



Cannabis adult-use sales are two years in and continuing to thrive
Pages 6-7

**Kuwohi Sunset Celebration to honor
name restoration, connection to site**
Pages 26-28



Three Bone Theatre presents
Sovereignty
 Written by Mary Kathryn Nagle
 September 11 & 12 at 7:30 p.m. - Cherokee Central Schools
 200 Ravensford Drive, Cherokee, NC 28719

YOUR SHORTCUT TO CHEVY SAVINGS

From **0%** APR financing to lease offers and cash incentives, discover available savings on your next Chevrolet.

Countryside Chevrolet

USA 250
ANNIVERSARY
YEARS



TOGETHER LET'S **DRIVE**

71 CAT CREEK RD FRANKLIN, NC | **828.524.0734** | WWW.COUNTRYSIDECHEVY.COM



2026 Chevrolet Tahoe LT
\$74,664 Stock# T02721



2026 Chevrolet Trax LS
\$24,755 Stock# T02813



2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Custom
\$46,195 Stock# T02794



2026 Chevrolet Traverse RS
\$59,220 Stock# T02600

Partial Listing of over Two Million Dollars of Pre-Owned Vehicles



2013 Hyundai Elantra GLS Pzev
\$5,487 Stock # U0410



2021 Chevrolet Blazer RS
\$28,235 Stock# T02760A



2024 Chevrolet Trax 2RS
\$23,448 Stock# T02762A



2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 RST
\$30,589 Stock# T02446A



2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Z71
\$36,531 Stock# T02668A



2026 Chevrolet Ytaverse LT
\$39,407 Stock# P825A



2021 Toyota 4 Runner Venture Special Edition
\$38,156 Stock# P820



2025 Jeep Wrangler 4 Dr Sahara 4 x 4
\$39,978 Stock# P829

Countryside Chevrolet in Franklin, NC, We carry a full line of Chevrolet vehicles, including trucks and SUVs, with millions of dollars in new inventory. We also offer one of the finest selections of pre-owned vehicles, all fully reconditioned and backed by a complete warranty check.

Check out our selection today

COUNTRYSIDE
CHEVROLET
**HOME OF THE
10 YEAR
POWERTRAIN
WARRANTY!**
QUALIFYING ON NEW & USED VEHICLES UNDER 100K MILES.



Image of the Week

This beautiful photo shows the lunar eclipse/Blood Moon on Thursday, Aug. 27. (Photo by Jeremy Wilson)

Quote of the Week

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

“It’s a promise to our community that everybody needs a place to belong no matter their ability and no matter their function.”

Sonya Wachacha, EBCI Secretary of public health and human services, speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony for the EBCI Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Enrichment Center in Cherokee, N.C. on Wednesday, Aug. 26

Letters Policy

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

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

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

The Editorial Board of the Cherokee One Feather consists of: Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat, chairperson; Dawn Arneach, vice chairperson; Robert Jumper; Scott McKie Brings Plenty; Tina Laws, and Sheyahshe Littledave (Executive appointment).

One Feather staff

Editor - Robert Jumper

robejump@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6482

Assistant Editor - Scott McKie Brings Plenty

scotmckie@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6263

Reporter - Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat

broobrow@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6264

Ad Sales Coordinator - Dawn Arneach

dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6489

Subscription Clerk - Tina Laws

tinalaws@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6262

CENTER: From front page

Services (PHHS), gave a project overview. “It’s a promise to our community that everybody needs a place to belong no matter their ability and no matter their function. We appreciate everybody being here today. We want to thank the partners. We want to thank Cherokee Indian Hospital. We want to thank the Chief’s Office. We want to thank Tribal Council for being here. This place is going to be transformed into a new place. It was one type of place of healing. It’s going to be transformed into another place of healing where people can access resources, they can access referrals, they can get their screenings and assessments. They don’t have to drive an hour away or more. And to our community members, to those who have advocated for this and listened to us and trusted us, this space is for you, this building is for you, and I promise that we will always care for you.”

EBCI Taline Ugviyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley gave remarks, “Like Sonya said, this was a healing place. It took years to get the Dialysis Center in place, and seems like every real need that we have, we’ve got to kick it around. Tribal Council has to kick it around, but eventually we get to where we need to be with taking care of our people. Sometimes it’s slower than we’d hoped for, but we always get there. So, I know this is going to be a great project. I appreciate Casey [Cooper]’s work and everybody involved in getting this started, but it will be another great project.”

EBCI Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks added, “Again, I want to thank Tribal



Daniel and Treat Tramper share their appreciation for the newest steps toward the EBCI IDD Enrichment Center at the groundbreaking ceremony held Aug. 26.

Council for supporting this capital project and making sure that we have the resources...I want to thank Sonya—you and your team—for your leadership...And, Candy Ross, I want to thank you for being not just the person who you are and being passionate about our community, but this is a service that you have played such a huge part in. And I know we can’t do things by ourselves, but I’m very appreciative of you and what you’ve given to this concept and continue to push us leaders and help us to better understand and help us to listen to what this priority means...I also want to thank Caesars and Brian Marsh for your leadership...We thank you guys for stepping up and again, helping us on this project.”

Harrah’s Cherokee Casinos and Caesars Entertainment donated \$1

million to the project.

Candy Ross, a member of the EBCI, IDD assistant director at Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA), and Autism Support Group leader for Jackson, Swain, and the Qualla Boundary, gave remarks. “Thank you all for coming out today in support of our new EBCI IDD Autism Enrichment Center. Today, we are creating opportunities, strengthening our community, and investing in a brighter future. Before joining CIHA, I had the privilege of serving our community through work focused on supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism. That work gave me the opportunity to advocate for individuals and families while also listening to those who have spent years working to ensure their loved ones have access

to the services, opportunities, and support they deserve. That experience showed me how deeply committed our Tribe is to this population. Each small step forward we have made over the years, from getting staff the training and certifications they need to best care for this population, to starting support groups with partners like the Autism Society of North Carolina, was a reminder of how our Tribal leadership has continued to recognize that individuals with IED and autism deserve more services. They deserve opportunities to learn, grow, connect, and fully participate in their communities. Today is about so much more than just breaking ground. To kick off the renovations this building needs, you get another demonstration of our Tribe’s commitment to creating a community where every person

is valued, supported, and given the opportunity to thrive. I'm honored to be part of that work and incredibly excited for what comes next. Today, we break ground. Tomorrow, we change lives."

Casey Cooper, CIHA chief executive officer, added, "Thank you, Candy. We're incredibly fortunate to have such a relentless advocate like Candy on our team to compliment incredible people like our IDD/Autism Director Paige Ep-ley-Williams, and CIHA's Director of Behavioral Health Dr. Freida Saylor, who couldn't be here today. And of course, EBCI PHHS Secretary and member of the hospital governing board Sonya Wachacha. As they work with our longtime partners at Cancer Collaborative Resources to make this project happen, Candy Ross did not come to the hospital and then discover a passion for serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism. She came to us after years of already doing this work on behalf of Cherokee children and families. Through her work with Qualla Boundary Head Start and Early Head Start, Candy saw firsthand what families were experiencing. She listened to parents and caregivers. She helped connect families with resources. She helped build the Jackson, Swain, Qualla Boundary Autism Support Group and was instrumental in organizing Cherokee's first Autism Celebration to create opportunities to come together for families who sometimes felt isolated, so they can now find resources and know that they are not alone and know that we see you."

Cooper continued, "Candy didn't stop at raising awareness. That would have been the easy thing to do. Instead, she joined other families in this community



Candy Ross gives remarks at the IDD Enrichment Center Groundbreaking held Aug. 26.

like Daniel and Treat [Tramper], who wanted to do more to advocate for individuals with IDD and autism in our community. They made sure these conversations were brought before Tribal Council and then they worked alongside Tribal leadership, EBCI, PHHS and community partners, and it was through their advocacy and the hard work of these families that they began asking the much bigger question of what would it look like if Cherokee built a better system to support our own people? That distinction is important because what we are here today to celebrate absolutely did not happen overnight and it did not happen because of one organization or one

person or one small thing. The ball that families and caregivers in this community like Candy and Daniel and Treat got rolling led our Tribal leadership to recognize that there are individuals in our community traveling hours away from home to find services, if they can find those needed services at all."

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) representatives Bo Crowe (Wayohi, Wolfstown) and Michael Stamper (Aniwodihi, Painttown) expressed appreciation for Daniel and Treat Tramper who host an annual Halloween celebration at their home for children and adults with IDD and autism that serves their needs in ways other EBCI Halloween events have not.

Rep. Stamper said, "This event came about not because there wasn't something being done for the community—there was—but this Halloween trick-or-treat event that we had on Tribal land over here at the Ceremonial Grounds and also at the Old High School, these events were great, but for individuals that weren't able to get around and have ease of access to these types of events, [Daniel] just felt like there was something being left out for a specific part of the community. So, Daniel took it upon himself to create this event...If you haven't been to that event, please attend. It is absolutely wonderful. It really opened my eyes to the community that we weren't serving that need for and that's why this has come about. So, I'm very grateful to be here. I'm very grateful to see this come to fruition, and I want to say that hopefully this is not the end goal. It's just the first step in a long line of amenities that we can offer this community that has now come to light and I'm just happy to be a part of it."

Tramper shared remarks, "We just want to let everybody know how grateful we are that you guys are creating this for us because when we started out—our son is 30 years old now—we went to Winston-Salem, to Duke, to Chapel Hill. We had to go to all these places from Asheville all the way down to basically Raleigh and back. So, we're really glad that the future kids that we're going to have don't have to travel as far."

Tramper said they are adding a building at their home for the Halloween celebration to meet the growing party list.

EBCI Project Management Manager Rebecca Bowe said they plan to have the center open in about one year.

Cannabis adult-use sales are two years in and continuing to thrive

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The two-year anniversary of legal adult-use cannabis sales on the lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is approaching.

Following years of discussions and exactly one year to the day that a referendum passed on the issue, Cherokee started sales of adult-use cannabis on Sept. 7, 2024. All sales are made at the Great Smoky Cannabis Co. which is operated by Qualla Enterprises, LLC, an entity of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), which also operates a cannabis farm in Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) which supplies the dispensary.

Ord. No. 63 (2024), authorizing adult-use cannabis on the lands of the EBCI was approved as amended on June 27, 2024 and signed into law by Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks the same day.

The One Feather reached out to Qualla Enterprises, LLC with some questions as the two-year anniversary nears.

COF: How are things going at Great Smoky Cannabis Company?

Qualla Enterprises, LLC: Great Smoky Cannabis Company continues to perform very well as it approaches the second anniversary of adult-use sales. The company has experienced continued sales growth while making significant improvements in operational



Nick Reed, left, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and employee at the Great Smoky Cannabis Co. dispensary in Cherokee, N.C., helps Ben Cordell with a sale on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024. Cordell, of Greenville, S.C., was the first in line to purchase as the facility opened for the first time for adult-use (21+) cannabis sales to all. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

efficiency across cultivation, manufacturing, and retail. Increased cultivation yields expanded production capabilities, and greater use of technology and automation have helped support continued growth while improving overall efficiency. The company remains focused on building a sustainable, profitable enterprise that creates long-term economic benefit for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

COF: How many total employees does Qualla Enterprises have, and what is the breakdown between the farm and

dispensary? What percentage are EBCI employees?

Qualla: Qualla Enterprises currently employs 255 employees, with 119 in cultivation and production, 112 in retail and security, and 24 in administrative and support functions.

83 percent of the company's workforce are members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Creating meaningful employment opportunities for tribal members has remained a central priority as the company has grown from a startup operation into one of the

Tribe's larger enterprises.

COF: With the second anniversary of adult-use sales approaching, what products have been added during the past year?

Qualla: Great Smoky Cannabis Company has continued to expand and refine its product portfolio over the past year, with rosin and other solventless products becoming a particular area of focus. Rosin has become an increasingly important product category in the cannabis market and our expand-

ed production capabilities have allowed us to focus on rosin-based products.

Another area of focus over the past year has been infused flower and pre-roll products, including Space Rockets and similar products. Space Rockets are pre-rolls or flower that are coated in batter and rolled in finely crushed concentrates or kief, creating a more potent and distinctive alternative to traditional flower and pre-rolls. The company has also introduced RSO-based products like gummies which provide customers with an easy-to-consume, full-spectrum edible option.

Looking ahead, product development will continue to be a priority, with plans to further expand the company's rosin and solventless offerings. Research and development are also underway on several new product categories, including seltzers and potentially a pouch product. As with existing products, the focus will be on product quality and developing new offerings that respond to customer demand.

COF: What are some successes the company would like to highlight?

Qualla: One of the company's most significant accomplishments has been the completion and successful operation of its indoor cultivation facility. The facility incorporates advanced cultivation equipment and environmental control systems that allow the cultivation team to precisely manage every aspect of the growing environment. It represents a major step forward in the sophistication of the company's cultivation operations, and the team is now producing the highest-quality flower



All sales are made at the Great Smoky Cannabis Co. which is operated by Qualla Enterprises, LLC, an entity of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI).

the company has offered to date. Under the leadership of tribal members, the initial indoor yields exponentially exceeded national production averages. Great Smoky Cannabis Company is setting the standard for quality and safety across the nation.

The economic impact the company has been able to create in a relatively short period of time is another major accomplishment. As previously stated, Qualla Enterprises currently employs over 250 people, with enrolled EBCI members making up about 83 percent of the workforce. At the same time, the business has reached the point where it is generating profits that can be returned to the Tribe while continuing to reinvest heavily in its own growth. Creating that many jobs, generating revenue for the Tribe and continuing to build for the future at the same time is

something the company is extremely proud of.

Just as importantly, Great Smoky Cannabis Company has created something that has become a genuine destination in Cherokee. Since the beginning of adult-use sales, the dispensary has fulfilled over 750,000 orders for customers across North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee, many of whom are coming to Cherokee specifically to visit the dispensary. In two short years, the dispensary has established itself as a known and exciting experience that employees enjoy being a part of, and customers are excited to visit. Building something of that scale, creating an experience that attracts people from across the Southeast, and doing it here in Cherokee is an accomplishment in itself.

Legal Reminder

Cherokee Code Sec. 14-95.12 (Prohibited Marijuana Conduct) outlines what is not legal regarding cannabis on EBCI tribal lands. “(a) It shall be unlawful for any person, business, or other entity to:

- Possess marijuana when the person is less than 21 years old;
- Provide, give, or transfer in any way, marijuana to any person less than 21 years old;
- Cultivate marijuana without a valid license or a valid medical cannabis patient card issued by the EBCI Cannabis Control Board;
- Operate any marijuana facility without a valid license issued by the EBCI Cannabis Control Board;
- Sell marijuana without a license from the EBCI Cannabis Control Board;
- Sell hemp or hemp products without a license from the EBCI Cannabis Control Board;
- Possession of marijuana in any place where possession is prohibited by the conspicuous posting of a sign or notice by the owner or possessor of the location;
- Consuming marijuana in public;
- Possess or consume marijuana within 100 feet of a school, child day care facility, church, hospital, tribal government building, public park, playground, community club building, or public swimming pool, or community facility as defined in Chapter 17;
- Transport marijuana, hemp, or hemp products in the passenger area of a motor vehicle in other than the manufacturer's unopened original container;
- Consume marijuana, hemp, or hemp products while driving a motor vehicle on a highway or public vehicular area as defined in Chapter 20 of the Cherokee Code.”



BARDO ARTS CENTER
WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Sep. 17, 7:30 PM

KRUGER BROTHERS WITH SOLUNA STRING QUARTET

BAC PERFORMANCE HALL EVENT



Purchase tickets at
arts.wcu.edu/tickets-kruger



Photo taken by WCU Photo Services.

YOU COULD BE THE NEXT
LEGACY RIDER....

2027 RTR BIKE RIDE APPLICATION



Applications due Friday, Oct. 23 @9a.m. to the Cherokee Choices
Office, 806 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719;
victtram@ebci-nsn.gov
Questions: Robin, robinbail@ebci-nsn.gov; 828.359.6785

The **Remember the Removal Ride** is a 3 week bike ride retracing the northern route of Trail of Tears. Includes 6 months of cultural and physical training. Must be an enrolled member of the EBCL.



September 10, 2026
3PM - 7PM
Oconaluftee Island



FROM DARKNESS INTO HOPE

ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH
AWARENESS AND
SUICIDE PREVENTION EVENT

Vendors & Volunteers Needed



**Volunteer
Sign-up Form**



**Vendor
Sign-up Form**



MOUNTAIN HERITAGE DAYS

**SEPTEMBER
21-26, 2026**

**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO LEARN MORE**



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 5299 (Native Language Educators in Classrooms Act). This bill seeks “to amend the Head Start Act to establish tribal certification standards for Indian Head Start programs”.

Introduced: Aug. 6, 2026 by Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Aug. 6, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Bills with recent action

There has not been recent action on any of the bills we’re following.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

H.R. 3255. (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians, a state-recognized group in Michigan.

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural 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-De-



WAYNESVILLE NC
WINCHESTER CREEK
FARM
ESTD 2019

ALPACAS & MINI FARM ANIMALS

Winchester Creek Farm is a family-owned and operated, 20-acre farm with rolling green pastures surrounded by the majestic Smoky Mountains. We raise adorable alpacas, llamas, and a variety of miniature farm animals — horses, cows, donkeys, goats, sheep, and even pigs. We really enjoy sharing our farm and our love and knowledge of animals with others. Our farm and gift shop are conveniently located just 35 minutes from Asheville, 45 minutes from Bryson City, and 90 minutes from Gatlinburg.

Come hang out with some pretty neat animals.

Alpaca and Mini Farm Animals, Tours & Experiences, Gift Shop, and more!
WinchesterCreekFarm.com

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

H.R. 3956 (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Act of 2025). This bill would amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 “to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter

into self-determination contracts and self-governance agreements with Indian entities to administer the food distribution program on Indian reservations”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2025.

Senate Bill 2211 (Special Diabetes Program Reauthorization Act of 2025). This bill seeks to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. For both programs, it seeks funding in the amount of \$160,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

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

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

H.R. 4463 (To amend the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993). The text of the legislation states, “Subsection (d) of section 7 of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–116), is amended

by striking ‘; however, in no event may an individual be enrolled as a tribal member unless the individual is a lineal descendant of a person on the final base membership roll and has continued to maintain political relations with the Tribe’.”

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 16. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on Sept. 4, 2025, and a hearing was held on this legislation in the subcommittee on Sept. 9, 2025. A Committee mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. It was reported by

the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 2, 2026 and was placed on the Union Calendar that same day. 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 Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia).

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

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

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

H.R. 4712 (Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act). This bill would “amend the Indian Law

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 11

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 acknowledgement 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 approve “\$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 Warrant 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 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 governing board which is required to be established under paragraph (1) shall (A) include Native Hawaiians and individuals widely recognized in the field of Native Hawaiian art and culture.”

Introduced: 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,

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 13

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 agencies to access firearms apply to Tribal law enforcement agencies”. Introduced: Feb. 26, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.) Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Feb. 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3946 (Tribal Firearm Access Act). This bill seeks “to allow members of federally recognized Tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer”.

Introduced: Feb. 26, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)

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

H.R. 7698 (Tribal Firearm Access Act). This bill seeks “to allow members of federally recognized tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer”.

Introduced: Feb. 25, 2026 by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 25, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7699 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act). This bill aims “to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply to tribal law enforcement agencies”. Introduced: Feb. 25, 2026 by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.) Action: This bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 25, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3994 (PRIME Meat Processing in Indian Country Act). This bill aims “to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to authorize tribal meat inspection under that Act by tribal personnel”. In the title, PRIME means “Promoting Regulatory Independence, Mastery, and Expansion”.
Introduced: 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 Edu-

cation 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. 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.

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 9, 2026.

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.

Senate Bill 5132 (A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008). The full text of this legislation is not yet available. The title currently states, “A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to allow for dual enrollment in the supplemental nutrition assistance program and the food distribution program on Indian reservations.”
Introduced: July 23, 2026 by Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on July 23, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Here is the contact information for your federal legislators:
Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.): <https://www.tillis.senate.gov/email-me>
Sen. Tedd Budd (R-N.C.): [https://www.budd.senate.gov/contact/11th District Congressional Rep. Chuck Edwards \(R-N.C.\): <https://edwards.house.gov/contact> <https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>](https://www.budd.senate.gov/contact/11th-District-Congressional-Rep.-Chuck-Edwards-(R-N.C.):-https://edwards.house.gov/contact-https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member)

Groups seeking federal acknowledgement as an Indian Tribe

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

Each month, the One Feather will give an update on the various groups seeking federal acknowledgment as an Indian Tribe either through Congressional means or by going through the OFA (Office of Federal Acknowledgment) process.

House bill H.R. 2929 which was introduced by Rep. Donald G. David (D-N.C.) on April 17, 2025. 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.

Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians

This group, based in Grand Rapids, Mich., has state recognition in the State of Michigan. They are seeking acknowledgment through two Congressional bills - House bill H.R. 3255 which was introduced by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.) on May 7, 2025 and Senate Bill 2160 which was introduced by Sen. Gary C.

Peters (D-Mich.) on June 25, 2025. H.R. 3255 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. Senate Bill 2160 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.

Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia

This group, based in Fredericksburg, Va., has state recognition in the State of Virginia. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 4750 which was introduced by Rep. Eugene Simon Vindman (D-Va.) on July 23, 2025. 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.

Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County, Virginia

This group, based in Southampton County, Va., has state recognition in the State of Virginia. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 5144 which was introduced by Rep. Jennifer A. Kiggans (R-Va.) on Sept. 4, 2025. 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.

Nottoway Tribe of Virginia

This group, based in Spring Grove, Va., has state recognition

in the State of Virginia. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 5327 which was introduced by Rep. Jennifer L. McClellan (D-Va.) on Sept. 11, 2025. 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.

Mono Lake Kootzaduka's Tribe

This group is based in Lee Vining, Calif. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 5820 which was introduced by Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Calif.) on Oct. 24, 2025. 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.

Groups seeking acknowledgment through OFA Process

The OFA lists the following criteria that petitioning groups must meet in order to receive federal acknowledgment:

"Under the Department's regulations, in order to meet this standard, petitioning groups must demonstrate that they meet each of seven mandatory criteria. The petitioner must:

1. demonstrate that it has been identified as an American Indian entity on a substantially continuous basis since 1900;
2. show that a predominant portion of the petitioning group comprises a distinct community and has existed as a community from historical times until the present;
3. demonstrate that it has maintained political influence or

Each year in and around Cherokee, NC we celebrate the rivers. People come together on the Qualla Boundary to share a meal, learn about river heritage, enjoy entertainment, and then everyone converges on the rivers to clean and sustain them. **Join us this year to live our connection with Long Person!**



Date:
SEPTEMBER 25TH



Time:
8:00AM-12:30PM



Place:
PEACHES SQUIRRELL
RECREATION COMPLEX,
1139 US-19, CHEROKEE, NC 28719



"THEY SHOWED US THE WAY"

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/HLP-2026](https://tinyurl.com/HLP-2026)

LEARN MORE AT:

<https://www.facebook.com/HonoringLongPerson>



authority over its members as an autonomous entity from historical times until the present;

4. provide a copy of the group's present governing document including its membership criteria;

5. demonstrate that its membership consists of individuals who descend from the historical Indian tribe or from historical Indian tribes that combined and functioned as a single autonomous political entity and provide a current membership list;

6. show that the membership of the petitioning group is composed principally of persons who are not members of any acknowledged North American Indian tribe; and

7. demonstrate that neither the petitioner nor its members are the subject of congressional legislation that has expressly terminated or forbidden the Federal relationship.

Note: Following are some definitions, from the OFA, to better understand the terms used.

- “A Phase I Technical Assistance (TA) review is a preliminary evaluation by the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA), within the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to check specific mandatory criteria of a documented federal acknowledgment petition.”

- “The Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) places a petition ‘Awaiting Active Consideration’ when it is fully documented and ready for evaluation but staff are currently occupied with a limited number of active petitions ahead of it in the queue.”

Piro/Manso/Tiwa Indian Tribe of the Pueblo of San Juan Guadalupe

This group, based in Las Cruces, N.M., has state recognition in the State of New Mexico. They are currently awaiting petitioner

response to Phase I TA Review.

Muscogee Nation of Florida

This group, based in Ponce de Leon, Fla., has state recognition in the State of Florida. They are currently awaiting active consideration.

United Houma Nation, Inc.

This group, based in Houma, La., has state recognition in the State of Louisiana. They are currently awaiting supplement.

Biloxi-Chitimacha Confederation of Muskogees, Inc.

This group, based in Bourg, La, is an alliance of three state-recognized tribes in Louisiana including: Bayou Lafourche Band, Grand Caillou/Dulac Band, and Isle de Jean Charles Band. They are currently awaiting supplement.

Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe

This group, based in Montegut, La., has state recognition in the State of Louisiana. They are currently awaiting supplement.

Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation

This group is based in Mariposa, Calif. They are currently awaiting supplement.

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, Adjachemen Nation

This group is based in San Juan Capistrano, Calif. They are currently awaiting supplement.

Meherrin Tribe

This group, based in Murfreesboro, N.C., has state recognition in the State of North Carolina. They are currently awaiting supplement.

Grand River Band

of Ottawa Indians

This group, based in Grand Rapids, Mich., has state recognition in the State of Michigan. They are awaiting active consideration. This group, as referenced above, is also seeking acknowledgment through two Congressional bills.

Schaghticoke Indian Tribe

This group is based in Kent, Conn., has state recognition in the State of Connecticut. They are in a Phase II TA Review.

Butte Tribe of Bayou Bourbeaux

This group is based in Natchitoches, La. They are in a Phase II TA Proposed Finding Review.

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

This group is based in San Fernando, Calif. They are awaiting active consideration.

Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico

This group is based in Las Cruces, N.M. The OFA is currently awaiting petitioner response to Phase I TA Review.

Tripanick Nansemond Family Indian Tribe

This group is based in Brandon, Miss. They are awaiting active consideration.

Salinan Tribe of Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties

This group is based in Atascadero, Calif. They are awaiting active consideration.

Tuskarora Nation of Moratoc Indians

This group, based in Red Springs, N.C., has state recognition in the State of North Carolina. They are awaiting active consideration.

Mattaponi Indian Tribe and Reservation

This group, based in West Point, Va., has state recognition in the State of Virginia. They are awaiting active consideration.

Affiliated Ute Citizens of the State of Utah

This group is based in Fort Duchesne, Utah. They are awaiting active consideration.

Salyersville Indian Community

This group is based in Salyersville, Ky. They are awaiting active consideration.

Gabrielino/Tongva Nation

This group is based in Industry, Calif. The OFA is awaiting petitioner response to public comment.

Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista

This group is based in La Jolla, Calif. They are in the OFA Public Comment Period.

EBCI Tribal ABC Commission
(828) 788-4261

CIPD Arrest Report for Aug. 17-23, 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.

Betti, Dany Elton Romero – age 45
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 17
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Bird, Stephen Isaiah – age 27
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 17

Charges: Hold Until Sober

Crowe, Natasha Deanne – age 36
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 17
Charges: Criminal Conspiracy, Larceny

Emery, Jeffrey Dwayne – age 54
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 18
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Hicks, Siri Shantelle – age 31
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 17
Charges: Contributing to the Delinquency, Undiscipline, Neglect or Abuse of Minors

Lambert, Uriah Evan – age 35
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 20

Charges: Communicating Threats, Probation Violation

Little, Shalina Lynn – age 24
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Not released as of report date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court, Public Intoxication, Probation Violation

Montelongo Jr., David – age 47
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Not released as of report date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Failure to Comply with Pre-Trial Release, Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Ogle, Jessica – age 47
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 18

Charges: Hold Until Sober

Phillips, Kaylee – age 23
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 17
Charges: Temporary Hold

William, Derek Arnold – age 37
Arrested: Aug. 17
Released: Aug. 17
Charges: Hold Until Sober

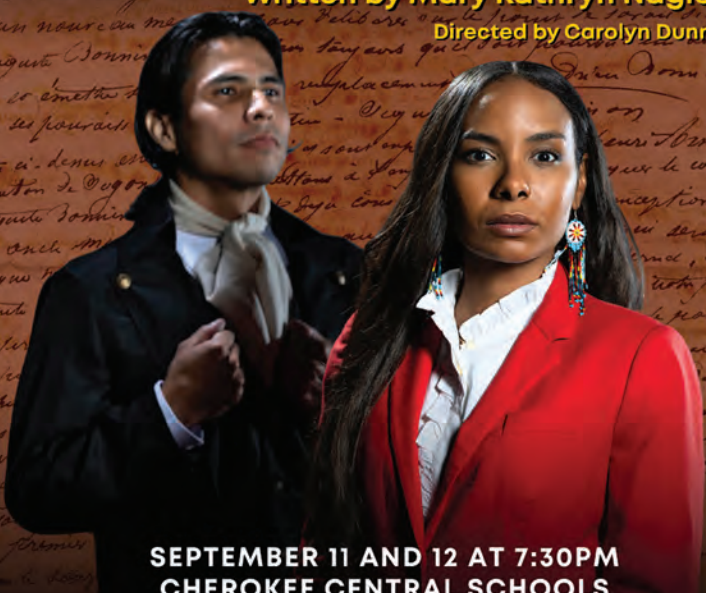
Buchanan, Cody Cordell – age 34
Arrested: Aug. 18
Released: Aug. 20
Charges: Second Degree Trespass, Criminal Conspiracy

Cucumber, Saith St. Christopher – age 31
Arrested: Aug. 18
Released: Not released as of report date (Aug. 24)

THREE BONE THEATRE PRESENTS

Sovereignty

Written by Mary Kathryn Nagle
Directed by Carolyn Dunn

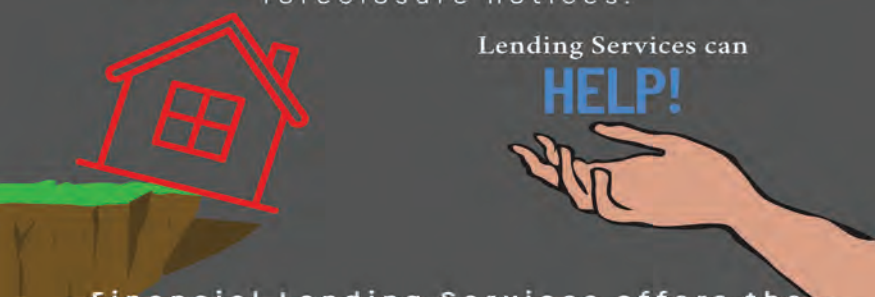


SEPTEMBER 11 AND 12 AT 7:30PM
CHEROKEE CENTRAL SCHOOLS
200 RAVENSFORD DRIVE, CHEROKEE, NC 28719

CHEROKEE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION
ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL
CITY OF CHARLOTTE
North Carolina Arts Council
SHUBERT FOUNDATION

EBCI TRIBAL HOUSING FORECLOSURE PREVENTION

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



Lending Services can **HELP!**

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

Call or email for more information:

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

Charges: Breaking and Entering,
Larceny, Pre-Trial Release Viola-
tion

Welch Sr., Benny Lee – age 63
Arrested: Aug. 18
Released: Not released as of report
date (Aug. 24)

Charges: Domestic Violence, Pro-
bation Violation (two counts)

Armachain, Stacy Leighann – age
26
Arrested: Aug. 19
Released: Aug. 20
Charges: Pre-Trial Release Viola-
tion

Humphrey, Hunter Dean – age 24
Arrested: Aug. 19
Released: Aug. 22
Charges: Domestic Violence and
Dating Violence

Swayney, Abbygayle Grace – age
30
Arrested: Aug. 19
Released: Aug. 19
Charges: Obstructing Governmen-
tal Functions

Toineeta, Taryn – age 38
Arrested: Aug. 19
Released: Not released as of report
date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Possession of a Con-
trolled Substance (two counts),
Public Intoxication, Probation
Revocation

Wolfe, Jasmyn Tiandra – age 29
Arrested: Aug. 19
Released: Not released as of report
date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Pre-Trial Release Viola-
tion

George, Yolanda – age 56
Arrested: Aug. 20
Released: Aug. 20
Charges: Filing a False Emergency
Report

Lambert, Kiri Deeann – age 40
Arrested: Aug. 20
Released: Aug. 20
Charges: Failure to Appear on
Misdemeanor

Martin, Julian – age 25
Arrested: Aug. 20
Released: Not released as of report
date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Probation Revocation (10
counts)

McCoy, Joshua Collins – age 35
Arrested: Aug. 20
Released: Aug. 20
Charges: Second Degree Trespass;
Resisting, Delaying, or Obstruct-
ing Officers

Murphy, Selena Dean – age 50
Arrested: Aug. 20
Released: Aug. 20
Charges: Child Abuse in the Sec-
ond Degree

Rattler, Cornelia Iona – age 28
Arrested: Aug. 21
Released: Not released as of report
date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Violation of Wellness
Court

Teesateskie, Taylor Aaron – age 32
Arrested: Aug. 21
Released: Not released as of report
date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Domestic Violence and
Dating Violence; Child Abuse in
the Second Degree; Injuring Tele-
phone Wires or other Communica-
tion Equipment, Interfering with
Emergency Communications

Bradley, Jason Dion – age 52
Arrested: Aug. 22
Released: Aug. 23
Charges: Providing Alcoholic
Beverages to, Possession of, Con-
sumption of Alcoholic Beverages
by Persons under 21 years of age

Locust, Robyn Lynn – age 42
Arrested: Aug. 22
Released: Aug. 22
Charges: Drug Paraphernalia, Pos-
session of a Controlled Substance
Schedule I-V

Parks, Regina Sunshine – age 48
Arrested: Aug. 22
Released: Aug. 24
Charges: Contributing to the De-
linquency, Undiscipline, Neglect,
or Abuse of Minors

Radford, Hunter Allen – age 26
Arrested: Aug. 23
Released: Not released as of report
date (Aug. 24)
Charges: Communicating Threats,
Probation Violation

CALL FOR ENTRIES

**Connected: Cherokee Artists in
Relation to Place & One Another**

March 12, 2027 – December 29, 2027

**MotCP's upcoming exhibition invites Cherokee
artists to examine their connections to past &
present makers and place.**

**Artist Proposal Due: Friday, September 18th, 2026, by
12:00am EST.**

Open to enrolled members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee
Indians, Cherokee Nation, and United Keetoowah Band of
Cherokee Indians.

Scan
To
Apply



Museum of the
Cherokee People

Learn more at motcp.org



**Never miss a
moment!**

**Check the events
calendar at:
theonefeather.com**

Ring Ceremony held for 1A/2A Indoor Track State Champion Joscelyn Stamper

By **BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT**
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - A ring ceremony was held for Cherokee High School Senior Joscelyn Stamper, who won first place in shot put at the NCHSAA 1A/2A Indoor Track State Championship with a throw of 36'7". Stamper's throwing coach, Mike Winchester, was also presented with a ring at the ceremony held Thursday, Aug. 27 ahead of the Tsalagi Anata Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Lady Braves) Varsity Volleyball Match in Charles George Memorial Arena. Stamper is the starting middle for the volleyball team and helped secure the victory over Swain Co.

A multi-sport standout, Stamper now has a total of seven state championships: three in basketball, two in shot put and two in discus. Stamper's mother, Miranda Long Stamper, won two state titles in discus while at Cherokee High School, and went on to play basketball and throw at Western Carolina University.

Stamper said, "Hard work wins! I know that if I am out working everyone in the state, I will have a chance at winning, in the weight room and in the ring. Luckily, I have a coach (Mike Winchester) who is willing to put in the work alongside me, even when he doesn't have to. Like on days off, weekends, and early releases, we still go throw and lift. When the school is closed down, my mom and dad will go out in our yard at home and retrieve for me. I'm

blessed in that sense!"

Stamper continued, "This particular state championship, Indoor Shot Put, was my first championship in shot put. It's not my best event, so I did have to focus on the event more in the weight room. Adam Jaimez's weightlifting program and putting in specific shot put work afterwards with Mike has been instrumental. Also, thank you to family, the community, and CCS [Cherokee Central Schools] for their continued support. Thank you!"

Stamper surpassed her first shot put state championship throw this spring with a throw of 39'0.5" at the 2A NCHSAA Outdoor State Championship, earning first place.



Stamper's championship banner is unveiled in Charles George Memorial Arena by CHS Principal Craig Barker on the evening of Aug. 27.



Joscelyn Stamper, right, and Mike Winchester pose with their state championship rings on the evening of Aug. 27 in Charles George Memorial Arena. (BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT/One Feather photos)



Thinking About Building A Home?

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW AND YOUR DREAM HOME COULD COME TRUE

BUILDING HOMES TOGETHER

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

Tribal Realty

Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913
Kaila Cucumber: (828) 359-7442
Renee Long-Cole: (828) 359-6971

Infrastructure Dept.

Denny Ensley: (828) 359-6841
Sarah Crowe: (828) 359-6121
Nekyle Lossiah: (828) 359-6839
Joel Queen: (828) 359-6844

Housing Services

Michelle Stamper: (828) 359-6904
Misty Milsaps: (828) 359-6919
Tina Larch: (828) 359-6912

Timber Permits

Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913

JV FOOTBALL

Robbinsville tops Anitsvyasdi 18-7

Photos by SCOTT MCKIE B.P.
One Feather Asst. Editor

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) junior varsity team hosted the Robbinsville Black Knights JV team at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Thursday, Aug. 27. FINAL SCORE: Robbinsville 18 Cherokee 7.

SCORING SUMMARY

2nd quarter

- ROBB - 8:26 - Brayden Allison
12-yard pass to David Guzman.
2-point no good. Robbinsville 6
Cherokee 0.

- ROBB - 2:21 - Kreed Williams
2-yard run. 2-point no good. Rob-
binsville 12 Cherokee 0.

3rd quarter

- ROBB - 6:33 - Kreed Williams
41-yard run. 2-point no good. Rob-
binsville 18 Cherokee 0.

4th quarter

- CHER - :09 - Jabrien Smith
43-yard run. Adrian Santons kick
good. Robbinsville 18 Cherokee 7.

FINAL SCORE:

Robbinsville 18 Cherokee 7

Next Game:

The Cherokee JV Anitsvyasdi
travel to the Hayesville JV Yellow
Jackets on Thursday, Sept. 3 at 6
p.m.

>>

Cherokee's Michael Brown (#56)
tackles Robbinsville's Allison.



Cherokee's Jabrien Smith (#5) rolls out for a pass with Robbinsville's Brayden Allison chasing in the first quarter of a game at Ray Kinsland Stadium on the evening of Thursday, Aug. 27. Smith would go on to get Cherokee's only score of the game on a 43-yard run with 9 seconds left in the game.



114TH ANNUAL
CHEROKEE
INDIAN FAIR
OCTOBER 6-10

VISIT
Cherokee
NC



FIND CELEBRATION STEEPED IN CULTURE.

Join the fun at the 114th Annual Cherokee Indian Fair. Enjoy thrilling attractions, live stickball, traditional demonstrations, a star headliner performance, and more. Plan your visit today. VisitCherokeeNC.com

EXPERIENCE A New Kind of Dentistry



If you are looking for a compassionate, caring dentist who understands your goals, then you just found her at the practice of John Highsmith, DDS and Sylvia Jernigan, DDS.

Dr. Jernigan uses only the latest techniques and materials in the industry for efficiency, effectiveness, and precision. And she can address all of your general and cosmetic needs.

If you are looking for a new dental home, we welcome you to join ours!



JOHN HIGHSMITH, DDS
SYLVIA JERNIGAN, DDS
Cosmetic, General, Implant & Laser Dentistry

78 Nelson Street, Clyde, NC 28721
CALL TODAY
(828) 662-3737
www.DrHighsmith.com



Your #1
**STATION FOR
CLASSIC COUNTRY**

TRAD O

12:30-1pm Weekdays

**Scan The QR Code
To Download Our
Mobile App!**



CROSS COUNTRY

Middle School Lady Braves win season opener at Hayesville

One Feather Staff Report

HAYESVILLE, N.C. – The Cherokee Middle School cross country teams traveled to Hayesville for their season-opening meet on Saturday, Aug. 22, and the Tsalagi Anata Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Lady Braves) took first place in the team contest. They were led by three runners who finished in the top seven including: Hinlee Taylor, Bristol Armachain, and Kimbo Crowe. The Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) took second place in the team contest with Uweluga Swimmer leading the way with a first place finish and Andres Ramirez taking fifth. Results, per milesplit.com, are shown with the top seven finishers in each race plus all Cherokee runners:

Boys

- 1 – Uweluga Swimmer, Cherokee Middle, 11:47.61
- 2 – Eli Danico, Hayesville Middle, 11:55.87
- 3 – Gage Jones, Hayesville Middle, 11:56.56
- 4 – Jackson Badger, Hayesville Middle, 11:58.18
- 5 – Andres Ramirez, Cherokee Middle, 12:45.72
- 6 – Caiden Curtis, Hayesville Middle, 12:53.02
- 7 – Anthony Page, Hiwassee Dam Middle, 12:56.19
- 24 – Bryson Beach, Cherokee Middle, 14:17.80
- 25 – Wyatt Moore, Cherokee Middle, 14:33.41
- 26 – Catche Tiger, Cherokee Middle, 14:44.54
- 43 – Sean Slee, Cherokee Middle, 17:08.09
- 47 – Kaeson Reed, Cherokee Middle, 17:34.12
- 49 – Tokahey Grant, Cherokee Middle, 18:03.58
- 50 – Charlie Driver, Cherokee Middle, 18:14.00
- 54 – Peyton Arch, Cherokee Middle, 19:02.09
- 55 – Elias Teesateskie, Cherokee Middle, 19:26.25
- 60 – Andre Williams, Cherokee Middle, 21:08.59
- 61 – Alex Holiday, Cherokee Middle, 21:17.89

Team Scores

- 1 – Hayesville Middle 23
- 2 – Cherokee Middle 69
- 3 – Carolina Mountain XC 95
- 4 – Hiwassee Dam Middle 104
- 5 – Mountain Discovery Charter School 105
- 6 – Robbinsville Middle 119

Girls

- 1 – Eliza Meiners, Carolina Mountain XC, 13:44.91
- 2 – McKinley Pusch, Summit Charter Middle, 14:02.41
- 3 – Hinlee Taylor, Cherokee Middle, 14:12.65
- 4 – Finnley Swimmer, Robbinsville Middle, 14:17.57
- 5 – Bristol Armachain, Cherokee Middle, 14:42.24
- 6 – Zoe Lecureaux, Mountain Discovery Charter, 14:50.74
- 7 – Kimbo Crowe, Cherokee Middle, 14:56.75
- 10 – Jolyssa Hernandez, Cherokee Middle, 14:59.24
- 14 – Izley Bell, Cherokee Middle, 15:58.30
- 15 – Penelope Stamper, Cherokee Middle, 15:58.50
- 25 – Chloeanna Arneach, Cherokee Middle, 17:35.78
- 27 – Dai/Myah Toineeta, Cherokee Middle, 17:41.70
- 28 – Reece Williams, Cherokee Middle, 17:42.18
- 32 – Sangelina Hernandez, Cherokee Middle, 18:10.86
- 34 – Mali Smith, Cherokee Middle, 18:12.42
- 38 – Jacqueline Arch, Cherokee Middle, 18:24.96
- 42 – Savannah Driver, Cherokee Middle, 19:54.90
- 43 – Nikola Thomas, Cherokee Middle, 20:05.06
- 51 – Taylah Ingram, Cherokee Middle, 22:36.35
- 55 – Klarajane Hernandez, Cherokee Middle, 23:17.69
- 56 – Marley Murphy, Cherokee Middle, 24:30.79
- 59 – Kinley Crowe, Cherokee Middle, 24:54.63
- 62 – Tinley Ross, Cherokee Middle, 26:24.40

Team Scores

- 1 – Cherokee Middle 36
- 2 – Robbinsville Middle 68

- 3 – Carolina Mountain XC 68
- 4 – Summit Charter Middle 79
- 5 – Murphy Middle 106

CROSS COUNTRY

Cherokee teams place at TCEC Jaguar Jungle Run

One Feather Staff Report

MURPHY, N.C. – The Cherokee High School (CHS) and Middle School (CMS) cross country teams participated in the Tri-County Early College (TCEC) Jaguar Jungle Run on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

Kyla Keel-Aguilera, CHS Anata Anitsvyasdi (Lady Braves), took first place in the high school girls race to lead her team to a second place finish with 75 points. The CHS Anitsvyasdi (Braves) took third place in the high school boys contest with 96 points. The CMS Anata Anitsvyasdi took second place in the middle school girls contest with 48 points, and the CMS Anitsvyasdi took third place in the middle school boys contest with 92 points.

The following results, per milesplitnc.com, show the top seven finishers in each race plus all Cherokee finishers:

High School Boys

- 1 – Oscar Page, Hiwassee Dam, 17:18.90
- 2 – Nathan Frederick, Robbinsville, 17:50.36
- 3 – Benjamin Frederick, Robbinsville, 17:50.91
- 4 – Maddux Oakey, Union Co., 18:00.21
- 5 – Oliver Hillman, Union Co., 18:13.40
- 6 – Landon Boxberger, Robbinsville, 18:20.16
- 7 – Andrew Nushtayev, Union Co., 18:21.21
- 11 – Wanei Sneed, Cherokee, 19:06.80
- 25 – Vincent Walker, Cherokee, 21:24.39
- 35 – Carlito Perez, Cherokee, 23:04.57
- 37 – Jeshua Lossiah, Cherokee, 23:11.47
- 40 – Chaz Martens, Cherokee, 23:35.11
- 47 – Ogana Swimmer, Cherokee, 23:58.21
- 59 – Trae Drakeford, Cherokee, 24:59.03
- 68 – Lucas Myers, Cherokee, 26:52.55
- 79 – Jae McMillan, Cherokee, 29:52.53

Team Scores

1 – Union County 33
2 – Robbinsville 45
3 – Cherokee 96
4 – Hiwassee Dam 108
5 – Swain County 122
6 – Summit Charter 156
7 – Towns County 197
8 – Nantahala 206

High School Girls

1 – Kyla Keel-Aguilera, Cherokee, 22:47.80
2 – Laney Scoggins, Copper Basin, 23:45.46
3 – Sophia Smith, Tri-County, 24:22.51
4 – Neva Brott, Union Co., 24:42.56
5 – Rebecca Carver, Carolina Mountain XC, 24:52.66
6 – Tessa Schurter, Union Co., 25:00.24
7 – Ellie Kusch, Carolina Mountain XC, 25:18.52
12 – Maya Lossiah, Cherokee, 22:47.80
21 – Angelica A-kwi-na, Cherokee, 28:39.02
36 – Story Martens, Cherokee, 32:06.41
39 – Makeena Armachain, Cherokee, 34:14.58

Team Scores

1 – Union County 25
2 – Cherokee 75
3 – Copper Basin 76
4 – Robbinsville 87
5 – Towns County 95

Middle School Boys

1 – Gage Jones, Hayesville, 11:44.18

2 – Uweleuga Swimmer, Cherokee, 11:48.00
3 – Jackson Badger, Hayesville, 12:29.02
4 – Miles Sturgeon, Union Co., 12:35.56
5 – Anthony Page, Hiwassee Dam, 12:37.37
6 – Eli Danico, Hayesville, 12:40.37
7 – Andres Ramirez, Cherokee, 12:55.65
21 – Catche Tiger, Cherokee, 14:15.25
36 – Bryson Beach, Cherokee, 15:32.70
39 – John Beheler, Cherokee, 15:42.39
49 – Wyatt Moore, Cherokee, 16:48.56
50 – Kabiru Beheler, Cherokee, 16:49.59
57 – Sean Slee, Cherokee, 17:29.51
61 – Kaeson Reed, Cherokee, 17:57.87
64 – Elia Teesateskie, Cherokee, 18:49.44
68 – Tokahey Grant, Cherokee, 19:21.37
70 – Charlie Driver, Cherokee, 19:32.10
71 – Peyton Arch, Cherokee, 19:40.25
75 – Andre Williams, Cherokee, 20:36.10
80 – Alex Holiday, Cherokee, 22:21.87

Team Scores

1 – Hayesville Middle 31
2 – Swain Middle 72
3 – Cherokee Middle 92
4 – Union County Middle 96
5 – Hiwassee Dam Middle 118
6 – Mountain Discovery Charter School 140
7 – Robbinsville Middle 160

Middle School Girls

1 – Kree Stephenson, Swain, 13:28.01
2 – Kennedy Roper, Swain, 13:42.38
3 – Eliza Meiners, Carolina Mountain XC,

13:52.17
4 – Mercy Lawless, Swain, 14:13.28
5 – Hinlee Taylor, Cherokee, 14:46.91
6 – Bristol Armachain, Cherokee, 15:18.13
7 – Charlotte Davis, Robbinsville, 15:20.48
8 – Kimbo Crowe, Cherokee, 15:31.52
9 – Jolyssa Hernandez, Cherokee, 15:40.86
21 – Nikola Thomas, Cherokee, 17:48.22
23 – Kaylahni Williams, Cherokee, 18:17.77
24 – Penelope Stamper, Cherokee, 18:19.03
26 – Jacqueline Arch, Cherokee, 18:21.69
29 – Reece Williams, Cherokee, 18:36.47
34 – Izley Bell, Cherokee, 19:04.45
41 – Saneglina Hernandez, Cherokee, 19:59.04
43 – Taya Jackson, Cherokee, 20:13.36
46 – Mali Smith, Cherokee, 20:37.58
49 – Savannah Driver, Cherokee, 21:08.29
61 – Taylah Ingram, Cherokee, 23:17.55
64 – Klarajane Hernandez, Cherokee, 23:47.19
70 – Jalen Taylor, Cherokee, 25:20.60
71 – Marley Murphy, Cherokee, 25:42.80
76 – Kinley Crowe, Cherokee, 27:44.61
79 – Tinley Ross, Cherokee, 31:04.65

Team Scores

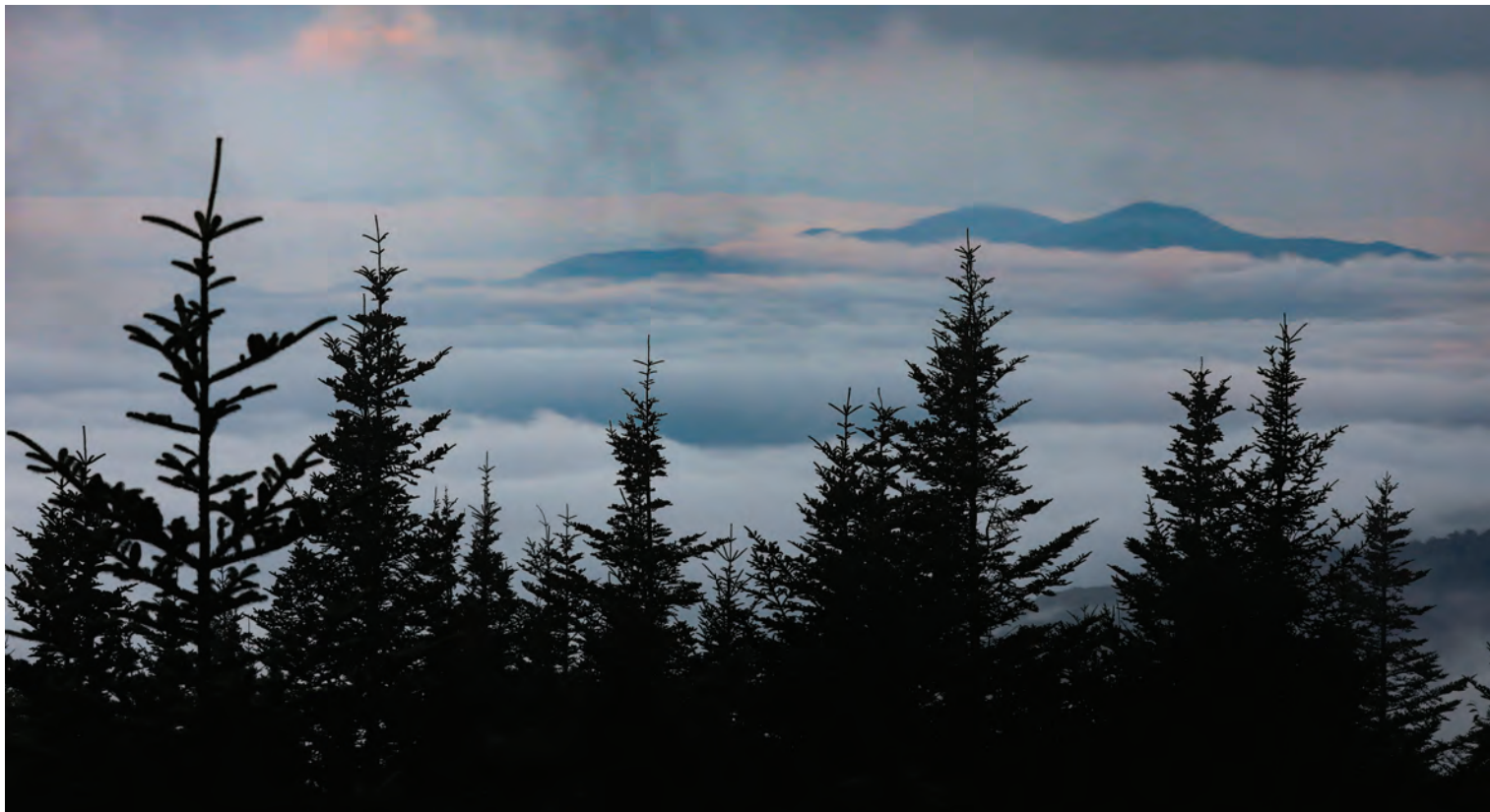
1 – Swain Middle 42
2 – Cherokee Middle 48
3 – Robbinsville Middle 87
4 – Carolina Mountain XC 90
5 – Murphy Middle 122
6 – Union County Middle 125

GWY ᏥᏚᏍᏔᏅ ᏌᏚᏚᏗᏍᏔᏅ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

**The One Feather wants YOU to attend our monthly
Editorial Board Meeting!**

When: 10AM, Every third Thursday of every month
Where: Ginger Lynn Welch Building
Large Conference Room

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!



This year's Kuwohi Sunset Celebration is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 18 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Kuwohi in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

Cultural connection

Kuwohi Sunset Celebration to honor name restoration, connection to site

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

KUWOHI – The sun peeked through the moving clouds and fog covered the mountain peaks at Kuwohi (Mulberry Place) on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025 for a special event. Members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and friends gathered at the site to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the restoration of the name of the area to its original Cherokee name, Kuwohi.

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) approved the application for the name restoration on Sept. 18, 2024. The name

restoration effort was led by Lavita Hill, EBCI Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Representative, and Mary “Missy” Crowe, an EBCI tribal elder.

This year's Kuwohi Sunset Celebration is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 18 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Kuwohi in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The event is being hosted by the Center for Native Health with the following collaborative partners: EBCI Dinilawigi (Tribal Council), EBCI Community Clubs, Museum of the Cherokee People, U.S. National Park Service, Mary Crowe, Rep. Hill, and Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shennelle Feather.

You can register for the event here. There will be two food trucks on hand, and EBCI tribal members will receive a free meal with a ticket obtained by registering.

Trey Adcock, a Cherokee Nation citizen and Center for Native Health executive director,



At the 2025 event, EBCI Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks thanked Crowe and Rep. Hill for all of their work on the name restoration effort noting, “As we think about what we’re doing today, what comes to mind for me is, we’re not rewriting history, but we’re reestablishing true history.”

commented, “It’s really significant the work that Lavita and Missy and their allies put into making this change a reality. As a place, Kuwohi is really, really special and it’s just so significant to be a small part of a larger partnership that will help future generations of Cherokee youth to understand the significance. This is a great example of what can be done when relationships are meaningful and you have the right people in the right place at the right time for the right reasons.”

When asked what his hopes are for the event, Adcock noted, “Oftentimes, people think about teaching and learning as only happening within the walls of a classroom. So, for me personally, I hope people understand the dynamic role that place can play in terms of curriculum and pedagogy. And of course, culturally I think it’s just so neat that the kids get to spend the day up there learning about all the cultural connections to Kuwohi, reconnecting to the ancestral landscape in such a profound way.”

Katie Tiger, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Center for Native Health director for land and wellness, added, “My hope is that participants carry that sense of being rooted in Kuwohi into their daily lives, finding inspiration in what a dedicated team, fully supported by the resilient EBCI community, can accomplish together.”

The Museum of the Cherokee People said in a statement to the One Feather, “The restoration of the name Kuwohi is much more than a change to a sign or map. It honors our connection to these mountains since time immemorial.

We recognize the tremendous work that Lavita Hill and Mary



Tennessee State Rep. Justin Jones (D-District 52) presents a copy of Tennessee General Assembly Bill H.J. 452 to Mary Crowe, an EBCI tribal elder, and Lavita Hill, EBCI Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Representative, during the Kuwohi Celebration on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025.

Crowe undertook to make this restoration possible. Having two Cherokee women lead this work is deeply meaningful to us. Seeing Cherokee women reclaim and restore the name of a place within our ancestral homeland is an acknowledgement rooted in action, relationship, and healing.”

Their statement continues, “Kuwohi Celebration is an opportunity to celebrate that work and to come together as Cherokee people. So much of the history we are asked to commemorate centers on loss, displacement, and difficult moments. This is something else: this is a moment of pure joy. We want Cherokee people to feel pride, connection, and a renewed sense of belonging with one another and with Kuwohi.”

At the 2025 event, EBCI

Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks thanked Crowe and Rep. Hill for all of their work on the name restoration effort. “As we think about what we’re doing today, what comes to mind for me is, we’re not rewriting history, but we’re reestablishing true history...I think it’s our job, it’s our role... we’ve got to find that passion to do these things. Thank you ladies for all your work.

It’s our jobs to make sure that we reestablish the true history... that has to change. People need to know...we have to make an effort – each and every one of us.”

Background

Dinilawigi passed legislation on July 14, 2022 which officially lent support from the EBCI for the name restoration effort. That leg-

islation, submitted by Crowe and Hill, describes the area, “Kuwohi or ‘mulberry place’, is the highest point in our area and has significance to us as Cherokee as it was visited by medicine people who prayed and sought guidance from the Creator regarding important matters facing our people, and then returned to our towns to give guidance and advice.”

In 2023, Hill and Crowe were recognized for their efforts by the Tennessee General Assembly with the passage of Bill H.J. 452. That legislation, submitted by State Rep. Justin Jones (D-District 52), stated, “Ms. Crowe and Ms. Hill are testaments to the power of dedication and determination, and their laudable mission deserves to

see **KUWOHI** next page

KUWOHI: From page 27

be acknowledged; now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Thirteenth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the Senate concurring, that we honor and commend Mary Crowe and Lavita Hill on their efforts to restore the traditional Cherokee name of 'Kuwohi' to Clingman's Dome in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and wish them all the best in their future endeavors."

That legislation passed 92-0 in the Tennessee House of Representatives on March 20, 2023, and it passed 31-0 in the Tennessee Senate on March 30, 2023. Gov. Lee signed it on April 11, 2023.

The Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) of the EBCI passed Res. No. 72 (2024) unanimously during its regular session on Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024 that approved the submittal of an application on behalf of the Tribe to restore the name. The application to BGN was filed by Hill and Crowe on be-

half of Ugywiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks and Dinilawigi on Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024.

Res. No. 72 speaks to the support for the name restoration regionally stating, "...community support for the restoration of the Kuwohi name has been overwhelming, including formal support from multiple local governments, including the counties of: Buncombe, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain, Graham, Clay, and Cherokee, and the towns of Asheville, Andrews, Murphy, Hayes-

ville, Fontana Dam, Lake Santeetlah, Robbinsville, Canton, Clyde, Maggie Valley, Waynesville, Dillsboro, Sylva, Webster, the Village of Forrest Hills, Franklin, Highlands, and Bryson City in western North Carolina, and the counties of Knox and Cambel in eastern Tennessee."

As stated above, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) approved the application for the name restoration on Sept. 18, 2024.

Celebrating Kuwohi

Kuwohi merchandise now available at Oconaluftee Visitor Center, other Smokies visitor centers, and online at SmokiesLife.org



COMMEMORATE THE 51ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENDING OF
THE "VIETNAM WAR" IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL OCTOBER 7 - OCTOBER 12, 2026

**21 LONGBRANCH RD.
OFF HWY 19 N. SOCO RD**

**QUALLA BOUNDARY
WOLFTOWN COMMUNITY
CHEROKEE, NC 28719**



CO-HOST:

AMERICAN LEGION STEVE YOUNGDEER POST 143
& EBCI CHEROKEE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MISSING

Desiree Sue Yazzie

American Indian/Alaska Native

Height: 5'6" Weight: 150 lbs

Female Age: 43

Hair: Black Eyes: Brown

Date of last contact: June 26, 2026

Last Known Location: Phoenix, Arizona

Circumstances of Disappearance: Desiree left residence failing to return. There has been no communication with known friends and family. Desiree was last seen wearing a white cap with pink/red flowers, a white t-shirt, black leggings/pants, carrying a small black backpack, and a small pink suitcase.

If you have seen or have information about Desiree Yazzie, contact Detective Daniel Nonnemacher, Phoenix Police Department (602) 262-6151.

Source: Namus.gov



GWY ᏍᏏᏉ ᏙᏚᏗᏂᏱ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

"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"



Voices Together

8-week Afterschool Program Ages 6-8

Begins September 15, 3:30-4:45pm

At Cherokee Choices

This program offers Coice Music Therapy services to students through music-based activities that support communication, social-emotional skills, and personal growth.

To sign up or for more info contact Yo at yolasaun@ebci-nsn.gov 359-6784 or Robin at robibail@ebci-nsn.gov

Fall Pound Fitness Series

October 16 & 23 and November 6 & 20

12:00-12:45pm Fridays

30 minute Cardio/strength music based fitness class

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

Fall Strength Series

September 11- October 2 – Fridays 12-12:45pm

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

The Chapters We Choose

13- Week Youth Writing and Publishing Program

Mondays September 7-November 30 3:30-5:30pm

Ages 12-15 welcome. Space is limited.

Contact Keahana to sign up at keahlamb@ebci-nsn.gov or 828-359-6193

Beginner Pilates

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

Mondays 12-12:45pm

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

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@ebci-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**

enroll for life
GWY ᎠᎭᏍᏔᎦᎵ



SEPTEMBER
duliisdi
SPTᎠᎵ

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**

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

NATIONAL PARK NEWS

Park invites public review of Floodplain Statement of Findings for Oconaluftee River Trail Improvements

GATLINBURG, Tenn. — Great Smoky Mountains National Park continues planning for future improvements to the Oconaluftee River Trail. As part of this planning process the park is inviting public review of the Oconaluftee River Trail Floodplain Statement of Findings. The document will be available for review through Sept. 7.

The Oconaluftee River Trail is a 1.6-mile-long pedestrian and bike trail that connects to the park's Oconaluftee Visitor Center and Mountain Farm Museum to downtown Cherokee, North Car-

olina. More than 100,000 people use the trail each year.

Portions of the trail are located within the Oconaluftee River floodplain. The Statement of Findings documents how the National Park Service evaluated flood risks and potential impacts of the trail improvements on the floodplain.

The proposed improvements to the Oconaluftee River Trail would improve connectivity with the gateway community of Cherokee, increase accessibility, repair riverbank erosion, and enhance trail safety and the visitor experience. The park requested public input on the proposed trail improvements in Spring 2026. After considering public input, the NPS will complete the design and compliance processes and work to identify funding for construction.

To review the Floodplain Statement of Findings, visit the National Park Service Planning, Environment and Public Comment website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/ORT> through Sept. 7.

- National Park Service release

THANK YOU LETTERS

Thank you

To my community, I honestly don't know if I will ever have the right words to thank you for what you have done for my family and me.

During one of the most vulnerable, painful, and traumatic times of our lives, you showed up for us in ways I will never forget. The donations, the meals, the money, the time, the prayers, the messages, the phone calls, the hugs, the check-ins, and every single act of kindness meant more to us than you could ever possibly understand.

Some of you knew us personally, and some of you didn't, but that didn't stop you from caring. You stepped up, reached out, gave what you could, and reminded us that even in the darkest moments, there are still people willing to lift one another up.

My family and I are forever grateful for every person who has helped us, prayed for us, thought about us, or simply reminded us that we weren't alone. There is no way I could ever repay the kindness that has been shown to us.

This experience has reminded me just how blessed I am to be part of such an amazing community. Your generosity and compassion have touched our hearts in ways that words simply cannot express.

From my family to yours, thank you.

Thank you for loving us,

supporting us, praying for us, and helping us keep moving forward when it felt impossible.

We will never forget it. We will never forget you. And we will forever be grateful.

Always,

Destiny Burgess-King

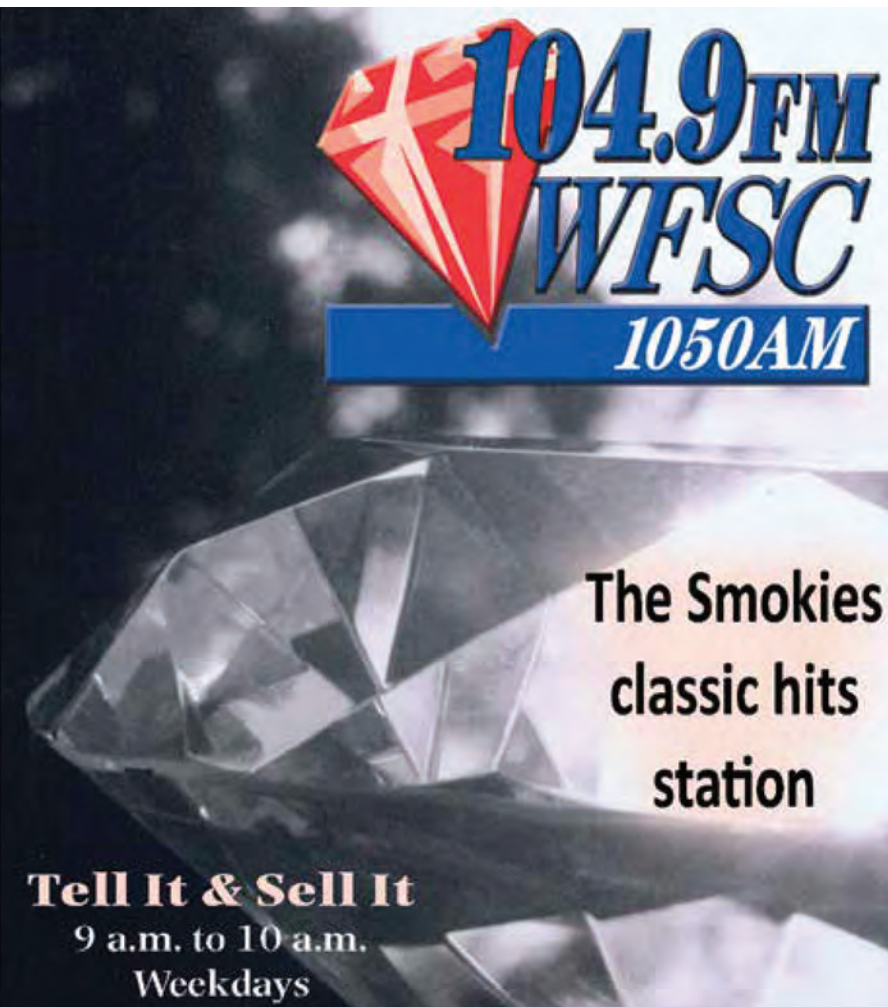
Thank you Yogi Crowe Scholarship Fund

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship Fund for their generous investment in my education. As a student at South College – Knoxville pursuing my Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, this support means so much.

The financial assistance provided through this scholarship has eased the burden of educational expenses and allowed me to remain focused on my academic and clinical responsibilities. I am truly grateful to all the members of the Board of Directors for believing in students like me and for continuing the legacy of Yogi Crowe through your commitment to education and community. Your generosity has made a meaningful difference in my journey, and I wanted to express my appreciation.

Sgi,

Jeb Shuler



**104.9 FM
WFSC
1050AM**

**The Smokies
classic hits
station**

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

GWY 𐎦𐎶 𐎠𐎺𐎠𐎪𐎠
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

**The One Feather
office will be
closed on
Monday, Sept. 7
for Labor Day.**

OBITUARIES ᏊᏏᏏᏚ

Harold Dean Adams

Harold Dean Adams, 76, of Bryson City, N.C., passed away from this world on Monday, Aug. 24, 2026. He was preceded in death by his parents Ethel and G.T. Adams of the Kirklands Creek Community.

In his passing he leaves behind his Love, Kathleen Burns; his siblings, Delores Bradley of Oak Ridge, Tenn., Bill Adams of Danville, Va., Dennis Adams of Whit-tier, N.C., Carolyn Williamson

of Bryson City, and Lynn Adams Ward of Bryson City. His children include Heather Adams Monteith of Mills River, and Bradley Adams of Bryson City; and extended family children include Jonathan Sherrill and Aleisha Kirkland both of Bryson City.

Harold was a kind, loving, family man who was blessed with numerous Nieces and Nephews, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. Grandchildren include Anna Marie Reid, Kendra Crowe, Naven Sherrill, John Thomas Reid, Mya and Levi Adams. Great

Grandchildren include Hadleigh Sherrill, Dayson Sherrill, and Pop-py Crowe.

Harold was born in Cherokee, N.C. in 1950 and spent time as a child living in Germany while G.T. was stationed there. He graduated from Swain County High School in 1968 and attended Western Carolina University before being drafted into the United States Army during Vietnam. He would serve as an MP at Fort Riley, Kansas. Harold was a modern-day Renaissance man who was proficient in everything from shooting

pool and playing softball to hard-scaping, fly fishing, and cooking. Known for his love of plants and landscaping, he was often found walking around town making sure his flowers and baskets looked great (and they always did) or in one of his favorite coffee shops fellowshipping with friends.

Harold will be missed by friends and family alike. His calm demeanor, fierce loyalty, humor, and kind words will live on in us all.

A service was held on Friday, Aug. 28 at Crisp Funeral Home.

GWY ᏊᏏᏏᏚ ᏆᏚᏚᏚ

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Your Cherokee news source since 1966



(828) 497-1408

407 Wolftown Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719

We provide individualized funeral services designed to meet the needs of each family.

- *How to Prepare
- *Grief resources
- *365 Days of Healing
- *Common Questions

Contact us with your questions, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

www.longhousefuneralhome.com

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



Aug. 31-Sept. 6, 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 31	TUESDAY, September 1	WEDNESDAY, September 2	THURSDAY, September 3	FRIDAY, September 4	SATURDAY, September 5	SUNDAY, September 6
Average	Average	Average	Average+	Average	Average	Average
10:04 AM-11:04 AM 9:12 PM-10:12 PM	11:12 AM-12:12 PM 9:45 PM-10:45 PM	12:22 PM-1:22 PM 10:24 PM-11:24 PM	5:26 AM-7:26 AM 5:56 PM-7:56 PM	5:26 AM-7:26 AM 5:56 PM-7:56 PM	7:29 AM-9:29 AM 8:01 PM-10:01 PM	8:32 AM-10:32 AM 9:02 PM-11:02 PM

COURTESY OF WWW.SOLUNARFORECAST.COM



Call 828-586-2155 or visit www.mountainlovers.com





FIND THE RIGHT RIDE FOR THE RIGHT PRICE.



2021 Ford Expedition XLT
Stock #: T9779B

\$34,897

**2025 Ford Super Duty
F-350 SRW XL**
STOCK #: T9520A

\$57,895

**2026 Hyundai Santa Fe
SEL**
Stock #: 4684

\$36,544

**2025 Jeep Wrangler
Sport S**
Stock #: P4653

\$34,886



Dustin Shuler
Assistant Sales Manager



Greg Jamison
Sales Consultant/ Fleet Specialist



Justin Varley
Sales Consultant



Jason Foxworth
Sales Consultant



Hollie Johnson
Finance Manager



Service Team
ALL MAKES, ALL MODELS,
WE SERVICE THEM ALL!

CONTACT US



828-586-0900

www.AndyShawFord.com

1231 E Main St Sylva NC



ALL INSURANCE WELCOME.
WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.

August report from Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Michael Stamper



Hello everyone,

This is my Council Report for the month of August. As school has started back, I want to wish all students a safe and productive school year. Whether you are attending elementary, middle, high school or seeking higher education, your tribe is proud of you and wish you the best.

As always, my report follows the standard format below.

Community Events

Sept. 10 – From Darkness into Hope
Annual Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention Event
• Time: 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
• Location: Oconoluftee Island

Sept. 12 – 10th Annual Cherokee Skate Jam
Registration begins at 8am
Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced divisions along with Best trick events.
• Time: 8 a.m. – Events commence and awards are given out
• Location: Cherokee Action Sports Park, Acquoni Road, Cherokee NC 28719

Project Updates

For the purposes of this article, no updates are posted for the Nvdiyeli Trail, Ceremonial Grounds, Multipurpose Facility (Old High School Site), or the new restroom facilities for the Indian Village.

Groundbreaking for IDD Enrichment Center

On Aug. 26, in coordination with Cherokee Indian Hospital Association (CIHA) and Public Health and Human Services (PHHS), there was a groundbreaking for the new IDD Enrichment Center at the old Tsali Care Center location. This project is a great example of what can be accomplished when we have a team effort from tribal resources and entities. A big thank you to all parties that have played a part in this effort up to this point, and to those who will be helping see the enrichment center grows and supplies the IDD community with some much needed resources here at home on the Qualla Boundary.

In addition to the Ground-breaking, CIHA is also seeking input on thoughts regarding the naming of the facility. If anyone has any feedback or suggestions, please reach out to Candy Ross, Assistant IDD Director. She can be reached at (828) 497-9163 x7595.

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 Assign-

ment of Possessory Holdings

4. Ordinance Amending Chapter 41 of the Cherokee Code to Define Different Types of Ownership of a Possessory Holding
5. Ordinance Amending Chapter 19-7 of the Cherokee Code Regarding Public Nuisances
6. Ordinance Amending the Statute of Frauds in Chapter 22 of the Cherokee Code
7. Ordinance to establish Cannabis Control Board is funded by Qualla LLC.
8. Ordinance amending TAB-CC budgets account reports and audits
9. Ordinance amending spousal inheritance in the absence of a Will
10. Ordinance establishing a committee for aging and disabled in Cherokee Code
11. Ordinance establishing Tribal Realty in Cherokee Code
12. Ordinance requiring additional transparency in EBCI Tribal Election Campaign Financing

Work Sessions

Past Work Sessions

- Sept. 1
- 1 p.m. - Tabled Ordinance 250: TABCC Budget
 - 2 p.m. – Tabled ordinance 226: Amending the statute of frauds

Monthly Update for Readers

This month's update focuses on a topic that has recently been highlighted through the development of the new IDD Enrichment Center at the former dialysis center in Birdtown. The project serves as a great example of a common question faced by Tribal leaders,

planners, and project managers: when is it better to renovate an existing building, and when is it more practical to tear down a structure and build new?

There are advantages and challenges associated with both approaches, and each project must be evaluated on its own merits. While there is no one-size-fits-all answer, several key factors help guide the decision-making process.

In the case of the former dialysis center, the decision to renovate was relatively straightforward. The building was structurally sound, the location was ideal, and the existing square footage could accommodate the planned activities of the IDD Enrichment Center with only minor modifications. Because the foundation and primary structure were already in place, the renovation could be completed at a significantly lower cost than constructing an entirely new facility.

Renovation also offered another major benefit: time savings. A complete demolition and new construction project would have required additional permitting, site preparation, environmental reviews, and abatement measures to ensure no hazardous materials were released during demolition. By repurposing the existing structure, the project will be able to move forward more efficiently, allowing services to be provided to the community sooner. In many cases, preserving a functional building can be one of the most cost-effective and environmentally responsible choices available. When evaluating whether to renovate or build new, several im-

important considerations come into play. Construction costs, material prices, and labor availability all influence the financial feasibility of a project. Equally important is the intended use of the building. Decision makers must ask whether the current layout can adequately support future operations and whether necessary upgrades can be made without creating excessive costs.

Another example can be seen in the development of Tribal Bingo by the Tribal Casino Gaming Enterprise (TCGE). Before moving forward, TCGE conducted a feasibility study to determine whether the project would be financially sustainable and to identify the amount of floor space needed to support the proposed operation. Once those requirements were

established, planners evaluated an existing structure located on the parcel of land designated for the project.

Although the building initially appeared to be a potential candidate for renovation, a closer examination revealed significant challenges. Because the structure had been built decades earlier, extensive upgrades would have been required to meet modern building codes, safety standards, accessibility requirements, and occupancy demands. The cost of making those improvements exceeded the cost of constructing a new facility that could be specifically designed for the projected needs of the business. As a result, the decision was made to demolish the existing structure and build a new facility from the ground up.

This example demonstrates that while renovations can often provide substantial savings, they are not always the most economical solution. Older buildings may conceal structural, electrical, plumbing, or mechanical issues that significantly increase project costs. In situations where extensive modifications are required, new construction can provide greater long-term value, lower maintenance costs, improved energy efficiency, and a design that better serves the intended purpose of the facility.

Beyond construction costs, all capital projects must also be considered in the context of the Tribe's overall budget and strategic priorities. Each year, Tribal leadership is tasked with reviewing a lengthy list of proposed projects and determining which initiatives can move forward during the fiscal year. These decisions require careful consideration, especially during periods of economic uncertainty when available resources may be more limited.

Historically, periods of strong economic growth made these decisions somewhat easier. Today, however, greater emphasis is placed on prioritizing projects that provide the greatest return on investment and long-term benefit to the Tribal community. As a result, projects often receive higher priority when they meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Grant-funded or cost-shared projects that leverage outside funding sources and reduce the reliance on Tribal dollars.
2. Revenue-generating projects that can eventually reimburse their initial costs and create sustainable income for future Tribal initiatives.
3. Community-benefit projects

that enhance recreational opportunities, support families, improve quality of life, or provide essential services to Tribal members. Projects that satisfy multiple criteria often rise to the top of the capital project list because they deliver both immediate and long-term benefits. They create opportunities to maximize available funding while addressing critical community needs.

Whether the decision is to renovate an existing structure or construct a new one, the ultimate goal remains the same: making responsible investments that serve Tribal members, strengthen the community, and ensure that resources are used wisely. The recent IDD Enrichment Center and Tribal Bingo projects illustrate how careful planning, financial analysis, and long-term vision help guide these important decisions. By evaluating each project individually and considering both current needs and future opportunities, Tribal leadership can continue investing in projects that create meaningful and lasting value for generations to come.

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



Ride The Famous Rudicoaster!

SANTA'S LAND
FUN PARK & ZOO

\$3 OFF
EACH TICKET
WITH THIS AD
Not Valid With any Other Offer

Celebrating 60 years, since June 1966
Cherokee, NC 828-497-9191 www.santaslandnc.com

GWY ᏫᏊ ᏍᏏᏗᏍᏔ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER ᏚᏍᏓᏕᏗᏍᏔ ᏍᏏᏗᏍᏔ

Deadline:
Fridays at
12 p.m.

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

ANTHONY TOINEETA MEMORIAL 7 CLANS RODEO

SEPTEMBER 5 & 6

CHEROKEE 114TH INDIAN FAIR

OCTOBER 6-10

CHEROKEE FALL ROD RUN

OCTOBER 16 & 17



M
I
S
S
I
N
G



Jacqueline "Jackie" Davis

Missing from: Cherokee, N.C.

Missing since: Jan. 1, 1969

(14 years old)

Height: 5'0"-5'5" *Weight:* 120 lbs

Contact: 615-564-6600



Shania Woodall

Missing from: Cherokee, N.C.

Missing since: April 8, 2025

D.O.B.: July 2, 2015

Height: 4'8" to 4'10"

Weight: 100 lbs

Contact: 828-497-4131



Gabriel Thor Crow

Missing from: Asheville, N.C.

Missing since: Jan. 27, 2024

D.O.B.: Jan. 21, 1997

Height: 5'11" *Weight:* 170 lbs

Contact: 828-252-1110 or

828-359-6612



EBCI Services

This message brought to you by:

GWY ᏫᏯ ᏌᏍᏏᏉ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



EBCI Legal Assistance (828) 359-7400

Services: Protective Orders, Criminal Defense, Involuntary Commitments, Simple Wills and Power of Attorney, Elder Abuse Prevention and more



Cherokee Indian Housing Division (828) 359-6320

Services: Loan Modification and Foreclosure Prevention, Renovation Loans, Credit Counseling, Portfolio Loans, Foster Parent Renovation Loans, Down Payment Assistance



EBCI Public Health and Human Services (828) 359-6180

Services: Health care and social services like housing, health programs and supply needs, transportation, or food—Administers EBCI HELP



EBCI Higher Education Program (828) 359-6650

Services: Tuition, Housing/Meals, Supplemental Funds, Computer Funds, Graduation Bonus, Books & Materials



EBCI Office of Internal Audit and Ethics (828) 359-7030

Services: Conducting audits to assess the reliability of financial and operational information. Administering and enforcing the Code of Ethics binding on all Tribal Officials



EBCI Tribal Operations Cherokee Fire and Rescue (828) 359-6150

Services: Facilities Management, Housekeeping, Tribal EMS, Fire and Rescue, Public Safety Communications, Tribal Construction, Road Maintenance



EBCI Tribal Court Courthouse (828) 359-1068, Magistrates 359-6697

Supreme Court Opinions, Tribal Court Documents



Cherokee Indian Hospital (828) 497-9163

Services: Dentistry, Medical Equipment, Eye Care, Nutrition, Labs, Pharmacy, Radiology, Respiratory Therapy, Rehabilitation



SPEAKING OF FAITH

What motivates you?

Part 1 of 3

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

Scripture references: Colossians 3:2, Deuteronomy 8:17-18, Proverbs 16:2, Proverbs 8:13, Romans 12:2, Matthew 6:1, Psalms 139:23-24, Philippians 4:20

The various forms of pride in humans are Satan's sneakiest sins. Pride creeps into our lives, minds, and hearts in many ways. The glory we seek in ourselves and others is brutal to parse between good and evil. The good ones can turn nasty and become sins. These are sins we rarely account for, and often they are sins of omission because we don't even consider them or ask for forgiveness or repent of them. Yet, they hurt our relationship with our Lord. Consider this in your next prayer time.

From childhood, we are motivated to...whatever, you name it. Who motivates us? Motivation comes from parents, peers, teachers, pastors, enemies, coaches, drill instructors, bosses, spouses, family, children, work associates, competition, self, and God's Word. All of these motivators can be good. Some can be bad, and some are both good at times and bad at others. Pride, pleasing man, and pleasing ourselves are motivating issues we must address according to God's Word.

I sincerely doubt I am the only one who has trouble when I pause to consider my motivations before I embark on a project or even while I'm in the middle of one, especially ministry projects. Many people don't even pause to

consider it, but that is precisely what we need to do. We need to test ourselves on why we do what we do. Are we in God's will? Are we humble in giving God the Glory in all we do?

What drives you to do what you do? Let's begin with a few questions, and you will soon figure out where this lesson is headed.

1. Do you volunteer to serve so you will become noticed or recognized by others for your work?
2. Do you want others to congratulate you on your completed job?
3. Are you looking for a promotion when you strive to outperform your competition?
4. Do you enjoy being on stage for the applause and cheers of the crowd?
5. Do you speak or perform so that others will praise your ability and talent?
6. Do you dress for success or to attract the looks of others?

7. Do you tell stories of success and boast of your experience and achievements so others will look up to you?

8. Do you drop names of notoriety or of influential people you have worked with, are related to, or met, so others will consider you their peer or to become more popular?

9. Do you seek recognition, congratulations, or aggrandizement after leading a successful project?

10. Do you seek leadership roles because you want to be in charge?

11. Do you want others to look up to or idolize you to make you feel good?

Get it? One or more of those might have hit you between the eyes. You have already begun to rationalize with, "What's wrong with that?" The answer to that question depends on why you do it.

"Set your mind on the things

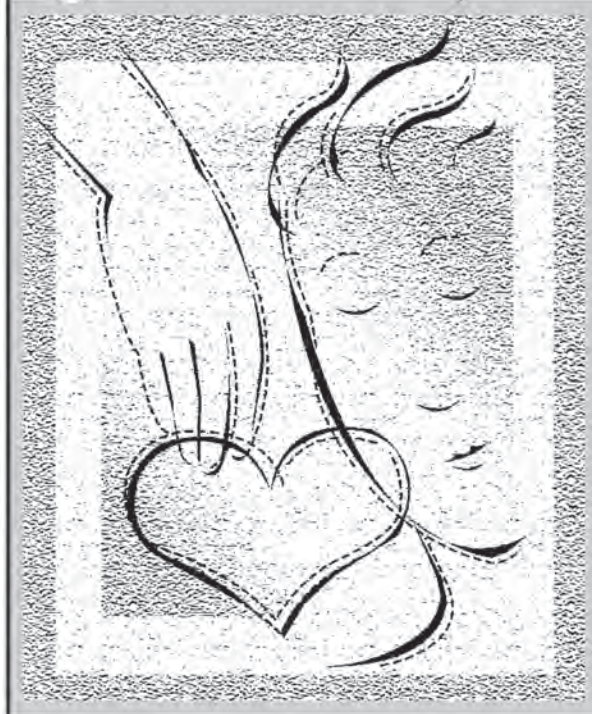
that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth." Colossians 3:2

Lord, God, and Father, today I pray that You would show me where my heart is when it begins leaning toward the wrong motivations. Lord, I ask that You remind me and prick my heart when I motivate others to think wrongly about themselves or others. Guard me against these sins and lies that satan whispers in my ears or when my tongue gets out of control. I don't want to be this kind of sinner. Thank You, Lord, to know I can ask You for anything in Your will, and You will grant it. Grant these to me today and forevermore.

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: Try me, and know my thoughts; And see if there be any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting. Psalms 139:23-24



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



My little children, let us not love
in word or in tongue,
but in deed and in truth.
And by this we know that we are
of the truth, and shall assure our
hearts before Him.

1 JOHN 3:18,19

© 2026 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

Amber Waves

WOW, WHAT A GREAT DAY! FIRST, THE FARMER SERVED UP EXTRA CORNGOBS AND GRAIN.



THEN I WAS ABLE TO GET A NICE SHADY SPOT IN THE MUD FOR AN AFTERNOON NAP.



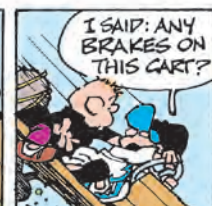
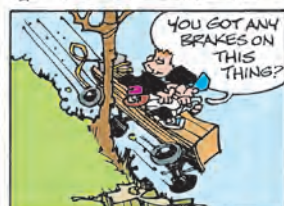
AT THIS POINT I DON'T THINK ANYTHING COULD WRECK A PERFECT DAY LIKE THIS.



DID YOU WATCH THE NEWS TODAY?



TIGER



The Spats



by BUD BLAKE

by Jeff Pickering

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is not showing. 2. Hammer is longer. 3. Box on sleeve is smaller. 4. Cap is tilted back. 5. Lightbulb is smaller. 6. Stripe

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved.

by Dave T. Phipps

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Actor Sharif
- 5 "Humbly!"
- 8 JFK guesses
- 12 Cape —, Portugal
- 13 In the style of
- 14 Seniors' gp.
- 15 Manhattan, for one
- 17 China (Pref.)
- 18 "The Sopranos" restaurateur
- 19 Brunch fare
- 21 Thick chunk
- 24 TV spots
- 25 Ancient invader
- 28 Uber competitors
- 30 Mas' mates
- 33 Chef Garten
- 34 Bo of "10"
- 35 Pen filler
- 36 — chi
- 37 Location
- 38 — B'rith
- 39 Young fellow
- 41 "Absolutely!"
- 43 Texas city
- 46 Caravan stops
- 50 Big rackets
- 51 Pulled-back hairdo
- 54 Icelandic epic
- 55 Chang's brother
- 56 "Andor" actor Diego —

- 57 Optimistic
- 58 Tic-tac-toe loser
- 59 Mountain ht.
- 10 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
- 11 Espy
- 16 Aviv preceder
- 20 Mardi Gras wear
- 22 Computer brand
- 23 Exposes
- 25 "Shoo!"
- 26 — tear (ragging)
- 27 Hindmost parts
- 29 Boyfriend
- 31 Comic Gaster
- 32 Enjoy Aspen
- 34 June honorees
- 38 Ringo, for one
- 40 Analyze
- 42 Trigger's rider
- 43 Baltic feeder
- 44 Queen of Carthage
- 45 Pinnacle
- 47 Biblical king
- 48 Aachen article
- 49 Serb or Croat
- 52 Musician Yoko
- 53 Private aid gp.

DOWN

- 1 Sea predator
- 2 Heath
- 3 Ad agcy. client
- 4 Debonair
- 5 Sheep call
- 6 Boxer Laila
- 7 Angelic light
- 8 Allayed
- 9 Severe decline

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. HISTORY: When did Labor Day become a federal holiday?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: Which animal can hop from side to side but can't walk forward or backward?
3. MOVIES: What is the only international (non-English) movie to date that has won the Best Picture Oscar?
4. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin word "alibi" mean in English?
5. FOOD & DRINK: Which country is known for the soup called pho?
6. GEOGRAPHY: What is the largest bay in the world?
7. MUSIC: What 1996 song by Los del Rio became an international dance phenomenon?
8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who is the only president to be elected unanimously by the Electoral College?
9. SCIENCE: How many times does the average human blink per minute?
10. TELEVISION: What is SpongeBob's pet named in the animated series "SpongeBob SquarePants"?

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

Answer
Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers
King Crossword

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Benefits/Fundraisers

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

- Sept. 5 at 12 p.m., fundraiser for Kolanvyi Over-40 Indian Ball Team. In addition to the regular Turkey Shoot, a special round will be shot. Shooters will pay \$20 for a chance to win a Benelli 12-gauge pump shotgun. All contestants will shoot the gun in the competition, and the winner will take the gun home.

- Sept. 12 at 5 p.m., fundraiser for the Turkey Shoot facility

- Sept. 26 at 5 p.m., fundraiser for Big Cove Free Labor

- Oct. 17 at 5 p.m., Annual Jesse Welch Memorial Turkey Shoot sponsored by family

EBCI Community Events

YK Visuals Youth Media

Camp. Sept 9-11 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. at EBCI Communications 1501 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Videography, photography, graphic design, podcasting for ages 8-18. Info: (828) 359-7027

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

10th Annual Cherokee Skate

Jam. Sept. 12 registration opens at 8 a.m. competition starts at 11 a.m. at the Cherokee Skatepark, 1036 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. For beginners, intermediate, advanced/open and best trick

categories. Info: Text (828) 736-6170 or 736-2698

3rd Annual Shrednanigans.

Sept. 19 from 12 p.m. – 6 p.m. at BCO Cherokee, 516 Tsalagi Blvd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Music, food, games, bike show, relay, prizes, Fire Mountain prize hunt, bounce house, foam party, shuttles to Fire Mountain. Free admission. Info: on Facebook -7 Moons MTB

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.

Elk in the Smokies.

Oct. 9 and 17, from 12: 30 p.m. – 6 p.m. at Oconaluftee Visitor Center 1194 Newfound Gap Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Features a naturalist ramble in the during the height of the elk rut, when these iconic animals are most active. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

GWY Dhwōy JloLjōw TS tsalagi aniwonisgi didandadisdi iga (Cherokee Speakers Memorial Day) ceremony. Nov 24 at 10 a.m. at the Cherokee

Speakers Place. Join to honor and remember the Cherokee speakers whose voices, wisdom, and dedication have helped preserve and sustain language for future generations.

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 in-

formation on purpose and further aims. All who meet the eligibility are invited to attend.

Cherokee Cultural/Historic Events

Cherokee Singers Gatherings.

Sept 14 and Sept 16 from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrell Recreation Complex at 1139 US-19 Cherokee, N.C. 28719. EBCI signers and dancers of all ages are invited to join. Info: Facebook @cherokeewintersocial.

Fingerweaving Fridays.

Every Friday in September from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Museum of the Cherokee People Art Studio in Cherokee, N.C. Bring a project you’re working on or select materials from the Museum’s supplies.

CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK
Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida
SŌHi AD RVLTŌJ DŌwYL

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

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



Open to enrolled EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) members, EBCI parents and spouses. Registration is not required: just show up.

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.)

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A change that you hoped for is on its way. But you still need to be patient until more explanations are forthcoming. Continue to keep your enthusiasm in check.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your social life expands as new friends come into your life. But while you're having fun, your practical side also sees some positive business potential within your new circle.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your workplace situation continues to improve. Look for advantages that you might've missed while all the changes were going on around you. A trusted colleague can help.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Resist the urge to hunker down in your bunker until things ease up. Instead, get rid of a woe-is-me attitude by getting up and getting out to meet old friends — and make new ones!

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Now that you're back enjoying the spotlight again, you should feel reenergized and ready to take on the challenge of bringing your big, bold plans to completion.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A former friend would like to repair a relationship that you two once enjoyed. Your positive response could have an equally positive impact on your life. Think about it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October

22) Resist making impulsive decisions. Stay on a steady course as you continue to work out workplace problems. Be patient. All will soon be back in balance.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might feel confident about taking a promising offer, but continue to be alert for what you're not being told about it. Don't fret. Time is on your side!

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) People dear to you might be planning a way to show appreciation for all that you've done for them. Accept the honor graciously. Remember, you deserve it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Congratulations! Your self-confidence is on the rise. This could be a good time to tackle any bothersome situations that you've avoided both at home and at work.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You feel obligated to return a favor. (Of course, you do.) But heed advice from those closest to you and do nothing until you're certain about what's being asked of you.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your loving reassurance helped revive a once-moribund relationship. But be wary of someone who might try to do something negative to reverse this positive turn of events.

BORN THIS WEEK: You're a wonderful matchmaker who can bring people together to form long-lasting relationships, whether they're friendships or romantic affairs.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Successes at the VA

The VA is making great progress in serving veterans. The latest score card shows things going in the right direction.

For example, since the beginning of January 2025, they've opened 40 new healthcare facilities and completed 82 million direct care appointments. During that time they reduced the backlog of veterans waiting for benefits by over 70%.

When it comes to community care appointments, they completed 59 million in 2025. A big push, started at the end of 2025, cleared the backlog of healthcare applications for 900,000 veteran spouses, survivors, caregivers and dependents.

They managed to provide over 3 million appointments outside of normal hours, giving veterans the option of early morning, evening and weekend appointments.

Over 215,000 veterans have been enrolled in VA healthcare just this year alone.

For 2026 they've earmarked \$4.8 billion to fix and repair healthcare facilities, to include modernization of the electronic health record systems and building upgrades such as elevators and boiler plants.

More than 51,000 homeless veterans were helped into permanent housing last year.

The VA managed to save \$24 million per year just by centralizing the payroll system for VA employees, money that can now be spent in other areas.

But the big-ticket item, one that will have a major impact, is that the VA managed to get \$10.44 billion in drug price reductions this year alone — the biggest price reduction they've ever had. This started with President Trump and his push for lower drug costs. For the civilian population, they just announced the largest drug price reduction in over 60 years after requesting the world's 17 largest drug-makers to lower prices to what they charge other countries. It's said this could save \$529 billion over the next 10 years.

I'll be the first in line to point the finger of blame at the VA for things that go wrong, but seeing this list, it's clear they're doing many, many things right.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



When to stop hiking with your dog

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I recently read an article about a hiker who noticed another hiker's dog limping badly on a backwoods trail. The dog's paws were a mess, with long nails and pads that were scraped and tender. Yet the owner said that he and the dog were pressing on to the end of the trail, two days ahead. Can you please make your readers aware that dogs aren't as tough as people think they are? An injured dog can't just keep going, because minor injuries can quickly become major, life-altering injuries in the woods. Sign me — Concerned in the Smokies

DEAR CONCERNED: I'm with you on this. While most dogs are energetic and agile on short walks around the neighborhood, long-distance hikes are a whole other animal.

During any outdoor activity, your dog's well-being dictates when it's time to stop and go home. Owners should be attuned to their dog's behavior at all times. When they show early signs of getting tired, that's the time to call it a day — before they begin limping or crying in pain.

Just as with human hikers, dogs need extensive physical conditioning before tackling a long hike. Start by gradually extending daily walks over several weeks or months. Take short day hikes so your dog becomes comfortable on uneven, variable terrain. After each hike, inspect their paws, brush debris and insects off their coat, and check their skin for ticks. Monitor them after hikes. If they seem unusually tired, give them a day off to recover.

Note that puppies up to 18 months should not be taken on walks or hikes of over 2 miles. Their bones are still developing, and overuse can cause permanent injuries. Senior dogs should also cut their mileage, and close attention must be paid to their hydration and energy levels.

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

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

EVENTS: From page 41

Dinilawigi Regular Session. Sept. 2 at 8:30 a.m.

Pow Wow Listings

54th Annual Barona Pow Wow. Sept. 4-6 at the Barona Sports Complex on the Barona Indian Reservation in Lakeside, Calif. Emcees: John Arkeketa, Clifton Goodwill. Host Northern Drum: Meskwaki Nation. Head Southern Singer: Kenneth Cozad Sr. Info: <https://www.barona-nsn.gov/>

Flying Dust First Nation Traditional Pow Wow. Sept. 4-6 on the Flying Dust First Nation in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada. MC: Collin Chief. Info: Melinda Morin (306) 240-9553

LIHA (Laconia Indian Historical Association) 55th Good Time Intertribal Pow Wow. Sept. 4-7 in Sanbornton, N.H. Info: infoforlihaofnh@gmail.com

Nakoda Classic Pow Wow. Sept. 4-6 at Goodstoney Arena in Mini Thni, Alberta, Canada. Emcees: Timothy Esashappie, Eugene Alexis, Daniel Wildman. Host Drum: Krazy Creek, Eya-Hey Nakoda, Rumbling Hills. Info: Tim Poucette (587) 892-5010

17th Annual Honoring Our Veterans Pow Wow. Sept. 5-6 in Corbin, Ky. MC: Lowery Begay. Host Drum: Iron Lightning. Info: www.skannp.org

65th Annual Tecumseh Lodge Pow Wow. Sept. 5-6 at the Randolph County 4-H Fairgrounds in Winchester, Ind. MC: Cricket Rice. Head Southern Singer: Ryan Goodfox. Info: www.tecumseh-

hlodge.org

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.AAwnc80.com

Celebrate Recovery meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Cherokee Baptist Church at 812 Tsalagi Road, in Cherokee, N.C. This is a Christ-centered recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, hang-ups, and habits of any kind. All are welcome. Info: Chris 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. Sept. 3 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. Peter Koch will present "The Civil War in Western North Carolina and Beyond". Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation. This is free and open to the public.

Launch of new book, "The Mountains Remember". Sept. 5 at 3 p.m. at City Lights Bookstore 3 E. Jackson St., Sylva, N.C. 28779. "The Mountains Remember" is about Sadie Bird who lives in Shaconage, N.C. in 1929. Having just lost her husband and children, she is forced to fight the

government to save her land.

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

Tennessee Valley Wrestling. Sept. 12, doors open at 6:30 p.m., belltime 7 p.m. at Boys and Girls Club at 280 Campbell Rd., Benton, Tenn. 37307. Mid-South tag Tea, Championship match, random challenge champion Christopher battle, bring the whole family for an action -packed night. Info: Facebook – Tennessee Valley Wrestling

Look Rock Hawk Watch. Sept. 17, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. meet at the Foothills Parkway West Overlook 7210 Flats Rd., Tallassee, Tenn. Seasoned birdwatchers and casual bird enthusiasts alike can witness the spectacle of fall migration. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

Ecological Illustration Workshop. Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. meet at the Sugarlands Visitor Center 107 Sugarlands Visitor Center Loop rd., Gatlinburg, Tenn. Walk along the Fighting Creek Nature Trail area of the park near Gatlinburg. Artists of all skill levels are invited to sharpen their observational skills hosted by this year's Steve Kemp writer and illustrator in residence, Laurie McDowell. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.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

Monarch Butterfly Tagging & Education. Oct. 3 and 7 from 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. meet at the Great Smokies Welcome Center 7929 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy., Townsend, Tenn. 37882. This will give participants a chance to join local conservation efforts to track

the monarch butterfly population during its expected annual migration. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

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

Cherohala Skyway Festival. Oct. 24 from 10a.m. – 5 p.m. by the Charles Hall Museum 122 Bank St., Tellico Plains, Tenn. 37385. Special Josh Graves music tribute. Free admission. Hand-made items from many talented crafters and artisans. Vendors offer everything from paintings and photographs, pottery, floral arrangements, wood crafts and

turnings, doll clothes, dolls, toys, jewelry, candles, soap, and decorative accessories. Lots of kids activities. Food trucks onsite. Info: (423)253-8000

Forest Bathing Guided Walk. Oct. 30. From 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. meet at Oconaluftee Visitor Center 1194 Newfound Gap Rd Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Walk along the Kephart Prong Trail on the North Carolina side of the park near Bryson City and Cherokee, slow down and reconnect with nature this immersive experience is designed to highlight the restorative benefits of spending time in the forest. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

Grandma Gatewood's Walk. Nov. 4 from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Great Smokies Welcome Center

7929 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy., Townsend, Tenn. 37882. Explores the inspiring story of the first woman to solo hike the Appalachian Trail in 1955. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

Aunt Liddy Monologue. Nov. 12 from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Great Smokies Welcome Center 7929 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy., Townsend, Tenn. 37882. Introduces audiences to Lydia Kear Whaley, a midwife, healer and Civil War widow who lived in Sugarlands from 1840 to 1926. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

Regal Raptors & Short-eared Owls. Nov. 30 from 1 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Cades Cove Orientation Shelter, Cades Cove Loop Rd., Townsend, Tenn. 37782. experience an evening of “owl-ology” where participants will learn about these remarkable birds of prey. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

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) Com-

see **EVENTS** next page

Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a
partnership with
EBCI Natural Resources





Passionflower is a perennial vine native to the southern US. During the summer and early fall, Passionflower produces beautiful blooms. In fall, its fruits, known as “maypops,” ripen to yellow and drop from the vine, revealing a sweet, edible pulp inside.

EVENTS: From page 43

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

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Ecclesiastes (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Proverbs 27:3, a stone is heavy and the sand weighty, but whose wrath is heavier than them both? *Fool's, Beggar's, God's, Wind's*

3. In the King James translation there are more than how many references to gems and precious stones? *100, 500, 1,700, 2,200*

4. From 2 Samuel 14, how many shekels did Absalom's hair weigh after he cut it off? *2, 10, 50, 200*

5. Where did Jesus attend a wedding where the wine was exhausted? *Sardis, Antioch of Syria, Joppa, Cana of Galilee*

6. In Mark 6:9, Jesus tells his disciples not to put on two ...? *Sandals, Coats, Headdresses, Girdles*

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Fool's, 3) 1,700, 4) 200, 5) Cana of Galilee, 6) Coats

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscribersite at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



Moments in time

• On Sept. 14, 1964, author John Steinbeck was honored with the U.S. Medal of Freedom. He had previously received a number of other honors and awards for his work, including a Pulitzer Prize in 1940 for "The Grapes of Wrath" and a Nobel Prize in Literature in 1962.

• On Sept. 15, 1931, a small dirigible docked briefly at the mooring mast on top of the new Empire State Building before winds forced it away. While hopes were high for the creation of an airship port in midtown Manhattan, they were never realized.

• On Sept. 16, 1810, Catholic priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla launched the Mexican War of Independence with the issue of his Grito de Dolores ("Cry of Dolores"), a tract calling for the end of 300 years of Spanish rule in Mexico, redistribution of land and racial equality. Thousands assembled at his banner of the Virgin of Guadalupe and soon after a peasant army was marching to Mexico City.

• On Sept. 17, 1976, NASA publicly unveiled the Enterprise, its first space shuttle, in Palmdale, California. The following year it became the first space shuttle to fly freely when it was lifted to 25,000 feet by a Boeing 747 airplane and then released to glide back to Edwards Air Force Base.

• On Sept. 18, 1981, the 20,000-car parking lot at Canada's West Edmonton Mall earned a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest parking lot in the world, a distinction it's held for years, though some have disagreed, saying that because the lot is half indoors and half outdoors, it's not one structure but two.

• On Sept. 19, 1955, after a decade-long rule, Argentine president Juan Domingo Perón was deposed in a military coup.

• On Sept. 20, 2012, 16 members of a dissident Amish group in Ohio were convicted of federal hate crimes and conspiracy for forcibly cutting the beards and hair of fellow Amish with whom they had religious differences.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

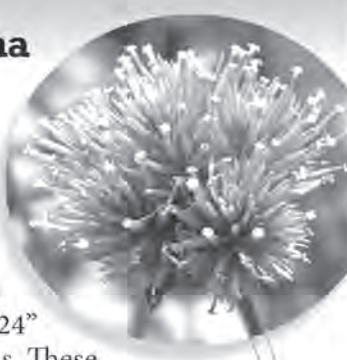


Gomphrena

This compact and colorful plant produces flowerheads that brighten any garden. It is excellent for use in freshly-cut bouquets, or dried to use in dried flower arrangements. Gomphrena likes well-drained soil in full sun, typically growing about 12" to 24" tall. It may need support for its stems. These plants show good tolerance for drought and high heat, and do very well in borders, rock gardens or cutting gardens.

Source: www.gardening.cornell.edu

— Brenda Weaver



© 2026 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

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

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

Bigwitch Baptist Church. 2290 Bigwitch Rd. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m., Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday service 6 p.m. Pastor

James "Jimbo" Sneed. All are welcome.

Boiling Springs Missionary Baptist Church. 960 Old Bryson City Road in the 3200 Acre Tract. (828) 538-0301

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

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

Cherokee Bible Church. Olivet

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

Cherokee Church of Christ. 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 Naza-

see **EVENTS** next page

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- An isolated Israeli city with a high rate of deafness created their own sign language as a way of communicating.
- Pakistan was the first official Muslim nation in the world.
- An emoji of a building underneath a pink heart originally symbolized an invitation to meet at a Japanese "love hotel," where rooms can be rented by the hour.
- At many European operas, whistling actually means boo.
- The Aetherius Society, a UFO religion, was founded by George King in 1955 after he claimed interplanetary sources instructed him to become "the Voice of Interplanetary Parliament."
- Cats have more bones than humans.
- According to several legends, if someone was bitten by a suspected vampire, he or she should drink the ashes of a burned vampire.
- Rock climbing can improve emotional or attention problems, such as anxiety and ADHD.
- First performed in 1999, the Sandpaper Ballet includes a musical number that sounds just like someone scratching sandpaper.
- An EF-3 tornado near Pampa, Texas, was so strong that it drove a corn stalk into a car's radiator.
- A mother admitted to attending her clique's "chickenpox party," a social gathering where parents expose unvaccinated children to the virus, even though her daughter had been vaccinated, because she feared rejection by the group if she didn't show up.
- Nearly 90% of London's police officers don't carry firearms.
- Before the invention of electricity, the only electromagnetic wavelengths present on Earth in any significant amount were those corresponding to the colors seen in a rainbow.
- In 2005, former Washington, D.C., administrative law judge Roy Pearson Jr. sued his neighborhood dry cleaners for \$67 million after a pair of his suit pants was accidentally sent to another location. (No, he didn't win.)

Thought for the Day: "The first wealth is health." — *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



MMIW/R
Biweekly PSA
If you have information,
resources, art, or written word
to share regarding the Missing
and Murdered Indigenous
Relatives Movement,
Contact One Feather Reporter
Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat
broobrow@ebci-nsn.gov

GWY ʔV° OYŁC
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

EVENTS: From page 45

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

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

Cherokee United Methodist Church. Hwy 19 – Soco Road. Sunday Church Service 11

a.m. Wednesday dinner at 6 p.m. followed by Bible Study. Pastor – Rev. Beverly Parker-Reece

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

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

Echota Baptist Church. 1274

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

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

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

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

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

Grace Community Church

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

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

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

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

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

Newsong Church. 3548 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 Cath-

ATTENTION ALL RIGHT PATH ALUMNI
YOU ARE INVITED:

RIGHT PATH ALUMNI RETREAT
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th, 2026
8AM-4PM (breakfast and lunch provided)
MEET AT THE RAY KINSLAND LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
(we will travel off campus for part of the day,
transportation will be provided)

Come together with fellow Right Path alumni for a day of cultural learning centered around the Cherokee core value Honoring the Past.

All Right Path alumni are welcome to attend.
Please sign up with Tara McCoy by email:
tara.mccoy@cherokeeboysclub.com by September 14, 2026.

Logos: Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute, Right Path Adult Leadership, SGA 1971

olic 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 Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth group services are Sunday evenings only. Interim Pastor – Harley Maney Jr.

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

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

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

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

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



Subscribe to the
One Feather today.
Send back the form below, or
call us at (828) 359-6262 to
pay with a card.

Return this form with a check or money order made payable to:

Cherokee One Feather
P.O. Box 501, Cherokee, NC 28719

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

The price is \$40 for the year.

GWY ʔV° ʔYLC
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

EMPLOYMENT

Sales Manager Trainee

We are in search of a special individual who seeks a career in custom home sales. Candidate should be outgoing, have a positive attitude, and like dealing with people.

Job duties will be providing sales and construction administrative support as well as interacting with clients and prospective clients. Some construction knowledge would be a benefit but not a requirement.

You will learn the new home sales process including exterior and interior home design, home options, pricing, site work estimating and how to sell a home start to finish.

This is a full time position; our offices are open Mon-Sat. This job can lead to a position as a Sales Manager with average income in the six figures. Sales Manager position may require relocation to a different area in the future. Job includes excellent salary plus commissions, 401K, Company paid health insurance, dental, vision, and vacation with excellent work environment.

Please send resume to
dkey@trinitycustom.com
9/2

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale

Lazy Boy gray sofa, excellent condition \$800, Queen Anne chair \$100, Broyhill TV stand, dark

wood \$300, Small, NEW futon sofa/bed (twin) \$200. Contact 736-6642. 9/9

Buying Fresh Wild Ginseng

Starting September 1st, buying at the Old Caney Fork General Store every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. Also buying at my home every day 1 p.m. – 9 p.m. Call Ricky Teem (828) 371-1802. 10/28

HUGE Indoor Garage Sale

Saturday, Sept. 5th. 8am-4pm. Rain or shine! One day only! Follow signs on 441 at Olivet Church Rd. (1/2 mile south of Cherokee Food Lion). 9/2

Indoor Sale at Whittier Community Building

Friday, Sept. 4 and Saturday Sept. 5th from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, Sept 6 from 1 pm to 5 pm. Large variety from antique china (1940's), manger scene, exercise equipment and more. 9/2

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-025

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of: Dawn Cline

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
Constance Cline

253 Soggy Hill Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719
9/2

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-060

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

Howard Vincent Sneed

All persons, 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

Pamela Sue Sneed
102 Bauer Farm Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719
9/2

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-063

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

Patricia Ann Panther

All persons, 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

Reyna Solis
P.O. Box 45
Cherokee, NC. 28719
9/9



Employment Opportunities

Now Hiring for Our Spa!

Mandara Spa at Harrah's Cherokee

Hair Stylist
Nail Tech
Spa Attendants

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

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-064
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:
Eva Reed**

All persons, 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 pay-
ment to the appointed fiduciary(s)
listed below.

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

Agnes Reed
PO Box 628
Cherokee, NC. 28719
9/16

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-065
**Notice to Creditors and
Debtors of:
JAMES WAYNE MANEY**

All persons, 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 pay-
ment to the appointed fiduciary(s)
listed below.

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

Matthew Maney
817 Monteith Br. Rd
Sylva, NC. 28779
9/23

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

INVITATION TO BID
Re: 2026 Community Water
System Assessment-Water
Management Firms

The Cherokee Housing Indi-
an Division is seeking sealed bids
from qualified TERO contractors
and Water Management Firms to
complete a comprehensive assess-
ment of Lambert Wilson Way's
Community Water System to
request proposals from qualified
utility engineering firms to provide
professional engineering services
for the evaluation, planning,
design, permitting, and imple-
mentation of improvements to the
Lambert Wilson Way Community
Water System. The selected firm
will assist in ensuring the water
system meets current regulatory
requirements, supports future
growth, and provides safe, reliable
drinking water to the community.
A mandatory site visit will be held
at Lambert Wilson Way on Sep-
tember 7, 2026, at 9:00 am. Sealed
Bids due October 5, 2026.

Please contact CIHD for addi-
tional information. Ernest Tiger,
Property Manager, Qualla Housing
Services, Cherokee Indian Hous-
ing Division, PO Box 1749, 687
Acquoni Rd., Office 828-359-6748
ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov
9/2

**REQUEST FOR
QUALIFICATIONS AND
PROPOSALS
FOR OPERATIONS
CONSULTING SERVICES**
Tribal Bingo Enterprise
P.O. Box 1897

Cherokee, North Carolina 28719
Invitation: Qualifications and
proposals from qualified Respon-
dents will be received by the Tribal
Bingo Enterprise ("TBE") until

3:00 PM ET, Thursday, September
10, 2026, for Operations Consult-
ing Services associated with the
development and opening of the
Cherokee Bingo Class II Facility
currently under development at
1971 Tsali Boulevard, Cherokee,
North Carolina 28719. This solic-
itation is for consulting services
only and does not constitute a
management contract.

Interested Respondents may
obtain the complete Request for
Qualifications and Proposals
(RFQ-P) by contacting Keyonna
Hornbuckle, Liaison to the TBE
Board of Advisors, via email at
khornbuckle@harrahs.com.

TBE reserves the right to reject
any or all submissions and to waive
any informalities in the procure-
ment process. 9/9

Request for Bids

Cherokee Cablevision Site &
Grounds Maintenance Services
— Tower, Hut, and Fiber Cabinet
Locations

Cherokee Cablevision is solicit-
ing competitive bids from qualified
contractors for recurring property
maintenance services, including
routine inspections, grounds up-
keep, preventative maintenance,
minor repairs, and reporting.
Contract award will be based on
qualifications, experience, and
pricing. Please contact John Green
@ jagreen@balsamwest.net for
Scope of Work and submission
requirements. 9/9

DESIGN-BUILD REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The North Carolina Depart-
ment of Transportation (NC-
DOT) is requesting interested
Design-Build ("DB") Teams to
submit qualifications for Project

see **TRADING POST** next page

TRADING POST: From page 49

HB-0001A, which includes the construction of approximately 141 miles of ITS infrastructure along US 64 from I-95 in Rocky Mount to NC 12 in Nags Head, as well as the installation of various ITS devices and connections to existing ITS infrastructure and traffic signals along the route in multiple counties.

Interested parties should send a request, by e-mail only, to rfq_package_request@ncdot.gov for a formal package detailing the requirements for submitting a Statement of Qualifications. The following contact information must be included in the e-mail request: company name, physical address, city, state, zip code, contact person, phone number and current

e-mail address. The Statements of Qualifications must be submitted, by e-mail only, to db_soq_submission@ncdot.gov by 3:00 p.m. on September 29, 2026.

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

Questions related to the RFQ package, or other project related questions, should be sent via email to altdelivery@ncdot.gov. For tracking purposes, questions will only be answered through email requests.

When making requests by

email, it is advisable to request a return receipt for your records.

9/2

Requests for Proposals

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee Department of
Transportation

680 Acquoni Road

Cherokee, North Carolina 28719

Phone: (828) 359-6122

Roadway striping at various locations on the Cherokee Indian Reservation in Jackson, Swain, Graham and Cherokee Counties, NC. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians CDOT Office is requesting sealed Bid Proposals from Qualified Firms to provide the following services: Roadway Thermoplastic Striping. The deadline for submitting Bid Proposals will be September 11, 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/ (828)-736-1888 (cell) or Trace Lambert, CDOT Transportation Planner at (828)-359-6532. **9/9**

Requests for Proposal

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee Indian Housing Division
Qualla Housing Services

2234 Old Mission Road

Cherokee, North Carolina 28719

Phone: (828) 359-6841

The Cherokee Indian Housing

Division QHS office is requesting sealed Bid Proposals from Qualified Firms for Propane Services at various locations on the Cherokee Indian Reservation, (including Swain and Jackson Counties) NC. The deadline for submitting Bid Proposals will be September 14, 2026, at 12:00 PM, 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. The point of contact for the Request for Proposal shall be Michael Lambert, QHS Construction Manager at (828) 359-6841, email: mlambert@ebci-nsn.gov. **9/9**

Requests for Proposal

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee Indian Housing Division
Qualla Housing Services

2234 Old Mission Road

Cherokee, North Carolina 28719

Phone: (828) 359-6841

The Cherokee Indian Housing Division QHS office is requesting sealed Bid Proposals from Qualified Firms for Pest Control Services at various locations on the Cherokee Indian Reservation, (including Swain, Jackson and Graham Counties) NC. The deadline for submitting Bid Proposals will be September 14, 2026, at 12:00 PM, 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. The point of contact for the Request for Proposal shall be Michael Lambert, QHS Construction Manager at (828) 359-6841, email: mlambert@ebci-nsn.gov. **9/9**



Newly Elected Board Members

1. Dike Sneed - 55 votes
2. Chris McMillan - 49 votes
3. Shalana Yates - 48 votes
4. Cody Gloyne - 48 votes
5. Brittany Saunooke - 46 votes

The Cherokee Boys Club would like to thank everyone who took time out of their busy day to come out and vote for our Board of Directors members yesterday.

The current Board members will continue to serve until 9/30/26 and the newly elected Board members will be sworn in on 10/1/26.

A special thank you goes to Lloyd Arneach, Stephanie French, Perry Shell, and Dallas Bennett for volunteering to be on our election committee to assist with the votes and counting.



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

OPEN POSITIONS



NEW POSITIONS

Diagnostic Radiologic Technology Student
Tribal Option Care Management Extender
Medical Lab Technician

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health Therapist - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family –
Snowbird, Dora Reed, Family Safety, Family Intensive
Treatment, Medication Assisted Treatment, Kanvwo-
tiyi)
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwotiyi
Targeted Case Manager –Adult Outpatient Services,
Family Safety
Behavioral Health Training and Development Coordi-
nator
Behavioral Health Consultant I
Behavioral Health Consultant Supervisor
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

FOOD & NUTRITION CIHA

Cook – Temporary
Food Service Worker

LABORATORY

Medical Technologist

MEDICAL

Psychiatrist
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

NURSING

Registered Nurse Emergency Department –Tempo-
rary
RN Emergency Department –\$10,000 Hiring Bonus
License Practical Nurse – Primary Care -\$5,000
Hiring Bonus
Clinical Care Manager – Float \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Clinical Care Manager - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
RN Inpatient – Nights - PTI
C.N.A Medical Clerk PTI
Telemetry Nursing Assistant – PTI
License Practical Nurse – TJCC - \$5,000 Hiring
Bonus
Nurse Resident/Intern
Specialty Services Registered Nurse - \$10,000 Hiring
Bonus

NUTRITION

Clinical Dietitian
Clinical Dietitian - Temporary

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Occupational Therapist I @ Tsali Care Center
Speech Language Pathologist I @ Tsali Care Center
Rehabilitation Department Case Manager

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
RN Wound Care
RN MDS Coordinator

CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS | 828.497.9163 EXT. 6343

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



Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, September 06, 2026

1. Special Ops Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
2. Patrol Officer – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
3. Bailiff – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
4. Collections Processor – Qualla Housing – Housing (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour)
5. Teacher Assistant – Qualla Boundary Head Start & Early Head Start – CERS (L6 \$16.37 - \$20.47 per hour)
6. Senior Financial Analyst – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L16 \$68,827 - \$86,050)
7. Disbursement/Loan Specialist – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)
8. Dadiwonisi Apprentice – Snowbird/Cherokee County Language & Culture – Snowbird/Cherokee County Services (L5 \$15.00 - \$20.28 per hour)
9. Firefighter – Fire Department – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
10. Field Technician I – Water & Sewer – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)
11. Utility Worker (Recycling) – Solid Waste – Operations (L7 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour)
12. Housekeeper I – Housekeeping – Operations (L6 \$16.37 - \$20.47 per hour)
13. Electrician Assistant/Generator Maintenance – Facility Management – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE

Open Until Filled

1. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
2. Corrections Officer – Corrections – EBCI Law Enforcement (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITION
3. 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 (Cherokee County) – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
9. Certified Biological Waste Water Treatment Operator – Waste Water – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
10. Truck Driver/WWT Maintenance – Waste Water Treatment – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 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



The advocate helped me in ways I could not have even hoped for. She gave me the support system I desperately needed to survive something that otherwise I don't think I could have navigated on my own."

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

Call | Text | Chat Online



STRONGHEARTS
Native Helpline

844-7NATIVE
(844-762-8483)

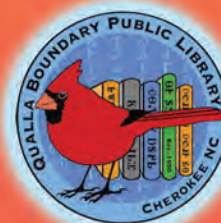
strongheartshelpline.org

Safe | Confidential | Anonymous | 24/7

GWY SŴhŋŋŋ Tsalagi Gawonihisdi Cherokee Language Weekly Videos!



Watch
here!



GWY ƧV° OYLC
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



TRIBAL FOOD SOVEREIGNTY INITIATIVES

EBCI Red Meat Processing Facility: Financial Opportunities & Savings

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

Revenue Streams:

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

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



Pay to Raise Fees

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



Processing Fees

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



Value Added Processing

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



Sales Channels of Tribally Branded Meat

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

Potential Bonus Revenue Opportunities!



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

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



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



How does this Facility help Households save Money?

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



Have more questions about our facility's financial plans?

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

828.359.6939
276 Acquiari Rd.,
Cherokee, NC 28719



EVERY APPOINTMENT MATTERS

Show Up for Your Health

Need to cancel your appointment?

Please call your Primary Care Team 24 hours in advance.

Letting your Primary Care team know you can't make your appointment allows them to schedule other patients that also need their care.



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**



*One of the families we serve said
before Hospice, they were just waiting
and now they are **LIVING**.*



Why Wait to Start Living?

Choosing Hospice Care as soon as the patient is given a life expectancy prognosis of 6 months or less, transforms the end-of-life experience from a period of overwhelming medical crisis into a time of comfort, dignity, and meaningful connection.

Benefits of Earlier Hospice Care:

-  **Better Comfort:** Teams manage symptoms including breathing issues, nausea, and anxiety early.
-  **Less Stress:** Families avoid rushed, hard choices during sudden medical emergencies.
-  **More Quality Time:** Patients enjoy meaningful moments with loved ones in familiar settings.
-  **Caregiver & Family Support:** Counselors and nurses help both the patient and the family and Respite Care is available at Elizabeth House.

Call us today or visit us online to Request Care: **866.466.9734 | FourSeasonsCare.org**