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Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks offers comments on Wednesday.

DONATION: From front page

mental Disabilities (IDD)/Autism Enrichment Resource Center Project.

According to the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, “IDDs are differences that are usually present at birth and that uniquely affect the trajectory of the individual’s physical, intellectual, and/or emotional development. Many of these conditions affect multiple body parts or systems.”

Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks said he is very proud of how the project is coming together. “As we went through these last three years, it’s very evident from input from the community that our children needed more help, our families needed more

help, our community needed a better way of organizing services around IDD and Autism.”

He noted that the old Dialysis Center building will be renovated to house the new IDD Enrichment Center. Information from the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA) states that the project renovation should be ready for a June 2027 opening.

Ugviyuhi Hicks thanked Candy Ross, an EBCI tribal member who has been very active in bringing autism awareness to the community. “She has absolutely been a driver on this issue. My hat goes off to her just in regards to not accepting something that did not address this need in a broad manner. I’m very appreciative of her continuing to push every one of us on this initiative.”

CIHA notes that 388 people



Sonya Wachacha, EBCI secretary of public health and human services, talks about the project.

in the EBCI community have been identified as having one or more IDD diagnoses.

Ugviyuhi Hicks went on to thank Sonya Wachacha, EBCI secretary of public health and human services. “Sonya, I want to say to you that I really appreciate your drive on this issue and listening to the input, listening to the vision, and finding ways to make this happen.”

He went on to say, “As you look at the science of how this Autism occurs, it’s very complicated. Having that foundation, having that expertise is something that, as a tribe, we’ve come a long way. I can’t wait another two to three years to see how this evolves within the systems, but also within the school system.

I’m very thankful of what we’ve accomplished so far and I’m

looking forward to those services as they come in the future.”

Secretary Wachacha told the crowd, “Three years ago when we started this endeavor with his new administration, he said, ‘We can do better and our people deserve better’. I think that comment was a catalyst throughout this process that kept the project moving forward. It was something that I kind of hung my hat on that our people deserve better. When you start to hear the stories from our community - the stories of having to drive hours to get a treatment plan and a diagnosis and then not having the support here - it really made an impact on our daily work and, not only this project, but other projects that we have that we’re endeavoring to complete.”

She added, “This donation is generous and it will allow us

to renovate the old hemodialysis facility. It will create an IDD enrichment center that will ultimately expand programs, expand services, and create support for individuals with intellectual developmental disorders. And, it will help assist them in finding and identifying meaningful work. But, more importantly, it will connect them to our community and our culture.

To Caesar's and Harrah's leadership, I just want to say thank you. This donation is a testament not only to Harrah's commitment to our community, but a testament to understanding our Cherokee values. We believe that every community member deserves to be treated with dignity and respect and this generous donation is a testament to that and we appreciate the understanding."

Casey Cooper, CIHA chief executive officer, commented, "I was just reflecting on that old quote, and I think it's attributed to a president, that the ultimate moral test for any society is how it treats three groups of people. That is those at the dawn of their life, our children, those at the twilight, and then those with disabilities who need additional assistance.

I'm so grateful for the generous donation because it is a gift and an illustration to the Eastern Band's commitment, and it's a demonstration of its morality and its contribution and commitment to its people."

He spoke of the importance of partnerships and relationships. "For more than two decades, Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort and Caesar's Entertainment have consistently invested in the health and well-being of Cherokee people. Your support has helped provide critical medical equipment,



Casey Cooper, CIHA chief executive officer, speaks about the IDD/Autism Enrichment Resource Center project.

strengthen our infrastructure, and expand our ability to care for this community. The benefits of this relationship are as great today as they have ever been and they will continue into perpetuity.

I want to thank Principal Chief Hicks and Secretary of Public Health and Human Services Sonya Wachacha for their leadership and diligence around bridging the gap in services here on the Boundary. They have been the driving force behind this project for us. They have helped maintain its momentum, bring the right people together to see it through, and ensure the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism, and the needs of their families, remain at the center of every conversation."

CEO Cooper added, "The Enrichment Center we are working together to create will be more than just another building or facility. The collective vision for this project is to create a place of opportunity for Cherokee. We see the enrichment center being a

resource that will help individuals develop skills, build relationships, experience greater independence, and participate more fully in the life of their community. We see this center as being a tool to provide families with greater support, connection, and confidence that their loved ones are seen, that we see you, we value you, and we appreciate you, and we honor you. We see the Enrichment Center as being an intentional representation that making the success of our community members with intellectual and developmental disabilities a priority is central to our success as a community."

Casino leadership spoke at Wednesday's event about the positive relationship with the EBCI. Brian Marsh, Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort senior vice president and general manager, said, "Harrah's Cherokee Casinos have always been more than entertainment destinations. We are a part of this community and we take the responsibility very, very serious. This project reflects a shared

commitment to expand access to care and strengthening support of families in creating a welcome place where individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities can receive services rooted in our values here in Cherokee in culture and in community.

We are proud to stand alongside Caesar's Entertainment and the EBCI in support of this project that will make a lasting difference for individuals, care-givers, and families throughout the region."

Barron Fuller, Caesars Entertainment eastern division regional president, commented, "We, at Caesar's Entertainment, are proud to stand with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in support of this investment on health, wellness, inclusion, and community...our partnership with the EBCI through Harrah's Cherokee casinos is one we deeply value. It's been over 30 years since we signed our first management agreement and let's keep that going. It's built on respect. It's built on collaboration and a shared commitment to the people in the communities we serve in.

This million dollar donation is intended to help in facility improvements and related needs for a dedicated center that will expand access and services for individuals with intellectual developmental disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorder. What makes this project especially meaningful is its focus on culturally-responsive care. The center is being envisioned as a place where therapy, education, sensory support, family consulting, and resource navigation can come together in a way that reflects Cherokee values and meets the needs of Cherokee families."

EBCI Natural Resources receives grant for greenhouse to propagate river cane

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

WHITTIER, N.C. – River cane is used by traditional basket makers of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI). For years, it has been in short supply, but a new grant could help with that situation.

On a site in Whittier, N.C., which is EBCI deeded property known as the Thomas Valley property, a new greenhouse will soon be in operation that will propagate river cane. The EBCI Natural Resources Dept. operated a functional horticultural facility at Kituwah – the Mother Town of the Cherokee – for almost five years but had to pause due to a lack of space at that site. They have teamed with EBCI Cooperative Extension on the new site.

“We had a bit of funding to re-establish those greenhouses,” said Josh Parris, EBCI Natural Resources forestry manager. “So, we have started that process and that’s what’s happening right now. It’ll be one greenhouse, a shed, and a couple of hoop houses.”

He added, “We got \$100,000 funding from the Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP) to fund another greenhouse, specifically this time to propagate river cane. That’s a big deal. It’s coming at a good time because of the need for river cane due to Hurricane Helene, and multiple different agencies looking for river cane. Nobody

is really producing river cane in any big capacity. So, if we can show that we can produce river cane, then that will coincide well with their need for river cane and our new facility. Not to mention, we’re going to grow vegetables and stuff for families, too. That’s always been the case.”

The funding came from CDP following a \$21 million grant from the Truist Foundation.

Parris said, “Realistically, and also hopefully, both greenhouses are functional by springtime. What we would be doing would be growing from rhizomes up, then taking it out and starting new rhizomes, and letting it grow up. Effectively, we would be providing some stock for people to put in the ground.”

He went on to state, “We just want to augment river cane generally. If that turns into basket quality or craft quality, whatever it may be, that’s great. But, we need more of it, first and foremost.”

Several other funding sources have also helped. Parris noted, “With the Natural Resource Soil Conservation Service, we have about \$50,000 through them to do some targeted management sites of identified river cane and also try to test propagation. So, we’ve got that little chunk of money which has helped us sort of start. And, we have EPA Gap Funds, along with Tribal funds that have helped us build the facility.”

River cane has many ecological

benefits. “The presence of river cane is reduced to somewhere between two and five percent of its regional coverage,” said Parris. “River cane, generally, is very, very low in where it should be. It grows on rivering systems. There’s not a lot of huge, good evidence that absolutely shows that river cane presence reduces erosion. They haven’t done a lot of that stuff. But, anecdotally, in observations by everybody who noticed, particularly with Helene, is that those areas that had river cane are more stable than everywhere else and they were able to subsist. So, it has a huge impact in the ecological value around the streams and holds stream banks together. Not to mention, a diversity of habitat in bottomlands that perpetuate low canopy bird habitat, deer...that habitat variability that it offers is far and above what we have on our rivering systems now.”

In addition to the river cane, they plan to grow squash, beans, corn, and tomatoes at the site – all of which will be distributed to the EBCI community.

Jeff Gibby, EBCI Natural Resources lead horticulture technician, commented, “There is a lot of room. But, I think where it’s an historical site, they’re going to try to keep it as close to the natural state as they can. But, it’s farmland so you can grow corn. There’s a whole giant field below, and you could grow whatever you wanted.”

He also has other plans once

everything is up and running. “I think it’s great...once we’ve got our horticulture facility set up, working with Cooperative Extension, having classes like how to propagate a blueberry bush - turn one blueberry bush into a hundred blueberry bushes.”

Parris said that this is just one part of the program’s foray into helping river cane thrive once again. “We do want to bring it back here, but we also want to influence having more in the Tennessee Valley, and having more in the Valley River Valley, and other places. So, we’re working toward co-stewardship with the U.S. Forest Service, which is exerting the sovereignty and the rights to those lands beyond normal access... there’s this ecological connection between what Mainspring possesses over there, and the State of North Carolina possesses in the Tennessee Valley, and the Forest service. So, quite literally, we’re trying to push for EBCI rights on traditional homelands across western North Carolina with emphasis on this million acres on the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests, and river cane is just one aspect of that.”

He added, “Ideally, we’d like to have a land management kind of crossover crew that’s working on Boundary lands for sure, but across traditional homelands as well because we know that need exists.”

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Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority partners with TeamHealth at Tsali Care Center

Submitted by
Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority

CHEROKEE, N.C. - Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority has contracted with TeamHealth to provide medical oversight and expanded clinical support at Tsali Care Center beginning Aug. 1. The partnership will provide residents and staff with access to a network of post-acute care providers 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as well as an onsite provider four days each week.

Board-certified family medicine physician Tammy Jernigan Johnston, M.D., will serve as Tsali Care Center's primary medical director. A familiar and trusted physician in Western North Carolina, Dr. Johnston has practiced at Swain Family Care in Bryson City since 2014.

"Tsali Care Center has a long-standing commitment to providing residents with compassionate, coordinated and high-quality care," said Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority Chief Executive Officer Casey Cooper. "This partnership with TeamHealth builds upon that foundation and supports a seamless continuation of medical leadership as Dr. Johnston assumes this role. Her familiarity with the community, collaborative approach and commitment to relationship-centered care will help ensure residents, families and staff continue to receive the dependable clinical support they know and trust."

The medical director of a long-term care facility provides clinical leadership for the facility as a whole and helps ensure that

medical care throughout the facility is coordinated, consistent and aligned with current standards of practice.

Through the new partnership, TeamHealth will support these responsibilities with a broader network of clinicians available around the clock. In addition to Dr. Johnston's leadership and regularly scheduled onsite coverage, the model will give Tsali Care Center's clinical team access to after-hours support when questions or changes in a resident's condition arise.

TeamHealth specializes in post-acute care across skilled nursing, rehabilitation, long-term care and assisted living environments. Its post-acute model emphasizes collaboration among facilities and care teams, safer transitions between care settings and the reduction of avoidable hospital readmissions. TeamHealth's broader network includes expertise in primary care, behavioral health, cardiac care, wound care and palliative care, as well as dedicated after-hours clinical support.

"This partnership is about placing another layer of clinical support around our residents and the employees who care for them," said Tsali Administrator Michelle Tenhengel-deVill. "Having a provider onsite, combined with access to a network of providers 24 hours a day, will support more timely clinical decisions, stronger continuity of care and greater confidence for residents, families and staff."

Dr. Johnston's approach to medicine centers on developing long-term, trusting relationships

with patients and their families. She emphasizes empathetic, collaborative care and works to ensure that patients understand their treatment options and feel heard throughout the decision-making process.

Dr. Johnston completed her undergraduate education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and earned her medical degree from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. She completed her specialty training through the Self Regional Healthcare Family Medicine Residency Program and is an active member of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Outside of her medical practice, Dr. Johnston enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, cooking, photography and mission work. As Dr. Johnston assumes the medical director role, CIHA also recognizes Blythe Winchester, M.D., for more than 10 years of dedicated service, leadership and advocacy on behalf of Tsali Care Center residents.

Dr. Winchester played an instrumental role in transforming Tsali Care Center and advancing a model of care grounded in dignity, culture and respect for elders. Her influence is reflected not only in the care residents receive, but also throughout the new Tsali Care Center facility she helped bring to the community.

"We cannot discuss this transition without recognizing the legacy of care and progress Dr. Winchester has helped establish at Tsali Care Center," Cooper said. "For more than a decade, she built the foundation for the future of

elder care in this community by advocating for residents, supporting families and helping shape Tsali Care Center into what it is today. The new facility and the care provided within it will continue to carry the influence of her leadership for many years."

Dr. Winchester has transitioned to a full-time role at Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority's Primary Care Clinic. In that position, her clinical expertise and commitment to elder care will help CIHA expand access to primary and preventive services for elders living throughout the community.

"This transition creates an exciting opportunity to strengthen care for our elders across the entire continuum," Cooper said. "Dr. Winchester will continue caring for elders in the community, while Dr. Johnston and the TeamHealth network provide dedicated support for residents at Tsali Care Center. Together, these changes allow us to build upon a strong foundation and continue improving how elders access care at every stage of their lives."

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Federal legislative updates of interest to EBCI citizens

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

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

New this week

Senate Bill 4976 (Native Children's Commission Implementation Act of 2026). This bill seeks "to improve outcomes for Native children by empowering tribal communities, strengthening families, and increasing access to

critical services". The bill would establish the Advisory Committee on Tribal Juvenile Justice which would "provide advice and recommendations to the Administrator, the Attorney General, and Congress on all matters relating to juvenile justice, delinquency prevention and system improvement with respect to tribal youth".

The bill also states, "Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior, shall conduct Tribal consultation and, after conducting that consultation, complete a study on the number and status of cases involving Native American missing children and youth, including the scope

and context of those cases that are connected to juvenile justice system involvement, child welfare system involvement, and non-custodial parent abduction, including domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, drug activity, stalking, and human trafficking."

Introduced: July 14, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 14, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Bills with recent action

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services on March 26, 2026. A hearing was held in this Committee on Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

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 that

subcommittee on July 15, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent.

Bills we're currently watching

H.R. 226 (Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Re-acquisition Act). This bill would place 76 acres of land in eastern Tennessee into trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee 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 re-

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ported without amendment favorably” by the Committee on March 5, 2025. It was reported without amendment by Sen. Murkowski (R-Alaska), Senate Committee on Indian Affairs chairperson, on July 31, 2025. That same day, it was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders (Calendar No. 139).

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

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

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

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

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

This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group.

Introduced: April 17, 2025 by Rep. Donald G. Davis (D-N.C.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 17, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

This bill would grant federal 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 Subcommittee on Federal Lands on June 3, 2025, and a hearing was held in that subcommittee on June 10, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

This bill would “amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat Indian Tribal governments in the same manner as state governments for certain federal tax purposes, and for other purposes”.

Introduced: June 11, 2025 by U.S. Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)

Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Jun 11, 2025. There is not a sched-

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

H.R. 3956 (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Act of 2025).

This bill would amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 “to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts and self-governance agreements with Indian entities to administer the food distribution program on Indian reservations”.

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

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

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

This bill seeks the same as H.R. 3255 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025.

Introduced: June 25, 2025 by Sen. Gary C. Peters (D-Mich.)

Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 25, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

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

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

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

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

This bill seeks to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. For both programs, it seeks funding in the amount of \$160,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

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

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

H.R. 4463 (To amend the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993).

The text of the legislation states, “Subsection (d) of section 7 of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–116), is amended by striking ‘; however, in no event may an individual be enrolled as a tribal member unless the individual is a lineal descendant of a person on the final base membership roll and has continued to maintain political relations with the Tribe.’”

Introduced: July 16, 2025 by Rep. Ralph Norman (R-S.C.)

Action: This bill was referred to

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

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the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 16. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on Sept. 4, 2025, and a hearing was held on this legislation in the subcommittee on Sept. 9, 2025. A Committee mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. It was reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 2, 2026 and was placed on the Union Calendar that same day. The bill was passed by a voice vote in the House on June 2, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 3, 2026.

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

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

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

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

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

Introduced: July 23, 2025 by Rep.

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

H.R. 4712 (Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act). This bill would “amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes”.

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

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

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

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

This bill is identical to H.R. 4712.

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

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

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

It specifically seeks to amend

Public Law 100-89 (Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act). Section 3 of the bill states, “This Act shall be construed to ensure the full applicability of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701) to gaming activities on Indian lands of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Indian lands of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe.”

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

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

Senate Bill 2577 (McCarren-Walter Technical Corrections Act). This bill would “amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the right of members of a federally recognized Indian Tribe in the United States and First Nations individuals in Canada to cross the borders of the United States”. This bill is identical to H.R. 4596.

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

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

House Resolution 666 (Supporting the goals of Overdose Awareness Day and strengthening efforts to combat the opioid crisis in the United States). This House resolution states in part, “The House of Representatives (1) recognizes Overdose Awareness Day (reporter’s note – it is usually Aug. 31, but a specific date is not listed in the

resolution) in the United States; (2) commits to advancing the passing bipartisan policies that reduce the stigma surrounding substance use disorders and overdoses; and is dedicated to collaborating with states, localities, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, health care providers, patients, and families to support a comprehensive system that promotes prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery from opioid use disorder.”

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

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

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

This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group. Introduced: Sept. 4, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer A. Kiggans (R-Va.)

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

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

Introduced: Sept. 10, 2025 by Rep.

Tom Cole (R-Okla.)
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: Sept. 11, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer L. McClellan (D-Va.)
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: Sept. 17, 2025 by Sen. John W. Hickenlooper (D-Colo.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on Sept. 17, 2025.

H.R. 5488 (To extend funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians). This bill would amend Title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. It would appropriate “\$160,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to remain available until expended”.
Introduced: Sept. 18, 2025 by Rep. Paul Ruiz (D-Calif.)
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: Oct. 10, 2025 by Rep. Michael A. Rulli (R-Ohio)
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: Oct. 14, 2025 by Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.)
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: Oct. 14, 2025 by Rep. Norma J. Torres (D-Calif.)
Action: This resolution was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 14, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3041 (Tribal War-rant Fairness Act). This bill would “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain tribal criminal matters”.
Introduced: Oct. 23, 2025 by Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Oct. 23, 2025. This was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders on May 19, 2026. This bill was passed in the Senate by a voice vote on June 10, 2026. It was received in the House on June 15, 2026.

H.R. 5820 (Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe Recognition Act). This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Mono

Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe of California and Nevada, a group based in Lee Vining, Calif.
Introduced: Oct. 24, 2025 by Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Calif.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 24, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 5869 (Tribal Water Infrastructure Grants Expansion Act). This bill would “amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to assistance for Indian Tribes”. According to the bill, “In addition to amounts otherwise made available under Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, there is authorized to be appropriated \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031 to make grants, in cooperation with the Director of the Indian Health Service...for (A) projects and activities eligible for assistance under 603(c) of such Act; and (B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs related to the operation and management of treatment works eligible for assistance...”
Introduced: Oct. 28, 2025 by Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-Fla.)
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

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amend 69 Stat. 539, Chapter 615, 25 U.S.C. 514(a) to authorize such leases.

Introduced: Nov. 4, 2025 by Rep. Harriet M. Hageman (R-Wyo.)
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. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3236 (A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008). This is a “bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to ensure Tribal consultation and representation under the food distribution program on Indian reservations”.
Introduced: Nov. 20, 2025 by Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.)
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 govern-

ing 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: Nov. 21, 2025 by Rep. Jill N. Tokuda (D-Hawai’i)
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: Nov. 20, 2025 by Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-N.M.)
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). The bill was passed by the House by a voice vote on June 23, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on June 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

This bill will “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain Tribal criminal matters.”
Introduced: Feb. 11, 2026 by Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 11, 2026. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

This bill aims “to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to include Indian Tribes in certain provisions relating to priority resource concerns”.
Introduced: Feb. 20, 2026 by Rep. Joe Neguse (D-Colo.)

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

Senate Bill 3945 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act).

This bill aims “to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agen-

cies 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: March 4, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.) 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: March 24, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) 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.

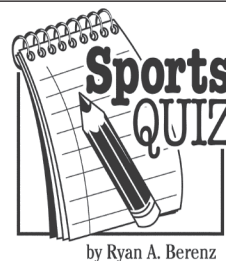
H.R. 8048 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act). This bill seeks “to amend the Child Abuse Prevention

and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations”. Introduced: March 24, 2026 by Rep. Adelita S. Grijalva (D-Ariz.) 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: March 26, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) 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. 8954 (Tribal Regulatory Reform Implementation Act of 2026). This bill would “amend the Indian Tribal Regulatory Reform and Business Development Act of 2000 to transfer certain administrative responsibilities to the Secretary of the Interior”. Introduced: May 21, 2026 by Rep. Jeff Hurd (R-Colo.) Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 21, 2026. It was further referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on June 3, 2026. A hearing was held in that subcommittee on June 3, 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>



1. In January 1958, Cincinnati Bearcats college basketball star Oscar Robertson scored 56 points in a 118-54 rout and singlehandedly outscored which team?
2. In what year did the NFL establish the rule that made it illegal to grab the facemask of any opposing player?
3. Which two American men won singles titles at the two Australian Open tennis tournaments held in 1977?
4. In June 2026, which Milwaukee Brewers hurler delivered a fastball at 105.5 mph, the fastest ever recorded by a starting pitcher in Major League Baseball history?
5. Name the Georgia Bulldogs quarterback who threw four touchdowns and ran for two more in the team's 65-7 rout of the TCU Horned Frogs in the 2023 College Football Playoff national championship game.
6. What was the home arena for the San Jose Sharks during their first two NHL seasons from 1991-93?
7. Rudolf Dassler Schuhfabrik, an athletic shoe company founded in Germany in 1948, evolved into which world-famous sportswear brand?

Answers

1. The Seton Hall Pirates.
2. 1962 (previously, it was legal to grab only the ball carrier's mask).
3. Roscoe Tanner and Vitas Gerulaitis.
4. Jacob Misiorowski.
5. Stetson Bennett IV.
6. The Cow Palace in Daly City, California.
7. Puma.

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**CIPD Arrest Report for
July 20-26, 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.

Pagan, Cristian Jovany – age 30
Arrested: July 20
Released: July 20
Charges: Temporary Hold for Jackson Co.

Watty-Ramirez, Zaceus Ashton – age 22

Arrested: July 20
Released: July 20
Charges: Larceny, Probation Violation

Calhoun, Myra Jane – age 54
Arrested: July 21
Released: July 21
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Evans, Isaiah Darius – age 25
Arrested: July 21
Released: July 21
Charges: intoxicated and Disruptive in Public

Lambert, Trevan Holden – age 20
Arrested: July 21
Released: July 23
Charges: Failure to Comply with Pre-Trial Release

Lossiah, Anthony Chanse – age 21
Arrested: July 21
Released: July 21
Charges: Disorderly Conduct

Rich, Cody James – age 32
Arrested: July 21
Released: Not released as of report date (July 27)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Crow, Timothy Ryan – age 36
Arrested: July 22
Released: July 22
Charges: Probation Violation

Lambert, Birda Francine – age 40
Arrested: July 22
Released: Not released as of report date (July 27)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Teesatuskie Jr., Gary Mitchell – age 27
Arrested: July 22
Released: July 23
Charges: Failure to Comply with Pre-Trial Release

Davis, Victoria Illene – age 20
Arrested: July 24
Released: Not released as of report date (July 27)
Charges: Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Lambert, Trevan Holden – age 20
Arrested: July 24
Released: Not released as of report date (July 27)

Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedule II

Feather, Jatanna – age 39
Arrested: July 25
Released: July 26
Charges: Tampering with Evidence, Possession of a Controlled Substance

Garcia, Estrellita – age 21
Arrested: July 25
Released: Not released as of report date (July 27)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Griffin, Terri Welch – age 56
Arrested: July 25
Released: July 25
Charges: Reckless Endangerment

Littlejohn, Emery Lee – age 41
Arrested: July 25
Released: Not released as of report date (July 27)
Charges: Aggravated Elder Abuse, Public Intoxication

Watty, Steven – age 51
Arrested: July 25
Released: July 25
Charges: Driving While Impaired

Teesateskie, Steven Douglas – age 42
Arrested: July 26
Released: Not released as of report date (July 27)
Charges: Communicating Threats, Sex Offender Crimes



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EBCI Tribal ABC Commission
(828) 788-4261

Cherokee Choices Open House and Health Screen
Drop in on Thursday, August 13, from 11am-4pm.
Wellness resources, food and prizes, blood pressure checks, A1C, Body Scans.
At Cherokee choices community room, 806 Acquoni Rd. Cherokee NC 28719
Contact Robin for more info 828-359-6785 or robibail@ebci-nsn.gov

Resources for Resilience 2-day training

August 25 and 26, 8:30am-3:30pm

Join us in learning about how to manage stress and trauma, and how they show up in our bodies.

Contact Shelby for questions or to sign up at shelpark@ebci-nsn.gov or 359-6783

Beginner Pilates

Mondays 12-12:45pm

Beginner level Pilates helps improve strength, stability, and flexibility. All levels welcome!

Contact April to sign up 828-359-6201 or apriinni@ebci-nsn.gov

Yoga

Yoga for Everyone Tuesdays 12pm

Gentle yoga Thursdays 12pm

At Cherokee Choices Yoga Room

Classes are free and open to everyone

Contact Robin to sign up or for more info

Robibail@ebci-nsn.gov or 828-359-6785

SEAT

4-week series, August 14, 21, 28 and Sep 4 at 9:30am

A 30 minute chair workout to help strengthen mobility, memory and connection.

Contact Shelby to sign up or for more info

Shelpark@ebci-nsn.gov or 828-359-6783

Positive Indian Parenting

8 week series begins September 2, Wednesdays at 12pm

Classes will be held at Cherokee Choices with Lunch provided.

Contact Shelby for more info or to sign up shelpark@ebci-nsn.gov
828-359-6783

Walking Club

Begins September 1, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12pm

Walking locations will vary and will be emailed out weekly.

Sign up with Shelby at shelpark@ebci-nsn.gov or 828-359-6783

Peaceful warriors - Afterschool Youth Program

Begins September 9, Wednesdays 3:30-4:45pm

Sign ups required. Ages 7-11

Contact Yo to sign up yolasaun@wbci-nsn.gov or 828-359-6784

Navigating Perimenopause

4-week series begins October 20th Tuesdays 12-1pm Lunch provided.

Discussion on what perimenopause is, nutrition tips, treatment options, and more. Contact April to sign up apriinni@ebci-nsn.gov or 828-359-6201

Staying Healthy on GLP-1 Medications

Begins September 15th Tuesdays 12-1

Lunch is provided

We will discuss how to maintain health and muscle mass while still losing weight on GLP-1 Medicaitons.

Contact Tori for questions or to sign up victram@ebci-nsn.gov or 828-359-6778



**cherokee
choices**

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**AUGUST
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SGh**

Cherokee Choices

Is a chronic disease prevention program for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians under the Public Health and Human Services Division.

Vision: Generations of Wellness

Mission: To Promote Physical, Mental, Emotional, Spiritual, & Cultural Well-being among the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in order to prevent Chronic Diseases.

**Follow Cherokee Choices on
Facebook**

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CherokeeChoices](https://www.facebook.com/CherokeeChoices)

This Week in Native News

Compiled by ANN TOINEETA

One Feather Intern

ARIZONA

“The Navajo Nation president nominees, Crystalyne Curley and Justin Jones, have chosen their running mates.” Curley has chosen Chris Deschene, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, engineer, and attorney. Jones has chosen Emily Ellison, the executive director of the Battered Families Services.

• *Indian Country Today*

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Lt. Gov. Penny Flanagan, a member of the White

Earth Nation, strongly opposes prediction market apps like Kalshi where users can place bets on real world events. Flanagan called out Angie Craig, her Aug. 11 Democratic primary opponent, “for accepting donations from the industry, including from executives of Kalshi.”

• *Indian Country Today*

OKLAHOMA

A lawsuit filed by Rhonda Grayson and Jeffrey Kennedy, descendants of Black people once enslaved by the Muscogee Tribe, alleges that Muscogee Nation Principal Chief David Hill and the Muscogee Nation Citizenship Board “are violating an 1866 treaty between the tribe and the U.S. government by refusing to recognize Black Creek Freedmen as

citizens.”

• *Indian Country Today*

The Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations (WEWIN) honored the late Chairman Ernie Stevens Jr. and Cheryl Stevens with the Legacy of Leadership Award at the Warrior Women Circle Recognition Luncheon in Tulsa, Okla.

• *Native News Online*

SOUTH DAKOTA

A new report has found that Native American enrollment in South Dakota public universities has risen to pre-pandemic levels.

• *South Dakota Searchlight*

WASHINGTON

Whidbey Communications was ordered by a federal court to notify the Lummi Nation “30-days before conducting any activity that may disturb the tribe’s sacred burial grounds on lands the tribe has occupied for thousands of years.” This order comes after a lawsuit was filed by the tribe alleging that the company disturbed their burial grounds.

• *Native News Online*

WASHINGTON, D.C.

U.S. Sens. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), chair of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and Brian Schatz (D-Hawai’i), vice chair of the committee, are urging the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) to consult “with Tribal Nations before mov-

ing forward with a proposed rule governing prediction markets.”

• *Native News Online*

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a legislative hearing on Wednesday, July 29 to “consider five bills related to Tribal water rights settlements and implementation.”

• *Native News Online*

WISCONSIN

Potawatomi citizens from across the U.S. and Canada are gathering in Crandon, Wis. for the Forest County Potawatomi Community for Bodéwadmi Gathering 2026 (Potawatomi Gathering) to celebrate their heritage.

• *Native News Online*

CANADA

The Tsuut’ina Nation near Calgary in Alberta, Canada has announced that it is looking to add 375 hectares-nearly 930 acres-of land “to its reserve for commercial and residential development.”

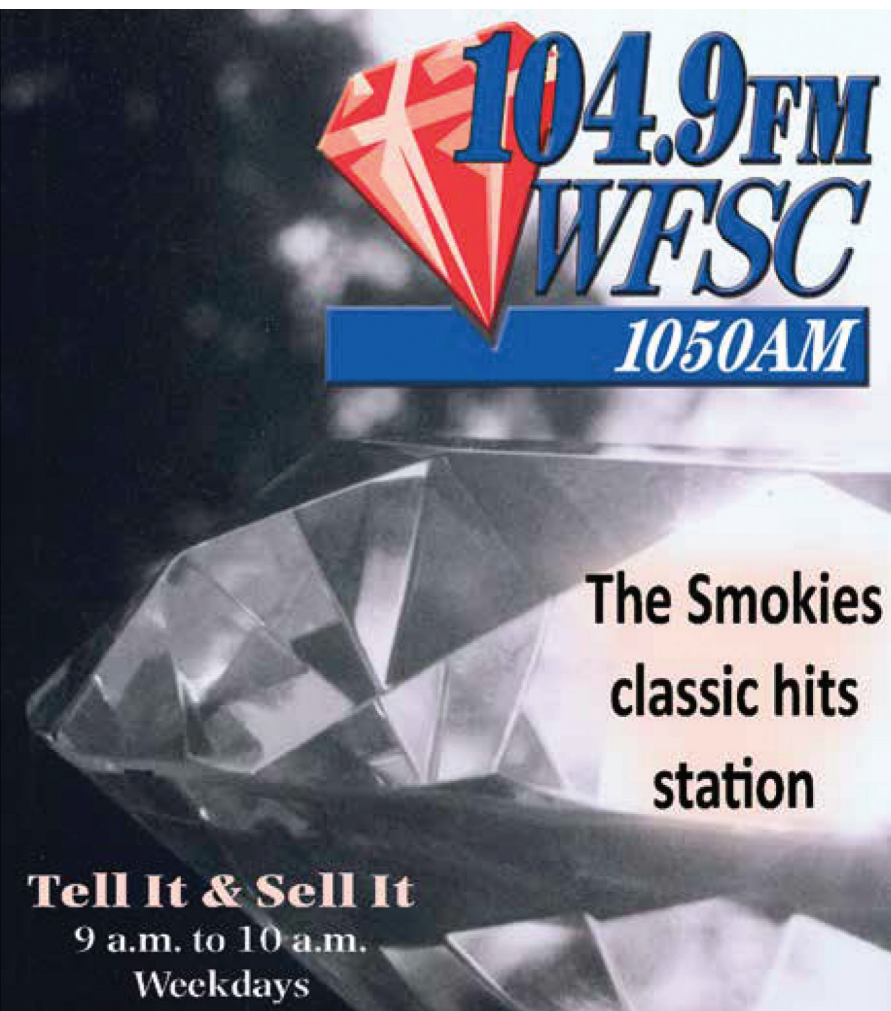
• *CBC*

MISC.

Motorola and the Lenovo Foundation have announced the launch of the Indigenous Collections app, “a new digital platform created in partnership with the Rainy Lake Ojibwe community to preserve the Ojibwe language and the cultural knowledge it carries.”

• *Native News Online*

See the list of persons banished by the EBCI:
theonefeather.com/ebci-banishment-list/



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Call for Artists

Reflection of Inspiration
4th Annual Event
November 5-6, 2026
at Harrah's Cherokee
Casino & Resort

Reflection of Inspiration invites artists to submit work for our 4th Annual Event, **Uwadohiyvda Adaneti (Peace of Mind): For our people and our communities.** This opportunity is open to Indigenous artists. We welcome artwork that describes the intent, cultural relevance, and focus on the theme. We want to amplify community voices through artwork that explores healing and resilience after domestic violence and sexual assault."

- *Open to artists 18+
- *Artwork must be original and created for ROI use only
- *Artist must submit a statement of 100-200 words
- *An artist bio 50-150 words
- *Submissions must be received by August 15
- *Artwork will be reviewed by the Directors of ROI
- *Artwork will be used at the event and will feature the artist information
- *If the artist wishes to sell the artwork they will be contacted directly



One Feather Poem of the Week

Cyrus the Great; A Knight's Creed

By Michael Rattler

What are you?
"I'm a knight."
What do knights do?
"We take naps and we fight dragons!"
The flag I fight under is an old dish rag,
my dad tied it to a stick, just because I asked him too.
I feel "funny" about the walls and shadows and the dark,
but like knights of all the ages I am comforted even in my
sleep as I grasp the hilt of my wooden sword.

GWY ƒV° OYLC
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Fishing and family fun

The 25th Annual Talking Trees Children's Trout Derby was held on Saturday, Aug. 1 at the Oconaluftee Island Park in Cherokee, N.C. The event, hosted by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, drew hundreds of young anglers and their families.

Photos by Scott McKie B.P./One Feather Asst. Editor



Young anglers line the Oconaluftee River early on the morning of Saturday, Aug. 1. Fishing started just after 8 a.m.



Evin Johnson, a 5-year-old member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from Aniwo dihi (Painttown), shows off a trout he caught early on Saturday.



Briar Tackett, age 4, from Hickory, N.C., is shown with his grandfather, Buster Edwards, and his fish.



Adam Laws, age 7, from Burnsville, N.C., shows off an impressive string of fish.



Callie Mosteller, age 4, from Lenoir, N.C., is all smiles showing off her great string of fish.



Shawn Crowe, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, served as emcee for the event. Anglers hit the river as soon as he counted it down at 8 a.m.



Okhish Hornbuckle, a 2-year-old member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, took second place in the 5U Division for his 2.66lb. fish.



All morning long, there were anglers aplenty as illustrated in this photo, taken from the bridge on the upper end of the Oconaluftee Island.

Shea Vassar's "Julie Takes A Walk" highlights the humor in everyday Native life

By ANN TOINEETA

One Feather Intern

Shea Vassar, a Cherokee Nation citizen from Norman, Okla., is bringing a new perspective to comedy with "Julie Takes A Walk," a short romantic comedy that she co-directed, wrote, and helped produce. This film displays the humor of everyday life and brings attention to modern Native life and queer Native people in small towns.

"Julie Takes A Walk" will be screened at The Way We See The World, an event spotlighting Indigenous pop culture organized by the Museum of the Cherokee People. The event will be held on Friday, Aug. 7 in the Council Fire Ballroom at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The following is a brief synopsis provided by the filmmakers: "Julie's life choices have been dictated by her family but this all changes when she is told big news just moments before walking down the aisle at her own wedding. Confused and shocked, she runs away and ends up in a small town in rural Oklahoma. That's where Julie meets the stoic yet secretly sweet Cass, a bartender who would rather be reading than in any sort of social setting. They both can feel the instant chemistry which only furthers the identity crisis Julie is having."

Vassar, whose initial submission of "Julie Takes A Walk" as a comedy pilot episode led to her becoming one of Sundance Institute's 2024 Native Lab Artists in Residence, said the film seeks to



Kendall Davis is shown in a still from "Julie Takes A Walk", a short romantic film which displays the humor of everyday life and brings attention to modern Native life and queer Native people in small towns. Davis plays 'Julie' in the film co-directed, written, and produced by Shea Vassar, a Cherokee Nation citizen. (Photo contributed)

capture the humor of the everyday and hard times in our lives.

"I think it's an interesting experiment to kind of use these moments of possible trauma as a way to jump start some really ironic and humorous kind of situations that also leads you to where you're supposed to be," she said. "The irony that sometimes bad things have to happen for you to find the people you need."

These moments are what initially inspired "Julie Takes A Walk" and led Vassar to create the complex characters of the film. Through them, she was able to explore questions like, "What if you were given a chance to start over?" and "What if all the expectations you had on you all of a sudden were taken away?"

"Through making this film and

watching it with different audiences, I also have felt like those questions are becoming clearer," she said. "I don't know what the answers are, but I'm more comfortable with the unknown, which I think is what ultimately the film is talking about. We all go through these moments that really erupt and will completely change our path, but sometimes it's just learning to be ok with that unknown and knowing that sometimes that kind of interruption has to happen in order for us to realign or be on the path we're supposed to be on."

With "Julie Takes A Walk", Vassar wanted to bring Native queer people to the forefront. She and her co-director, Frankie Pedersen (Listuguj Mi'gmaq First Nation), believe that queer Native people should not only be allowed

to imagine happy futures, but also have them.

"It starts with that imagination and believing that it's possible, and that's one of the reasons why I wanted to make this film was just to show that trauma does happen," she said. "The way we navigate the world as humans is not not going to be traumatic, but it's really about being able to embrace the joy that also comes with being alive. I think that's a hard fine line that, especially as Native communities, we have to learn to do ourselves. We have to kind of reclaim that joy and the ability to even imagine it. That's kind of what I'm hoping is that this can just be the start of that imagination because it doesn't hurt to dream."

Through working on "Julie Takes A Walk", Vassar learned many important lessons and has found that a team coming together to create art is one of the most beautiful explorations of community.

"I encourage anyone who has a vision to figure out a way to even do some proof of concept, write a proposal, or talk to your friends about it," she said. "Right now, that's some of the best acts of catharsis we can get in these times is just being together and being able to really find the creativity because it's important that we create art right now. It's important that we express ourselves."

To learn more about Shea Vassar, visit sheavassar.com. Reserve your free tickets for The Way We See The World via the event's Eventbrite page.

Cherokee values show us the way in Schon Duncan's "Ahyoka"

By ANN TOINEETA
One Feather Intern

Schon Duncan, a member of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, reminds us of Cherokee values and the true meaning of community with their new short film "Ahyoka" (Dḥḭ), a portrait of Ahyoka Youngdeer. Through telling Ahyoka's story, Duncan emphasizes the importance of inclusivity while also honoring a good friend.

"Ahyoka" will be screened at The Way We See The World, an event spotlighting Indigenous pop culture organized by the Museum of the Cherokee People. The event will be held on Friday, Aug. 7 in the Council Fire Ballroom at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

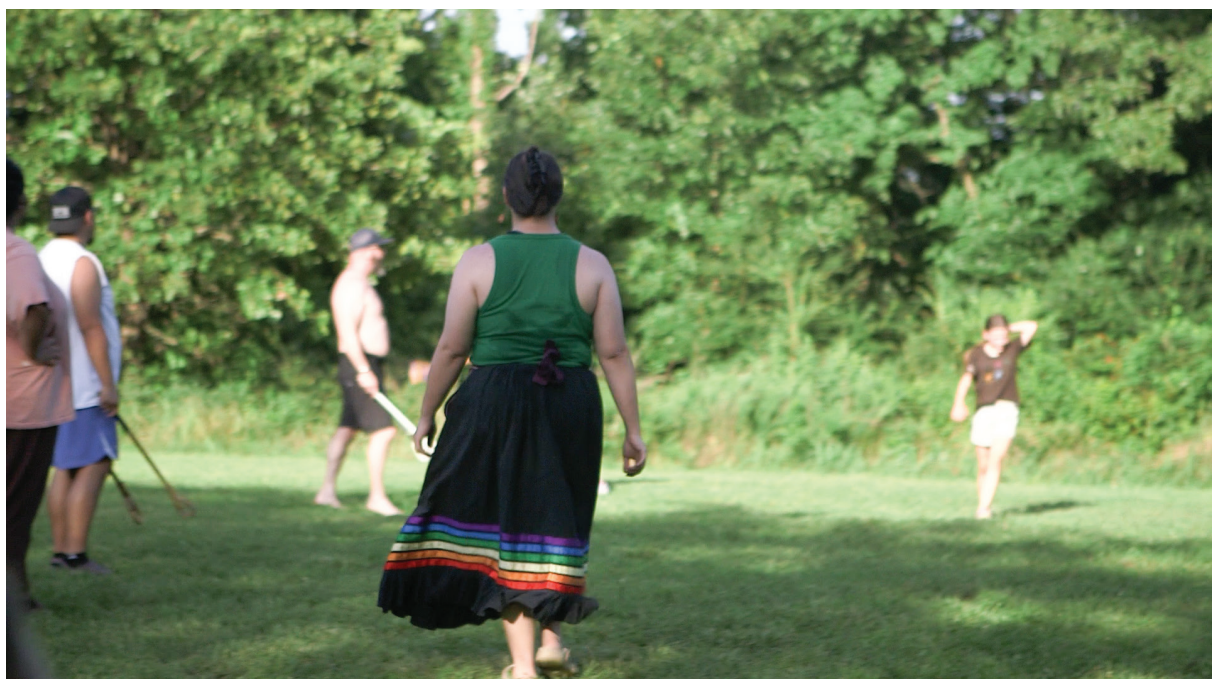
The following is a brief synopsis of the film: "Dḥḭ is a portrait of Ahyoka Youngdeer, Cherokee culture bearer, teacher, and two-spirit activist. Through her own life story, woven together with a traditional Cherokee story about crooked-faced children left in the woods and their return to community, Ahyoka traces how exclusion from school, family, and her own people, was never written into Cherokee values. It was imported. An elder's story reveals what was always true: she was never the problem. Through her journey, Dḥḭ reminds Cherokee people that Keetoowah is a lifeway. And we must live it."

In their director's statement, Duncan explained that they made this film because they, as a nonbinary queer Cherokee, know what it's like to wonder whether there was a space for them in their own community.

"This film is my attempt to turn back toward my community with love and honesty, to ask how we became a people who leave people out, and to remember that we were never supposed to," they said.

The initial inspiration for "Ahyoka" came from "Naughty Little Peeptoe," "a posthumous portrait of a gay man" directed by Garth Maxwell.

"It sparked something in me: we so often say and reflect on the best things about a person only after they're gone, and I didn't want



This is a still from "Ahyoka" which will be screened at The Way We See The World, an event spotlighting Indigenous pop culture organized by the Museum of the Cherokee People. (Photo contributed)

to wait until it was too late," Duncan said. "It's important to give people their flowers while they're still here, just as important to elevate their work and voice while we still have them. I know this as a language learner and teacher. I know this as someone who has seen that kind of loss. I was also wrestling with how I was raised to treat people, set against watching my own community exclude certain kinds of Cherokee people. I wanted to reflect that back to my community while honoring a friend who has made an impact on us all."

Duncan further expanded on the importance of Ahyoka in their life and how the film is a way for them to thank her for her love and support.

"She carries our culture in her everyday life, and she shares it in a deeply Cherokee way," they said. "There's a way of understanding Cherokee identity that rises above the politics of recognition, and Ahyoka is an exemplary, important example of that."

While Duncan does not want to tell audiences how to interpret their work, they did say Ahyoka's story reflects the value of showing love to everyone despite differences, which is "the heart and root of what it means to be Cherokee."

"To help, provide for, and support each other in becoming the best version of ourselves has been our instruction as Cherokee people since time immemorial," they said. "The diversity in who we are as individuals has always been the source of our strong communities. Sometimes we fail at being this way to each other. Sometimes following this path makes things harder for us in the colonial world. The easy path is not always the right one, and I think I have always been hard-headed."

"Ahyoka" is the first film Duncan has built from scratch and solely directed. With such a big task, they are thankful to have a great team.

"I'm incredibly proud of the all-Cherokee team we assembled to make this film," they said. "Every one of them has a fingerprint on it, and I'm a better filmmaker for having them bring their own expertise to the work. As a group of Cherokee artists, we have shown that we can create something that is just for us, and if others take something from that, then even better."

To learn more about "Ahyoka", follow @ahyokafilm on Instagram. Reserve your free tickets for The Way We See The World via the event's Eventbrite page.

Shinnecock women reclaim traditional practices in Nathaniel Cummings-Lambert's new documentary

By ANN TOINEETA

One Feather Intern

“Women of the Stony Shore: Shinnecock Kelp Farmers”, Nathaniel Cummings-Lambert's new documentary, takes a close look at the traditional Shinnecock practice of kelp farming. The documentary follows a group of six Shinnecock women through a full year of harvesting along Long Island's Shinnecock Bay in New York. This practice is shown as an exercise of sovereignty and fight against the pollutants that have harmed their waters.

“Women of the Stony Shore” will be screened at The Way We See The World, an event spotlighting Indigenous pop culture organized by the Museum of the Cherokee People. The event will be held on Friday, Aug. 7 in the Council Fire Ballroom at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Cummings-Lambert, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, who directed, edited, and produced “Women of the Stony Shore”, created this documentary as a project for his PhD program. Over the span of two semesters, he was able to learn all about the kelp farmers' mission and their process.

The following is a brief synopsis of the documentary:

“Women of the Stony Shore” follows a multigenerational coalition of Shinnecock women who use kelp farming to counter ecological damage to the waters surrounding their traditional homelands. The film documents



Nathaniel Cummings-Lambert and Waban Tarrant are shown in this production still from “Women of the Stony Shore”. (Photo contributed)

the full arc of the growing season: seedlings cultivated in aquarium tanks each fall, transferred to anchored ocean lines in December, and harvested the following spring. Throughout the growing season, we meet the six women behind this regenerative aquaculture initiative and learn how their work draws pollutants from the bay's waters while exercising sovereignty and reclaiming a practice rooted in centuries of Shinnecock seaweed harvesting.”

Cummings-Lambert said, “I really wanted to show the full process of the kelp farming throughout the season. For me, it was also important to sort of be slow and follow the whole growing season from beginning to end to show what is involved with everything.”

What primarily stood out to

Cummings-Lambert while making the documentary was the incredible resilience and dedication of the Shinnecock. Even though their operation is small, they are constantly expanding.

“The size of their reservation is really small compared to other communities, but they're able to do a lot of work with the resources that they have and that's really inspiring,” he said.

Cummings-Lambert also described the Shinnecock women as very welcoming and is happy that this experience has allowed him to form a relationship with them. “I was very grateful to be able to work with the Shinnecock Kelp Farmers because I didn't really know them and they trusted me to make a film as someone outside of their community,” he said.

“They're just really generous with their time.”

Cummings-Lambert hopes that “Women of the Stony Shore” will allow audiences to connect their own experiences with those from other Native communities.

“A lot of the things that the Shinnecock Kelp Farmers were telling me sounded very familiar to the experiences of folks back home in Cherokee,” he said. “I hope that folks will see the broader relationship between what they're trying to accomplish and things that are happening in other Native American communities as well.”

To learn more about the Shinnecock Kelp Farmers, go to shinnecockkelpfarmers.com. Reserve your free tickets for The Way We See The World via the event's Eventbrite page.

THANK YOU LETTERS

A gift that preserves more than culture

When we received the news that the Cherokee Preservation Foundation had approved our grant request, there was an overwhelming sense of gratitude throughout the Cherokee Senior Citizens Program. The award of \$15,000 is far more than a financial contribution. It is an investment in our people, our stories, and our future.

The support from the Cherokee Preservation Foundation will allow us to purchase new equipment and materials that make these cultural experiences possible. To many, these may appear to be simple tools and supplies. To us, they are opportunities. Opportunities for an elder to learn and teach their children and grandchildren a traditional craft. It provides opportunities for conversations about our language, our history, and our values and the opportunities for younger generations

to listen, learn, and carry those teachings forward.

Preserving culture requires dedication, resources, and community partnerships. The Cherokee Preservation Foundation understands that cultural preservation is not simply about remembering the past. It is about creating spaces where culture can continue to thrive in the present and inspire the future.

Because of this generous grant, our senior citizens will continue to engage in meaningful activities

that strengthen cultural identity and encourage lifelong learning. We extend our deepest appreciation to the Cherokee Preservation Foundation for believing in our mission and recognizing the importance of cultural revitalization. The support is creating lasting impacts today and helping secure a brighter future for tomorrow.

Monica Wildcatt

Cherokee Senior Citizens Program
manager

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Your Cherokee news
source since 1966

MISSING

Roy Maynard

American Indian

Height: 5'10" Weight: 210 lbs

Male Age: 77

Hair: Gray Eyes: Brown

Date of last contact: July 30, 2026

Last Known Location: Greensboro, NC

Circumstances of Disappearance: Roy ran his own tree cutting business and was living with a family member in Pleasant Garden. Roy walked away from a residence in the area of Frazier Road near Groometown Road in Greensboro, NC, on May 7th, 2004, and he has not been seen since. Foul play as not been excluded as a factor in Roy's disappearance.

If you have seen or have information about Roy Maynard contact Detective Joshua Allen, Guilford County Sheriff's Office (336) 641-2799

Source: Namus.gov



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EBCI WIC Program recognized as a WIC Breastfeeding Award of Excellence PREMIERE Recipient

Submitted by EBCI Public Health and Human Services

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The EBCI Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program has been recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a 2026 WIC Breastfeeding Award of Excellence: Premiere recipient, honoring the program's outstanding efforts to support breastfeeding families across the community.

"This award celebrates a team whose dedication goes beyond service," said Kim Lambert, WIC Program manager. "The collective effort of our staff who work every day to ensure families have the resources they need demonstrate the passion, commitment, and care to empower families to achieve healthier futures."

This prestigious recognition marks the first time the EBCI WIC Program has achieved Premiere-level status in the USDA's Breastfeeding Award of Excellence program. The EBCI WIC Program has previously earned the Gold Award twice within the last decade. Earning Premiere level status is a significant milestone as it demonstrates the program's commitment to providing quality breastfeeding services and support to our community.



EBCI WIC staff are shown, left to right, including - Darlene Hayden, Qiana Powell, Alyssa Roseman, Nikki Crowe, Angela Taylor, and Kim Lambert. (Photo courtesy of EBCI Public Health and Human Services)

The USDA's WIC Breastfeeding Award of Excellence program recognizes local agencies that demonstrate excellence in promoting and supporting breastfeeding WIC participants. The Gold Award honors agencies that have established a strong peer counseling foundation and demonstrate

strong training and foundational support systems. The Premier Award builds on the Gold standards by extending robust community-based support and proven program sustainability.

The EBCI WIC Program is a special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants, and

Children. The program provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, healthy food benefits, and referrals to health care for eligible individuals. The program is located inside the Beloved Women and Children's Health and Wellness Center at 73 Kaiser Wilnoty Drive, Cherokee, NC.



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

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



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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Tina Larch: (828) 359-6912

Timber Permits

Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913

OBITUARIES JHfR

Jacob Silas Evans

Jacob Silas Evans, of Greenville, N.C., passed away on Monday, July 20, 2026.

Jacob will be remembered for his warm smile, kind heart, and generous soul. He had a way of making those around him feel welcome and cared for, his laughter and easygoing spirit left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him.

He found happiness in life's simple pleasures. Whether he was casting a line while fishing, spending a day at the beach, or sharing a good laugh with family and friends, Jacob treasured the moments spent with the people he loved most.

Jacob is survived by his

beloved son, Jackson Evans; his loving parents, Terry and Julina Evans; his sister, Summer Evans; and his fiancée, Lindsay Green Mashburn. He also leaves behind many extended family members and friends who will deeply miss his love, kindness, and unforgettable smile.

Though his time with us was far too short, Jacob's memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. His legacy of love, generosity, and compassion will continue to inspire those whose lives he touched.

The family appreciates the love, prayers, and support they have received during this difficult time. Funeral and memorial service arrangements will be announced by the family.

GWY ƧV° OYLC

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Please email all flyers and photos to us at:

Cherokeeonefeather1966@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.



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



Aug. 3-Aug. 9, 2026



WATERSHED	STOCKING	PRODUCTIVITY	ACTIVE SPECIES	FLY/BAIT
Tuckasegee River	N/A	Productivity: Morning	Rainbow Brown and Brook trout, Smallmouth Bass	Fly-Crayfish Streamer, Woolly Bugger, Kreelex, Poppers, Chubby Chernobyl, Beetles
Chattooga & Whitewater Rivers	N/A	Productivity: Morning	Brown Trout	Fly-Beetle, Hopper, Midge, Prince Nymph, Rubber Leg Hares Ear, Yellow Soft Hackle
Inside GSMNP Oconaluftee River & Small Streams	N/A	Productivity: Morning	Rainbow, Brown & Brook Trout,	Fly- Stimulator, Ants, Big Boned Caddis, Inchworm, Peacock Soft Hackle, Small Perdigon

COURTESY OF TUCKASEEGEE FLY SHOP

BEST FISHING TIMES BASED ON THE LUNAR CYCLE

MONDAY, August 3	TUESDAY, August 4	WEDNESDAY, August 5	THURSDAY, August 6	FRIDAY, August 7	SATURDAY, August 8	SUNDAY, August 9
Average	Average+	Average	Average+	Average+	Average	Average
11:07 AM-12:07 PM	12:11 PM-1:11 PM	5:40 AM-7:40 AM	6:33 AM-8:33 AM	7:32 AM-9:32 AM	8:35 AM-10:35 AM	9:40 AM-11:40 AM
10:39 PM-11:39 PM	11:09 PM-12:09 AM	6:06 PM-8:06 PM	7:02 PM-9:02 PM	8:03 PM-10:03 PM	9:07 PM-11:07 PM	10:12 PM-12:12 AM

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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

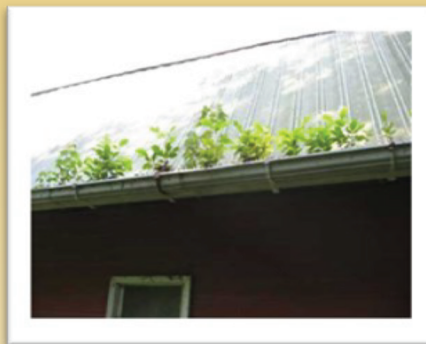
Again, with clogged gutters, water is falling in places you don't expect it to. This can lead to slippery situations where water is falling from the clogged gutters above onto a walkway, entry or driveway. Keeping gutters and downspouts clean keeps the water moving away from your home and walkways and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

6. Prevent Mold

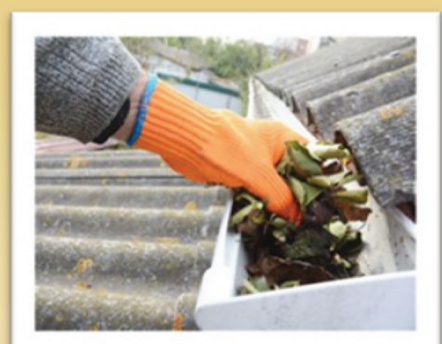
"Moisture is the enemy," Damp and wet areas are prime locations for mold growth, which damages the structural integrity of the home.

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"



COMMENTARY

I still haven't found what I am looking for - Wayfinding signage on the Boundary

By ROBERT JUMPER

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

There is a place where if you want to know what the speed limit is, you must stop and clean the kudzu off the signs. There is a place where you must check the current date when you see an event sign to ensure that it is in the future or past, because promoters and billboard companies are not required to cover up stale messages. There is a place where political campaign signs are left in public view from one election to the next, even if the candidates aren't in the running. There is a place that holds the title of a tourism destination, yet people routinely must stop and ask for directions to our leading attractions.

That place is the Qualla Boundary.

I have been asked several times over the years for directions to our casino. I'll be walking down Tsali (sometimes across from the welcome center), and a tourist will stop and ask how to get there, or to the Village (Oconaluftee Indian Village), or even to the Museum of the Cherokee People and Qualla Arts and Crafts, even though those attractions are roadside and clearly visible. And we don't even want to talk about Kituwah nor the Tribal Dispensary. I have even had people ask me where the Oconaluftee Island Park is, and they are standing only a few feet from it.

I found this on the Destination



The old Indian Village/Unto These Hills sign that sits in the center of the cultural district resembles the style of the old arrowhead wayfinding signage. (ROBERT JUMPER/One Feather photos)

by Design marketing firm website: "Wayfinding signage is more than just pointing people in the right direction. It is a strategic tool for strengthening local economies. When thoughtfully designed and placed, signage can boost efficient traffic flow, extend visitor stays, highlight key assets, and promote local pride. At Destination by Design, we've seen communities thrive after investing in a well-

planned signage system."

I reached out to a few of the community leaders in the area to get some idea of how they see wayfinding signage affecting their community.

Todd Vineyard, executive director of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, said, "Wayfinding signage is one of the quiet engines of economic development. When visitors can

easily navigate a community — find parking, locate shops, reach trailheads, and understand how districts connect — they stay longer, spend more, and explore more broadly. Clear, consistent wayfinding is also a public safety tool. When people know where they are, where they're going, and how to get there, emergency response is faster, traffic confusion is reduced, and pedestrians make safer decisions. We've seen in places like Dillsboro how thoughtful wayfinding can reinforce a community's identity. Their signage reflects the town's character, guides visitors intuitively, and encourages exploration beyond the main corridor. It's a great example of how small towns can use design to strengthen both commerce and community pride. In mountain communities like ours, where visitors often arrive unfamiliar with our geography, wayfinding isn't just helpful — it's essential. Good signage reduces frustration, improves the visitor experience, and supports the businesses and attractions that depend on tourism. Strategic wayfinding is one of the simplest investments a community can make with the highest return. It's not just about signs; it's about creating a welcoming, navigable environment that supports local businesses and helps visitors feel confident and connected."

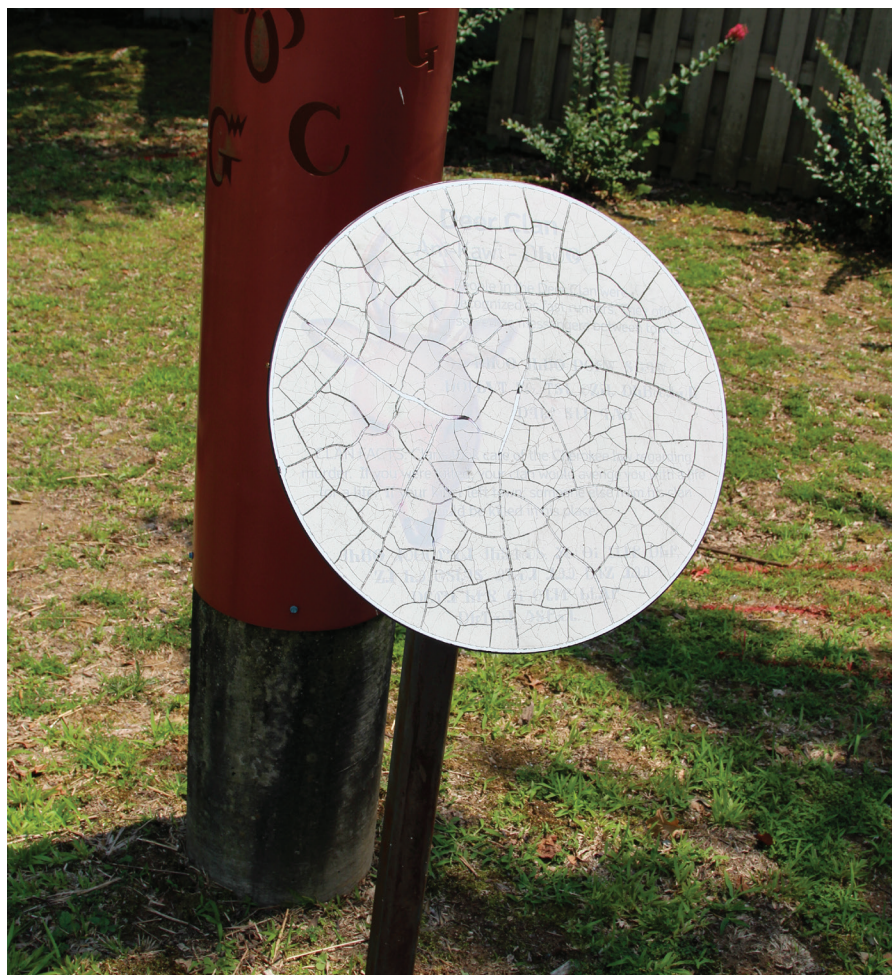
Nick Breedlove, executive director of the Jackson County Tourism Development Authority, shared his perspective on wayfin-

ding. “Wayfinding signage is one of the first things a new visitor notices, and it’s a direct investment in how easy our communities are to explore. Good signage points traffic toward assets people might otherwise drive right past. Think about how a theme park or museum uses signs to pull guests into every corner. Community wayfinding works the same way, and the spending follows. A 2010 Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau survey of 4,076 people found that 87 percent said they’d explore the city more if signage and kiosks pointed them toward additional attractions. And these signs help with safety too. Trying to navigate a crowded district while squinting at a phone or dash-mounted GPS creates distracted drivers and pedestrians. Big, visible physical signs keep eyes up and on the road.”

It has been my experience that GPS (Global Positioning System) units do not always provide accurate directions in the mountains of western North Carolina, even when an address is provided to the application. If you have ever used satellite radio, you know that the signal gets lost frequently as the car’s satellite radio “antenna” loses contact with its satellites.

The same happens with GPS units. And, as Todd and Nick said, wayfinding signage is much more than just a way to guide folks to their desired destination. It tells the community and traveler a little bit about the culture and pride of a place. All of us are overly dependent on our smartphones. And even smartphones make mistakes.

Once a traveler gets to your destination, wayfinding signage may be their first impression of you and your community. The signage program for a destina-



This sign is on a pathway through the Cultural District and was intended to lure visitors further into the cultural area with educational materials about the Cherokee Clans. All those signs now look like this, faded, unreadable, and cracked by weather and time.

tion goes hand-in-hand with their strategy on curb appeal, another critical element in putting a community’s best foot forward. Successful destinations coordinate and lead the look and messaging of their signage, incorporating it into the overall marketing strategy.

One of the most successful tourism marketing campaigns in America is the “Pure Michigan” tourism effort. You may have seen a license plate or two with that logo. You see, the Pure Michigan look and message were so powerful that it was adopted by the state government and became the moniker for the state.

“In an effort to better plan and coordinate future tourism promo-

tion activities, Travel Michigan, in coordination with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Travel Commission, and Michigan State University, released a five-year Michigan Tourism Strategic Plan in December 2012 (Ben Gielczyk, Senior Fiscal Analyst, House Fiscal Agency).”

Since its inception in 2006, the impact of Pure Michigan has grown exponentially. This, according to the State of Michigan, “The Pure Michigan campaign has been credited with generating billions of dollars in visitor spending and contributing significantly to Michigan’s economy over its two decades of operation. According to a 2024 report by Tourism Eco-

nomics, the campaign influenced more than 789,000 leisure trips to Michigan from national, regional, and state markets, resulting in \$1.3 billion in visitor spending. This spend directly supported over \$79 million in state tax revenue (briefglance.com).”

According to Kelly Wolgamott, vice president of Pure Michigan (article by Sheldon Krause, “Pure Michigan campaign marks 20 years, generates billions in revenue,” April 9, 2026). “For every dollar we had within the campaign, \$10.78 came back into the state.”

Attention to detail, like wayfinding signage, is critical to the success of marketing campaigns. The term “brand” is popular in marketing. So, can you really claim a resource as your own if you don’t brand it, literally and figuratively?

I asked the Asheville Chamber of Commerce to share their insights on the importance of wayfinding signage.

Ashley Greenstein, public information manager for Explore Asheville, said, “Strategic wayfinding is one of the most effective investments a community can make toward its visitor economy. Our network of more than 400 signs across Buncombe County points visitors to local attractions, shopping, and cultural districts, encouraging visitors to explore longer and extend their spending to surrounding towns like Black Mountain, Weaverville, and Woodfin. Results from other destinations informed our investment: Camden, New Jersey, saw a 30 percent rise in visitation, and Dallas’s Arts District grew its economic impact by 20 percent following its wayfinding rollout. A

see **COMMENTARY** next page

COMMENTARY: From page 33

wayfinding system reinforces our community as a walkable, discoverable destination, weaving in local culture and history at every turn, so visitors feel equipped and inspired to explore it fully on foot and behind the wheel.”

Since the good old days of wooden arrowhead signage, which, to my knowledge, was the last concerted effort to execute uniform signage (and I think that was by accident because arrowheads were the “native” image at the time and the effort was the only one going on back then), signage on the Qualla Boundary has sprouted in every corner, and not necessarily to the benefit of our community.

I asked EBCI Commerce Secretary Sean Ross to share his thoughts on wayfinding signage on the Boundary. He had some encouraging updates about the ongoing efforts to revitalize signage on the Boundary.

“We are actively in the process of a signage audit and an active schedule of replacement.

Our teams, consisting of Destination Marketing, Communications, and Project Management, along with our Agency of Record (French West Vaughn), have initiated a style guide and brand standard that we are incorporating into the look and feel of the signage replacements. Within marketing and advertising, via social media, print, and outdoor (billboard) messaging, there is a consistency of prominent placement of our syllabary over English wording, specifics concerning font type, color palette, font sizing, and stay-away space relative to logos and cultural icons. Using a strategic type of design and messaging framework, we plan to build the same elements



The refreshed Qualla Arts and Crafts Co-op signs are a “sign” of what the future could hold for wayfinding on the Qualla Boundary.

within the replacement signage in and around the Qualla Boundary.

Some of the things you are beginning to see now began as a process a little over a year and a half ago, as we wanted to review some of the studies and consultation over the last 4 plus years (via charrettes, information gathering sessions and work groups consisting of business owners, elected officials, cultural partners and community members), being cognizant of those considerations as we moved forward with current strategies and augmentations based on new and historical feedback.

We have started with a complete outdoor board vinyl switch-out for our tourism boards, entertainment, events, and cultural-partner boards, and that look and feel has transitioned into some standardized retail signage for the outlets in the business dis-

trict. To be clear, the signage has not been for directional function per se, but rather, signage resolute for monument, and informational/destination based.

Additionally, through assistance from the Etiquette Committee, we have designed and placed signage all along the boundary communicating to our visitors a step-by-step guide for appropriate use of public space, sensitivity to our culture, consideration of indigenous flora and fauna, as well as restricted areas of tribal land. The signage is clear, concise, and has recognizable icons for easy visual scanning and processability.

It is lost on none of our teams that there is a need for directional signage, and we have collaborated with consultants to lay down a framework for a comprehensive plan for design (congruent with established brand standards) and deployment. The process will have

to be executed through an appropriate system of phasing relative to the established assets we have, newly added assets, and future assets as they come online. This process cannot be completed all in one fell swoop, as the overarching footprint or landscape will be one of constant shifts and movements within the next few years as the projects move progressively.”

In a political environment, the can sometimes gets kicked down the road, and it is out of any particular person or entity’s hands as to where and when the can lands. I know from serving decades in the businesses of product promotion and placement that getting consensus on things like uniform signage is tedious and time-consuming. But the economic potential should be assessed and communicated to the parties in power so that those parties understand the cost of delay. I am not sure if

an analysis has been requested or performed, but if not, it should, and, if so, the findings should be shared with the entities and community.

As the late Ken Blankenship, former executive director of the Museum of the Cherokee People, was famous for saying in an entity meeting, “We have plenty of traffic from tourists coming through Cherokee. Our challenge isn’t that. It is getting people to pull into my parking lot.”

Ken’s comment always stuck with me as I served here on the Boundary and as I served in Jackson County as chairperson of the Jackson County Travel and Tourism Authority and, later, Tourism Development Authority. Our duty to the community doesn’t stop at getting guests to our destinations. We have to drive that visitor and their dollars through the front doors of our entities.

Most importantly, it is providing directional signage for the essential needs of all people, whether from inside or outside our community. Hypothetically, say you are a tribal member who has finally got that dream job on the Boundary. You have been waiting for years for something to open up in your field that would pay a living wage. You bring your family to your new home on Soco and start living life. Then, one day, a loved one is critically hurt, and your first instinct is to throw them in the car and rush them to the hospital. Yes, 911 should be our thought, but when a loved one is in dire need, we tend to get a little (a lot) impulsive. So, you try to rush your loved one to the hospital. Is there enough wayfinding signage to get you where you need to be? These are things we don’t think of over a normal day. Just like pedestrian

crossings, safety is sometimes an afterthought.

Bill Paul, EBCI Safety Training Officer for Risk Management, said, “From a Risk Management point of view, wayfinding signage is much more than a convenience; it is a necessity that is critical for reducing accidents and injuries, improving traffic and pedestrian flow, and improving the visitor experience”.

The One Feather office is in the Ginger Lynn Welch Complex on Acquoni Road. For the last couple of years, there has been an ongoing effort by the EBCI Water and Sewer Department to dig up and replace the aging and overtaxed water and sewer pipes that run the length of Big Cove and Acquoni Roads. Currently, the project has a portion of the road completely shut down during the workday, requiring traffic to be routed onto Tsali Blvd. to access Acquoni from the Saunooke Village end of the road. Traffic, primarily tourist traffic but some local traffic, is having a difficult time navigating the road closure. This was discussed at the July 20 meeting of the Tribal Planning Board.

Tyler Blankenship, director of operations and public facilities, and Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Lavita Hill discussed traffic signage for the project. At the construction site, a detour was established that runs behind the Ginger Lynn Welch Complex and takes people back onto Acquoni Road toward Big Cove.

Rep. Hill said, “Can we get a few more signs around that route that is the actual detour? I had a meeting at the ABC building, and the traffic is coming down, and they’re going back to the (Cherokee Boys Club) garage. They don’t know where to go. And the signage

is not clear for them to come back and turn at the (Cherokee Boys Club) gas pumps and go back around.

Blankenship responded, “Yeah. We’ll put some more signage up. I know they put more signage out last Thursday to kind of help because I know the Boys Club is getting a lot of traffic in their area. So, for the tourists’ sake, if they are using GPS, all GPS is updated (to communicate) Acquoni Road is closed. But we still have people coming around. We’ve had a few come around the barricades, and each time the police have been called on those individuals.”

Rep. Hill asked, “Are those tourists?”

Blankenship responded, “Locals.”

From short-term traffic situations to community emergency services to economic development, wayfinding is a critical element to safety and strategic planning. It should be high on those priority

lists. We have before discussed the dangers of being reactive instead of proactive in critical infrastructure areas like wayfinding signage. Waiting to address the need until something catastrophic happens is costly, as was the case with addressing the need for more pedestrian crossings. I wholeheartedly support the efforts of the EBCI Commerce Division as they seek to lift the look and message of the Qualla Boundary as a destination for the economic growth of our people. I think that need is urgent. As we look at the threats to our economic engines, brand awareness for our community becomes even more of a critical element. On top of that is the equally urgent need to provide clear directions to all the services available and necessary to our community. For the sake of our tribe, our government needs to ensure that we, community members and visiting guests, can find what we are looking for.

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



July report from Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Michael Stamper



Hello everyone,

This is my Council Report for the month of July. As summer comes to a close, I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and memorable season.

This time of year marks a transition for our community. With the new school year beginning soon and fall just around the corner, we look ahead to several important events, including the Fall Festival, football season, and one of the busiest tourism seasons of the year. Please enjoy the remaining days of summer and take time to prepare for the upcoming school year.

As always, my report follows the standard format below.

Community Events

Aug. 6 - Cherokee Central Schools Back-to-School Bash Open House
• Pre-K through 6th Grade: 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
• Middle School and High School: 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Back-to-School Bash Activities
• Time: 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.
• Location: 86 Elk Crossing Lane,

Cherokee, NC 28719

Aug. 7 - The Way We See the World

An annual community event hosted by the Museum of the Cherokee People that highlights Indigenous pop culture. This year's event will feature films including Ahyoka, Julie Takes a Walk, Woman of the Stony Shores, and a sneak peek of an upcoming film. An art market and silent auction will also be held.

- Time: 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Location: Council Fire Ballroom, Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort, Cherokee, N.C.

Project Updates

Recently Completed Projects

This section will be updated as additional projects are completed throughout calendar year 2026.

Projects Currently Underway or Nearing Completion

Nvdiyeli Trail

Updates to the stairs and signage were scheduled to begin on July 20. A finished product should be visible very soon.

Ceremonial Grounds

Improvements to the overall structure and makeup of the property continue weekly. The project remains on schedule and within budget.

Multipurpose Facility (Old High School Site)

The archaeological survey has been approved and will begin soon. This marks another important step toward eventual groundbreaking.

New Restroom Facilities for the Historical Area (Indian Village and Fire Mountain

Trails

Designs have been approved, and the bidding process has been completed. The current phase involves evaluating the project scope to identify potential cost savings.

Ordinances Under Consideration

Ordinances that have been passed, withdrawn, or defeated will not appear on this list.

1. Amendments to Election Laws
2. Establishing an Elk Hunting Season
3. Updating Laws on the Assignment of Possessory Holdings
4. Regulating the Caging of Bears on Tribal Lands
5. Ordinance Amending Chapter 41 of the Cherokee Code to Define Different Types of Ownership of a Possessory Holding
6. Ordinance Amending Chapter 19-7 of the Cherokee Code Regarding Public Nuisances
7. Ordinance Amending the Statute of Frauds in Chapter 22 of the Cherokee Code
8. Ordinance proposing Amendments to Chapters 92 and 95 Related to TERO
9. Ordinance to establish Cannabis Control Board is funded by Qualla LLC.

Work Sessions

Upcoming Work Sessions

- July 29
- 9 a.m. - Tabled Ordinance 184: Caging of Bears on Tribal Lands
- July 30
- 9 a.m. - Minors Trust Fund
- August 5
- 11 a.m. - Noquisi Initiative

Monthly Update for Readers

This month's update focuses

on a topic that has generated both warranted and unwarranted concerns: Cost Containment.

What is cost containment? How does it affect your daily life? Is it a positive or a negative? Is it a sign of financial trouble, or simply good planning?

These are all valid questions. Much of the confusion comes from a lack of understanding about how tribal government budgeting and finances operate across programs and entities. To fully explain the purpose behind cost containment, it is important to provide some background on how this initiative came to be.

Every budget season, Tribal Council and program leadership build budgets based on projected revenue from tribal distribution dollars generated by various entities. These projections are developed using numerous economic and industry factors. When revenue projections return either higher or lower than previous years, adjustments must be made accordingly.

For Fiscal Year 2025-2026, revenue projections were lower than previous years due primarily to current economic conditions and increased competition within the gaming industry. Because of this information, we have been able to plan ahead and make proactive decisions rather than reactive ones.

As part of that planning process, budgets are reviewed regularly throughout the fiscal year, which is divided into four quarters:

- 1st Quarter: October through December
- 2nd Quarter: January through March

- 3rd Quarter: April through June
- 4th Quarter: July through September

We are currently in the 4th Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025-2026, and cost containment measures were scheduled to begin at the start of this quarter.

The purpose of this initiative is to encourage responsible spending across all programs and entities while creating savings during the final quarter of the fiscal year. Those savings can then be carried forward into the next fiscal year. This is not a sign of poor financial management or frivolous spending. Rather, it is a strategic response to economic conditions that we have come to expect and that many believe will continue into Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Is Cost Containment a Bad Thing?

In short, no.

Implementing cost containment during the final quarter of the fiscal year typically has minimal impact on most programs because the majority of annual expenses have already been allocated and planned for. As long as a program has managed its budget responsibly throughout the year, cost containment should have little to no effect on its ability to provide services.

If It Has Little Effect, Why Is It Effective?

Cost containment does exactly what its name suggests: it contains costs.

Historically, there have been situations where programs that experienced savings during the year

felt pressure to spend remaining funds before the fiscal year ended. Since beginning my work in tribal programs in 2013, I have often heard the phrase, “If I don’t spend it, then I can’t put it back in my budget for next year.”

As a result, some programs would spend remaining funds on items that may not have been necessary from a true operational or service-delivery standpoint. Cost containment helps shift that mindset by encouraging programs to evaluate whether expenditures are genuinely needed before making them.

Why Might Programs Have Unspent Money?

To understand that, it helps to look at how budgets are created. One of my favorite examples comes from Family Support Services, managed by Barbara Jones. This program provides a highly valued resource to our community through its gas voucher program, which helps individuals travel for qualifying medical appointments.

When preparing a budget, a program manager often uses historical spending patterns to estimate future needs. Suppose Family Support Services budgets the same amount for gas vouchers as the previous year because funding levels proved adequate and no budget amendment was required.

However, during the following fiscal year, gasoline prices increase significantly. Since gas vouchers are based on gallons rather than dollars, the cost of providing those vouchers also increases. As a result, the program may exhaust its

gas voucher budget much earlier than expected.

The need for medical travel assistance does not disappear simply because the budget line item has been fully spent. At that point, the program may need a budget amendment to continue providing the service.

Budget amendments require Tribal Council action and approval through a resolution. While essential services are often strong candidates for approval, the process can still take time and create uncertainty for both program staff and community members who rely on those services.

To prevent that situation from occurring again, a program may choose to increase its funding request during the next budget cycle to account for possible future increases in fuel costs. That increase can be justified to Tribal Council based on actual experience.

Why Budgets Sometimes Appear Larger Than Necessary

Because budget amendments take time and require Council approval, many programs would rather plan for potential increases in costs than risk running out of funds mid-year.

As a result, programs may build additional flexibility into their budgets to account for uncertainty in the economy, inflation, changing service demands, or fluctuations in costs that are outside their control.

When those anticipated increases do not materialize, programs may find themselves with unspent funds in the fourth quar-

ter. This is not necessarily a sign of poor planning. In many cases, it reflects an effort to ensure services remain available under a wide range of economic conditions.

The Role of Cost Containment

Over time, some budgets can naturally become larger than necessary because managers are trying to prepare for unknown variables. Cost containment helps identify opportunities to capture savings when circumstances turn out more favorably than expected.

When every program and entity takes a thoughtful look at its spending and focuses on essential needs, those savings can accumulate without reducing services to the public. Those funds can then be rolled into the next fiscal year, strengthening the Tribe’s overall financial position and helping prepare for future economic uncertainty.

Cost containment is not about limiting services or creating hardship. It is about ensuring that tribal resources are used wisely and responsibly.

At its core, this initiative reflects responsible planning, sound financial management, and proactive leadership from both elected officials and program managers. By taking steps today to preserve resources, we put ourselves in a stronger position to continue serving our community tomorrow.

Michael Stamper

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

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

Translate that

Part 1 of 2

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

(<https://preacherspurs.com>)

Scripture references: Isaiah 55:11, Lamentations 3:22-23, Mark 9:38-40

Proverbs 3:13 says, “How blessed is the man who finds wisdom and the man who gains understanding”. Proverbs 9:10 says, “The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom; And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding”. Reading God’s Word every day begets all of the above. I pray you can say the same. As Paul admits in Philippians 3, “Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet I press on toward the goal for the prize”. Those words are my intended mixture of context, but they convey my desire to read God’s Word daily.

My best ‘Ah Hah!’ moments of understanding come from reading different translations of His Word. If you are solidly opposed to reading any other version of the Bible than the one you use, that is perfectly fine with me. My intent is not to change your mind about that but possibly reveal to you the blessings I have received.

The Bible is God’s Word, and it is my personal belief that it is true, without error, and complete to use as stated in 2 Timothy 3:16. “Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness”. Disagreements about which translations are better or which are in error are not the purposes of this discussion. As to online versions vs. hard copy books, there are strong opinions on the differences and the problems electronic media bring to the conversations. These arguments are well known. Investigation on my part revealed that there are good, better, best translations, and I don’t speak Greek, Hebrew, or Latin. I agree that electronic media might bring laziness and lead to cherry-picking verses out of context. Everyone should have at least one hardcopy Bible, and before buying or reading any version, pray about what God wills for you to read. I listen to God’s Word in all these forms and specifically to what His Spirit

says. This commentary is one perspective on the whole matter.

This is easy. I was raised on one version of the Bible from childhood, King James (KJV). When I got into junior high school, I was given a student paperback copy of the Good News Translation (GNT). Immediately, I found it easier to read and understand. I took my KJV to church and Sunday school, and I read the other at home or school because, back in my early years, my church membership frowned upon any other translations. Later in life, when I was married but before kids, my church gave me a copy of the New International Version (NIV). I read that version for a while before I received another Bible translated as the New King James Version (NKJV) as a gift, and I liked it. However, I noticed slight differences in the translated verses. Discussion among adult and mature Christians often shifted around different translations, and soon I discovered the vast opinions of what others thought about Bible versions in general. Through my time as a student in college and a teacher in Sunday School, I began to read other versions and translations. All those experiences have led me to my current philosophy on Bible translations. I use the

American Standard Version (ASV) for quoting Scripture in this book purely for copyright ease. Hint: ASV is not my preferred version.

Christians worldwide read and rely exclusively on one translation of God’s Word, the revered KJV. That’s okay by me. I don’t scoff at those who follow those precepts. I’m asking you not to beat me up about what I think about different translations, as it is my personal experience and opinion that reading other translations is beneficial. After all, everything we read from any translation is, in fact, a translation of either Hebrew or Greek, or even Latin. It is hard to argue with Isaiah 55:11, which says, “so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it”.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your perfect, everlasting Word. Thank You for how You speak to us through Your Word, Your Son, and Your Spirit. Thank You for revealing the mysteries of Your being and how You love us, protect us, and think of us. God, You are beyond description in greatness and understanding. Thank You for helping us draw closer to You and Your glory. Amen



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

In his arrogance the wicked man
hunts down the weak, who are caught
in the schemes he devises. He boasts
about the cravings of his heart;
he blesses the greedy and reviles
the Lord. In his pride the wicked man
does not seek him; in all his thoughts
there is no room for God.

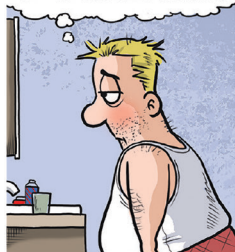
Psalm 10: 2-4



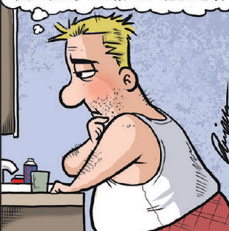
“Self-Portrait”
by Conrad Felixmüller (1921)

Amber Waves

AHH GEEZ, I LOOK ROUGH. I GOTTA MAKE SOME CHANGES.



HMM, MAYBE A NEW HAIRSTYLE AND FACELIFT FOLLOWED BY A RIGOROUS WORKOUT REGIMEN?



YEP, THAT WOULD DO IT. THROW IN SOME FANCY NEW DUDS AND I'LL LOOK LIKE A MILLION BUCKS.

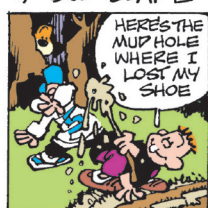


AH HECK, WHY MESS WITH A CLASSIC.

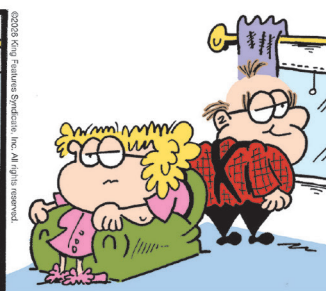
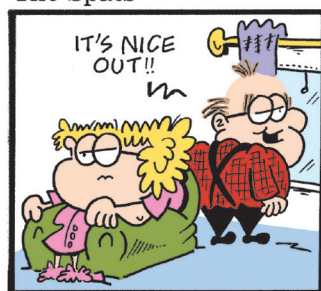


by Dave T. Phipps

TIGER



The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

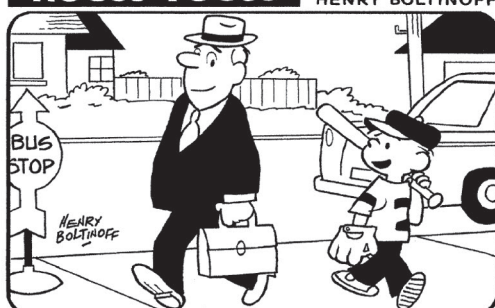
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

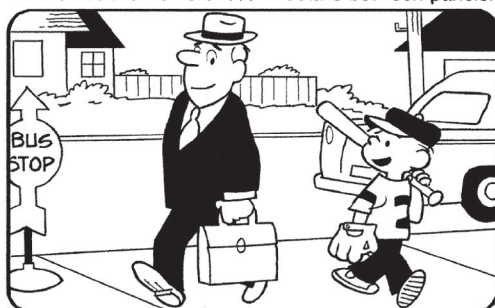
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Line in sidewalk is moved. 2. Window sill is missing. 3. Rear car window is smaller. 4. House window is moved. 5. Man is thinner. 6. Briefcase is larger.

ACROSS

- URL ending
- "Now I get it!"
- Shimmering fabrics
- Texter's "I think"
- Young bloke
- Mover's rental
- H.S. proficiency test
- Held in trust
- Census stat
- Wonderland visitor
- Hindu deity
- Moray, for one
- Ski lift type
- TV screen choice

- Beekeeper's place
- Blood line?
- Sweetie
- Monastery
- Play part
- Romanov ruler
- College URL ender
- Appear
- Chopin piece
- Roman 56
- Branch of government
- Puzzle
- " — Called Wanda"

King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16		17				
18				19						
20			21		22			23	24	25
			27	28		29	30			
31	32	33					34			
35					36	37				
38					39	40		41	42	43
				45			46		47	
48	49	50	51						52	
53						54			55	
56						57			58	

- Actress Ruby
- Before
- Give up amateur status
- Pink Floyd's Barrett
- Rds.

- "Time" co-founder
- Sushi fish
- Goat's plaint
- Where Lux. is
- Devious
- Bruins' sch.
- Wedding setting
- Leans
- Sheepish "Hello!"
- Branch
- Bagel variety
- One for the road?
- "Paper Moon" Cpl.'s subordinate

- Sternward
- Hosp. areas
- Estuary
- Bigfoot's kin
- Hollywood's Hepburn
- Couples
- Santa's crew
- Tennis great Chris
- Blends
- Repeat
- Sized up
- Binge
- "Avatar" craft
- Chips go-with
- Leb. neighbor

DOWN

- Humidor item
- Alpha's opposite
- Cable company device
- Romeo
- Saluted
- "Paper Moon" Cpl.'s subordinate

- 23 Leans
- 24 Sheepish "Hello!"
- 25 Branch
- 26 Bagel variety
- 28 One for the road?
- 30 Cpl.'s subordinate

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- GEOGRAPHY: How many countries border Argentina?
- GAMES: What is a perfect score in a bowling game?
- TELEVISION: In the animated series "Family Guy," what kind of creature is often fighting with Peter?
- COMICS: What is the name of Batman's butler?
- FOOD & DRINK: What ingredient gives the Greek liquor ouzo its distinctive taste?
- LITERATURE: What are the names of Nancy Drew's best friends in the detective novel series?
- MOVIES: What brand-name underwear does Marty McFly have in the movie "Back to the Future"?
- SCIENCE: What is the Prime Meridian?
- U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Carlsbad Caverns National Park?
- ASTRONOMY: What is the largest moon of Saturn?

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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EBCI Community Events

Summer's Over CCS Back to School Bash. Aug. 6 from 2 p.m. – 6p.m. Cherokee Central School, 1968 Big Cove Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Come meet your teachers, explore your school, connect with community partners, and get ready for an exciting new school year. Info: (828) 554-5117

NASA Softball Tournament. Aug. 6-8 at John Crowe Ballfields in Whittier, N.C. Info: Janell Rattler (828) 736-3231 or Timmy Ray Smith 788-2793

NAIWA Blueberry Festival. Aug. 15 from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m at the Yellowhill Community Activity Center 1416 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Blueberry pancakes, BBQ after 11 a.m., and baked goods. Sponsored by NAIWA. Info: (828) 736-5285

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

From Darkness Into Hope. Sept. 10 from 3 p.m. – 7p.m. at the Oconaluftee Island Park US-441 N & Newfound Gap Rd S, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Annual Mental health Awareness and Suicide Prevention Event. Info: (828) 359-6180

Honoring Long Person. Sept. 25 from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. meet at Peaches Squirrell Recreation Complex 1139 US-19, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Share a meal, learn about river heritage, then head

to the different parts of the Oconaluftee to clean. Info: facebook.com/HonoringLongPerson

Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall coming to Cherokee. Oct. 7-12 at Burgess – Oocumma Veterans Memorial Cemetery 21 Longbranch Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. The 51st Anniversary of the ending of the “Vietnam War”. Co-hosted by the American Legion Steve Youngdeer Post #143 and EBCI Cherokee Parks and Recreation Department.

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

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

35th Annual Cherokee Festival. Sept. 12 and 13 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sequoyah Birthplace

Museum at 576 HWY 360 Vonore, Tenn. 37885. Cherokee Arts and crafts demonstrations, Cherokee storytelling, flute playing, Cherokee dances, name written in Cherokee, genealogy help, craft vendors and food vendors. Info: (423) 884-6246

6th Annual Cherokee Winter Social. Jan. 30, 2027 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrel Sports and Recreation Complex 1212 Birdtown Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. MC: Catcuce Tiger. Everyone welcome. Traditional dress encouraged. All Cherokee Dance groups welcome, bring your rattles and drums. Nikki's Frybread will be set up. Info: CherokeeWinterSocial@gmail.com

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

Dinilawigi regular session. Aug. 6 at 8:30 a.m.

Community Services Committee. Aug. 10 at 9 a.m.

Lands Committee (closed meeting). Aug. 10 at 1 p.m.

HIP Committee (closed meeting). Aug. 12 at 8:30 a.m.

Roads Commission. Aug. 12 at 10:30 a.m.

Timber Committee. Aug. 12 at

CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

ᏍᏂᏏᏁ ᏗᏂ ᏂᏚᏗᏗᏗᏁᏗ ᏗᏂᏚᏗᏗᏁᏗ



Eddy, a 3-year old miniature schnauzer, lives in Elawodi (Yellowhill) with humans Avery and Alex Weatherly.



Sponsored by:

CHEROKEE
ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

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

11:30 a.m.

Planning Board. Aug. 12 at 1:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Committee. Aug. 13 at 1 p.m.

Pow Wow Listings

61st Annual Shoshone-Banock Indian Festival. Aug. 6-9 in Pocatello, Idaho. Info: Leah Tindore at ltindore8487@gmail.com

50th Annual Mohican Pow Wow. Aug. 7-9 at Many Trails Park in Bowler, Wisc. MC: Dylan



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Someone who knows you to be courageous and generous asks for help in getting through a crisis. Be prepared for some difficulties, but be assured that you'll overcome them.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Music and merriment dominate at this time. Go ahead and have fun — you've earned it! Meanwhile, don't be surprised if a Leo is there to share the good times with you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Believe in yourself, and your intrepid nature will win out over any lingering timidity that has you wavering over taking a new job. Then go out and celebrate!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Forget about people who are ungrateful despite all that you've done for them. Reward yourself for being the fine person you are. Buy something wonderful and have fun!

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Someone you thought had the same warm feelings for you as you do for them suddenly turns cool. Don't press for an explanation now; this will come later.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A new path opens as you work your way through a difficult problem. Friends and family will be there to help with you. Things begin to get brighter soon.

Prescott. Host Drum: Giitaa'se Singers. Co-Host Drum: Iron Gate. Invited Drums: Sugar Bush, Red Nation Boyz, Medicine Rock. (715) 793-4270, culturalaffairs@mohican-nsn.gov

Tatanka Najin Wacipi. Aug. 7-9 in Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan, Canada. Emcees: Harold Blacksmith, Tommy Christian. Host Drum: Mato Pejuta. Invited Drums: Tatanka Kuwa, Dakota Hotain, Dry Lake, Otter Trail, Toka Nuwa, Wooden Face, Six Shooter, Elk Whistle, Stoney Park. Info: www.standingbuffalodakota-

see **EVENTS** next page

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your need for stability is evident as you face some unsettling choices. Weigh the pros and cons of each on a one-by-one basis until you know enough to make a decision.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A family situation continues to tax your patience, but it's soon resolved. Stay with it. Meanwhile, someone is waiting for you to follow up on some promises.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A long-awaited career move finally gets started. Meanwhile, a family member's health problem causes some concern, but a doctor has a reassuring diagnosis.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A personal relationship will continue to be tense and troubled, until you surprise everyone by making a rare (for you!) first move to smooth things over.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Most folks perceive you as a serious, no-nonsense type. But surprise them by revealing the fun-loving side of yourself. Meanwhile, an Aries has romantic ideas!

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A new relationship grows stronger, but don't be pushed into a commitment before you feel like you're ready. It's better to tread water than to dive in over your head.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a gift for balancing fun and function. You also have a deep sense of loyalty that makes you a wonderful friend.

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VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Confusion over payment for non-VA medical care

Let's hear it for whistleblowers, especially when big money is involved, and most especially when some of that money should have gone into the pockets of veterans.

Specifically, starting in 2001, non-VA medical providers and veterans had 90 days to file for reimbursement for veterans who had sought emergency care. Then in 2022 the Cleland-Dole Act added the requirement that non-VA providers submit payment requests within 180 days for providing nonemergency care. However, there was no mention of veterans having that same 180-day time limit to file for reimbursement, or any time limit at all.

The VA continued, however, to apply the original 90-day payment limit.

Enter the VA Office of Inspector General because of the whistleblower. When asked, the VA identified 78,000 claims — to the tune of \$373 million — that had been denied because they didn't meet the 90-day limit. And no, they hadn't reviewed those 78,000 denied claims. Apparently there was confusion due to the fact that the law was written to give non-VA providers that 180 days, but not veterans.

Further confusion (or so it was said) arose because it wasn't clear whether the 90-day filing period should begin on the date of discharge, the date of a veteran's death during emergency treatment or the date it became clear that a third-party payer would not cover the claim. The VA sought clarification from the policy department ... and promptly dropped the ball, not pursuing answers.

The VA began processing those claims, leaving it to the individual claims processors to decide whether they would use the 90- or 180-day limitation.

If you need to get emergency care at a non-VA medical facility, there are some rules you need to know so it will be paid for. You can read the info at www.va.gov/resources/getting-emergency-care-at-non-va-facilities so you'll know what you should do in an emergency. For example, going to urgent care doesn't count. And someone needs to tell the VA within 72 hours that you've had a medical emergency. You can notify the VA at 844-724-7842.

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Itchy allergies have this hound howling

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My 2-year-old Bassett Hound, "Harlan," is allergic to something, but we aren't sure what it is. He's got hot spots, especially on his stomach and hind quarters, and he's broken the skin in some places from scratching and biting. Our veterinarian says to treat him for fleas and has prescribed an antibiotic for the scratches. I'm wondering if there is more going on. What do you recommend? — Jake S. in Wheeling, West Virginia

DEAR JAKE: I'm sorry to hear that Harlan is suffering. Allergies can be a real pain, and finding the source can take time.

Eliminating fleas and treating the sores and hot spots is the first step in the process of determining what is causing a pet's allergic reaction. If Harlan responds well to this treatment and has no further problems, that's great. If he doesn't, the next move is to gradually rule out other potential allergens until the culprit is found.

Dogs and cats can have histamine reactions — redness, swelling, sneezing, itching — to three primary culprits: fleas, food and environment. Some very effective flea treatments have been developed over the past several years, so this is the easiest allergy to treat. Food and environmental allergies are tougher.

I'll address food allergies in my next column. This week, what I recommend for pet owners who are dealing with the itching, hot spots and general misery of an allergy, is to contact their vet and follow their instructions on treatment. Reduce dust and pollen inside the home by vacuuming frequently. Treat all your furry pets for fleas, if you haven't done so yet.

And get out your notebook. You'll need to write down your pet's reaction, behaviors and symptoms to start forming a picture of the allergies they may have.

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

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EVENTS: From page 41

tanation.com (no hyphen)

28th Annual Honoring the Mounds Gathering. Aug. 8 at Beattie Park in Rockford, Ill. MC: Leonard Malatare. Host Drum: Black Thunderbird. Info: No contact information provided

International Falls Pow Wow. Aug 8 at Smokey Bear Park in International Falls, Minn. MC: Ron Kanutski. Invited Drums: Burntside Lake, Lake Vermillion, Sky Nation, Broken Horn. Info: No contact information provided

Celebration of Native American Culture Pow Wow. Sept. 19 in Union City, Tenn. MC: Al Santos. Host Northern Drum: Young Buffalo Horse. Host Southern Drum: Southside. Info: ademaris@discoveryparkofamerica.com

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Analenisgi. Info: www.AAwn80.com

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

Cherokee Cancer Support Group, potluck dinner with a speaker the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Betty's Place, 40 Goose Creek Rd, Cherokee, N.C. Anyone is welcome

to attend the potluck. The group provides educational and emotional support to clients and families of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians members with cancer. The group can provide financial assistance for fuel, lodging, and transportation and also can assist with mastectomy items, nutritional supplements, wigs, and related products. The group can volunteer to take a client to their appointment if it is requested in a timely manner. Betty's Place is open Monday through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: (828) 497-0788

Life@WesternCarolina. each Wednesday morning during the academic school year the Life@ group meets on the campus of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C. For those over the age of 50 and looking for ways to engage with the community. To learn more or register visit life.wcu.edu or contact Western Carolina University Educational Outreach (828) 227-7397

MARA (Medication-Assisted Recovery Anonymous) meets Thursdays at 5 p.m. in the Rivercane Room at Analenisgi. Info: Analenisgi (828) 497-9163 or visit: <https://cherokeehospital.org/locations/analenisgi>

Narcotics Anonymous meets on Mondays at 6 p.m. at the Cherokee Indian Hospital. Info: North Carolina NA Helpline (855) 227-6272, or www.NA.org

Western N.C. and Beyond Events

Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society meeting. Aug. 6 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. Dr. Susan M. Abram will present "The Battle of Horseshoe Bend: Cherokees in the War of 1812". Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation. This is free and open to the public.

Connecting to Place II: Blue Ridge Craft Trails Invitation-al. Aug. 7 – Sept. 27 (Wednesday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at Mars Landing Arts Center in Mars Hill, N.C. The 20 participants are from the Far West region of Western North Carolina, representing seven towns and the Qualla Boundary: Franklin, Waynesville, Dillsboro, Bryson City, Cullowhee, Canton, Cherokee, Maggie Valley, and Brass-town. The artwork consists of different mediums including clay, fiber, metal, paper, and wood. This is free and open to the public. Info: (828) 747-7267, <http://MarsLandingGalleries.com>

Blue Ridge Heritage Weekend art and craft fair. Aug. 8 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Aug. 9 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Shelton House 49 Shelton St., Waynesville, N.C. 28786. Self-guided house tours, Haywood market, craft demonstrations, food trucks, family fun. Info: (828) 452-1551

Third Thursday Music Series. Aug. 20 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Appalachian Women's Museum 100 W Hometown Pl., Dillsboro, N.C. 28725. Featuring Murphy Campbell a contemporary clawhammer banjoist rooted in the influences of the Toe River valley, Murphy has developed a playing style that speaks to those familiar and unfamiliar with old time. Info: friends@appwomen.org

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

Music on the Porch. Sept. 5 from 2 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Appalachian Women's Museum 100 W Hometown Pl., Dillsboro, N.C. 28725. Headliner is Julie Odell followed by Savannah Page, The Cherokee Language Choir, Susan Pepper and Lee Knight. Also will have the Dillsboro Smokeshow BBQ Competition. Info: friends@appwomen.org

Blue Ribbon Country Fair. Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center 123 Cromwell Dr., Townsend, Tenn. 37882. Watch living historians demonstrate open-hearth cooking, spinning, weaving, wood turning, and blacksmithing. Get up close with quality livestock. Browse vendors and demonstrators who bring genuine old-fashioned country charm to everything they do. Info: (865) 448-0044.

Pistol Creek, Catch of the Day. Oct. 10 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Sam Houston Schoolhouse 3663 Old Sam Houston School Rd, Maryville, Tenn. 37804. Bring a lawn chair. Info: (865) 983-1550

Cherokee Community Clubs

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

Officers.

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

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

Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee County) Community meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community building; potluck at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m.

Info: Chair Joe Palmer (828) 361-9219, joepalmer1013@yahoo.com

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

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

Toledvyi (Tow String) Community meets the second Tuesday of each month at the community building at 7 p.m. Info:

Chair Jacob Long (828) 736-9128, jacoblong19982@gmail.com

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

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

Cherokee Houses of Worship

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

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

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

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

Big Cove Missionary Baptist Church. 6183 Big Cove Road. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday morning service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday evening prayer meeting 7 p.m., Monthly business meeting is first Wednesday 7 p.m. Pastor Brandon Harrell (828) 777-4923

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

see **EVENTS** next page

Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with
EBCI Natural Resources



Orange-fringed Orchid is a perennial native to the eastern US. The orange blooms can be seen from June-September, and its native habitat ranges from wet areas, dry uplands, meadows, sandy woods, slopes, and roadsides. This orchid grows quickly in small groups by sending runners to bud new plants. This wildflower attracts butterflies and moths and works well in native gardening.

Bigwitch Baptist Church.

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

Boiling Springs Missionary Baptist Church.

960 Old Bryson City Road in the 3200 Acre Tract. (828) 538-0301

Buffalo Baptist Church.

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

Cherokee Baptist Church.

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

Cherokee Bible Church.

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

Cherokee Church of Christ.

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

Cherokee Church of God.

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

Cherokee Church of the Nazarene.

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

Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Located behind the Wolfetown Gym. Sunday School: 10 a.m, Sunday worship: 11 a.m, Sunday evening worship: 5 p.m. Wednesday night worship: 6 p.m.

Pastor Tim Melton 674-2690

Cherokee United Methodist Church.

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

Cherokee Wesleyan Church.

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

Christian Acts Church at the Crossroads.

3501 Hwy. 441, Whittier, N.C. (near Mountain Credit Union). Sunday School and Continental Breakfast 10 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m., Wednesday service – music practice at 5

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Zacchaeus (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From John 3, who came to Jesus under the cover of night? *Elijah, Amos, Nicodemus, Mesha*
3. What do the seven stars represent in Revelation 1:20? *Continents, Angels, Seas, Fruits*
4. From Psalms 68, with what are the dove's feathers covered? *Manna, Gold, Leaves, Blood*
5. How many people did Jesus Himself baptize? *0, 1, Dozens, Hundreds*
6. Who wrote the book of Galatians? *Paul, Peter, Isaac, Luke*

ANSWERS: (1) Neither, (2) Nicodemus, (3) Angels, (4) Gold, (5) Zero, (6) Paul

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

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Moments in time

• On **Aug. 17, 1579**, Francois, Duke of Alencon and Anjou, visited Queen Elizabeth I of England with the design of winning her hand in marriage — the only suitor to court her in person. He was 23 and Elizabeth 45. Though they became quite close, the queen's subjects heartily disapproved of the idea of a French king, and two years later Elizabeth declined the proposal with what appears to have been genuine regret. She remained single for the rest of her life.

• On **Aug. 18, 1826**, Scottish explorer Alexander Gordon Laing made his way across the Sahara and became the first European to reach the fabled trading city of Timbuktu. Merely weeks after leaving it, he was murdered in his sleep by his own Arab escorts.

• On **Aug. 19, 1914**, Elmer Rice's courtroom drama "On Trial" debuted at New York City's Candler Theatre. It ran for 365 performances and became famous for pioneering the use of the cinematic "flashback" and reverse chronology on stage.

• On **Aug. 20, 1957**, the U.S. Air Force's ultra-high balloon flight Project Manhigh broke the existing altitude record by reaching 101,516 feet over Minnesota and South Dakota with physician and scientist David G. Simons in an aluminum capsule suspended from a helium balloon. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for the achievement.

• On **Aug. 21, 1980**, the animal-rights organization People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) was incorporated in a basement office in Takoma Park, Maryland.

• On **Aug. 22, 1992**, FBI sniper Lon Horiuchi, while aiming at a fleeing suspect, shot and killed Vicki Weaver during an 11-day siege at her home at Ruby Ridge, Idaho. Weaver was unarmed and holding her infant daughter behind the door of her cabin. Horiuchi was initially charged with manslaughter but the charges were dismissed.

• On **Aug. 23, 2018**, the discovery of a bone from a 90,000-year-old hybrid human, half Neanderthal, half Denisovan and thought to be a girl of at least 13 years old, from Anuy River, Siberia, was published in Nature magazine.

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Heat stress in plants

If the temperatures in your area are staying higher than normal, it's tempting to water your outdoor plants more often than you usually do to protect them from the heat. But this may not be helpful! Heat stress is not the same as drought, and too much water in the soil can cause fungal diseases and root rot. It may be more prudent to refresh your mulch. A three-inch-thick layer over the root zone can insulate the roots against the heat and help retain moisture in the soil longer.

— Brenda Weaver

Source: theprudentgarden.com



Embassy Christian Center
Church of God in Christ. 87
Vinewood Circle, Whittier, located
on the campus of Church of God
Gateway Campground and Con-

Grace Bible Church. 344
Whittier School Rd., Whittier, N.C.

Jesus is the Light Full Gos-

see **EVENTS** next page

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EVENTS: From page 45

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

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

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

Newsong Church. 3548 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.

(828) 373-0068, or
www.stjosephbryson.org

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

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

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

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

Shoal Creek Baptist Church. 184 Shoal Creek Church Loop Rd., Whittier, NC 28789. Sunday Continental Breakfast 9:30 a.m.,

Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m., Wednesday evening Fellowship Meal 6 p.m., Wednesday evening Prayer Service 6:30 p.m., Choir Practice 7 p.m. Dr. Mickey Duvall, Pastor

Spruce Grove Baptist Church. 780 Lands Creek Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday morning worship service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday evening service 7 p.m., third Saturday singing 7 p.m. Pastor Ernie Cable

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

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

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

PHHS Employee Spotlight



Mellie K. Burns,
RDH, PDHC
Manager,
EBCI Children's
Dental Program

Education:
AA Degree in Applied
Science/Dental Hygiene and
Public Dental Health
Certificate

Years at PHHS: 18

Community/Town:
Bryson City, N.C.



"I am honored to help EBCI children achieve Happy, Healthy Smiles. Working for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is the pinnacle of my career and it is a privilege to contribute to the health and well being of these precious children."

CHEROKEE BOYS CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS INFORMATION

Who is a Club Member?

Any person who is: (1) 18 years of age or older, and (2) an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, or (3) has attended Cherokee Central School, or is (4) a current or former employee, with at least two (2) consecutive years of employment, of the Cherokee Boys Club.

Any Club Member may nominate himself or herself or any other Club Member to run. Each member may nominate as many candidates as they wish. You will be asked to show proof of membership before you can begin the nomination process. This can be your CBC Membership Card, your EBCI enrollment card or your CBC Employee Badge.

To make nominations, complete a nomination form and put it in the nomination box which will be at the Club Information Desk from August 10, 2026, through August 14, 2026. Nominations submitted on anything except an official nomination form will be discarded. Those nominated will be contacted to see if they are willing to run.

Please contact Jackie Bradley at 828-497-9101 if you have any questions.

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 5 p.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor Foreman Bradley 506-0123 or 736-4872

**Event listings are
FREE of charge.**

Send your flyers/info to Dawn at dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov or to Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

GWY ᏊᏍᏔᏅ ᏅᏍᏔᏅ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

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

EBCI Constitution Committee

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

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

Meeting schedule subject to change with short notice.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. FIND YOUR SPIRIT.

In Cherokee, NC every moment brings you closer to what moves you. New events, unforgettable experiences, and community celebrations are right around the corner. Discover what's coming up this month. Plan your visit today: VisitCherokeeNC.com



MUSIC BY THE RIVER

**FRIDAYS &
SATURDAYS**

CHEROKEE BONFIRE

**SATURDAY
NIGHTS**

**QUALLA ARTS & CRAFTS
OPEN AIR MARKET**

AUGUST 22

**QUALLA COUNTRY FISHING
TOURNAMENT**

**AUGUST
29 & 30**

**ANTHONY TOINEETA
MEMORIAL 7 CLANS RODEO**

SEPT 5 & 6

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: New Adult Paddle Board w/ Paddle \$75.00, Like New Medium Green Egg- Grill & Smoker \$75.00, Long Buffet Table 8 feet \$1500.00, (3) 30" Tables \$800.00, Ethan Allen Cherry Finish 50w-65high Excellent Condition Value \$1900.00 Reduced \$599.00, Dining Room Set Brand New 8 Upholstered Chairs Pecan Finish 38w-69 long with 16" insert \$1500.00 Call To See 828 226-0994 Will do layaway on bigger items. **8/5**

For Sale

Adult paddle board w/ paddle new \$75, Medium green egg grille& smoker like new \$75, Long buffet table 8' \$20, (3) 30" tables \$8,

Ethan Allen Cherry finish excellent condition 50w x 65 high value \$1,900 now \$599, Dining room set 8 upholstered chairs pecan finish brand new 38 w -69 long 16" insert \$1,500. Will do layaway on bigger items. Call to see (828) 226-0994 **8/26**

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-056
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
Sara Jane Lambert

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

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

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

Margarita Wolfe
437 Washington Creek Rd.
Cherokee, NC. 28719
8/19

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-055
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

Dawson Adam Wilnoty
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or

before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

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

Savannah Wilnoty
PO Box 1720
Whitter, NC. 28789
8/19

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

Invitation to Bid

Arrowhead Contractors LLC, a licensed North Carolina general contractor and TERO-certified firm, is seeking licensed subcontractor bids for the Burgess-Oocumma Veterans Memorial



Employment Opportunities

Now Hiring for Our Spa!

Mandara Spa at Harrah's Cherokee

Hair Stylist
Nail Tech
Lead Massage Therapist
Spa Attendants

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

Ward's Cleaning Services
offering **Commercial and Residential Cleaning, Painting, Pressure Washing, Debris/Junk Removal.**
Please Contact Rory Ward at
(828) 736-1088

JOIN OUR TEAM



WE ARE HIRING

Open Positions

- Plant Health Technician I
- General Laborer (Processing)
- General Laborer (Edibles)



Apply Online
www.quallallc.com/careers



More Information
828.589.8285

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

Cemetery project in Cherokee, NC.

Prequalification forms may be requested by emailing arrowheadcontractorsllc@gmail.com

Qualified firms may request plans, specifications and scopes of work by emailing arrowheadcontractorsllc@gmail.com no later than 3:00PM on 8/4/2026.

Please submit bids by email to arrowheadcontractorsllc@gmail.com no later than 3:00 PM on 8/7/2026. **8/5**

Request for Qualifications

Legal Services

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Tribal Gaming Commission

Purpose: The Cherokee Tribal Gaming Commission (TGC) is seeking Statements of Qualifications from qualified attorneys and law firms interested in providing

legal services to the Commission.

Areas of Service: Gaming Regulatory Law, Tribal Law, Licensing & Compliance, Administrative Proceedings, Enforcement Actions, Policy & Regulatory Development, General Counsel Services

Minimum Qualifications:

Licensed to practice law in North Carolina and eligible to practice before the Cherokee Courts.

*Minimum of five (5) years of legal practice representing Tribal governments, Tribal entities, or Tribal regulatory bodies.

*Minimum of eight (8) years of experience in gaming law, gaming regulation, gaming compliance, gaming operations, or representation of gaming regulatory agencies and gaming enterprises.

*Demonstrated familiarity with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act

(IGRA), National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) regulations, and Tribal-State Gaming Compacts.

*No actual or potential conflicts of interest that would impair independent representation of the Commission.

Submission Information: Submission Deadline August 21, Questions Deadline August 19.

Request full RFQ Package from Selena Herrera, Executive Assistant, Cherokee Tribal Gaming Commission, sherrera@cherokeetgc.com **8/12**

EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Assignment of a Name for a New Road

NOTICE is hereby given that the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Emergency Management Office. On July 24, 2026 an application to name a road was submitted and approved to EBCI Code of Ordinances Chapter 136A ARTICLE II - UNIFORM STREET ADDRESS AND ROAD NAMING

SYSTEM (Ord. No. 332-A, 10-26-1998) that a certain new road in the Wolfetown Community be assigned the street name as detailed below:

• The newly established Road on Macedonia Road between Ernest Sneed Road and Vandalie Road shall be assigned the name Blue Clay Drive along with its eventual continuation.

Inquiries or appeals to this action can be made to the Emergency Management Office located at 282 Seven Clans Lane, Cherokee, NC 28719 during normal business hours. **8/12**

Request for Qualifications

Subcontractors for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Project Whitetree Court Apartment Complex

GARANCO, Inc., serving as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for the Whitetree Court Apartment Complex, is requesting Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from interested and qualified subcontractors for various scopes of work related to this project.

Project Description:

The project consists of a 59 unit apartment complex with approximately 7,500 square feet of retail shell space. Construction is expected to begin in Q4 of 2026 and duration of the project is expected to be 24 months.

Scopes of Work May Include (but are not limited to):

- Sitework
- Concrete
- Masonry
- Structural Steel
- Carpentry
- Millwork
- Roofing & Waterproofing
- Doors & Hardware
- Windows & Glazing
- Drywall & Insulation
- Flooring
- Paint
- Elevator
- Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing (MEP)
- Fire Protection
- Landscaping & Irrigation
- General Works
- Final Cleaning

Submittal Requirements:

Interested subcontractors must request qualification forms by emailing nick@garanco.com or calling Nick Stanley at 336-368-2788

Important Dates:

see TRADING POST next page



Cherokee Central Schools
Job Openings

Apply online at
<https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/onlineapp/> or
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

JV Girls Head Basketball Coach
K-6 Teacher Assistant (Multiple) - Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathways: Reading and Writing (5758) & ParaPathways: Mathematics (5759) exams.
K-6 Special Education Teacher Assistant (Multiple)- Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathways: Reading and Writing (5758) & ParaPathways: Mathematics (5759) exams.
K-6 Self-Contained Teacher Assistant (Multiple) - Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathways: Reading and Writing (5758) & ParaPathways: Mathematics (5759) exams.
K-6 Severe & Profound Special Education Teacher
K-6 Permanent Substitute Teacher
7-8 Special Education (Inclusion) Teacher
7-8 Language Arts Teacher
Student Supervisory Support Specialist
9-12 Special Education Teacher Assistant-Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathways: Reading and Writing (5758) & ParaPathways: Mathematics (5759) exams.
K-12 School Psychologist
Career and Technical Education Curriculum and Instructional Management Coordinator
Student Supervisory Support Specialist

TRADING POST: From page 49

RFQ Release Date: 8/5/26

SOQ Submission Deadline:

8/19/26

Prequalification Notifications:

8/28/26

Additional Information:

This RFQ is part of the prequalification process. Only prequalified subcontractors will be invited to bid when the construction documents are released. TERO participation is encouraged for this project. The CMAR and Owner reserve the right to reject any or all submissions, waive informalities, and select firms deemed most qualified. **8/12**

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee Department of Transportation Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

The Cherokee Department of Transportation (CDOT) is seeking Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from qualified consulting firms to update the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The plan will guide future transportation investments within the Qualla Boundary and address transportation needs, safety, mobility, accessibility, economic development, land use, and community priorities.

Consultants should demonstrate experience in tribal transportation planning, LRTP development, transportation engineering, public engagement, GIS, federal transportation requirements, and

Tribal Transportation Program projects. Active access to the Road Inventory Field Data System (RIFDS) and experience using RIFDS data for planning and project prioritization is required.

SOQs will be accepted until 10:00 AM ET on August 25, 2026. To obtain the full RFQ, contact: Uriah Maney, Engineer, Cherokee Department of Transportation 680 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC 28719 umaney@ebci-nsn.gov The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians reserves the right to reject any or all submissions, waive informalities, and negotiate with the most qualified firm

8/12

Requests for Proposals

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee Department of

Transportation
680 Acquoni Road
Cherokee, North Carolina 28719
Phone: (828) 359-6530
On Call Paving

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians CDOT Office is requesting Sealed Bid Proposals from Qualified Firms to provide the following services: "On Call" paving for pavement repairs on Tribal Lands. The deadline for submitting Bid Proposals will be April 17, 2023, at 10:00 AM, EST. Please be advised that all TERO rules and regulations, Tribal procurement policies, applicable state and federal rules, regulations and laws shall apply to the performance of any work awarded pursuant to this solicitation and to the procurement of work solicited through this advertisement. You may request the

REEL IN THE OPPORTUNITIES

JOB FAIR

AT HARRAH'S CHEROKEE CASINO RESORT

Located In the Employment Office on the second floor

August 6 - 10am - 3pm
August 20 - 1pm - 5pm

Harrah's
CHEROKEE
CASINO RESORT

Eligibility: apply. Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. No phone interviews. All applicants must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble, and must present a valid photo ID upon request. Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort. © Gambling Protection Act 11-1000-22-47011. An Equal Opportunity Employer. © 2024. © Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort, LLC.

full Request for Proposals (RFP) and requirements for proposals through the CDOT Office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Robert Willcox, CDOT Engineer at (828)-359-6122/(828)-736-3921 (cell).

8/12

Requests for Proposals

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee Department of Transportation

680 Acquoni Road

Cherokee, North Carolina 28719

Phone: (828) 359-6122

Bridge Replacement, Bridge over Hornbuckle Creek on Hornbuckle Creek Road

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians CDOT Office is requesting sealed Bid Proposals from Qualified Firms to provide the following

services: Grading, Drainage, Paving, Retaining Wall and Structure for the replacement of the existing bridge over Hornbuckle Creek on Hornbuckle Creek Road. The deadline for submitting Bid Proposals will be August 25, 2026 at 10:00 AM, EST. Please be advised that all TERO rules and regulations, Tribal procurement policies, applicable state and federal rules, regulations and laws shall apply to the performance of any work awarded pursuant to this solicitation and to the procurement of work solicited through this advertisement. You may request the full Request for Proposals (RFP) and requirements for proposals through the CDOT Office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Uriah Maney, CDOT Engineer at (828)-359-6122. **8/12**

Trying to sell a couch, a lamp, etc.?

Advertise your item in the Cherokee One Feather classifieds.

All items under \$25,000 are **FREE** of charge. Send your listing -

up to 30 words -

to Dawn Arneach at

dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov or

Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com.



GWY ᏍᎦᏅᏍᎦ ᏙᏚᏗᏍᎦ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

PRIMARY CARE PHONE NUMBERS

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

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

Eagle Clinic

Dr. Mahar:
(828)497-3476

Dr. Houser:
(828)497-3727

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

Dr. Winchester:
(828)497-3576

Dr. Brown:
(828)497-3576

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

Seven Clans Clinic

Dr. Jones:
(828)497-3475

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

Dr. Givens:
(828)497-3552

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

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

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

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

Satellite Clinics

Snowbird

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

Cherokee County Clinic

June Hensley
(FNP)828-837-4312

DCC

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



EVERY APPOINTMENT MATTERS, SHOW UP FOR YOUR HEALTH





**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



OPEN POSITIONS

NEW POSITIONS

EVS Technician – Evening Shift
Helpdesk Support Specialist

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 – MAT, Adult Outpatient
Services, Family Safety
Residential Technician - Female - Part Time with-
out Benefits
Behavioral Health Training and Development Coor-
ordinator
Behavioral Health Consultant I
Behavioral Health Grant Coordinator

DENTAL

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

EYE CLINIC

Optometrist

CIHA FOOD & NUTRITION

Cook – Temporary

MEDICAL

Psychiatrist
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

NURSING

Certified Nursing Assistant – Emergency Department
- \$3,000 Hiring Bonus
License Practical Nurse – Primary Care - \$5,000
Hiring Bonus
Registered Nurse ED – PTI – Night Shift
RN Inpatient – Nights - PTI
Specialty Services Registered Nurse - \$10,000 Hiring
Bonus
Clinical Care Manager – Float \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
RN Inpatient – Dayshift – PTI
C.N.A Medical Clerk FT - \$3,000 Hiring Bonus
C.N.A Medical Clerk PTI
Telemetry Nursing Assistant – PTI
License Practical Nurse – TJCC - \$5,000 Hiring
Bonus
Clinical Care Manager - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Nurse Resident/Intern
Registered Nurse Emergency Department – Night
Shift – Temporary
Fall Nurse Aide Student Training Program

NUTRITION

Clinical Dietitian
Clinical Dietitian - Temporary

Radiology

Radiology Technologist I

TRIBAL OPTION

Tribal Option Medical Social Worker
Tribal Option Care Management Extender - IDD

TSALI CARE

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

CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, August 09, 2026

1. Adult Language Educator – Kituwah Preservation & Education Program – CERS (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
2. Early Childhood Language Specialist Assistant – Kituwah Preservation & Education Program – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
3. Teacher Assistant – Qualla Boundary EHS/HS – CERS (L6 \$16.37 - \$20.47 per hour)
4. Developmental Specialist – Qualla Boundary EHS/HS – Public Health & Human Services (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour)
5. Groundskeeper – Cherokee Life Recreation – CERS (L7 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour)
6. Evidence Based Intervention Specialist – Family Safety – Public Health & Human Services (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)
7. Special Ops Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION 12855
8. Detective (Multiple) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
9. Housekeeper I – Housekeeping – Operations (L6 \$16.37 - \$20.47 per hour)
10. Head Cook – Snowbird Senior Citizens – Snowbird/Cherokee County Services (L7 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour)

Open Until Filled

1. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
3. Sergeant (Patrol) – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
4. Teacher (Multiple) – Qualla Boundary Early Head Start – CERS (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
5. Teacher – Qualla Boundary Head Start – CERS (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)
6. Registered Nurse – Tribal In Home Care Services – Public Health and Human Services (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour)
7. Mental Health Therapist – Child Advocacy – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,763)
8. 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



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**NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Mental Health,
Developmental Disabilities
and Substance Abuse Services

Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, opioid STR/Cures (Grant #1U79T000253) and SPFF-RX (Grant #1U79P022007).

EBCI IDD PREFERRED PROVIDER

Abound Health is proud to be one of the two providers selected for the EBCI IDD Preferred Provider Directory.

We look forward to working alongside the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority to expand access to person-centered support closer to home.

FOR INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Ways Abound is here to serve you.

Abound works alongside individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families, honoring each person's strengths, goals and choices.

In-Home & Community Support

One-on-one help with daily living skills, community activities and greater independence.

Supported Employment

Help preparing for, finding and maintaining meaningful work.

Day Programs

Skill building, recreation and connection.
Nearest location: 1170 S. Main St., Waynesville.

Residential Options

Supportive home settings tailored to individual needs, preferences and goals.



Services are available through the **NC Innovations Waiver** and **1915(i) State Plan** services.

[Request Services](#)

FOR PEOPLE READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We are always hiring compassionate people for meaningful work.

As we expand our offerings within the EBCI community, we are seeking to hire Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) also from the community to provide care. DSPs are mentors, advocates and trusted partners. They help their clients develop skills, pursue goals, make choices, and stay connected to the people and places that matter to them. We provide training to help you be the best you can be in this role.

TYPICAL PAY RANGE

\$16 - \$20 / hour

+ health insurance & other benefits



[Explore Careers](#)

COME MEET US

From Darkness Into Hope

We will be there on September 10 and we look forward to meeting you!

Sept 10



NAYO Champions

The Line Drive Elite team, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, won the 8U Division championship at the 2026 NAYO Softball Tournament hosted by the Seminole Tribe of Florida on July 24-26 in Okeechobee, Fla. The team is shown, left to right, front row - Niyah Hicks, Hartleigh Wolfe, Kaylin Arch, Ella Wolfe, Addy Reed, Jacayia Willis; middle row - Hartlee Jackson, Jaycee Sneed, Ani Bradley, Nini Lopez, Ava Gibson; back row - Coach Michael Bradley, Head Coach Sam Wolfe, and Coach Fonz McCoy. (Photo contributed by Taryn McCoy)



Gadugi House participants visit Church

A new group of individuals, participating in the Gadugi House, who are excited about their new journey of recovery visited a nearby church, Bryson City First Baptist, on Sunday, July 26. Shown, left to right, front row - Brandon Sneed, Michael Wolfe, Wade Jones, Billy Jack Crowe, Kallup and Katelynn McCoy (Gadugi House founders); and back row - Jordan Panther. (Photo contributed)



American Bald Eagle

An American Bald Eagle is shown perched above Raven Fork River in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. on Wednesday, July 29. (Photo by Alecia Ralston)

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:
Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



CHANGE A Life

Why did you create an endowed scholarship for SCC students?

"Our family established the William B. and Catherine H. Dillard Scholarship to encourage students to explore careers in skilled trades. As a family, we've been so involved in SCC over the years that an endowment made sense as a way of celebrating William and Catherine Dillard's legacy. SCC's done so much for us and the people we know, so we wanted to give back."

-- Catherine Collins, Asheville, NC



 Southwestern
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION



Want to make a difference?

Scan the QR code to learn more or contact Evan Hatch at 828.339.4241.

Your Future Starts

NOW



Enroll **TODAY**
for fall!