

The logo for SmokiesLife, featuring the word "smokies" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by "life" in a similar font but with a stylized mountain peak integrated into the letter "i". The entire logo is white and set against a dark green background.



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Image of the Week

Nakos Calhoun, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, holds up a board he won for getting honorable mention in the beginner division at the 10th Annual Cherokee Skate Jam at the Ayvdagwalosgiyi (Thunder Place) in Elawodi (Yellowhill) in Cherokee, N.C., on Unadodaquidena (Saturday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 12. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

Quote of the Week
GWY ᏫᎃᏍᎦ ᏍᎦᏍᎦ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

“Healing is not waiting for the rain to stop. It is realizing that we do not have to stand in the storm alone.”

Jais Crusenberry, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), who served as emcee for the From Darkness Into Hope Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention Event which was held on the Oconaluftee Island Park in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Nvagine Iga (Thursday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 10.

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 Letters critical of specifically named minor children will not be published.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).

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A memorial walk was held at the conclusion of the event.

HOPE: From front page

Suicide Prevention Event was held on the Oconaluftee Island Park in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Nvgine Iga (Thursday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 10.

Crusenberry, who served as emcee for the event, further stated, “I have learned this - healing is not waiting for the rain to stop. It is realizing that we do not have to stand in the storm alone. Seeking help was not a failure of strength. It was one of the strongest and most life-giving decisions that I have made. Sometimes strength is finally admitting that the rain is heavy, opening the door, and allowing someone to bring you inside.”

The event, organized by the THIP (Tribal Health Improvement Plan) Mental Health Team of the EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee

Indians) Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) Division, featured education on mental health and suicide prevention. Collaborative organizations for the event included: the Cynthia Saunooke Foundation, EBCI Public Health & Human Services Division, Cherokee Youth Center Boys and Girls Club of America, Generation Schools, and the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority.

EBCI Ugvwiyuhi Michell Hicks commented, “An event like this gives us an opportunity to speak openly about something that touches every family, truly every family, in Cherokee and in our community. Sometimes, we don’t realize the impact. When you think about mental health and think about suicide, addiction, you think about trauma and depression - these are topics that obviously, again, impact us all. And there’s no

way to avoid them. There’s no way that we hide from them and the pain just disappears. If anything, silence can make that burden even more difficult.”

He added, “Our resilience has always included the ability to depend on one another. There is a reason gadugi remains such an important Cherokee value...there are people among us shouldering pain that we may never see. They may be sitting beside us at work, standing next to us at the ball game, eating dinner with us, or living under the same roof. Sometimes, the people who appear to have everything together are fighting battles privately that no one gets to see, no one knows about, unfortunately, sometimes until it’s too late. That means we have a responsibility to pay attention to each other, to make the phone call, to reach out when someone

has gotten quiet, to listen when somebody tells us they’re having a hard time.”

Ava Walkingstick, Teen Miss Cherokee 2025-26 and a senior at Cherokee High School, spoke on “Social Media and Mental Health” and the affects of bullying. “Bullying isn’t just a word, it’s an action. It’s a way for someone to let off steam or handle their hurt or even show that they’re strong when they really feel weak.”

She went on to say, “Today, we see bullying online, on Snap-Chat, on Instagram, and everywhere else. We see bullying in the schools, at work, in public, in stores. What some people don’t get is that bullying is everywhere and continues to be that way because some people don’t get asked the question we get asked, ‘are you ok?’. Some people don’t get to feel that safe place like everyone else

because maybe they don't have anyone.

Every day, I try and say a positive thing to each and every one I can because you never know who may need it. Bullying is serious and we need people like you all who are here today to help with that. Spread the word. Stand up for someone. Recognize it and do something about it. Because, I guarantee you, that it could change a life. Be there for one another and listen because listening could go a long way."

Joe Lambert, Ananlenisgi Galvgwodiya training/event supervisor, told the crowd, "There are two things that we need to look out for. There's emergency warning signs. If somebody is actively threatening to harm themselves - like looking for weapons or talking about a plan, or making plans...if something like that is happening, call 911. Get people there to help with that. You can also call the hospital. They have a crisis response team. The early warning signs that we look for are a little more hidden. The biggest one that I always tend to catch first is withdrawing from people, starting to isolate themselves. Then, behaving recklessly like spending all their money and not paying their bills, or extreme mood swings. Or, a general extreme change in behavior...at that point in time is a good time to start the conversation."

Lambert added, "When we're getting people help, there are some things we have to think about when we listen to them. We've got to be non-judgmental. The people that are struggling, their feelings are valid. We've got to validate the feelings that they are having, and talk to them, and just let them know that they are seen.

Why do we need to talk about



suicide? Number one, it's the leading cause of death in our affected communities. It kills more than anything. Number two, talking about it dispels myths and it reduces the stigma of talking about it. It makes it easier for people to seek help. They don't feel as weak. They don't feel that shame if we reduce the stigma about asking for help. Then, open conversations and opportunities for education are important. The more people know about what services they have and what help and supports they can lean on, the more lives are saved because of it."

Other speakers at the event included:

- Shalana Yates, WCU Cherokee Center director, "Carrying Their Story: Hope, Healing, and Remembrance"
- Miranda Stamper, Cherokee High School varsity women's basketball coach, and Ahli-sha Stephens, CHS varsity cross country and track coach, "Mental Health and Physical Toughness: What Makes a Champion"
- Katrina "The Wesa" Neff, Indige-queer, Galvgwodiya LCL,

"LGBTQIA and Mental Health"

- Marissa Bradley-Ward, Western Regional Administrative Assistant at Tohi Edasdi Recovery Community Center, "Hope and Healing, Mental Health and Substance Use"
- Jay Eagleman, EBCI Human Resources benefits specialist, "Burn-out – Protecting Your Mental Health in the Workplace"
- Shelby Parker, Cherokee Choices program assistant, "Connection and the Effects of Stress and Trauma"

The event's core planning team, according to information provided by event coordinators, included: Jennifer Oskins, Gwynne Wildcatt, Michael Quillen, Stephanie French, Daisy Garcia, Brianna Lambert, Athena Arkansas, Emily Moore, Chelsea Hemphill, Stacy Smith Leford, Laura Crowe, Torrie Dorschug, Lakota Grindstaff, and Lucian Davis.

Numerous EBCI tribal programs, as well as programs from around western North Carolina, set up informational booths at the event including: Acquoni Baptist Church, Charles George VA Medical Center, Cherokee

Water, Cherokee Tribal EMS, EBCI Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program, EBCI Tribal Foods, EBCI Tribal Option, Hawthorn Heights WNC, Community Alternative of NC (Res-Care), Abound Health, Ananlenisgi Amivie, EBCI IDD Project Team, Qualla Boundary Autism Support Group, Tsalagi Public Health, EBCI Syringe Services Program, EBCI Human Resources, Cherokee Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Vocational Opportunities of Cherokee, EBCI Heart to Heart Child Advocacy Center, Heartfelt Haywood, Healthy Blue NC, Qualla Boundary MMIW, TERO Mother Town Healing Project, Tribal In-Home Care, Tsali Manor West Senior Citizens Center, WNC Alliance, Youth Villages, Waterfalls Baptist Church, Reflections of Inspiration, Swain Community Outreach, UNITY Healing Center, WCU Cherokee Center, WCU Dept. of Social Work, WCU Native Health Program, Sunrise Community for Recovery and Wellness, Senior Life Solutions, Snowbird/Cherokee County Community Health, Resources for Resilience, Qualla Boundary Head Start and Early Head Start, Cherokee Choices, Cherokee Youth Center, CC Row, Qualla Boundary Public Library, Community Painting with Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat, and RezHope Recovery and Consulting Services.

The following resources were shared at the event:

- Lifeline Chat and Text – Call/Text 988
- Veterans Support Line – Text 838255
- Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority after-hours adult emergency call (828) 269-0301; after-hours child emergency call (828) 736-9797

Cherokee Police Commission Duliisdi meeting held

By **BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT**
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C.—The Cherokee Police Commission monthly meeting was held on the afternoon of Taline Iga (Tuesday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 8 in the Ginger Lynn Welch Poke Salad Room. Gahvsgi (Chairperson) Anita Lossiah called the meeting to order at 12 p.m.

Secretary Israel Rodriguez

led roll call. Commissioners in attendance were Rick Queen (Wayohi, Wolfstown), Regina Rosario (Aniwodihi, Painttown), Treasurer Kym Parker (At-Large), Hillary Norville (Tutiya, Snowbird & Tsalagi Gadugi, Cherokee Co.), Gahvsgi Anita Lossiah (Elawodi, Yellowhill), Joseph Buddy Johnson (Kolanvyi, Big Cove), Secretary Israel Rodriguez (At-Large), and Taline Gahvsgi (Vice Chairperson) Gene Tunney Crowe (Tsisqwohi, Birdtown).

Guests in attendance were Cherokee Indian Police Department (CIPD) Assistant Chief of Police Josh Taylor, CIPD Attorney Cody White, Tribal Prosecutor Hayden Duncan, Tribal Alcohol Law Enforcement Agent Norman Reed Jr., Pat Oocumma and Lois Dunston.

The agenda was approved with a motion by Crowe seconded by Queen.

The previous meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Crowe seconded by Rosario.

Oocumma and Dunston from the Family Safety Advisory Board presented their recommendation for at least three social workers, no less than two, to become imbedded employees of the CIPD within the next two years. They said social workers are needed to address trauma of the victims of crimes and to assist CIPD officers with navigating difficult situations. Asst. Chief Taylor said he has advocated for social workers for CIPD for years and he is glad that Oocumma and Dunston are bringing their recommendation forward. He requested that they sit down with him to discuss position descriptions and funding. They scheduled a meeting for Taline Iga, Duliisdi 15 at 9 a.m.

Sasha Watty, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) from Tsisqwohi, gave a community comment to the commission that did not occur in closed session, but was given off the record.

CIPD said they would provide their monthly report by Tsungilos-

di (Friday). Chief of Police Carla Neadeau had deaths in her family and could not provide the report at the meeting.

Tribal ALE Agent Norman Reed Jr. provided the ALE report. He shared that ALE is beginning to use electronic citations. His report was accepted with a motion by Parker seconded by Crowe. Rosario requested more roadblocks in Aniwodihi. She also raised concerns that there were people sleeping on benches and in the bamboo at the Oconaluftee Island Park.

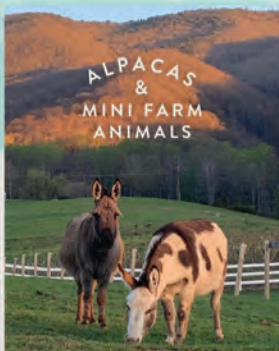
Johnson said speeding continues to be a problem in Kolanvyi.

The commission is scheduling a meeting with the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Principal Chief and Vice Chief, Dinilawigi (Tribal Council), and Cherokee Supreme Court Chief Justice Bradley Letts to discuss criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country.

The commission is also forwarding a list of questions to Cherokee Tribal Court to obtain information about the processes and training for magistrates.

The meeting adjourned at 2 p.m. with a motion by Crowe seconded by Parker.

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Dr. Hannah Youngdeer



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Federal legislative updates of interest to EBCI citizens

By **SCOTT MCKIE B.P.**

One Feather Asst. Editor

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

New this week

H.R. 10205 (REACH Our Tribes Act). This bill would “amend the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish a budgetary Tribal Government consultation process at the Department of Agriculture”.

Introduced: Sept. 1, 2026 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the House Committee on Financial Services on Sept. 1, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in those Committees for this bill as of press time.

Bills with recent action

There has been no recent action.

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 Ad-

visory Commission for Indigenous Peoples within the Department of State.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

H.R. 3444. (Tribal Self-Determination and Co-Management in Forestry Act of 2025). This bill would “direct Federal land management agencies of

the Department of the Interior to establish Tribal Co-Management Plans and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for the performance of certain activities of the Forest Service, and for other purposes”.

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

Action: This bill was referred to both the House Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Federal Lands on June 3, 2025, and a hearing was held in that subcommittee on June 10, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

This bill would “amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat Indian Tribal governments in the same manner as state governments for certain federal tax purposes, and for other purposes”. Introduced: June 11, 2025 by U.S. Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)

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

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 11

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

Senate Bill 2577 (McCarren-Walter Technical Corrections Act). This bill would “amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the right of members of a federally recognized Indian Tribe in the United States and First Nations individuals in Canada to cross the borders of the United States”. This bill is identical to H.R. 4596. Introduced: July 31, 2025 by Sen. Steve Daines (R-Mont.)

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

House Resolution 666 (Supporting the goals of Overdose Awareness Day and strengthening efforts to combat the opioid crisis in the United States). This House resolution states in part, “The House of Representatives (1) recognizes Overdose Awareness Day (reporter’s note – it is usually Aug. 31, but a specific date is not listed in the resolution) in the United States; (2) commits to advancing the passing bipartisan policies that reduce the stigma surrounding substance use disorders and overdoses; and is dedicated to collaborating with states, localities, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, health care providers, patients, and families to support a comprehensive system that promotes

prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery from opioid use disorder.”

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

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

H.R. 5144 {Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County, Virginia Federal Recognition Act}. This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group. Introduced: Sept. 4, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer A. Kiggans (R-Va.)

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

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

Introduced: Sept. 10, 2025 by Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)

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

H.R. 5327 (To extend federal recognition to the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia). This bill

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

Introduced: Sept. 11, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer L. McClellan (D-Va.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 11, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 2832 (Native American Entrepreneurial and Opportunity Act of 2025). This bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration.

Introduced: Sept. 17, 2025 by Sen. John W. Hickenlooper (D-Colo.)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on Sept. 17, 2025.

H.R. 5488 (To extend funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians). This bill would amend Title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. It would 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 War-rant Fairness Act). This bill would “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain tribal criminal matters”.
Introduced: Oct. 23, 2025 by Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Oct. 23, 2025. This was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders on May 19, 2026. This bill was passed in the Senate by a voice vote on June 10, 2026. It was received in the House on June 15, 2026.

H.R. 5820 (Mono Lake Koot-zaduka’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 Ex-pansion 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 authorizes 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, 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

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 13

“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 Education and Workforce on March 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 4276 (Native

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

Introduced: March 26, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 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 will 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). This bill would “amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to modify the notification requirement for emergency contract health services for certain beneficiaries”.
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. The bill was discharged by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Aug. 27, 2026 and placed on the Union Calendar that same day.

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 num-

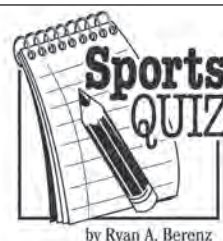
ber and status of cases involving Native American missing children and youth, including the scope and context of those cases that are connected to juvenile justice system involvement, child welfare system involvement, and non-custodial parent abduction, including domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, 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.

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.

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>



1. Peter Tom Willis, a backup quarterback for the Chicago Bears from 1990 to 1993, played college football for which team?
2. In 1958, Willie O'Ree became the first Black player in the NHL when he took to the ice for which team?
3. Major League Baseball's Outstanding Designated Hitter Award is named after which Hall of Famer?
4. Sportswriter Allison "Al" Danzig is credited with coining what term to describe a tennis serve that the opponent fails to touch?
5. In 1985, Marshall Thundering Herd player Bruce Morris scored the "Shot Herd Round the World," the longest field goal in college basketball history. What was the distance?
6. What phrase was on a T-shirt worn by Washington Bullets' head coach Dick Motta during the team's celebration of their Game 7 NBA Finals win in 1978?
7. In the 1988 Oscar-winning film "Rain Man," Raymond Babbitt (Dustin Hoffman) is a fan of which Major League Baseball team?

Answers

1. The Florida State Seminoles.
2. The Boston Bruins.
3. Edgar Martinez.
4. Ace.
5. 89 feet, 10 inches.
6. "The Opera Isn't Over 'Til the Fat Lady Sings."
7. The Cincinnati Reds.

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MISSING

Savannah Rose Standing Bear

Enrolled with Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the
Rosebud Indian Reservation

Height: 5'5" Weight: 140 lbs
Female Age: 23
Hair: Red/Auburn Eyes: Brown
Date of last contact: March 25, 2025
Last Known Location: Parmelee, South
Dakota



Circumstances of Disappearance:
Savannah was last seen in the early morning hours of March 25, 2025 at her residence in Parmelee, SD located on the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Reservation. Savannah was last seen wearing a black sweater, blue jeans, rose gold Nike tennis shoes (low dunk).

If you have seen or have information about Savannah Rose Standing Bear, contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs (605) 341-2123.

Source: Namus.gov

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CIPD Arrest Report for Sept. 1-6, 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.

Brady-Cole, Jillian Kaye – age 36
Arrested: Sept. 1
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 7)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Crowe, Joel Daniel – age 45

Arrested: Sept. 1
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 7)
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

Littlejohn, Nathaniel Jamison – age 20
Arrested: Sept. 1
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 7)
Charges: Simple Assault, Assault and Battery, Simple Affray

Watty, Jason Adam – age 48
Arrested: Sept. 1
Released: Sept. 4
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Bryant, Dana Brent – age 45
Arrested: Sept. 2
Released: Sept. 2

Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Davis, Jeremiah Israel-Domentric – age 28
Arrested: Sept. 2
Released: Sept. 2
Charges: Probation Violation

Owle, Leigh Ann – age 49
Arrested: Sept. 3
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 7)
Charges: Failure to Comply with Pre-Trial Release

Shell, Tamika Nicole – age 23
Arrested: Sept. 3
Released: Sept. 3
Charges: Public Intoxication

Smith, Mary Dalena – age 41
Arrested: Sept. 3

Released: Sept. 3
Charges: Temporary Hold

Wright, Devon Ray – age 35
Arrested: Sept. 3
Released: Sept. 3
Charges: Temporary Hold

Jumper, Dennis Wayne – age 47
Arrested: Sept. 4
Released: Sept. 4
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Locust, Richard Fred-Hawk – age 24
Arrested: Sept. 4
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 7)
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedules I-V

Van Dyke, James – age 47
Arrested: Sept. 4
Released: Sept. 5
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Buchanan III, Omer Albert – age 28
Arrested: Sept. 6
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 7)
Charges: Driving While Impaired, Hit and Run

Teesateskie, Davisia Zaki – age 20
Arrested: Sept. 6
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 7)
Charges: Providing Alcoholic Beverages to, Possession of, Consumption of, Alcoholic Beverages by Persons Under 21 years old



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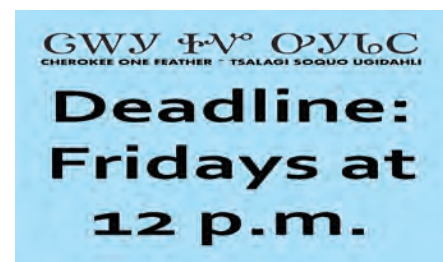
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contact the Welcome Center at
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10th Annual Cherokee Skate Jam largest yet

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Wheels were thundering across the concrete as the 10th Annual Cherokee Skate Jam was held at the Ayvdagwalosgiyi (Thunder Place) in Elawodi (Yellowhill) in Cherokee, N.C., on Unadodaquidena (Saturday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 12. The free event was sponsored by the Yellowhill Community Club and organized by a committee including Anita Lossiah, Robert Stalcup, Virginia Johnson, and Ira Smart.

Lossiah, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) who lives in Elawodi, commented, “The community initiated the first Cherokee Skate Jam. And we’ve been rolling with it every year, except two. We weren’t here two years during Covid.”

She was very happy with the turnout on Saturday. “I think it’s been exceptional. We have had 45 participants sign up today. That’s the most we’ve ever had. My actual goal was to reach over 30 and we’ve done 45 so just super thankful about that. And, this year has been phenomenal since it is the 10th Annual Skate Jam. We have had a team that worked together to have more planning involved. We’ve had more community participation. We’ve had more community sponsors. We have more vendors. We have more merch that’s been donated to the event for prizes. And we’ve had community members donate money for money prizes. We had participation from the Principal Chief for our trophies. So, this has been a really good year.”



Julius Armachian, an EBCI tribal member, is shown having fun at the 10th Annual Cherokee Skate Jam which was held at the Ayvdagwalosgiyi (Thunder Place) in Elawodi (Yellowhill) in Cherokee, N.C., on Unadodaquidena (Saturday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 12. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

Smart is a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation with EBCI heritage who lives in Elawodi. He said, “It went absolutely well - the best we’ve had out of the 10 Skate Jams! Next year will be even better!

I am hoping to have some guest pro skaters at next year’s event. So, it’ll keep growing for

sure - especially with all of the support we received this year from tribal officials, local businesses and even out of town businesses.”

Smart added, “Firstly, I want to give a huge thanks to my community, Elawodi. Without them, this event would not be possible. Secondly, SonShines General Store for hooking us up on some delicious sandwiches for the partic-

ipants and volunteers! Thirdly, I want to thank my sponsors of the event, my team and family, Flip-side Boardshop and Indigenous Boutique & Spa, and our other sponsors who donated merch. Without these amazing sponsors this year’s event would not be possible without their wonderful support!”

Following are the winners of



Open/Advanced Division Winners (left to right): 1 – Jared Lee, 2 – Daniel Vera, 3 – Jayson Bonds, Honorable Mention – Jon Garrett

the various divisions:

Beginner: 1 – JJ Ledford, 2 – Daryan Smith, 3 – Alyssa Cox, Honorable Mention – Nakos Calhoun

Intermediate: 1 – Micah Latiner, 2 – Cove Nelson, 3 – Kaden Berns, Honorable Mention – Colin Lanning

Open/Advanced: 1 – Jared Lee, 2 – Daniel Vera, 3 – Jayson Bonds, Honorable Mention – Jon Garrett

Most Stylish: Reggie Goldkuhl

Thrasher Award: Aniyah Garcia

Local Skater Award: Juddson Gloyne

Oldest/Youngest Skater: Jared Lee and Jack Daron Skirvin

After receiving his prize, Lee commented, “Thank you to the Yellowhill Community for pitching into the skate community and making a rad event happen.”

This year’s t-shirts were made at Rat Skate Shop in Kansas City, and they were designed by Dallas Bennett, an EBCI tribal member living in Tsisquohi (Birdtown) who is the founder of Dalasi Designs.

He commented, “I reached out to Ira, and I had some ideas in mind. I’ve really been working a lot with the booger mask figures

lately and they really liked that with the skater design...they asked if I could incorporate the snakes from my logo into their logo for the shirt. So, this is what I came up with. Of course, the basket weave on the inside is a modification of the snake on a limb...I just tried to incorporate as many snaky elements and cultural elements as I could.”

Bennett also collaborated with Native Impressions on the design of a custom board for the event.

The following were sponsors at the event: Yellowhill Community Club; Flipside Boardshop; Indigenous Boutique & Spa; River Rat Skate Shop - T-shirts; Native Impressions - Custom skateboard; Delasi Designs - T-shirt design; Lloyd Arneach, Jr. - Judges, announcer, and DJ; Peggy Hill - Beginner Division prizes; Virginia Johnson - Intermediate Division prizes; Doris Johnson - Best Trick and Rumble Bowl prizes; Cyndi Foster; Wilbur Paul; John and Henri Gloyne; EBCI Beloved Woman Carmaleta Monteith; Johnnie Sue and Sonny Myers; Lisa Cucumber; Elawodi Rep. Shennelle Feather; Rob and Nancy Wahnetah; Dinilawigi Taline



Intermediate Division Winners (left to right): 1 – Micah Latiner, 2 – Cove Nelson, 3 – Kaden Berns, Honorable Mention – Colin Lanning



Beginner Division Winners (left to right): 1 – JJ Ledford, 2 – Daryan Smith, 3 – Alyssa Cox, Honorable Mention – Nakos Calhoun

Gahvsgi (Tribal Council Vice Chairman) David Wolfe; BCOutdoors – Merch; Alien Skateboards – Merch; Artisans Skatepark – Merch; PoleJamSupplyCo – Merch; Hardcover Magazine – Merch; PIZZAGOAT88 – Merch; Wicked Slick Wax – Merch; SkatLMag – Merch; PillerRideCo – Merch; Skeleton Key MFG – Merch; DGK – Merch; Santa Cruz – Merch; Independent Trucks – Merch; Bones Wheels – Merch; Qualla Enterprises, LLC – Merch; EB95 – Merch; and Buffalotown – Merch.

“Thank you to the Yellowhill Community for pitching into the skate community and making a rad event happen.”

- Jared Lee, winner of the 10th Annual Cherokee Skate Jam Open/Advanced Division



Soccer: Blue Ridge 3 Cherokee 0

The Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) played Blue Ridge at the Cherokee High School soccer field in Cherokee, N.C., on the afternoon of Tsoine lga (Wednesday) Duliisdi (Sept.) 9. Pictured is Colton Wilnoty making a run. FINAL SCORE: Blue Ridge 3 - Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi 0. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)



FOOTBALL: Cherokee's Noah Watty (#2) gives an Anetso (stickball) challenge call prior to the game as the Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) played the Enka Jets at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Tsungillosdi (Friday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 11. FINAL SCORE: Enka 47 Cherokee 0. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

Scoring Summary By Sheena Brings Plenty One Feather Assistant

1st Quarter

- 7:36 - ENKA - Jaydyn McElreath 29-yard run. 2-point conversion no good. Enka 6 Cherokee 0.
- 2:56 - ENKA - Tommy McKinney 10-yard run. 2-point conversion good by Jose Chavez. Enka 14 Cherokee 0.
- 1:11 - ENKA - CJ Dicus lateral pass to Jose Chavez. Chavez pass downfield to Levi Richards. PAT good. Enka 21 Cherokee 0.

2nd Quarter

- 8:56 - ENKA - Jaydyn McElreath 19-yard pass to Bryce Fleming. PAT no good. Enka 27 Cherokee 0.
- 5:04 - ENKA - Jake Gerolimos 9-yard run. 2-point conversion good. Enka 35 Cherokee 0.
- 3:14 - ENKA - Tommy McKinney 2-yard run. PAT blocked. Enka 41 Cherokee 0

4th Quarter

6:59 - ENKA - Jose Chavez 1-yard run. PAT blocked. Enka 47 Cherokee 0.

Final score: Enka 47 Cherokee 0

Good Days, Hard Times

By Michael Rattler

When times were not so easy,
but nothing cost so much
No safety nets or guardrails
We still had God to trust.
Weren't allowed to ask no
questions.

The doctors knew the cure.
Right and wrong, black and white
and gray.

You should not ask for more.

When life is hard
dreams come easy,
like the falling leaves in the
rivers' flow.

Living on a dead-end road
You've got one way to go.

One Feather Poem of the Week

GWY ᏫᎃᏍᏗ ᏅᏍᏗᏍᏗ
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Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute programs graduate



Right Path 2025/26 graduates are shown, left to right, including: Josiah Los-siah, Israel Rodriguez, Nelson Lambert, Shannon Bark, Alea Martens, Megan Smith, Harold Bumper Smith, Lori Sanders, Jarrett Wildcatt, and Henson Weege Littlejohn.



Inaugural Plant Program graduates are shown, left to right, including: Jerico French, Landon French, Malia Crowe-Skulski, Ashford Smith, Avery Weather-ly, Jack Cooper, Levi West, and Faith Long -Pressley.

Photos by Dawn Arneach

One Feather Ad Sales Coordinator

KITUWAH - On the evening of Nvgine Iga (Thursday), Duli-isdi (Sept.) 9, The Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute (RKLI) hosted a ceremony at Kituwah – the Mother Town of the Cherokee – recognizing the graduation of the Right Path Cohorts, the Inuagural Plant Program Cohorts, as well as introducing the new Kituwah Ways Cohorts. Welcoming re-marks were made by Tonya Car-roll, manager of RKLI, and Tara McCoy, the Right Path Leadership specialist. Ugwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Hicks took a few minutes to thank the Leadership of RKLI and the cohorts for taking this time to enhance the sharing and learning of what it means to be Cherokee, how they learned about those that came before, and thank the cohorts for becoming the new up and coming leaders that will



Kituwah Ways Cohort 2026/27 is shown, left to right, including: Melody Little, Kelly Murphy, Lynn Catt, Nancy Pheasant, Malia Crowe-Skulski, Matt Tooni, Ashford Smith, Jake Stephens, Hope Huskey, Faith Long-Presley, Taylor Wilnoty, and Samantha Bradley.

continue the knowledge that they have learned. All the cohorts gave a brief introduction of themselves

and what they took away from their program and thanked the leadership for providing this op-

portunity of learning.

Cherokee Middle School 2026 Homecoming Courts

Photos by Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat/One Feather Reporter



<<

2026 Cherokee Middle School (CMS) Homecoming Court Girls (Pictured left to right): Natalie Swimmer, Jalen Taylor, Mali Smith, Marlie Jones, Kinley Crowe, Dayla Long, Misha Slee, Aubree Reed, Nevaeh Rhinehart



<<

2026 Cherokee Middle School (CMS) Homecoming Court Boys (Pictured left to right): Kaizer Smith, Huxley Blythe, Mac Roach, Thaydon Murphy, Jabrien Smith, Jayden Teesateskie, Eli Lane, Raven Swayney

From Shelter to Service: Boots joins Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital as Certified Therapy Dog

Submitted by Harris Regional Hospital & Swain Community Hospital

SYLVA, N.C.— Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital are welcoming a new four-legged member to their hospital communities. Boots, a certified therapy dog, will begin visiting patients at both hospitals, offering companionship, affection and a comforting presence during their hospital stay.

Boots' journey to her new role began at Jackson County Animal Shelter, where she waited to find her forever home before being adopted by Lilly Ferguson, Regional Marketing Coordinator for Harris Regional Hospital, Haywood Regional Medical Center, and Swain Community Hospital. Boots has now been part of Ferguson's family for three years, and her naturally calm, affectionate personality and love for people inspired Ferguson to pursue therapy dog registration with her.

"Boots has always had a naturally calm and gentle demeanor, and she genuinely loves being around people," Ferguson said. "Over the years, I've watched how patient she is with children and adults and how naturally she gravitates toward someone who may need a little extra attention. She seems to sense when someone is



Boots, a certified therapy dog, will begin visiting patients at Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital, offering companionship, affection and a comforting presence during their hospital stay. (ROBERT JUMPER/One Feather photo)

having a hard day and will sit beside them or snuggle a little closer. Those qualities are a big part of what made me realize therapy work could be a great fit for her."

Boots will visit patients at Harris Regional Hospital and Swain

Community Hospital, providing opportunities for positive interaction and companionship. Her visits are another way the hospitals can support a welcoming, compassionate environment for patients and families.

"Providing excellent care is about caring for the whole person and recognizing the small things that can make a hospital experience a little more comfortable," said Ashley Hindman, chief executive officer of Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital. "Boots brings a calm and friendly presence that we hope will brighten our patients' days and provide moments of comfort and connection. We're excited to welcome her to Harris and Swain and introduce her to the patients and families we have the privilege of serving."

For Ferguson, seeing Boots step into this role is especially meaningful because of where her story began.

"Knowing where Boots started makes this opportunity even more special," Ferguson said. "She waited in the shelter for someone to choose her, and now she has the chance to bring comfort and happiness to people throughout our community. She has brought so much joy to my life over the last three years, and I'm excited for our patients to get to know her, too."

Patients and visitors may begin seeing Boots and Ferguson during therapy dog visits at Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital.



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

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

**Dear Yogi Crowe Memorial
Scholarship Fund,**

I am beyond honored and blessed to be a recipient of the Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship Fund. I would like to thank everyone who contributes to this scholarship and helps carry on the legacy of Yogi Crowe by investing in the education and future of Cherokee students. Receiving this scholarship has provided me with meaningful financial support as I continue my education.

This fall I will be attending Suffolk University, where I will pursue my Master of Healthcare

Administration and Analytics. I will also have the opportunity to continue my collegiate running career as I will be a member of the Cross Country & Track & Field teams. Throughout my college career, I have learned how to manage the demands of being both a student and a collegiate athlete. Balancing classes, studying, practice, competitions, travel, and other responsibilities have taught me discipline, time management, perseverance, and the importance of staying committed to my goals.

this scholarship has helped me ease that financial burden by allowing me to put the funds toward my graduate expenses. Due to this support, I am able to focus my time and energy on my education.

tribute to positive changes.

I am especially thankful that this scholarship allows me to pursue my goals while carrying my community with me. Every scholarship I receive is more than financial assistance, it is an encouragement to continue working hard and a reminder that my community believes in my potential.

Sgi,
Amaya Hicks

GWY ƧV° OYLC
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Submit your Good Stuff photos and posts to us at:
Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com



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.



 Date: **SEPTEMBER 25TH**

 Time:
8:00AM-12:30PM

 Place:
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OBITUARIES ᏊᏏᏁᏰᏍ

Mary Louise Martin (Locust)

Mary Louise Martin (Locust), age 91, of Cherokee, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at Mountain View of Bryson City after a period of declining health.

Mary was born June 22, 1935, to the late McKinley Locust and the late Mabel Buff Locust.

She is survived by her children, Ellen Herron; granddaughter, Vivian Simpson (David); and grandson, R. J. Hensley, of Whitti-

er, NC; her brothers, Kenneth Earl Locust, Johnson Locust, McKinley Locust, Rufus Locust, and Stanley Locust; seven great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; and many aunts, nieces, and nephews also survive.

Long House Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

A visitation was held at Long House Funeral Home on Thursday, Sept. 10. The funeral service followed with burial at the Locust Family Cemetery.

Dwaine "Flea" George

Dwaine "Flea" George, 46, of the Birdtown Community, passed away peacefully with family by his side Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026. A native of Cherokee he was the son of Patty Buchanan of Cherokee. He is preceded in death by the love of his life, Missy Miller.

He is survived by his three children, Peyton George (Cheyanne) of Cherokee, Paige Fitzsimmons (Michael) of Florida, Jade Miller of Bryson City, Carmen Whitefield (John); grandchildren,

Greyson, Azrael, Elora, Lucy, Gavin, Leon, Mason, and Kaitin; brothers and sisters, Bunny George, Nicky George, Justin Buchanan (Kelsey), Omer Buchanan (Misty), and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services were Thursday, Sept. 10 at Crisp Funeral Home Chapel. Pastor Harley Maney and JT Lambert officiated.

Pallbearers were among family and friends.

Every obituary is also published online at:
<https://theonefeather.com/obituaries/>



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SPEAKING OF FAITH

What motivates you? Part 3 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

How do we unload all this programming? We have all received it, but has Satan reinforced it into self-destructive pride? Note that God hates pride and those who become haughty in serving Him.

“The fear of Jehovah is to hate evil: Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, And the perverse mouth, do I hate.” Proverbs 8:13

The gifts He gave you are meant to glorify Him, not you. He deserves all the praise because, without Him, you are nothing. He is first, every time, and you must keep Him first in every aspect of your life. Remember, “thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” Matthew 22:37

You may think you should quit all that work, performance, ability, reward, acceptance, and praise. Not at all. You can be all that and humble, too.

“And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2

Your humility can show through, and you will receive even more blessings. God gives all good things, and everything He gives you is good. Give God the credit. Glorify Him in all that you do and

in the reason for doing it. Praise Him! Shout to others for what He has done for you and how He has blessed you. He gives success; you didn't earn it. He provides. We have heard this many times in our Christian discipleship education. Remind yourself, whenever you embark on a project that will thrust you into the spotlight, that the shining glory belongs to God.

“Take heed that ye do not your righteousness before men, to be seen of them: else ye have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 6:1

We motivate others when we continually give praise, adulation, and rewards to others around us. We are supposed to. But are we

complicit in making them eager for attention for the wrong reasons? Let's pray we are not. We want to lift up others, and we should like to promote those around us and remind them to give credit where credit is due. That is how we motivate and encourage our children, friends, and fellow workers. Shape your praise of others in a way that reminds them it is God who blesses them for having made the achievements or done so well in their performance. We can do our part to remind ourselves and others we love that God is first in all our lives.

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



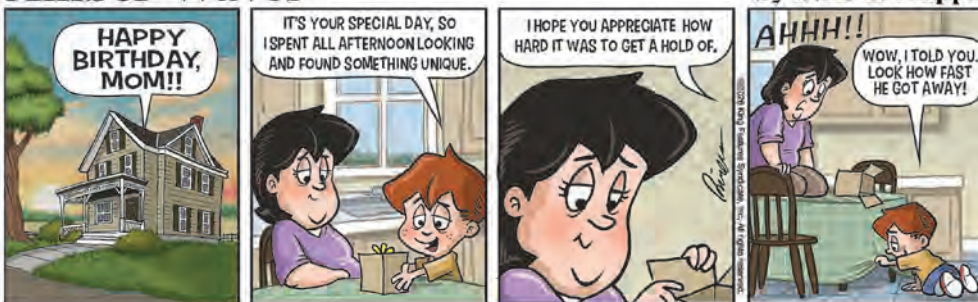
THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Out of the ground the Lord God
formed every beast of the field
and every bird of the air
and brought them to Adam to see
what he would call them.
And whatever Adam called each
living creature, that was its name.

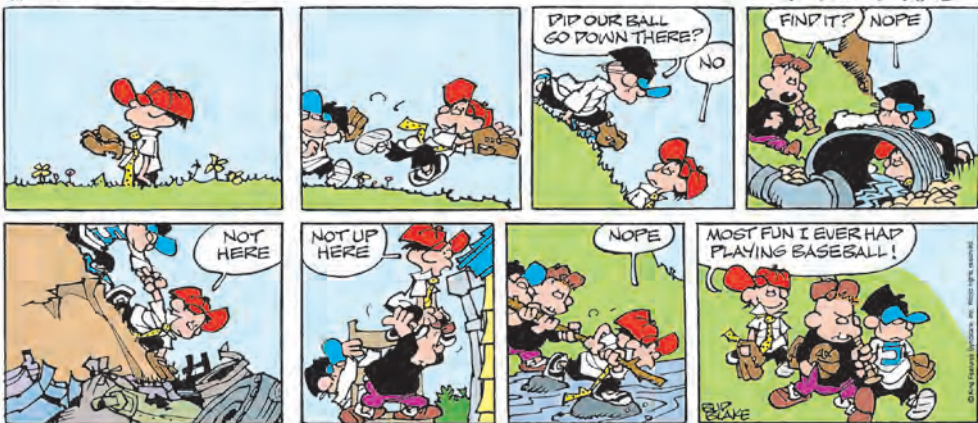
GENESIS 2:19



Detail of "Cats" by Karl Schmidt-Rottluff
(1919)



TIGER



Weekly SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- Ashley and Wynonna
- Consumer protection agcy.
- Catchall abbr.
- Track star Bolt
- Tic-tac-toe win
- "The Matrix" character
- Refuse an offer
- Seattle suburb that's home to Microsoft
- Credit rating publisher
- Skin soother
- Corp. money exec
- Overly
- Part of LGBTQ
- Hit on the noggin
- Japanese fish dish
- Tranquil
- Sort of dive
- Police ID
- Employ
- Hairnet
- Moray, for one
- Past
- Plane-related
- Country song?

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44					45			46		
47				48			49		50	51
52				53			54			
55				56			57			

- Archbishop Tutu
- Stuffed shirt
- Bed cover
- Gift giver's words
- Wee bit
- Low digits
- Tiara stone
- Atlantic fish
- Work unit
- Holmes (Sherlock's sister)
- Old Olds
- Census info
- Reuben bread
- More practical
- "Sexy" Beatles girl
- Aachen article
- Mortise partner
- say more?"
- Rowing need
- Encryptions
- Director Welles
- Birch's kin
- "Butterfly" singer Carey
- apso (small dog)
- Medicated
- Novelist Seton
- "60 Minutes" ainer
- Airline to Tel Aviv
- Nemesis
- Fill in — blank
- Spanish gold
- Explosive sound
- Born
- Blunder

DOWN

- Roast beef au —
- "Suits" network
- "Shark Tank" star — John
- Flintstones' pet

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

Trivia test

- TELEVISION: What is the name of Jon Snow's dire wolf in "Game of Thrones"?
- HISTORY: Which Civil War general literally used "scorched earth" tactics in his march from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia?
- MOVIES: Which 1960s movie has the tagline, "A man went looking for America, and he couldn't find it anywhere"?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which body of water includes islands known as the Seychelles?
- CHEMISTRY: Which element's symbol is Sn?
- LITERATURE: What is the length of a traditional sonnet?
- GEOLOGY: What is a common name for calcium carbonate?
- FOOD & DRINK: Which fast-food chain goes by the name Hungry Jack in Australia?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president gave radio addresses that were described as "fireside chats"?
- ASTRONOMY: What is the shape of the Milky Way?

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Benefits/Fundraisers

Turkey Shoots at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in Kolanyvi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. Good food, good fun, great -
- Sept. 19 at 1 p.m., fundraiser for the over-40 Big Cove Indian Ball Team
- Sept. 26 at 1 p.m., fundraiser for the over-40 Big Cove Indian Ball Team
- Oct. 3 at 1 p.m., fundraiser for the over-40 Big Cove Indian Ball Team
- Oct. 17 at 5 p.m., Annual Jesse Welch Memorial Turkey Shoot, sponsored by family

EBCI Community Events

33rd Annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride. Sept. 18 departing at 10:30 a.m. from the Cherokee Visitor Center 498 Tsalagi Blvd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. This ride will begin in Cherokee, N.C., travel to Bridgeport, Ala., with a stop at Ross's landing in Chattanooga, Tenn. Info: (256) 566-5613 or (256) 710-8011 or email kevanhutto@yahoo.com

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 Squirrel 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

October Health Screen. Oct. 22 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Big Y Gym 2641 Wrights Creek Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Theme: Breast Cancer awareness and self-screening. Also BP checks and BMI checks, Resources and Mammo scheduling. With Trudy Crowe, FNP.

GWY Dhwōy Jlo-ḷḷḷḷ 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 information on purpose and further aims. All who meet the eligibility are invited to attend.

Cherokee Cultural/Historic Events

Cherokee Singers Gatherings. Sept 16 from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrel 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. Open to enrolled EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) members, EBCI parents and spouses. Registration is not required: just show up.

Book signing for "Riding the Trail". Oct. 1 at 10 a.m. at the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in

CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

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Pinky Swayzey,

an 8-year-old Chihuahua, lives with human, James Swayzey, in Tsisqwohi (Birdtown).



Sponsored by:

CHEROKEE

ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

828-497-3401

1100 US 441N, Whittier, NC 28789

Vonore, Tenn. Will Chavez, co-author with Traci Sorrell, of "Riding the Trail: Cherokee Remember the Removal", will be signing books. Info: Visit the museum's website at www.sequoyahmuseum.org or contact the museum at (423) 884-6246.

Cherokee Heritage Day. Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m at New Echota State Historic Site 1211 Chatsworth Hwy NE., Calhoun, Ga. 30701. Cherokee Language Repertory Choir, Cherokee Artist Demonstrations, Cherokee Vendors, Ranger Demonstrations, Food Vendors, raffle and silent auction. Info: (706) 624-1321



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) With your Arian charm quotient at an almost all-time high this week (plus all the facts to back you up), you just might win over the last doubters of your proposal.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You might be in line for a job change that you applied for. But be advised that you could be called on to defend your qualifications against supporters of other applicants.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Creating a new approach to an old idea is one way to get beyond a workplace impasse. There are no such problems in your personal life, where things continue to flow smoothly.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Be more forthcoming about your feelings concerning a proposed change either in your workplace or in your personal life. Your opinions are valuable. Don't keep them hidden.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A changing situation in your life needs more patience than you appear to be willing to offer. Allowing it to develop at its own pace is the wisest course you can take at this time.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) With more stability in your life — both on personal and professional levels — this could be a good time to strengthen relationships with both friends and colleagues.

LIBRA (September 23 to October

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

see **EVENTS** next page

22) People have always relied on your integrity not only to get the job done, but to get it done right. So, don't be pressured by anyone into cutting corners to save time.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) While others might get rattled over unexpected changes, your ability to adapt calmly and competently helps you make a positive impression during a crucial period.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A changing environment might be daunting for some, but the adventurous Sagittarian takes it all in stride. Meanwhile, a friend from the past could awaken some meaningful memories.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) With your self-assurance rising to full strength, the bold Goat should feel confident about opening up to new ventures, as well as new relationships.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Reaching out to someone who has been unkind to you might not be easy. But in the long run, it'll prove to have been the right thing to do. A friend offers moral support.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your keen insight once again helps you work through a seemingly insoluble problem in your workplace. The weekend offers a good chance to develop new relationships.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a penchant for finding details that others would overlook. You would make a fine research scientist, designer, or editor.

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VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

The OIG at work

The Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General (VA OIG) has been busy. And as is typical, their work involves saving millions of dollars that should have gone to veterans services.

When the OIG analyzed the details about a contractor for the Veterans Crisis Line, they questioned why millions of dollars were paid when the work wasn't actually done. The job involved providing backup services for the toll-free 24/7 crisis line. However, that contractor didn't have enough staff, didn't train the staff they did have and didn't meet federal security requirements. Due to lack of contract oversight, the VA made payments to that contractor — \$11.2 million worth — for a year. The OIG, naturally, wants that money back.

Then there was the not-so-small matter of critical medical supplies and equipment and how those were managed. After being called on to inspect the practices at one certain VA facility, the OIG spent months looking at the inventory of expendable supplies, nonexpendable equipment, distribution controls and the leadership. What they found was so bad that four operating rooms had been closed because of lack of supplies, expired supplies and unreliable restocking, causing surgery backlogs and cancellations.

The OIG found expired supplies in operating rooms. (The OIG asked that they be removed, yet two months later the expired supplies were still there.) They discovered 50 pallets of supplies that were expired, damaged or obsolete. When it came to equipment, five pieces couldn't even be located. The value of missing nonexpendable items was \$10.5 million.

The facility had been awarded \$3.2 million for a contract for an inventory management system but never completely installed it and eventually disabled the program. They were then awarded more money to get the contractor to do the complete installation, and that wasn't done either.

Rumor is that the VA's OIG is not getting a bigger budget for 2027. That's ridiculous considering the amount of money they save the VA through their investigations.

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Pet's dry eye may cause corneal scarring

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My 9-year-old Terrier, "Buzzy," has developed what I think is an eye infection. She has red, irritated eyes and lots of yellowish discharge with runny tears. I called her veterinarian and will be taking her in to be seen this week. The tech on the phone told me it might also be "dry eye," which doesn't make sense with her runny eyes. What can I do to make her more comfortable ahead of the appointment? — Beth in Santa Monica, California

DEAR BETH: Gently clear away the discharge from around Buzzy's eyes with a soft washcloth dipped in warm water. Don't use soap, as this can irritate her eyes further. This will provide some relief.

The vet will check for several additional symptoms to determine what's going on.

Just as with humans, dogs and cats can develop dry eye, known in medical terms as keratoconjunctivitis sicca, or KCS. Several conditions can cause dry eye: infections, injury, certain medications, hypothyroidism or, most common, an immune disorder.

Dry eye can cause scarring of the cornea if left untreated, because the condition changes natural tears so they produce less of the "film" that protects the cornea's surface. If the damage is bad enough, your dog's vision could be permanently impaired. So prompt evaluation by a vet is important — kudos for contacting them so quickly.

There are very effective medications to manage Buzzy's symptoms, which stimulate tear production and replace tear film. During the first phase of treatment, you may need to administer these medications every two to six hours. Antibiotics may also be prescribed to treat any secondary infection.

After this initial phase, Buzzy will probably need lifelong treatment to manage dry eye.

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

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EVENTS: From page 31

Cherokee Council House in Cherokee, N.C. unless otherwise noted.)

Health Board. Sept. 16 at 8:30 a.m.

Enrollment Committee. Sept. 16 at 1 p.m.

Qualla Housing Committee. Sept. 17 at 8:30 a.m.

Roads Commission. Sept. 21 at 9 a.m.

Timber Committee. Sept. 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Planning Board. Sept. 21 at 1 p.m.

Pow Wow Listings

San Manuel Pow Wow. Sept. 18-20 at Cal State in San Bernardino, Calif. Info: www.socalpowwow.com

Annual Neskonlith Pow Wow. Sept. 18-20 at the Neskonlith Pow Wow Arbour in Chase, British Columbia, Canada. Info: Councillor Mindy Dick at mind_dick@neskonlith.net

Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska Baxoje Encampment and Pow Wow. Sept. 18-20 in White Cloud, Kan. MC: Clifton Goodwill. Host Northern Drum: Buffalo Eagle. Host Southern Drum: Buck Elk. Info: iowapowwowclub@gmail.com

Discovery Park of America Celebration of Native Culture. Sept. 18-19 in Union City, Tenn. MC: Al Santos. Host Northern Drum: Young Buffalo Horse. Host

Southern Drum: Southside. Info: Angela Demaris at ademaris@discoveryparkofamerica.com

Haskell Stadium and Arch Centennial Celebration.

Sept. 18-19 at Haskell Stadium in Lawrence, Kan. MC: Manny King. Host Northern Drum: Little Soldier. Head Southern Singer: Scott George. Info: <https://haskell.edu>

Mahkato 54th Annual Traditional Pow Wow. Sept. 18-20 at Land of Memories Park in Mankato, Minn. Emcees: Jerry Dearly, Galen Drapeau Jr., Bill Taylor. Host Drum: Maza Kute. Info: <https://www.mahkatowacipi.org>

Prairie Chicken Dance World Championships. Sept. 18 at Piiksapí Memorial Arbour in Siksika, Alberta, Canada. Emcees: Butch Wolfleg, Howie Thomson. Invited Drums: Turning Robe, Bullhorn, Blackfoot Confederacy, Black Otter, Blackfoot A-1 Club, Blackfoot Drummers. Info: <https://blackfootcrossing.ca>

Prescott Pow Wow. Sept. 18-20 at Watson Lake Park in Prescott, Ariz. MC: Trevo Foster. Host Northern Drum: New Boyz. Host Southern Drum: Strictly Southern. Info: Alberta Cook (623) 455-0485, albertajcook@yahoo.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 Mc-Millan (828) 788-5410

Cherokee Cancer Support Group, potluck dinner with a speaker the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Betty's Place, 40 Goose Creek Rd, Cherokee, N.C. Anyone is welcome to attend the potluck. The group provides educational and emotional support to clients and families of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians members with cancer. The group can provide financial assistance for fuel, lodging, and transportation and also can assist with mastectomy items, nutritional supplements, wigs, and related products. The group can volunteer to take a client to their appointment if it is requested in a timely manner. Betty's Place is open Monday through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: (828) 497-0788

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

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

Narcotics Anonymous meets

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

Western N.C. and Beyond Events

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

POW/MIA Recognition Day. Sept. 18 at 1 p.m. at the Charles George VA Medical Center Stage, 1100 Tunnell Rd., Asheville, N.C. 28805. The ceremony will honor the courage and sacrifice of former prisoners of war and pay tribute to those still missing in action, reaffirming the Western North Carolina VA Health Care System's commitment to never forget their service. Veterans, families, staff and the community are invited to attend. Info: (828) 298-7911.

Whittier United Community Church monthly community dinner. Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. at the Church. The all-you-can-eat menu consists of BBQ pulled pork and fixings for a \$10 donation. Everyone is welcome to attend. All proceeds will go to community outreach.

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

2nd annual Pink Platoon 5K run/walk. Oct. 10 at 9 a.m. final registration at the Charles George VA Medical Center 1100 Tunnel Rd., Asheville, N.C. 28805. The Western North Carolina VA Health Care System in commitment to the countless people impacted by breast cancer, the event is dedicated to fostering health, solidarity and hope for the community. Participants are encouraged to

show their support by wearing their brightest pink attire — tutus especially welcome. The event is family-friendly, community-focused and free of cost, welcoming participants of all ages. In addition to the 5K, a resource fair will offer VA and community resources supporting wellness, education and awareness. Race participants can sign up for the race at: runsignup.com/Race/NC/Asheville/PinkPlatoon5K

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

Call for Entries – Quilt Show. Oct. 16 the morning of at Stecoah

Valley Cultural Arts Center 121 Schoolhouse Rd., Robbinsville, N.C. 28771. All types of quilts and fiber arts can be on display. To win viewers choice award, quilt must be made by the person(s) entering it. The exhibit will open as well as voting on the quilts, Saturday, Oct. 17. Rules and entry forms are available now for download from the website: StecoahValleyCenter.com/festivals. Info: (828) 479-3364.

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.,

Cherokee Words of the Week

It is Windy ganolvvsga (gah-no-luh-uh-sgah) SZʔiʔS	September duliisdi (doo-lee-ee-sdee) SʔTʔJ	Leaves tsugwaloga (zoo-gwah-low-gah) JTGʂ
Tree adasgv (ah-dah-sguh) DLʔE		Acorn gule (goo-ley) Jʂ

Scan the QR code below to hear audio pronunciations of these words

EVENTS: From page 33

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) 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.,

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Ecclesiastes (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What business woman from Thyatira opened her home to Paul and his companions after her conversion? *Rachel, Keturah, Lydia, Shiprah*
3. Jesus said, “For where your treasure is, there will be your ____ also.” *Love, Heart, Faith, Friends*
4. From 2 Samuel 18, whose head became caught in the branches of an oak tree? *Samson’s, Herod’s, Absalom’s, Joab’s*
5. On the outskirts of what city did Jesus meet Zacchaeus? *Smyrna, Tarsus, Jericho, Antioch*
6. From 2 Samuel 14, what was the name of Absalom’s daughter? *Ruth, Tamar, Miriam, Sarah*

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Lydia, 3) Heart, 4) Absalom’s, 5) Jericho, 6) Tamar
More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey’s latest book “Quest for Bible Knowledge” available in bookstores and online.

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Moments in time

• On Sept. 28, 1542, Spanish explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo became the first European to sail into San Diego Bay, which he named San Miguel and claimed for Spain. The bay was given its present name in 1602 by Sebastian Vizcaino, who was also the first person to note certain ecological features of California’s coast.

• On Sept. 29, 1885, the world’s first practical public electric tramway, designed by Michael Holroyd Smith, opened in Blackpool, England, using an underground “conduit” system to supply electricity rather than overhead wires. The route is still active today, operating modern light rail vehicles.

• On Sept. 30, 1934, St. Louis Browns coach Charley O’Leary “unretired” to good effect by becoming the oldest player to get a hit and score a run in the major leagues, at age 58.

• On Oct. 1, 1962, Barbra Streisand signed her first recording contract with Columbia Records. Her manager, Marty Erlichman, negotiated full artistic and creative control, including the right for Streisand to choose her own songs, in exchange for a lower initial pay rate of a \$20,000 advance.

• On Oct. 2, 1985, Hollywood heartthrob Rock Hudson died of AIDS related complications, just a few months after publicly acknowledging he had the disease at a hospital in Paris where he was seeking treatment.

• On Oct. 3, 1997, 69-year-old Hall of Famer Gordie Howe, who was known as “Mr. Hockey” and played his first NHL game when Harry Truman was president, skated the first shift with the Detroit Vipers in their International Hockey League opener for a total of just 40 seconds but became the only professional in the sport to compete in six decades. Afterward, he thanked the Vipers for “putting up with me.”

• On Oct. 4, 2011, Michael Morton, who served 25 years in prison for the murder of his wife, Christine Morton, was released after DNA evidence implicated convicted felon Mark Alan Norwood in the crime. The prosecutor in the case later was accused of withholding evidence indicating Morton’s innocence.

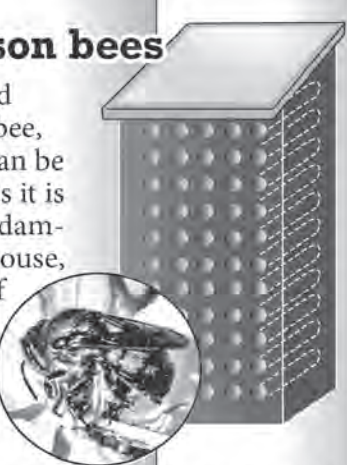
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Orchard mason bees

Shiny, dark-blue and smaller than a honey bee, the orchard mason bee can be encouraged to live in urban areas, as it is beneficial, non-aggressive and non-damaging to structures. Build it a bee house, by taking a 4x4 untreated block of wood, drilling smooth holes about 5/16” in diameter in a grid on one side, and at least 3” deep into the wood. Create an over-hanging roof, and hang it firmly at least 3 feet up.

– Brenda Weaver



Source: gardening.wsu.edu

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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 Community building, potluck at 5:30 p.m. meeting at 6 p.m. Info: Chairman (to be elected on in November). For building rental, contact Robert Stalcup (828) 736-0149

Cherokee Houses of Worship

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

488-8937

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

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

Bethabara Baptist Church. 1088 Birdtown Road. Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday Service 11 a.m and 7 p.m. Wednesday Service 7 p.m. Youth Meeting

Wednesday 7 p.m. Pastor Max Cochran (828) 341-5801, Church number (828) 497-7770

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

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

see **EVENTS** next page

Tsalagi

MINUTE

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Davy Crockett's opposition to the Indian Removal Bill

The Indian Removal Bill (S. 102) was passed by the U.S. Senate on April 24, 1830 by a vote of 28-19. The following month, the bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives on May 26, 1830 by a vote of 102-97. One of the most staunch opponents of the bill in the House was Tennessee Congressman Davy Crockett.

Following is a portion of a speech he made on the House floor. Keep in mind, this is his speech as it was recorded in the public record – not an exact quote.

"He had always viewed the native Indian tribes of this country as a sovereign people. He believed they had been recognized as such from the very foundation of this government, and the United States were bound by treaty to protect them; it was their duty to do so.

He knew personally that a part of the tribe of the Cherokees were unwilling to go. When the proposal was made to them, they said, 'No, we will take death here at our homes. Let them come and tomahawk us here at home. We are willing to die, but never to remove.' He had heard them use this language."

Photo: Portrait by Chester Harding in the National Portrait Gallery, public domain

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- The first animal ever cloned, the famous sheep Dolly, was named for singer-songwriter Dolly Parton.
- According to a study, dancers and choreographers reported the highest divorce rates.
- Students are more than four times more likely to drop out of school if they are unable to read proficiently by the third grade.
- Early hairspray formulas often used shellac, a resin secreted by female *Kerria lacca* bugs.
- Some scientists have speculated that a zombie apocalypse may not be impossible because humans are vulnerable to neurotoxins, parasites and viruses such as rabies, which can alter behavior and brain function. Prions, the proteins behind mad cow disease, can remain active in deceased tissue, while hypothetical nanobots could raise similar questions.
- Holes in crackers allow steam and gas to escape so the product will remain flat and crisp.
- According to Gallup, Inc., more people recognized the term "UFO" than remembered the name Gerald Ford in a poll taken just six months after Ford left the presidential office.
- The Wizard of Oz's full name is Oscar Zoroaster Phadrig Isaac Norman Henkel Emmannuel Ambroise Diggs. He called himself OZ because the other initials spelled P-I-N-H-E-A-D.
- Frida Kahlo is the only Mexican woman to have a major solo exhibition at the Louvre.
- In many early Northern European tribes slaves were forbidden from hunting since they were not allowed to own weapons or bear arms.
- The first pet insurance in America was purchased in 1982 to protect the dog playing the title role in "Lassie."
- Archaeology suggests that belt buckles were developed during the Bronze Age.
- The longest poem in the world is the "Mahabharata," an Indian epic dating from the 4th century B.C. or earlier and containing about 1.8 million words.

Thought for the Day: "A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing." — *Emo Philips*

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EVENTS: From page 35

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-

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

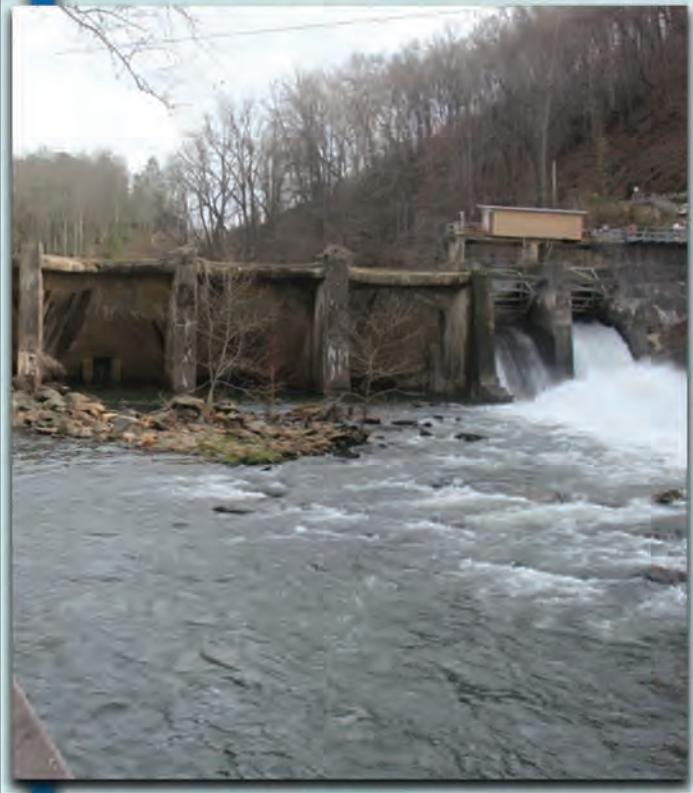
Ela Baptist Church. 4450 Ela Rd., Bryson City, N.C. Sunday morning service 11 a.m., Wednesday 6 p.m. Pastor Justin Hunt (828) 736-1155

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](https://embassytv.net) Tuesday Night

Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with EBCI Natural Resources





Ela Dam was constructed from 1924-1925 to provide power to Bryson City and surrounding areas. Now after 100 years of its construction, the dam no longer generates power, and current plans call for the removal of the dam and restoration of the affected portion of the river sometime in the late 2020s. While current plans are uncertain, it is hoped that restoration of this free-flowing river will help restore the population and habitat of the hellbender, sicklefin redhorse, and other significant species. Plans will be determined with input from the local community and partners. If you want to learn more about Ela Dam and this project, you can visit <https://arcg.is/1CuWHL3>

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 embassymedia-group@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

Living Waters Lutheran Church. 30 Locust Road. Sunday Service 11 a.m. Pastor Jack

Russell (918) 868-4166

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

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

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

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

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Mission. 82 Lambert Branch Road. Saturday Mass at 4:30 p.m. in English and 6 p.m. in Spanish. Pastor Fr. Victor Ameh, MSP. (828) 373-0068, or www.stjosephbryson.org

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

Rock Creek Missionary Baptist Church. 240 Sherrill Rd.,

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

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

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

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

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

Straight Fork Baptist Church.

Big Cove Loop. Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening worship 6 p.m. Wednesday night 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

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

CLASSIFIEDS

Yard Sale. Sept. 19 from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Tsali Care Center Community Room 267 Tsali Care Way, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Residents of Tsali Care invite the community to a yard sale, will have items: blankets, household items, cornbead necklaces, artwork and more. **9/16**

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**

Looking For
Cancer patient seeking EBCI

craftspeople for functional, historically grounded Overhill Cherokee bow, cane arrows, blowgun/darts, quiver and Atasi war club, circa 1775–1792. Adrian: onemoretomorrow74@yahoo.com. **9/30**

LEGAL NOTICES

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 payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
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 payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
Matthew Maney
817 Monteith Br. Rd
Sylva, NC. 28779
9/23

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-066
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

JERRY FRANCIS PARKER
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
Connie Andrews Parker
PO Box 1778
Cherokee, NC. 28719
9/30

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-067
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

CELIA ANN SMITH
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
Lula Jackson
PO Box 257
Cherokee, NC. 28719
9/30

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Building Maintenance Services

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is seeking qualifications and proposals from qualified contractors to provide comprehensive building maintenance and repair services for EBCI facilities and properties throughout the Qualla Boundary.

The complete scope of work and proposal requirements to be provided by the company as part of a complete RFP packet may be obtained by contacting Pam Sneed @ pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov.



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

The EBCI reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and EBCI TERO law will be applied. Submission Deadline: All proposals are due by close of business on September 25, 2026.

Proposals should be sent to: Pam Sneed 810 Acquoni Road Suite 132 Cherokee, NC 28719 Or email: pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov 9/16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Pest Control Services

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is requesting qualifications from experienced and properly licensed pest control companies to provide pest control services for EBCI buildings located throughout the Qualla Boundary.

Interested companies should submit a brief statement of qualifications that includes:

Company background and relevant experience

Applicable licenses and certifications

Proposed approach to pest prevention and treatment

References for similar work

Fee structure or service rates

Proposals must be received by close of business on September 25, 2026.

Submit proposals and direct questions to: Pam Sneed 810 Acquoni Road Suite 132 Cherokee, NC 28719 Or email: pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov EBCI reserves the right to reject any or all submissions and EBCI TERO law will be applied. 9/16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

HVAC Maintenance and Repair Services

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is seeking qualifica-

tions and proposals from qualified HVAC contractors to provide comprehensive HVAC maintenance and repair services for facilities throughout the Qualla Boundary.

The complete scope of work and proposal requirements to be provided by the company as part of a complete RFP packet may be obtained by contacting Pam Sneed @ pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov.

The EBCI reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and EBCI TERO law will be applied. Submission Deadline

All proposals must be received by close of business on September 25, 2026.

Please submit proposals to: Pam Sneed 810 Acquoni Road Suite 132 Cherokee, NC 28719 Or email: pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov 9/16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance Services

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is seeking qualifications and proposals from qualified landscaping contractors to provide comprehensive landscaping and grounds maintenance services for EBCI facilities and properties throughout the Qualla Boundary.

The complete scope of work and proposal requirements to be provided by the company as part of a complete RFP packet may be obtained by contacting Pam Sneed @pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov.

The EBCI reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and EBCI TERO law will be applied. Submission Deadline

All proposals are due by close of business on September 25, 2026.

Proposals should be sent to: Pam Sneed 810 Acquoni Road

Suite 132 Cherokee, NC 28719 Or email: pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov 9/16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Roof Maintenance and Repair Services

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is seeking qualifications and proposals from qualified roofing contractors to provide comprehensive roof maintenance, inspection, and repair services for EBCI facilities and properties throughout the Qualla Boundary.

The complete scope of work and proposal requirements to be provided by the company as part of a complete RFP packet may be obtained by contacting Pam Sneed @ pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov.

The EBCI reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and EBCI TERO law will be applied Submission Deadline

All proposals are due by close of business on September 25, 2026.

Proposals should be sent to: Pam Sneed 810 Acquoni Road Suite 132 Cherokee, NC 28719 Or email: pamesnee@ebci-nsn.gov 9/16

Request for Qualifications Asbestos Assessments and Abatements Cherokee Indian Housing Division

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS is to establish a pool of on-call contractors for the service of assessing and abatement of single-family homes for asbestos and any hazardous materials. The service will be for members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians residing on trust lands. Contracts will be awarded

on a per-project basis and competitive pricing and reserve the right to add additional contractors to the on-call as needed based on scheduling demands. CIHD reserves the right to reject all submissions and reserves the right not to award any contract to the lowest bidder. The work to be performed under a RFP is subject to TERO guidelines. Any project not completed in a timely manner or abiding to the scope of work will be removed from the bid or project if awarded. Qualification packets can be picked up at Acquoni Rd, at the old QHA office, Cherokee, NC 28719. All Qualifications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 30, 2026, for fiscal year 2027. Contact person for this RFQ is Sarah Crowe, Infrastructure Manager, {828} 359-6131 or email at sara-crow@ebci-nsn.gov.

9/16

Request for Qualifications Driveway Paving Cherokee Indian Housing Division

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS is to establish a pool of on-call contractors for the paving of driveways for members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee receiving assistance through the CIHD Infrastructure Program. Contracts will be awarded equally on a per-project basis. CIHD reserves the right to add additional contractors to the on-call pool as needed based on scheduling demands.

CIHD reserves the right to reject all submissions and reserves the right not to award any contract to the lowest bidder. The work to be performed under a RFP is

see **TRADING POST** next page

TRADING POST: From page 39

subject to TERO guidelines. Any project not completed in a timely manner or abiding to the scope of work will be removed from the bid or project if awarded. Qualification packets can be picked up at the old QHA office at 687 Acquoni Rd, Cherokee, NC 28719. All Qualifications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 30, 2026, for fiscal year 2027. Contact person for this RFQ is Sarah Crowe, Infrastructure Interim Manager, (828) 359-6121 or email saracrow@ebci-nsn.gov.
9/16

Request for Qualifications Guttering System Cherokee Indian Housing Division

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS is to establish a pool of on-call contractors for the construction of single-family guttering system for members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee residing on trust lands and receiving assistance through the Cherokee Indian Housing Division (CIHD) Site Prep Program. Contracts will be awarded based on per-project basis and competitive pricing. Projects will be monitored by CIHD-Site Prep coordinators and CIHD also reserves the right to add additional contractors to the on-call as needed based on scheduling demands. Qualification packets can be submitted to the old QHA office at 687 Acquoni Rd, Cherokee, NC 28719 no later than September 30, 2026, for FY27. Contact person for

this RFQ is Sarah Crowe, Infrastructure Manager, (828) 359-6121 or saracrow@ebci-nsn.gov.
9/16

Request for Qualifications Hydroseeding Cherokee Indian Housing Division

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION is for all interested contractors for the hydroseeding of single-family house sites and driveways to prevent erosion. The service is for EBCI members residing on trust lands and receiving assistance through the Cherokee Indian Housing Division (CIHD) Infrastructure Program. Contractors will be selected, and contracts will be awarded on per-project basis and competitive pricing. Projects will be monitored by CIHD-Site Prep coordinators and CIHD also reserves the right to add additional contractors as needed based on scheduling demands due to time sensitive projects. The work to be performed under a RFP is subject to TERO guidelines. Any project not completed in a timely manner or abiding to the scope of work will be removed from the bid or project if awarded. CIHD reserves the right to reject all sub-

missions and reserves the right not to award any contract to the lowest bidder. The work to be performed under the bid process is subject to TERO guidelines. All Qualifications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 30, 2026, for fiscal year 2027.

Contact person for this RFQ is Sarah Crowe, Infrastructure Manager, (828) 359-6121 or saracrow@ebdi-nsn.gov.
9/16

Request for Qualifications Site Preparation and Final Grading Cherokee Indian Housing Division

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION is for all interested contractors for the construction of single-family house sites and driveways, and final grading for positive drainage to prevent erosion. The service is for EBCI members residing on trust lands and receiving assistance through the Cherokee Indian Housing Division (CIHD) Infrastructure Program. Contractors will be selected, and contracts will be awarded based on per-project basis and competitive pricing. Projects will be monitored by CIHD-Site Prep coordinators and CIHD also

Now Hiring at Oconaluftee Indian Village



Cherokee Historical Association is seeking Box Office, Retail, and Concessions staff for the fall season. Training provided. Applications available at Oconaluftee Indian Village and 564 Tsali Blvd or online at CherokeeHistorical.org

JOIN OUR TEAM



WE ARE HIRING

Open Positions

- Housekeeper
- Plant Health Technician I
- Cashier
- Processing Technician I
- Processing Operator
- Processing Lead

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



Apply Online
www.qualla.com/careers



More Information
828.589.8285

reserves the right to add additional contractors as needed based on scheduling demands due to time sensitive projects. CIHD reserves the right to reject all submissions and reserves the right to not award any contract to the lowest bidder. The work to be performed under the bid process is subject to TERO guidelines. All Qualifications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 30, 2026, for fiscal year 2027.

Contact person for this RFQ is Sarah Crowe, Infrastructure Manager, (828) 359-6121 or saracrow@ebdi-nsn.gov.

9/16

Public Notice

The EBCI Cannabis Control Board is proposing the amendment of administrative rules pursuant to Cherokee Code 17-18, 17A-3, and 150-4. Amendments to Title 17 and 17A of the Cherokee Administrative Regulations are proposed to address the appropriate testing standards for total allowable limits of yeast and mold. Written comments may be mailed to the EBCI CCB at Attn: EBCI CCB, P.O. Box 549, Cherokee NC 28719 or emailed to info@ebci-ccb.org. The

period for public comment is 30 days from the publication of this notice. 9/16

PUBLIC NOTICE – United State Dept of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs

The Eastern Regional Office, Division of Probates & Estates is looking for information on the individuals below. If you have any information concerning these individuals, please contact our office at (615) 412-3498 or stop by the BIA Cherokee Agency Office. You can also email whitney.robertson@bia.gov

Andrea Rochelle Payer, Adreanna R Catt, Anita A Smith, Anna E Par-ton, Anthony E Maney, Antonino L Grant, Ardis E Young, Brandon Hawk Hostetter, Brian R Myers, Brittany G Hornbuckle, Carmen M Toni, Carrie Raper, Celestine Viola Jordon Burns, Charlene L Hens-ley, Cinthia M Raper, Clairissa B Biswell, Clara E Casso, Clarence Welch, Cynthia A Robie, Daryl D Martin, David T Wolfe, Gregory T Taylor, Heather L Saunooke, How-ard L Toineeta, Issac A Catt, Jackie McCoy, Jaqueline E Pheasant, James D Taylor, Janice L Wildcat, Janie R Reed, Jeanette Smoker, Jeffrey T Smith, Jerelyn D Dugan, Jerry L Driver, Jessan Mrylynn

Hurkes, Joan R Standingdeer, Joel G Ringlero, John C Lambert, John Randall French, John S Arch, Jo-seph J Holiday, Joseph Saunooke Jr., Marjorie Wakefield, Mary E Peavy, Mary E Thomas, Mary Long, Melisa F Wachacha, Melissa G Chastain, Michael P Buchanan, Noah M Crowe, Norma M Scream-er, Omer A Buchanan Jr., Patrick S Montelongo, Patsy Marie French, Portia Hayden, Robert A Maney, Robert F Bradley, Ronda L Los-siah, Selene Pheasant, Shanna L Keeswood, Sharon L Owl, Sheila R Valentine, and Sonya M Cary.

INVITATION TO BID Re: September 2026 Residential Remodeling Advertisement

The Cherokee Housing Indi-an Division is seeking sealed bids from qualified TERO contractors to complete Flooring Contacted Services in Cherokee, NC. Soco Creek Apartment/Flooring Repair

Please contact CIHD for addi-tional information. Ernest Tiger, Property Manager, Qualla Housing Services, Chero-kee Indian Housing Division, PO Box 1749, 687 Acquoni Rd., Office 828-359-6748, Cell 828-736-6922, ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov. 9/23

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Full Name	Complete Mailing Address		
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Full Name	Complete Mailing Address		
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PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4 (see instructions page 4)) PSN: 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com .			



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

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



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

OPEN POSITIONS



NEW POSITIONS

Tribal Option Care Management Extender
EVS Technician – Evening Shift
Housekeeper TCC

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health Therapist - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family –
Snowbird, Dora Reed, Family Safety, Family Inten-
sive Treatment, Medication Assisted Treatment,
Kanvwotiyi)
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwotiyi
Targeted Case Manager –Adult Outpatient Services
Behavioral Health Training and Development Coor-
dinator
Behavioral Health Consultant Supervisor
Residential Technician – Women's Home

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 Lab Technician

MEDICAL

Psychiatrist
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

NURSING

Registered Nurse Emergency Department –Tem-
porary
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
Telemetry Nursing Assistant – PTI
Nurse Resident/Intern
Specialty Services Registered Nurse - \$10,000
Hiring Bonus

NUTRITION

Clinical Dietitian
Clinical Dietitian - Temporary

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Rehabilitation Department Case Manager

Radiology

Radiology Technologist I

TRIBAL OPTION

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

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

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CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343

Leaves Are Falling, Opportunities Are Calling

JOB FAIR

Thursday, September 17 | 1PM - 5PM

Located in the Employment Office
on the Second Floor

Harrah's
CHEROKEE
CASINO RESORT

Restrictions apply. Please see Talent Acquisition department for details. Harrah's Cherokee Casinos value diversity and inclusion and are Equal Opportunity Employers. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo ID. Must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble, and must present a valid state or federal photo ID upon request. Know When to Stop Before You Start. © Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. © 2020. Caesars License Company LLC.



Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, September 20, 2026

1. Advanced Linguist Apprentice (Multiple) – Kituwah Preservation & Education Program – CERS (L5 \$15.00 - \$20.28 per hour)
2. Dental Support Coordinator – Children's Dental Program – Public Health & Human Services (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour)
3. Breastfeeding Peer Counselor – WIC – Public Health & Human Services (L5 \$15.00 - \$20.28 per hour)
4. Commercial Property Specialist – Enterprise Development – Commerce (L13 \$24.36 - \$30.46 per hour)
5. Training & Development Specialist – Training & Development – Human Resources (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,763)

Open Until Filled

1. Social Worker (Multiple) – Family Safety – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$26.81 - \$33.52 per hour) 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
11. Air Quality Specialist – Environmental & Natural Resources – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)

EBCI Human Resources Mon- Fri 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Call us (828) 359-6388

www.ebci.com/jobs



Apply online at
<https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/onlineapp/> or
www.ees-nc.org/apps/pages/human_resources for more information.

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

JV Girls Head Basketball Coach
K-6 Teacher Assistant - Must have 48 Completed College Hours
K-6 Special Education Teacher Assistant (Multiple)- Must have 48 Completed College Hours
K-6 Self-Contained Teacher Assistant - Must have 48 Completed College Hours
7-8 Special Education (Inclusion) Teacher
7-8 Cherokee Language Teacher
Food Service Worker 6 Hour Full-Time
Part-Time Food Service Worker
Substitute Teachers
AM Custodian and PM Custodian

CHEROKEE BOYS CLUB VACANCIES

Snowbird Child Development

3--Snowbird Teachers—\$31,800--\$39,750 per year with benefits*

Agelink Child Development

3--Teacher—\$31,800--\$39,750 per year with benefits*

Children's Home

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

4 --Residential Counselor—Full Time—\$17.00 per hour w/ benefits*

Bus & Truck Department

Seasonal Bus Drivers*

Truck Drivers*

SAFETY SENSITIVE POSITIONS

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

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

"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"





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



<< **Mountain State Fair winners** Bruce Welch, shown in photo at left with table, and his granddaughter, Allana Kemp, both members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, won ribbons at the 2026 Mountain State Fair in Fletcher, N.C. Welch won first place in mixed media, second place in mixed media, and second place in the 62-70 senior craft/handicraft division. Kemp won first place in the 9-11 age group 3D mixed media division. They started making resin coffee tables a year ago and enjoy the hobby as a way to spend time together. (Photos by Nakeysha A. Welch)



Birth Announcement

Ma'Kyia Jelise Johnson, of Tsisqwohi (Birdtown), was born to mother, Juliann Welch, on Friday, Aug. 28. (Photo contributed)



Birth Announcement

Kya Mae Lambert, of Widagalinidisgv (Big Y), was born on Unadodaquonvhi (Monday), Galoni (Aug.) 24. She was born to parents, Darian and PJ Lambert, and great grandparents, Beth Calhoun and Morgan and Clara Calhoun. (Photo courtesy of Clara Calhoun).



Positive Reflection Booth

Mariah Hill, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) from Kolanvvi (Big Cove) and an employee at EBCI Cooperative Extension, took this photo of Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shennelle Feather and Kolanvvi Rep. Lavita Hill at the From Darkness into Hope Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention Event held at the Oconaluftee River Park in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Nvgine lga (Thursday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 10. The mirror was part of Mahan's 'Positive Reflection Booth' where people would look into the mirror and say positive affirmations about themselves.

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



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

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



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\$5,487 Stock # U0410



2019 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon 4x4
\$28,685 Stock# T02829J



2011 Dodge Ram 1500 SLT
\$18,283 Stock# T02829A



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



2006 GMC Sierra 1500 HD SLE1
\$14,561 Stock# T02791B



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

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