It**  
 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.  
 Weekdays



**WRESTLING: Neadeau signs with Mount Olive**

Tasia Neadeau, center, signed a letter of intent on Monday, May 18 to wrestle for the University of Mount Olive Trojans. A member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and daughter of Cherokee Indian Police Dept. Chief of Police Carla Neadeau, left, and Roger Neadeau, right. Tasia is a decorated wrestler and graduate of Swain Co. High School. She was a foundational member of women's wrestling at Swain, a two-time NCHSAA state qualifier, western regional champion, and first-time WNC women's champion at the Holy Angels Invitational in 2022. Neadeau has an overall high school record of 153-38. (BROOKLYN BROWN/One Feather photo)



**Celebrating 60 years, since June 1966**  
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**CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI**

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

**Cherokeefonefeather1966@gmail.com**

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

## **Cherokee Elementary School Honor Roll 2025-26 4th 9wks. Grading Period**

**3rd Grade Principal Honor Roll:** Addisyn Teesateskie, Aliceanah Carroll, Ani Bradley, Athena Crowe, Audree Waldroup, Avi Maney, Aydin Welch, Camdyn “Skylar” Johnson, Charli Sherrill, Charlotte Young, Colton Cloer, Daxton Littlejohn, Eldon Crowe, Isabella Rodriguez, Jaxon Jimenez, Jesse “Easton” Toineeta, Kristaleena Archer, Lavenia Hyatt, Lennox Lambert, Mataya Sampson, Mia Spurlock, Mika Johnson, Misty Beheler, Naomi Reed, Nathan “Eli” Haynes, Nixon Davis, Ramona Bigwitch, Rhett Lambert, Rogue Jones, Samuel McMillan, Thomas Crawford, Tripp Pruitt,

Tristan Barnes, Zoey Reed  
**3rd Grade A Honor Roll:** None

**3rd Grade B Honor Roll:**  
Aaliyah Collins, Abbagail Walls, Alex Cruz, Ariel Swayney, Augustus Shuler, Aurora Lira, Avere Parker, Aviana Jones, Axton Taylor, Barrett Smoker, Brayonna Tucker, Connor Wiggins, Daylen Rodriguez, Derrick Saunooke, Ezio Gutierrez, Gabriel George, Grayson Currie, Haiden Lambert, Harli Sherrill, Hashiya “Dax” Davis, Hayven Johnson, Janiyha Owl, Jayven Crowe, Jericho Queen, Julius “Jax” Haynie, Kaius Blanton, Kenley Stilwell, Koda Long, Kylee Villa, Margo Mahan-Flores, Milah Hernandez, Neveah Saunooke, Nolan Rodriguez, Oakland Wood-

ard, Oaklyn Buchanan, Salem Hornbuckle, Scarlett Bradley, Stivi Lambert, Tristen Long, Tucker Locust, Zillon Swayney

**4th Grade Principal Honor Roll:** Aaron Beach, Addie Martens, Aliya Thompson, Amrie Pauli, Analee Garcia-Hernandez, Ayla Winter Wildcatt, Berklee Hicks, Carter Smith, Colton Hill, Damiyn Squirrel, Declan Junaluska, Erik Treadway, Fischer Deck, Jamison Lambert, Jessilyn Tipton-Lambert, Julian Santos, Keedan Lossie, Kiona French, Lawson Davis, Lyla McCormick, Mattie Moore, Nevaeh Hull, Noah Hall, Preston Wright, Raylyn Watson, Rauzlynn Allison, Tobius Williams, Vaelyn Owl, Venus Diaz, William Wolfe, Zaiden Armachain

**4th Grade A Honor Roll:** Blair Owle, Samuel Sampson

**4th Grade B Honor Roll:** Andi Watty, Avaleena Teesatuskie-Taylor, Avery Owle, Caiden Tortalita, Calcifer Gloyne, Carleetoe Maye, Cassia Crowe, Chanton Reynolds, Charity West, Fallon Littledave, Francis “Faith” Panther, Harper Walkingstick, Hihanni Red Bird, Ian Lopez, Izzabell Taylor, Jarran Johnson, Jeremiah Read, Kamryn Saunooke, Landyn Thompson, Leyoni “Bella” Frady, Lyla Davis, Makenzy Welch, Micah Ricks, Nya Queen, Osley Blankenship, Remedi Bark, Ryker Walkingstick, Theseus West, Wayne Wiggins, Zayden Kalonaheskie

## **EBCI COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **EBCI Transfer Station mulch sale**

The EBCI Transfer Station will deliver a truck load of mulch to private citizens on the Qualla Boundary for the set price of \$75/load. This began on Tuesday, May 26 and will end on Friday, June 5. To schedule a delivery, call (828) 359-6735 or email [rmaney@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:rmaney@ebci-nsn.gov).

- *EBCI Transfer Station*

### **Cherokee Supreme Court sessions for 2026:**

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

- *Cherokee Tribal Court*

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## CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

*For ads or subscriptions:*

**Ad Sales Coordinator – Dawn Arneach,  
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359-6262, [indiclim1@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:indiclim1@ebci-nsn.gov)**

# Things to do in Cherokee

Compiled by SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather Asst. Editor

## Annual Kituwah Celebration

What: This event, celebrating its 30th year, is held annually in recognition of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians regaining ownership over Kituwah – the Mother Town of the Cherokee. It features social dances, entertainment, stickball demonstrations, lunch, and more.

When: Saturday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Kituwah at 3831 Ela Rd. in Bryson City, N.C.

Cost: Free

Info: (828) 359-6406

## Father's Day Market

What: This event features local artists and vendors set up selling their unique creations.

When: Friday, June 12 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Pamela Dawn Taylor Gym at 10 Old Gap Rd in Cherokee, N.C.

Cost: Free

Info: Angie Garcia (828) 788-4585

## Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest

What: According to Brown Productions, LLC, "The contest will feature 20 or more Elvis Tribute Artists competing for the opportunity to represent Brown Productions and Harrah's Cherokee at the Ultimate Semifinals in Memphis during Elvis Week in August 2026." Note – This show is for ages 21 and up only.

When: Saturday, June 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Harrah's Cherokee Resort Event Center in Cherokee, N.C.

Cost: \$22 to \$96

Info: ticketmaster.com

## Kananesgi Art Market

What: Around 30 Indigenous artists will be set up displaying their art which will be for sale to the public. This is a great time to meet the artists and purchase some outstanding works.

When: Saturday, June 20 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Where: Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort at 777 Casino Dr. in Cherokee, N.C.

Cost: Free

Info: www.kananesgi.com

## Wheel Scorcher at Fire Mountain

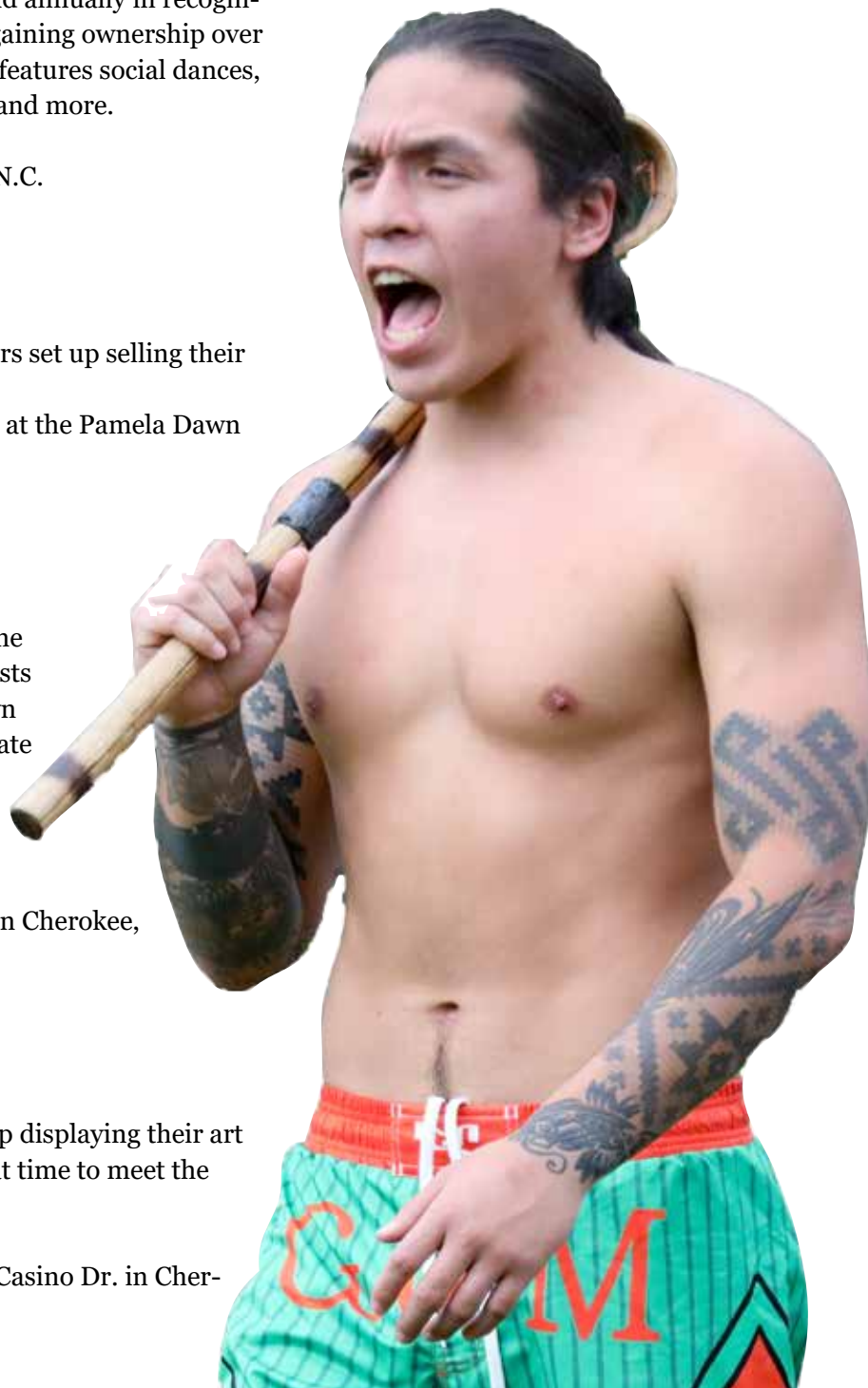
What: This features Onewheel/EUC (electric unicycle) racing in several events.

When: Friday, June 26 to Sunday, June 28

Where: Fire Mountain Trail at 160 Indian Village Rd. in Cherokee, N.C.

Info: <https://visitcherokeenc.com/event/wheel-scorcher-at-fire-mountain>

*Note: The Matt Mathews comedy show "Boujee on a Budget", scheduled for Friday, June 5 at Harrah's Cherokee Event Center is sold out.*



<<

Treannie Arch is shown at the start of an Anetso (stickball) exhibition at the 2025 Kituwah Celebration. This year's event is being held on Saturday, June 6. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



# YMCA Camp Watia

## Coed Overnight Camp in Bryson City, NC

Every summer is filled with friends new and old, adventures big and small, and connections that will last a lifetime. We inspire campers to see what's possible at YMCA Camp Watia. Special pricing of \$150 per camper only available to EBCI members for summer 2026. Open to grades 3-12.

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



For more information call: 828-359-6934 or contact Megan Stamer at [megastam@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:megastam@ebci-nsn.gov)

[ymcacampwatia.org](http://ymcacampwatia.org)

## OBITUARIES ᏆᏍᏏᏁᏍᏏ

### Robyn Michelle Bigmeat

Robyn Michelle Bigmeat, age 54, of Cherokee, N.C., passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, May 24, 2026, at her residence in Cherokee, N.C.

Robyn was born on Sept. 21, 1971, in Cherokee, N.C., to her parents, the late Robert and Aubrey Ann George Bigmeat. In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her daughter, Alicia Wolfe, and her brother, Beejay Bigmeat.

She is survived by her mother, Aubrey Bigmeat (Cowboy); stepmother, Marina Catt; sister, Sonya Bigmeat; her children, Crystal Brady (Nathan), Wade Wolfe, and Rabekka Cooke (Matthew); four grandchildren, Dahlilah Arneach,

Emmalynn Arneach, and Jasiah Cooke, with a granddaughter on the way; special cousin, Jim Bigmeat; and many nieces and nephews whom she loved deeply.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

### Velma Jean McMillan Hemphill

Velma Jean McMillan Hemphill, 82, of the 3200 Acre Tract, passed away Tuesday, May 26, 2026 after a long illness. A native of Swain County, she was the daughter of the late Ray and Edna Owle McMillan and wife of the late Henry Hayse Robertson and Charles Hemphill.

She was a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

She was preceded in death by her son, James Stanley Robertson, Sr.; and her sister, Edith Maney.

She is survived by her son, Darrell Robertson and wife Beth of Knoxville, Tenn.; his children, Emma Robertson of Knoxville, Avery Robertson and wife Tanna, of Knoxville, daughter-in-law, Cindy Robertson; her children Stanley, Heath, Brett and Charles Robertson; great grandchildren, Jasmine, Lily, Deanna, Bruce, Ethan, Tsali, Ani Robertson; and her brother, Dean McMillan and wife Erma; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family received friends Monday, June 1 at Crisp Funeral Home.

A graveside service immediately followed at Boiling Springs Cem-

etry with Gary Maney officiating.

Pallbearers were among her family.

The family would like to extend their thanks to those who helped her get the care that she received, including Tsali Care Center, Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority, Tennessee Cancer Specialist and the Proton Therapy Center of Knoxville. And, thank you to all the friends and family who came by, visited, and helped taking care of Velma.

### Kristine Trottingwolf

Kristine Trottingwolf, of Petaluma, Calif., passed away on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at the age of 79. Kris was enrolled as a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Thankfully, she endures no more suffering from her battle with cancer.

Kris was a gentle, free, and independent spirit! She was a music lover, everything from The Grateful Dead to Willie Nelson! She cherished the sanctity of Mother Earth, growing herbs and wonderful flowers in her garden. She loved the peace and solitude of going to the coast and gazing upon the Pacific Ocean with her faithful companion; her service dog, Allie. Kris faithfully supported many animal-related organizations, including the rescue of orphaned and injured Pacific marine mammals, saving the near-extinct California condor, the rehabilitation of injured sea turtles, and countless others.

Her last visit to the Qualla Boundary of the Eastern Band of

Cherokee Indians in North Carolina came in 2012 to share some of her parents' ashes with the beautiful rhododendron and wildflowers that grow along the Oconaluftee River trail. She also supported the Genoa Indian School Foundation in Genoa, Neb., where her father lived in boarding school for 3 years during his youth.

Kris dearly loved her niece and nephews; Shane and Seth Murphy of Anchorage, Alaska, Rebecca Wolfe Damas of League City, Texas, and Christopher Wolfe of Pearland, Texas. Cherishing their fond memories of Kris are her siblings, Laurie Wolfe Albrigo (Jerry) of Coeur d' Alene, Idaho, Brad Wolfe (Elaine) of League City, Texas, and Dan Wolfe (Sheree) of Tyler, Texas, and her close friend, Bob Bell.

Predeceasing Kris were her parents; Dale and Alice Wolfe of Seabrook, Texas, and her grandparents, Edward and Carrie Seitz of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Ned Trottingwolf, originally of Big Cove, N.C., and Nellie Wolfe of Cincinnati, Ohio. Her grandfather's name was unfortunately changed from Trottingwolf to Wolfe at Carlisle Indian School. Kris righted that wrong many years ago by legally changing her name back to Trottingwolf!

Donations honoring Kris' life can be made to: Canine Companions at P.O. Box 446, Santa Rosa, CA, 95402.

Kris has found peace. "... feel free and happy." We love you.



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# Thinking About Building A Home?

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

## **BUILDING HOMES TOGETHER**

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

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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



# 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.

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



#### 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!)

### 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 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.

### 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**.



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





# EBCI Red Meat Processing Facility: Place & Planet Infographic



Here's some Big Picture information on how the EBCI Red Meat Processing Facility is being built responsibly, with ethical consideration for people, the planet & animals.

## What Features do we need at the Facility's Location?



### Three Phase Power

To connect the facility to electricity



### Sewer Hook-Ups

So employees can wash their hands & clean the equipment



### Trailer Access

So customers can easily bring their animals to the facility & buyers can pick-up finished products



### Out of a Flood Zone

So our facility can stay safe from a Flood & remain accessible in case of an emergency



### On Tribal Land Near the Boundary

So Tribal Members can easily access the facility

## Why some locations we considered couldn't work:



Swain County's sewer system is at capacity & they can't take on new business now.



THPO prevents ground disturbance of archeological significant locations; no digging or construction



Some Land options aren't owned by the Tribe & they were too expensive to purchase



## What Tribal Regulations keep the Land & People Safe?

- The **Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO)** analyzes the archaeological significance of the land and denies digging or construction at any sites that are culturally important. THPO is in full support of this location and project.
- **EBCI Environmental Office** reviews all land development projects for compliance with Tribal environmental codes and sustainability goals.
- **EBCI Planning & Development Board** evaluates site suitability based on proximity to homes, utility infrastructure, and long-term environmental impact.
- **Land Use and Zoning Guidelines** ensure the selected site is appropriate for processing, with safeguards against noise, waste, and environmental disruption.



## What Federal Regulations keep the Land & People Safe?

- The **National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)** ensures that air, water, land, and historical sites are not harmed during a construction project. In order to receive the USDA funding to build the meat processing facility, the Tribe had to conduct a *NEPA Review* for the original site, and we plan to conduct another one for the final site.
- Federal **Clean Water Act** protects surface and groundwater from contamination from facility runoff, waste discharge, and processing effluent. The Federal **Clean Air Act** regulates emissions from equipment and refrigeration systems to ensure clean air quality around the facility.
- Our processing facility will be certified by **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)** the highest regulatory body that requires continuous inspection and strict adherence to federal food safety standards protecting the public's health. USDA's **Food Safety Policies and Inspectors** will enforce sanitation, waste disposal, and health protocols to ensure safety for all.
- **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)** requires safe working conditions, equipment use, and employee training in meat processing environments.



## Animal Welfare Policies being Implemented:

- **USDA FSIS Humane Handling Enforcement** includes inspections, facility design standards, employee training, and clear consequences for non-compliance.
- **Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (HMSA)** requires animals be treated humanely and rendered insensible to pain before slaughter; enforced by USDA FSIS.
- **Temple Grandin's Animal Handling Guidelines** is widely regarded as the gold standard for facility layout and stress-free animal movement.
- **North American Meat Institute (NAMI) Animal Welfare Audit** covers everything from stunning to unloading, a certification often required by retailers and institutions.

## Have more questions about our facility's location & regulation implementation?



Come by the EBCI Cooperative Extension Office! We'd love to talk with you.  
828 859 6939  
876 Acquoni Rd.,  
Cherokee, NC 28719





## May report from Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Michael Stamper

Hello everyone,

This is my Council Report for the month of May. This time of year is always special as graduation ceremonies begin across our communities. Whether you are moving from middle school to high school or graduating from a college or university, please know that all of Tribal leadership is proud of you. The more our people pursue education, the stronger we become as a Nation.

As always, my report follows the standard format below.

### Community Events

June 6 – Annual Kituwah Celebration

Join us for social dances, a stick-ball demonstration, food, and community fellowship at the Kituwah Mound.

Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Location: Kituwah Mound, 3831 Ela Road, Bryson City, NC 28713

June 6 – Bingo Night

Proceeds from this event will support Maddie, Joss, Daisee, and Lilly with their travel basketball expenses. Let's show up for these young women as they continue their hard work and dedication during the offseason.

Time: Doors open at 5 p.m.; games begin at 6 p.m. Location: Pam Taylor Gym (Painttown Gym), 10 Old Gap Road, Cherokee, NC 28719

### Project Updates

#### Recently Completed Projects

This list will be updated as additional projects are completed

throughout the 2026 calendar year.

#### Projects Currently Underway or Nearing Completion

##### *Nvdiyeli Trail*

The project is complete. Signage is currently being created. Discussions with the Museum of the Cherokee People have led to the addition of stairs extending from the museum parking lot to the trail entrance, improving safety and accessibility.

##### *Ceremonial Grounds*

Fill dirt and grading work are underway. Concerns regarding runoff are being addressed.

##### *Multipurpose Facility (Old High School Site)*

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Designs for the project are nearly complete. As the design phase concludes, upgrades to water and sewer lines will be implemented to support future construction. An archaeological site review will follow. Funding is still being pursued through grant applications, and timelines for construction and completion have not yet been established.

### ***New Restroom Facilities for the Historical Area (Indian Village and Fire Mountain Trails)***

Designs have been approved and the bid process is complete. The next phase will include evaluating the project's scope to reduce costs while maintaining necessary upgrades to the facilities.

### **Ordinances Under Consideration** (Ordinances that have been passed, withdrawn, or killed will not appear on this list.)

- Compliance with NC State requirements for Underground Storage Tanks
- Amendments to election laws
- Establishing an Elk Hunting Season
- Establishing the EBCI's digital sovereignty
- Updating laws on the assignment of possessory holdings
- Regulating the caging of bears on Tribal land
- Expanding drug trafficking laws to include synthetic opioids
- Clarifying Cherokee Code regarding UTV use on approved roads
- Hiring process for the One Feather Editor
- Creating a chapter governing unmanned aircraft systems

### **Work Sessions**

### ***Upcoming Work Sessions***

June 3  
• 1:30 p.m. – Museum's Off Site Collections Facility Capital Project

### **Monthly Update for Readers**

This month's topic focuses on sovereignty, specifically digital sovereignty. The term sovereignty implies self determination and often stems from treaty rights. It allows Nations to create their own operating structures that guide and protect every member.

To be clear, while legislation regarding digital sovereignty is currently tabled, this article is not intended to influence public opinion. Instead, it aims to provide clarity about what digital sovereignty means and why it matters.

Digital sovereignty refers to a Nation's ability to control how its data is stored, processed, transmitted, and governed. In global contexts, this includes authority over digital infrastructure, networks, and online narratives. For tribal nations, it extends to the protection of cultural knowledge, community information, and the digital systems that support daily governance.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians generates an immense amount of data every day. Enrollment information, health records, cultural archives, and governance documents all live within the tribal network. The EBCI has already taken major steps toward self governed digital infrastructure by owning servers, broadband companies, and cloud systems that we operate ourselves. Cybersecurity remains a top priority to prevent data loss, theft, or misuse.

As technology continues to advance, using tools that help us collect and protect data ensures that our cultural values, language,

and knowledge of the land can be safely preserved. This also creates easier access for members who may need or want to look up information related to their heritage, community, or services.

Digital sovereignty matters because it gives the Tribe control over the digital space we already occupy. Without it, we remain dependent on external powers for essential functions. In today's world, digital systems shape everything from healthcare to education to economic development. Establishing a framework for digital sovereignty strengthens our long term security and protects who we are as a people in the digital world. One could argue that digital dependence on outside entities risks undermining the inherent sovereignty we already hold. We must protect our economic self determination and ensure that data tied to our history and culture remains under our authority.

We, as a Tribe, have had ongoing discussions about who owns the data collected on a daily basis. When we enter into service contracts or approve studies on tribal lands, we must include language ensuring that the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians retains ownership of all resulting information. This helps ensure that if data is misused or misappropriated, we have the authority to hold someone accountable.

While the benefits of digital sovereignty are often discussed in terms of security and ownership, the advantages extend much further. Digital sovereignty allows the Tribe to design systems that reflect our cultural values, improve government efficiency, and strengthen community trust. It supports innovation by enabling us to build tools that meet our specific needs

rather than relying on one size fits all solutions. It also ensures that future generations inherit a digital landscape that reflects Cherokee priorities, not outside interests. In short, digital sovereignty empowers us to shape our own technological future with intention and cultural integrity.

Developing or adopting tribally governed digital tools—such as the Tribal Portal—is essential for moving long standing processes into secure digital platforms. This shift not only improves efficiency but also increases accountability for everyone involved in completing those processes.

While the recent passage of a "moratorium" on data centers is a reasonable precaution, the need for data storage will continue to grow. As we rely more heavily on technology to improve daily life, the amount of data we generate increases, and so does the need for secure, tribally controlled storage solutions.

I hope this article provides clarity on what sovereignty is and how digital sovereignty can support the EBCI moving forward. This is a general overview and should not be interpreted as support for or opposition to the ordinance currently before Tribal Council. It is simply meant to inform and offer examples of how digital sovereignty functions and why it can be beneficial.

### **Michael Stamper**

Tribal Council Representative  
Painttown Community  
828-736-6192  
mikestamper@ebci-nsn.gov

**Small Beginnings****Part 1 of 2**

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

Scripture reference: Matthew 13:31, Matthew 17:20, Mark 4:31, Luke 13:19, Luke 17:6, James 3:5, Mark 6:41, Matthew 5:16

In my first book, I wrote a message about an old African proverb concerning a mosquito. The concept is meant to examine how people consider small things insignificant. They might also think or believe they are small and insignificant to make a difference or be of value to God or anyone in this world. So wrong!

This writing reemphasizes how important each of us is to God. God takes what seems small and insignificant and makes it great in His kingdom.

Jesus references the tiny mustard seed in several places. The gospel contains his parables and mentions what the kingdom of Heaven is like. There are also references to how much faith we need to accomplish His will. The mustard seed and the yud, or yod in Hebrew, are both small but extremely important. So are all of us.

God is big, and we often think of Him in His grandiose state more than we consider Him in small things like a mustard seed or a yud. What's a yud, you ask? The yud is the tenth and smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet. It

is a small mark that looks like the English version of an apostrophe. The difference in what it means in Hebrew is much more critical. The yud has historical significance because it is the precursor of the Roman letters Ii and Jj. Note that both have a dot above the lowercase letter. The yud also has a parallel in the Greek alphabet as the 'iota.' In this case, the 'iota' is also the tenth letter and means ten. 'iota' and 'jot' are synonymous. Hence the phrases, 'not one iota' or 'not one jot or tittle' have become associated with the smallest dots or marks written on parchment. ("Yod - the Tenth Letter of the Hebrew Alphabet - Chabad.org," n.d.)

What makes the yud so powerful? The yud is significant because

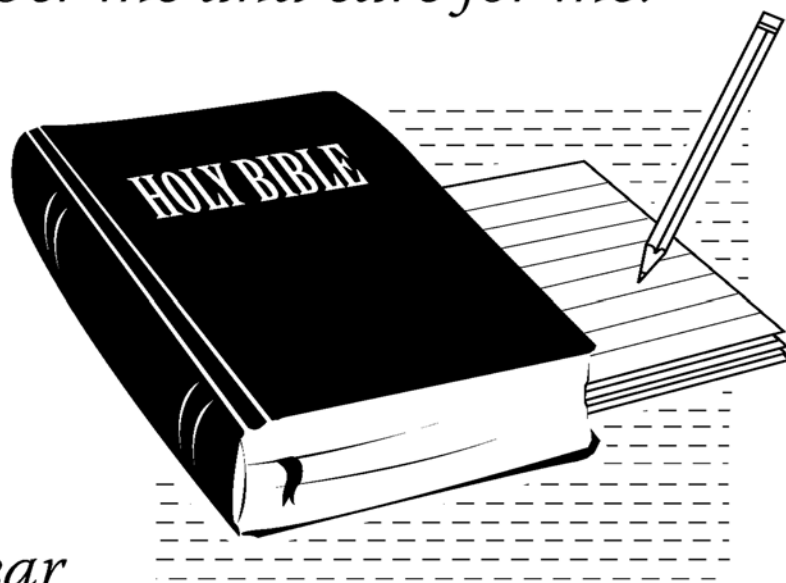
it is noted in brief as the power of God. In Hebrew, it is the first letter in Yahweh or YHVH. The name of Jesus begins with a yud, as does Jerusalem and Israel. Could it be a coincidence? How is it that the smallest of letters is the beginning of the greatest of words?

Lord God and Father, though I am weak, You are strong. I praise and thank You for reminding me that You are always there to lean on when I feel small and insignificant. I know that You are great, and You lead and guide me. You are my strong tower, and hold me in Your mighty right hand of power. Thank You as I remember that no one can stand against me when You are for me. What a mighty God You are. Amen.



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*Lord, you understand; remember me and care for me.  
Avenge me on my persecutors.  
You are long-suffering – do not take me away; think of how I suffer reproach for your sake. When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, Lord God Almighty.*



JEREMIAH 15:15,16

# Amber Waves

HEY, OWEN, LOOK, MY MOM ALWAYS PUTS THE COOKIES IN THAT BIG COOKIE JAR.



THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME WAY TO GET IT DOWN?



I'M WILLING TO BET I COULD GET A NAP IN BEFORE THEY FIGURE OUT A WAY.



I'M WILLING TO BET I COULD GET A NAP IN BEFORE THEY FIGURE OUT A WAY.



by Dave T. Phipps

# TIGER



# The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

# Weekly SUDOKU

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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



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Candle is taller. 2. Arm is resting on table. 3. Back of chair is different. 4. Dial on stove is moved. 5. Light is shorter. 6. Hair is different.

10. Charles I in 1649

1. Blossom, Buttercup and Bubbles; 2. Indian Ocean; 3. 2,026; 4. Olivia Dean; 5. Hawaii; 6. "Double Indemnity"; 7. 10; 8. Five from each team; 9. The Sun's solar winds and magnetic fields create a protective bubble around our solar system; 10. Charles I in 1649

# Trivia Test Answers

# King Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Idle of Monty Python
- 5 Homer's lament
- 8 Grate
- 12 Sprint
- 13 Geological period
- 14 Intro studio class
- 15 Met melody
- 16 Knee cartilage
- 18 Cough drop flavor
- 20 Valerie Harper sitcom
- 21 Light brown
- 22 Fluffy neck-piece
- 23 Strep of "The Post"
- 26 Patching up
- 30 Lab eggs
- 31 Witty one
- 32 Wrigley product
- 33 Proteges
- 36 Accra's country
- 38 Stein filler
- 39 Zadora of "Hairspray"
- 40 Huge success
- 43 H.L. — (The Sage of Baltimore)
- 47 Cites
- 49 Comic actor Danny

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47				48			49			
50				51			52			
53				54			55			

- 50 Oklahoma tribe
- 51 Nonsense
- 52 French 101 verb
- 53 Military VIPs
- 54 GI's address
- 55 Marsh plant
- 8 Actress Phylcia
- 9 With the bow, musically
- 10 Poker type
- 11 Galileo's birthplace
- 17 Pressing need
- 19 Actor Linden
- 22 Plead
- 23 Soccer —
- 24 Prior night
- 25 Campaigned
- 26 More, to Manuel
- 27 Polish tennis star Swiatek
- 28 Convent head
- 29 "Today" rival, briefly
- 31 Pint-sized
- 34 Flavors
- 35 K thru 12
- 36 Tom Collins liquor
- 37 Website invader
- 39 Green sauce
- 40 Urban haze
- 41 Apportion
- 42 Shortly
- 43 L-Q bridge
- 44 Designer Spade
- 45 Literary Jane
- 46 Must have
- 48 British singer Rita

## DOWN

- 1 Dutch cheese
- 2 Exceptional
- 3 "The doctor —"
- 4 Talkative
- 5 Fiend
- 6 Pitcher
- 7 Solo in space

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

# Weekly SUDOKU

ERIC	DOH	OH	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO	HO
DASH	ER	AS	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST
AR	IA	ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST
ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI
ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI
ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI
ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI
ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI
ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI
ME	NI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI	SC	US	ST	AR	TI

Solution time: 23 mins.

# King Crossword

# Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: What are the names of the three girls in the animated series "Powerpuff Girls"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which ocean lies between Australia and Africa?
3. MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MMXXVI?
4. MUSIC: Who won Best New Artist at the 2026 Grammys?
5. U.S. STATES: Which state is an archipelago?
6. MOVIES: Which classic movie has the tagline, "From the moment they met it was murder"?
7. GAMES: How many basketball players can be on the court at the same time?
8. SCIENCE: What is the heliosphere?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is vexilology?
10. HISTORY: Who was the only English king to be executed for treason?

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## Benefits/Fundraisers

**Bingo Night.** June 6 Doors open at 5 p.m., starts at 6 p.m. at the Pamela Dawn Taylor Gym, 10 Old Gap Rd, Cherokee, N.C., 28719. Support for Maddie, Joss, Daisee and Lilly to travel for AAU Basketball.

**Turkey Shoot.** June 6 at 3 p.m. at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in Kolanyvi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. This is a fundraiser for the Big Cove Free Labor group. Good fun, great prizes, great benefits.

## EBCI Community Events

**Vacation Bible School.** June 8 - 12 nightly at 5:30 p.m. at Yellowhill Baptist Church 297 Yellowhill Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Dinner served at 5:30 p.m. before classes. Open to all ages. Info: Jennie Littlejohn (828) 736-1730

**Father's Day Market.** June 12 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Pamela Dawn Taylor Gym, 10 Old Gap Rd, Cherokee, N.C., 28719. Shop from local artisans, vendors and small biz owners for Father's Day. Info: Angie Garcia (828) 778-4585

**Atlanta Braves EBCI Night.** June 20, game starts at 4:10 p.m. at Truist Park 755 Battery Ave SE., Atlanta, Ga. 30339. Braves vs. Brewers Ticket release June 8.

**Kananesgi Art Market.** June 20 from 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort 777 Casino Dr., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Info: www.kananesgi.com

**Animal Clinic.** June 26 and 27

from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Yellowhill Activity Center, 1416 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Spays, neuters, vaccines, horse west Nile vaccine. No appointments, first come first served. For residents of the Qualla Boundary. Info: (828) 497-6091

**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/>

**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 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

## EBCI Community Regular Meetings

**NAIWA (North American Indian Women's Association, Inc.) Cherokee Chapter** meets

the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the West Senior Center in Cherokee, N.C. Eligibility for membership: any American Indian or Alaska Native or Canadian First Nations woman, 18 years of age or older, who is officially identified as a member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe/Nation. The meetings contain information on purpose and further aims. All who meet the eligibility are invited to attend.

## Cherokee Cultural/Historic Events

**Cherokee Language Workshop with Ogadudala.** Every Monday and Wednesday in May from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Ken Blankenship Education Wing, TJ Holland Education Room at 589

Tsali Blvd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719, except May 4 (Art Studio). Dreyton Long, Madison Hye Long, Elvia Walkingstick, Jack Cooper, and Meshay Long lead a free language workshop at the Museum.

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

**Sequoyah Remembrance Day.** Aug. 3 from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum at 576 HWY 360 Vonore, Tenn. 37885. Come by and learn about

**CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK**  
Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida  
SŌHi ႠD RVLႠJ DႠႠYL

Submit your pet to us at:  
**Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com**

Include the following:  
Name, breed, age, human's name(s), community/town



the amazing history of Sequoyah at the museum dedicated to the life and story of Sequoyah, creator of the Cherokee written language. Info: (423) 884-6246

**35th Annual Cherokee Festival.** Sept. 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum at 576 HWY 360 Vonore, Tenn. 37885. Cherokee Arts and crafts demonstrations, Cherokee storytelling, flute playing, Cherokee dances, name written in Cherokee, genealogy help, craft vendors and food vendors. Info: (423) 884-6246

**Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings**

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

**Reports to Council.** June 3 at 9 a.m.

**Dinilawigi regular session.** June 4 at 8:30 a.m.

### Pow Wow Listings

**Opaskwayak Cree Nation Veteran's Pow Wow.** June 5-7 at OCN Arbour Site near The Pas, Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Mani-

see **EVENTS** next page



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Operating under a full head of self-esteem makes you want to tackle a matter that you had shied away from. OK, but be sure to arm yourself with facts before you make a move.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) A smart move you recently made caught the attention of a lot of people, including some with financial deals to offer. Use your Taurean wariness to check them out thoroughly.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Shyness might keep you from asking for more information on a potentially important matter. But your curiosity grows stronger by midweek and gives you the impetus for data-gathering.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Taking on too many tasks may not be the wise thing to do at this time. You might overspend both your physical and emotional energy reserves and have to miss out on some upcoming events.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Try to keep your spending at an affordable level. Splurging now — especially on credit — could create a problem if your finances are too low for you to take advantage of a possible opportunity.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) You might not approve of a colleague's behavior over much of the week. But don't play the judgmental Virgo card here. As always, check the facts before you assume the worst.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to Octo-

ber 22) Coping with an old issue that has suddenly reemerged could take a big toll on your emotional energies. Decide whether you really want to pursue the possibilities here.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) For all your skill in keeping your secrets safe, you could be unwittingly letting one slip out by the way you're behaving in a new relationship. Are congratulations soon to be in order?

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Good old-fashioned horse sense could help you get around people who unknowingly or deliberately put obstacles in your way. Ignore the confusion and follow your own lead.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A puzzling attitude change from friendly to chilly in a colleague might stem from a long-hidden resentment that suddenly bubbled up. An open and honest talk should resolve the problem.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) This week, many ever-generous Aquarians might find themselves feeling an acquisitive urge. If so, indulge it. You've earned the right to treat yourself to wonderful things.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Expect to get a lot of advice on how to go about implementing your plans. But once you've sorted it all out, you'll probably find that, once again, your way will be the best way.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You enjoy the quiet times of your life, but when you're in the mood, you can throw a party that everyone will want to attend.

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# VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

## Volunteering at a Stand Down

The summer and fall of 2026 could well be the most rewarding you've had in a long time, especially if you want to step up and help other veterans at a Stand Down.

Stand Downs are often the highlight of the year for homeless veterans. Begun in 1988, these are one-, two- or three-day events in numerous places around the country. At a Stand Down a homeless veteran can get a haircut, clean clothes, legal advice, a hot shower, a visit to a dentist, something to eat, help with a VA claim or housing and mental health counseling. Add to that employment search assistance and help from veteran service organizations.

And they always need volunteers. That's where you come in, if you're willing.

Many of the homeless veterans don't have a ride to the event. You might volunteer to drive the van and pick up a half dozen veterans to get them to the Stand Down in your area. Maybe you'll want to work in the food area and feed the hundreds of people who show up.

If you have special skills and training, such as dental assistant, attorney or barber, speak up when you call to volunteer. If you're not sure what you can contribute, ask what they need. Even if it's sorting the clothing that's been donated, dashing to the store to pick up another 50 lbs. of ground beef to grill another 200 hamburgers or standing at the entrance and directing veterans to the various areas, your help will be most appreciated.

The best place to look for Stand Downs in your area is online at [www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp). You'll find a long list with contact names, phone numbers and email addresses. Also search online for Stand Downs in your state.

Whether you want to volunteer or you are a veteran in need of the services at a Stand Down, make the call. You'll be most welcome no matter your status.

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Don't forget your pets:  
Hurricane prep that  
could save their lives

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** I live in Florida, and each year I check and replenish my "hurricane kit." This is a system I put together that my wife and I can grab and throw in the car, and it includes necessities and key documents for the two of us, AND our two dogs. Because your pets need to come with you in an evacuation.

Thirty-four years ago, as a teenager, I survived Hurricane Andrew. Our entire neighborhood was destroyed. In the aftermath, I saw so many lost pets wandering through the wreckage and debris. Several days passed before those pets were collected by rescue groups. Many more pets did not survive. I pledged right then that I would never leave pets behind when a hurricane approaches.

Please tell your readers to include their pets in emergency evacuation plans. — Carter D., Homestead, Florida

**DEAR CARTER:** You told them, and I agree. Even if you live in an area that is not affected by hurricanes or wildfires, having an emergency evacuation kit and a plan is absolutely essential. And that plan includes your pets.

When planning your kit, list your pets and what each of them needs should you have to put them in the car and flee. What foods do they eat? Which snacks are their favorite? Do they have to take medications?

The kit should include an extra collar and leash for each of your furry pets. Copies of their veterinary records and vaccinations are essential; you may need them to access a shelter or a hotel room. A first-aid kit just for your pets should be included.

Keep this kit next to your pets' carriers. Make a plan for leaving quickly and rehearse it at least once to work out the kinks.

Send your tips, comments or questions to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com).

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## EVENTS: From page 35

toba, Canada. Emcees: Lawrence Baker, Keveon Kingbird, Bill Con-stant. Host Drum: Battle River. Invited Drums: Blackstone, High Noon, NDN Hill, Mo-Town, Red Thunder. Info: Mike Bignell (431) 355-4677

**WPCO (Wolf Point Commu-nity Organization) Pow Wow.** June 5-7 at WPCO Pow Wow Grounds in Wolf Point, Mont. MC: Tote Gray Hawk. Host Drum: Battle Krew. Info: Wayne Two Bulls (406) 790-0447, wtwobulls@gmail.com

**Taylorville Black Horse Vet-erans Pow Wow.** June 6-7 at Taylorville Lake Marina in Taylorville, Ill. MC: Tommy Three Feath-ers. Host Drum: Rainbow Singers. Info: Blackhorse Fred Dubay (217) 823-6878, blackhorse@ctitech.com

**48th Annual Cansayapi Waci-pi.** June 12-14 at the Lower Sioux Indian Community in Morton, Minn. Emcees: Al Childs, Redwing Thomas. Host Drum: Standing Horse. Co-Host Drums: Yellow Medicine, Red Tree. Info: No con-tact information provided

**250 Years of Surviving under Colonial Rule Pow Wow.** June 13 at District Park in Providence, Rhode Island. MC: Darrell Wal-dron. Info: Sarina Conn (401) 781-1098, Sconn@rhodeislandin-diancouncil.org

**Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Pow Wow.** July 3-5 at the old Cherokee High School 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

## 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 Chero-kee 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, Chero-kee, N.C. Anyone is welcome to attend the potluck. The group provides educational and emotion-al 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, nutri-tional 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 Riv-ercane 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 Chero-kee 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 meet-ing.** June 4 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. Katie Hatton will present "The Edenton Tea Party". Con-versation and refreshments will follow the presentation. This is free and open to the public.

**Community Picnic hosted by Harris Regional and Swain Community Hospitals.** June 5 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Bridge Park at 76 Railroad Ave. in Sylva, N.C. Designed as a fun, family-friendly event, the picnic will feature free food, live music from Summer Brooke, community connection, and opportunities to meet local healthcare providers from Harris Regional and Swain

Community Hospitals. Guests of all ages are encouraged to attend and enjoy an afternoon focused on fellowship, wellness, and strength-ening community relationships. This event is free and open to the public. Info: Lilly Ferguson (828) 508-0109 or [Lillian.ferguson@lifepointhealth.net](mailto:Lillian.ferguson@lifepointhealth.net)

**Great Tellico History Day.** June 20 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Charles Hall Museum & Her-itage Center, 229 Cherohala Sky-way, Tellico Plains, Tenn. 37385. Cherokee Culture, Early History, Traditional Skills, and Music., Free admission and parking. Handmade crafts for sale by Chero-kee and Early Settler Demon-strators. Food trucks onsite Info: [charleshallmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:charleshallmuseum@hotmail.com)

**Smoky Mountain Summer Fest 2026.** July 25 from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the Sevierville Fair-grounds, 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, mu-sic, history, food, textiles, quilting and more. Info: (423) 745-0329

## Cherokee Community Clubs

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

**Widagalinidisgv (Big Y) Com-**

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

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

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

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

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

**Toledvyi (Tow String) Community** meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community building at 7 p.m. Info: Chair Jacob Long (828) 736-9128, jacoblong19982@gmail.com

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

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

#### Cherokee Houses of Worship

**Abundant Life Apostolic Church.** 171 Johnson Br. Road,

Bryson City. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Worship. 7 p.m. Pastor Kevin Linkinhoker 488-8937

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

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

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

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

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

**Bigwitch Baptist Church.** 2290 Bigwitch Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.,

## Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with EBCI Natural Resources



This **Jack-in-the-pulpit** was found while visiting areas in tribal reserve that had been treated with prescribed fire earlier this year. This native wildflower typically blooms in April through early June and is native to eastern North America. Jack-in-the-pulpit thrives in medium to wet soils in partially to fully shaded forests. When grown from seed, it can take up to five years for this flower to bloom.

see **EVENTS** next page

**EVENTS:** From page 37

Sunday evening service 6 p.m.,  
Wednesday service 6 p.m. Pastor  
James "Jimbo" Sneed. All are  
welcome.

**Boiling Springs Mission-  
ary 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., Sun-  
day 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.**  
2350 Old Mission Road and Hwy.  
19. Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Sunday  
Evening Worship 6 p.m. Wednes-  
day Bible Study 6 p.m.

**Cherokee Church of God.** 21  
Church of God Drive. Sunday  
School 10:30 a.m. Sunday Wor-  
ship 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 Naza-  
rene.** 72 Old School Loop off Big  
Cove Road. Sunday Morning Ser-  
vice 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 Holi-  
ness 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 Method-  
ist 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 Holi-  
day 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., Wednes-  
day service – music practice at 5  
p.m. and Bible Study at 6 p.m.,  
Saturday Prayer Service 6 p.m.  
(828) 556-0115



## Moments in time

• On **June 15, 1667**, French physi-  
cian Jean-Baptiste Denis performed  
the first blood transfusion, on a fever-  
ish boy, but with lamb rather than  
human blood. While the boy survived  
and recovered, two more patients died  
following the same procedure, leading  
to a centuries-long ban on transfu-  
sions.

• On **June 16, 1943**, Oona O'Neill,  
the 18-year-old daughter of playwright  
Eugene O'Neill, married 54-year-old  
Hollywood legend Charlie Chaplin. It  
was his fourth marriage (and his third  
to a teenage girl). Oona's father, who  
was Chaplin's age, disapproved of the  
union so strongly that he disinherited  
his daughter, but the marriage, which  
produced eight children, was success-  
ful and only ended with Chaplin's  
death more than three decades later.

• On **June 17, 1976**, the National  
Basketball Association announced a  
merger with its rival, the American  
Basketball Association, and acquired  
the latter's four most successful fran-  
chises: the Denver Nuggets, the Indi-  
ana Pacers, the New York (later Brook-  
lyn) Nets and the San Antonio Spurs.

• On **June 18, 1979**, at a summit  
meeting in Vienna, President Jimmy  
Carter and Soviet leader Leonid Brez-  
hnev signed the SALT-II agreement  
dealing with limitations and guide-  
lines for nuclear weapons. Roundly  
criticized in America as a sellout to the  
Soviets, the treaty never formally went  
into effect and did little, if anything at  
all, to slow the arms race.

• On **June 19, 1865**, on what is now  
known as Juneteenth, Union soldiers  
arrived in Galveston, Texas, with the  
news that the Civil War had ended and  
slavery in the United States had been  
abolished. Despite the fact that Pres-  
ident Abraham Lincoln's Emancipa-  
tion Proclamation had been issued on  
Jan. 1, 1863, a lack of Union troops in  
the rebel state of Texas had made the  
order difficult to enforce.

• On **June 20, 2003**, the Wikimedia  
Foundation, an American nonprofit  
organization best known for being the  
host of Wikipedia, one of the world's  
most-visited websites, was founded in  
St. Petersburg, Florida.

• On **June 21, 2001**, one of Mexi-  
can artist Frida Kahlo's iconic self-  
portraits was featured on an American  
postage stamp, making her the first  
Hispanic woman to be honored in that  
manner.

## BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Balaam in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Genesis 8, what was the first thing Noah did after leaving the ark? Burned the ark, Built an altar, Performed a marriage, Hiked to mountains
3. What group did John the Baptist exhort to be content with their pay? Priests, Zealots, Judges, Soldiers
4. From Genesis 17, who said, "Shall a child be born unto him that is a 100 years old"? Adam, Abraham, Aaron, Agrippa
5. Which king of Israel had a reputation as a wild chariot driver? Joash, Jehoash, Jehu, Jeremiah
6. Whose biblical name means "eagle"? Nehemiah, Timothy, Aquila, Miriam

ANSWERS: (1) Neither; (2) Built an altar; (3) Soldiers; (4) Abraham; (5) Jehu; (6) Aquila

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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**The Garden Bug**

Found throughout North America, this plant has had many uses in native American culture. Parts of it have been used as a food source, to make medicine for skin ailments and insect bites, and to make face-paint for ceremonies. The vigor of these plants in an area was seen as an indicator of whether the area sustained enough rainfall and could support crops.

- Brenda Weaver  
Source: herb.umd.umich.edu

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

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

**Embassy Christian Center Church of God in Christ.** 87 Vinewood Circle, Whittier, located on the campus of Church of God Gateway Campground and Conference Center. Full season starts Aug. 4. Sunday School 10 a.m. and Morning Worship 11 a.m. Year-round services – church online live

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

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

**Grace Bible Church.** 344 Whittier School Rd., Whittier, N.C. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday services 6:30 p.m. Pastor Brent Stewart. Search Grace Bible Church

NC on Facebook. Check the page as some Wednesdays there are no services. Also, Sunday worship service is live-streamed.

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

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

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

**Living Waters Lutheran**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Rock Creek Missionary Baptist Church.** 240 Sherrill Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday morning worship

*Meet your Care Management Staff*

**LAURETTE SCHECHTER, BSN, RN**  
Specialty Team Care Manager  
IDD/TBI/LTSS Team

**MEET LAURETTE**

Laurette is a Care Manager in the IDD/LTSS team for the Tribal Option IDD Team. She helps people get the care and support they need to stay healthy.

Laurette recently moved from Tampa, Florida to Murphy, North Carolina to be closer to family. She enjoys living in the mountains and is excited to settle into her new home.

She is a Registered Nurse with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from St. Petersburg College. She has experience in medical-surgical care, orthopedic nursing, hospice care, and hospital case management. She is also a Certified Case Manager.



**CONTACT**  
[LAURETTE.SCHECHTER@CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG](mailto:LAURETTE.SCHECHTER@CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG)  
828.497.9163 EXT 7639



**EBCI TRIBAL OPTION**

**Fun fact: She is looking for a 12-foot kayak and is excited to get out on the water.**

see **EVENTS** next page

**EVENTS:** From page 39

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.**

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

**Wrights Creek Baptist Church.**

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

**Yellowhill Baptist Church.**

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

Event listings are FREE of charge. Send your flyers/info to Dawn at [dawname@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:dawname@ebci-nsn.gov) or to [Cherokeeflame1966@gmail.com](mailto:Cherokeeflame1966@gmail.com)

WAKE UP & SMELL THE OPPORTUNITIES

# JOB FAIR

LOCATED IN THE EMPLOYMENT OFFICE  
ON THE SECOND FLOOR

JUNE 4 | 10AM - 3PM  
JUNE 18 | 1PM - 5PM

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

©2026 Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort. Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort values diversity and inclusion and is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo ID. Must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble, and must be 21 or older to purchase alcohol. Know When To Stop Before You Start. © Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. ©2026, Caesars License Company, LLC



This male kingfisher is seen perching over Raven Fork in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. on Sunday, May 24. (Photo by Alecia Ralston)



**Jill Lossiah,**  
*Compliance Officer*

**Education:**

MSML, Management & Leadership, Montreat College, 2025;  
BSBA, Business Administration & Law, Western Carolina University, 2021;

AAS (x4), Accounting & Finance, Business Administration, Office Administration, Medical Office Administration, Southwestern Community College, 2023, 2017, 2016

**Years at PHHS: 12**

**Community/Town:**

RWUJ Elawodi Yellowhill

“Education has been my strength for personal and professional growth. My Cherokee ancestry ignites my passion to uplift our community for the benefit of generations to come..”



This family of river otters swimming down Raven Fork stopped for all members to rejoin the group before traveling down the river. This photo was taken in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. on Sunday, May 24. (Photo by Alecia Ralston)

# 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](mailto:Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com)**.

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

**GWY ᏫᎠᎵ ᏅᎠᎵᏍᏔᏅ**  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

## CLASSIFIEDS

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

## LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-041

### Notice to Creditors and

**Debtors of:**

**DEBORAH ANN**

**LITTLEJOHN**

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

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

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

Tasheena Parker  
625 Sheep Rock Cove Rd  
Whittier, NC. 287889

**6/3**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina

The Cherokee Court

**Small Claims**

**File No SC 24-391**

Cherokee Indian Housing Division  
vs Avery Davis

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-titled action.

The nature of the relief being sought is residential eviction and

money owed. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later the June 29, 2026, session of Small Claims Court, 9:00AM at the Anthony Lossiah Justice Center, U.S. Hwy 441, Cherokee, N.C, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the sought of relief. You may contact Cherokee Indian Housing Division at 828-359-6321 or at P.O. Box 1749, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. **6/3**

### NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

In the Court of General Justice Superior Court Division  
File No. 25CV000441-870  
Person to be served: Daniel Roy  
Christopher Loos

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action filed in Transylvania County Superior Court. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Plaintiff was injured in a motor vehicle collision on August 12, 2022 in Haywood County wherein he received bodily injury as a result of the negligence of the Daniel Roy Christopher Loos, Sr.

You are required to make

defense to such pleading within 40 days after May 22, 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, the 27th day of May, 2026.

Whitfield-Cargile Law, PLLC  
Davis A. Whitfield-Cargile State Bar Number 46833  
23 S. Broad St. Brevard, NC 28712  
828-884-4529  
davis@whitfieldcargilelaw.com  
Attorney for John Harris  
**6/17**

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 26-045

### Notice to Creditors and

**Debtors of:**

**LLOYD ARNEACH , SR.**

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

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



## Employment Opportunities

Now Hiring for Our Spa!

Mandara Spa at Harrah's Cherokee

Hair Stylist  
Nail Tech  
Lead Massage Therapist  
Spa Attendants

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

## JOIN OUR TEAM



**WE ARE HIRING**

Open Positions

- Budtender
- Surveillance Officer

Apply Online  
[www.qualiallc.com/careers](http://www.qualiallc.com/careers)

More Information  
828.589.8285

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

Lloyd Arneach, Jr.  
406 Old River Rd.  
Cherokee, NC 28719  
6/17

Fiduciary 1  
Jose Vanegas-Molina  
PO Box 744  
Cherokee, NC 28719

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Cherokee, North Carolina  
Estate File No. 25-003  
**Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:**  
**FAYE LAURENE PHEASANT**

Fiduciary 2  
Carla Neadeau  
PO. Box 2345  
Cherokee NC 28719  
6/24

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

**BIDS, RFPs, etc.**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY**  
In the Court of General Justice Superior Court Division  
File No. 25CV000441-870  
Person to be served: Daniel Roy

Christopher Loos  
TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action filed in Transylvania County Superior Court. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Plaintiff was injured in a motor vehicle collision on August 12, 2022 in Haywood County wherein he received bodily injury as a result of the negligence of the Daniel Roy Christopher Loos, Sr.

Whitfield-Cargile Law, PLLC Davis A. Whitfield-Cargile State Bar Number 46833  
23 S. Broad St. Brevard, NC 28712  
828-884-4529  
davis@whitfieldcargilelaw.com  
Attorney for John Harris  
6/17

You are required to make defense to such pleading within 40 days after May 22, 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, the 27th day of May, 2026.

**Request for Proposals**  
Cherokee Indian Housing Division is seeking qualified professionals in the field of Digitization Services.  
Interested parties may pick up the bid packet at the Main Office located on 687 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC 28719, or call 828-359-6320 for more information.  
6/10



VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES of CHEROKEE, INC.

## WE ARE HIRING!

### JOIN OUR TEAM!

#### What We Offer:

- Flexible scheduling (day or evening hours)
- Meaningful and rewarding work
- Training and ongoing support
- Opportunity to make a direct impact in your community

### JOB COACHES

VOC is seeking dependable and motivated individuals to join our team as **Part-Time** Job Coaches supporting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in community employment settings.

As a Job Coach, you will help individuals build confidence, learn job tasks, develop workplace skills, and achieve greater independence at their jobs and in the community.

### JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide one-on-one support at community job sites
- Assist individuals in learning and maintaining work tasks
- Encourage independence and self-advocacy
- Support communication and social interaction in the workplace
- Collaborate with employers and the VOC team
- Complete simple documentation and progress notes

### REQUIREMENTS

- High School Diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Must be 18 years or older.
- Valid driver's license preferred.
- Must pass drug test.
- Background checks required.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Patience, flexibility, and a positive attitude
- Experience working with individuals with disabilities preferred, but not required

To apply in person, visit VOC at 70 Bingo Loop Rd. Cherokee, NC 28719  
Questions? Call 828-497-9827

To apply online, visit our webpage at <http://www.cherokeevoc.org/>

## 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)





**CHEROKEE INDIAN  
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



# OPEN POSITIONS

## New Positions This Week

Cook Aide – Tsali Care Center  
Pharmacy Technician I  
Clinical Pharmacist

## 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  
Residential Technician - Female - Part Time without  
Benefits  
Behavioral Health Training and Development Coor-  
dinator  
Behavioral Health Consultant I  
Residential Technician – Men’s Home – Night Shift

## DENTAL

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

## EYE CLINIC

Optometrist

## FOOD & NUTRITION

1 Cook Temporary  
1 Cook (FT)

## LABORATORY

Medical Technologist/Medical Laboratory Techni-  
cian  
Phlebotomist – Temporary

## MEDICAL

Psychiatrist  
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

## NURSING

License Practical Nurse – Primary Care  
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

## NUTRITION

Clinical Dietician

## Radiology

Radiology Technologist I  
Radiology Technologist – Part Time with  
Benefits

## 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  
Cook Aide  
Cook Aide Temporary  
RN Wound Care – Tsali Care Center

## TRIBAL OPTION

Tribal Option Medical Social Worker

# CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

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

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



# Cherokee Central Schools Job Openings

Apply online at

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

- Middle School Volleyball Assistant Coach
- K-6 Elementary School Nurse (RN or LPN)
- K-6 Cherokee Language Instructor (May bypass degree requirement with fluency certification)
- K-6 Teacher Assistant
- K-6 Special Education Teacher Assistant
- K-6 Special Education Teacher (Self-Contained Classroom)
- K-6 Mental Health Classroom Teacher Assistant (Grant Funded)
- 7-8 Math Teacher
- 7-8 Cherokee Language Instructor (May bypass degree requirement with fluency certification)
- 7-8 Cherokee Language Assistant (May bypass degree requirement with fluency certification)
- 7-12 Performing Arts Teacher
- 9-12 Special Education Teacher Assistant
- 9-12 Math II Teacher
- Special Education Employment Educator
- Custodian (Full-Time, Evening Shift)

## CHEROKEE BOYS CLUB VACANCIES

### Snowbird Child Development

- 1 Snowbird Teacher—\$31,800--\$39,750 per year with benefits
- 1 Cook--\$31,800--\$39,750 per year with benefits

### Children's Home

- 1 Residential Counselor—Part Time—\$17.00 per hour w/out benefits

### Service Department

- 1 Technician—\$21,200--\$29,150 per year with Benefits
- 1 Detail Technician—\$19,080--\$25,440 per year w/Benefits

### Bus & Truck Department

#### Seasonal Bus Drivers

#### Truck Drivers

**\*SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITIONS\***

**Contact:** For more information, please contact Charlene Wolfe at 828-359-5516.

Cherokee Boys Club P.O. Box 507 Cherokee, NC. 28719



# Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, June 07, 2026

1. Manager (Financial Analysis) – Office of Budget & Finance – Treasury (L17 \$77,106 - \$96,387)
2. Evidence Based Intervention Specialist – Family Safety – Public Health & Human Services (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)
3. Manager (Family Services) – Qualla Boundary EHS – Public Health & Human Services (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,763)
4. Youth Development Professional – Cherokee Youth Center – CERS (L6 \$16.37 - \$20.47 per hour)
5. Carpenter (Multiple) – Qualla Housing – Housing (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
6. Maintenance Technician – Qualla Housing – Housing (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
7. Special Ops Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
8. Utility Worker (Multiple) – Tribal Construction – Operations (L7 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
9. Dispatcher/Substitute Driver – Transit – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
10. Telecommunicator – Public Safety Communications – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
11. Firefighter – Fire Department – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE

Open Until Filled

1. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
3. Patrol Officer (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
4. Sergeant (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

**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)**

# THE GOOD STUFF



### RTR Breakfast

The Remember the Removal Riders (RTR) for 2026 met for breakfast at the Peaches Squirrell Sports & Recreation Complex on the morning of Thursday, May 28. Nelson Lambert, center, past RTR alumni and one of the ride coordinators for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, welcomed all the riders. After breakfast, they headed to Cherokee Choices for team building. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)



### Memorial Day Parade

Eric Bird, right, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, participated in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 25 as part of Indigenous Enterprise. Shown, left to right, are Silas Whitebuffalo, Dominick Pablo, Kenneth Shirley, Canku One Star, and Bird. (Photo courtesy of Indigenous Enterprise)

**94.1 FM WBHN**  
CLASSIC COUNTRY

Your #1 STATION FOR CLASSIC COUNTRY

**TRAD 10**  
12:30-1pm Weekdays

Scan The QR Code To Download Our Mobile App!

## The GOOD STUFF

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

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

Send your photos and info to us at:  
[Cherokeonefeather1966@gmail.com](mailto:Cherokeonefeather1966@gmail.com)

**GWY ᏫᏚᏍᏗ ᏅᏚᏗᏍᏗ**  
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER \* TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



<<

**New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood Perfect Attendance**

The following students and teachers at New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood had perfect attendance for the month of May. They are shown, left to right, front row - ᳚᳚᳚ - Michael Watson, ᳚᳚ - Livingston Lane, ᳚᳚᳚ - Ava VanMiddlesworth, ᳚᳚᳚᳚᳚ - Daryn Lambert, ᳚᳚ - Brooklyn McCarter, ᳚᳚᳚᳚᳚ - Jesse Hill, ᳚᳚᳚ - Carrson Crowe; back row - ᳚᳚ - Hailee Lossiah, ᳚᳚ - Lele Lossiah, ᳚᳚᳚᳚ - Makayla Watty, and ᳚᳚᳚᳚ - Tamara Sampson. (Photo courtesy of New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood)

**CIHA Immediate Care Center**  
 75 Painttown Rd., Cherokee, N.C. - 359-5550



**FIND YOURSELF.  
 FIND YOUR SPIRIT.**

Hike ancient trails. Float cool rivers. Or take the family fun to Fire Mountain for disc golf and mountain biking. In Cherokee, NC, every adventure brings you closer to what moves you.



Plan your visit: [VisitCherokeeNC.com](http://VisitCherokeeNC.com)



# KITUWAH CELEBRATION EVENT SCHEDULE



10:00 AM

WELCOME  
PRAYER

10:05 AM

POSTING OF COLORS-STEVE  
YOUNGDEER AMERICAN LEGION POST  
143

10:10 AM

THE HONORABLE FORMER  
PRINCIPAL CHIEF JOYCE DUGAN

10:15 AM

THE HONORABLE PRINCIPAL  
CHIEF MICHELL HICKS

10:20 AM

RECOGNITION OF  
DIGNATARIES

10:30 AM

STICKBALL/COMPETITION  
GAMES BEGIN

12:00 PM

LUNCH/AGALISIGA MACKAY  
MUSIC

1:00 PM

EASTERN CHEROKEE NATIONAL  
TREASURE RECOGNITION

1:15 PM

ANIYVWIYAH I ANALISGISGI

2:00 PM

CLOSING

