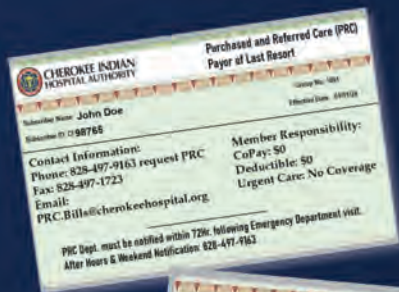


The logo for SmokiesLife, featuring the word "smokies" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by "life" in a similar font but with a stylized mountain peak integrated into the letter "i". The entire logo is white and set against a dark green background.



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

Purchased & **R**eferred **C**are

CARDS FAQ

Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA) Purchased & Referred Care (PRC) cards are designed to streamline the process for patients when visiting external healthcare providers, making it easier to access necessary services and manage referrals.

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I HAVE INSURANCE DO I NEED A PRC CARD?

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WHEN DO I USE MY PRC CARD?

Show your PRC Card when you receive healthcare outside of CIHA.

Bring:

- Your PRC Card
- Your referral
- Your insurance card, if you have one

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DO I STILL NEED A REFERRAL OR DOES THE CARD TAKE THE PLACE OF MY REFERRAL?

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WHERE DO I GET MY PRC CARD?

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Image of the Week:

Cherokee's Kingston Welch hands the ball to the official after scoring a touchdown in the third quarter during a game at Rosman on the evening of Friday, Sept. 18. With four touchdowns, he helped lead the Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) to a 42-14 win over the Rosman Tigers. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

Quote of the Week

GWY Ꮻᎃᎆ ᏍᏓᏍᏗᏁ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

"These places aren't just places where trees need to be protected, these are places where our culture lives, where it's always at."

Kimberly Smith, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who serves as The Wilderness Society's Southern States conservation specialist, speaking to students at Kuwohi on the morning of Taline Iga (Tuesday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 15 as part of the Kuwohi Connection Days event

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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KUWOHI: From front page

language groups Dadiwonisi and CLMAP (Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program), and Cherokee High School.

Another Kuwohi Connection Day was held on Thursday, Sept. 10. Several area school systems participated in the two events including New Kituwah Academy, Cherokee Central Schools, Graham County Schools, and Swain County Schools. Other collaborative partners on the event included the National Park Service, The Wilderness Society, and EBCI Community Club Council.

Nancy Pheasant, an EBCI tribal member and storyteller, opened the program on Duliisdi 15. “This is an opportunity for you guys to come here to Kuwohi and experience and learn why this place is so important to us as Cherokee people.

When we come to the center, we find balance. We find harmony. That’s what medicine is. You have to find your balance.”

Pheasant told the students the cultural significance of Kuwohi including accounts of Bear Council and Medicine Lake. “Share the story and find ways to help protect everything about us, everything around us, and protect each other, too. Find that harmony and find your balance.”

Katie Tiger, a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, serves as the program director for the Weaving Intergenerational Pathways program in the Center for Native Health. Of the event, she told the One Feather, “It’s bringing together partnerships that care about cultural education, which is great. So, we have the Center for Native Health, Nation-



Nancy Pheasant, an EBCI tribal member and storyteller, welcomes students to the Kuwohi Connection Day event on Taline Iga (Tuesday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 15.

al Park Service, Museum of the Cherokee People, Cooperative Extension, Wilderness Society, and Community Club Council. So, we’ve all been working to put these educational days on.”

She added, “Really, the goal is to educate the kids about what this place is to Cherokee people. And, we kind of changed it up in the sense that we’re now having high schoolers come and teach the kids these dances and songs and stories, which I think is really cool. Because, we talk about how important the intergenerational knowledge-sharing is. To me, that’s what this thing is about is just knowledge sharing and teaching one another about this special place.”

When asked about the name of the event and its significance, Tiger noted, “Essentially, connect kids to this place. We talk about

place-based education and this is the perfect place to do that. This year the theme is Cherokee core values, so each presenter is essentially teaching at least one of those core values to the fifth graders.”

The seven Cherokee Core Values are:

- Spirituality which creates a bond among Cherokee people in good times and bad and is a source of hope
- Group harmony in community and kin relationships, and freely sharing and giving time, talent, and treasures
- Strong individual character with integrity, honesty, perseverance, courage, respect, trust, honor, and humility
- Strong connection to the land and commitment to stewardship of the homelands of the Cherokee
- Honoring the past by knowing one’s ancestors, identifying with

and belonging to the Tribe, and living and preserving Cherokee culture

- Educating the children by providing values-oriented education and recreation, and by being strong role models for them
- Possessing a sense of humor, which can lighten pressure in serious situations and help people make good decisions

Kimberly Smith, an EBCI tribal member, serves as The Wilderness Society’s Southern States conservation specialist. She had a booth during the event and told the students on Duliisdi 15, “What’s really cool about being up here is you get to see these places...these places are sacred to us and they’re special places.

These places aren’t just places where trees need to be protected, these are places where our culture lives, where it’s always at.”

EBCI leadership opposes prediction markets

By **BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT**
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - On Taline Iga (Tuesday) Duliisdi (Sept.) 15, the CLARITY Act failed to pass a procedural cloture vote in U.S. Senate with a result of 50 against and 49 in favor. The CLARITY Act would have created a regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies and digital assets, including prediction markets. Prediction markets are online platforms where people can bet on the outcomes of events via contract.

Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks opposes prediction markets, and was pleased with the failure of the CLARITY Act cloture

vote, stating in part in a release from Tsoine Iga (Wednesday) Duliisdi 16,

“The [Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI)] celebrates the vote in the U.S. Senate against the CLARITY Act, legislation that would have legalized illegal online sports betting and other casino games. The EBCI and Tribal Nations across Indian Country opposed this bill because of its direct affront to tribal sovereignty and the tribal gaming industry...Prediction markets allow people to put money on the outcome of events, including sporting events, through what they call ‘event contracts.’ The concern is that if a sports wager can be called a financial contract instead

of a bet, companies could use federal financial regulations to operate outside the gaming laws that Tribes and states are required to follow.”

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) representatives also shared their opposition to prediction markets.

Tutiya nole Tsalagi Gadugi (Tutiya and Cherokee Co.) Rep. Michael Smoker shared, “Prediction markets are in direct conflict with the sovereignty of Indian tribes, because the prediction market cannot regulate or control where betting is done. Under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Indian tribes have the ability to enforce how wagering is handled on their lands. Without measures in place to protect the sovereign constitutional rights of tribes, prediction markets are basically a lawless environment for unregulated and unethical wagering.”

Wayohi (Wolftown) Rep. Bo Crowe added, “I’m not comfortable with any market that would provide access to betting to younger people. Prediction markets have been shown to be accessible to teenagers. Gambling is very simply an adult’s decision, and we have a responsibility to protect our young people.”

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Venita Wolfe stated, “Prediction markets are the most recent threat to our tribal sovereignty by providing illegal online sports betting. Not only does this violate tribal, state, and federal laws, but prediction markets are attacking our tribal members by undermining our tribal government’s ability to provide services to our EBCI members. Along with our tribal leaders and other tribal nations, I have been involved in protecting our rights to self-governance through gaming.”

Wilson Pipestem, a citizen of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe and an attorney and lobbyist for the EBCI, stated, “[The CLARITY Act] as it’s currently written would essentially codify the view of prediction markets on their view of the law. So, it would permit this activity to continue. Tribal governments from across the country have been united in opposing that legislation...Right now, the prediction markets have been focused on sports betting but based on their theory of how what they’re doing is legal, there’s nothing that would prohibit them from getting into online casino gaming, table games, slot machines, that sort of thing. So, some are predicting that the impact on tribal gaming would be a 25 percent hit to tribal gaming if this is not brought under control. So, very serious issues related to tribal sovereignty and our authority to regulate and control gaming that takes place on our tribal lands. I know that Principal Chief Hicks, as one of the executive committee members of the Indian Gaming Association, he’s got a front row seat into the tribal leader dialogue that’s going on around this issue.”

Pipestem said President Donald J. Trump was a proponent of the CLARITY Act. View who voted yea or nay here. N.C. Republican Senator Ted Budd voted yea, and N.C. Republican Senator Thom Tillis voted nay.

Ugviyuhi Hicks shared that the EBCI will continue to oppose prediction markets. “This issue will continue to evolve as technology changes and the EBCI will remain engaged and continue working with our partners across Indian Country to protect tribal sovereignty.”

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MOUNTAIN HERITAGE DAYS

SEPTEMBER
21-26, 2026

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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

Bills with recent action

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. The bill was passed in the House by a voice vote on Sept. 14, 2026. It was received in the Senate the following day.

Senate Bill 5354 (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 both Senate Bill 4276 and H.R. 8092.

Introduced: Aug. 6, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Aug. 6, 2026. An oversight hearing entitled “Examining Housing Needs in Native Communities” was held in that Committee on Wednesday, Sept. 16.

Bills we’re currently watching

H.R. 226 (Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Re-acquisition Act). This bill would place 76 acres of land in eastern Tennessee into trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Included in that land are the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, the Chota Memorial, and the Tanasi Memorial sites.
Introduced: Jan. 7, 2025 by Rep. Charles J. “Chuck” Fleischmann (R-Tenn.)
Action: This bill was passed in the House by a voice vote on Feb. 4, 2025. It was received in the Senate the next day and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 761 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act). This bill would establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. According to Congress.gov, “Among other duties, the Commission must investigate the impacts

and ongoing effects of the Indian Boarding School Policies – federal policies under which American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian children were forcibly removed from their family homes and placed in boarding schools.”
Introduced: Feb. 26, 2025 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. It was “ordered to be reported without amendment favorably” by the Committee on March 5, 2025. It was reported without amendment by Sen. Murkowski (R-Alaska), Senate Committee on Indian Affairs chairperson, on July 31, 2025. That same day, it was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders (Calendar No. 139).

H.R. 2412 (Indigenous Diplomacy and Engagement Act). This bill would establish an Office for Indigenous Affairs and an Advisory Commission for Indigenous Peoples within the Department of State.
Introduced: March 27, 2025 by Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawai’i)
Action: This bill was referred to both the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 27, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 2929. (Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe recognition bill). This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group.
Introduced: April 17, 2025 by Rep. Donald G. Davis (D-N.C.)
Action: This bill was referred to

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

H.R. 3255. (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). This bill would grant federal 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 Mas-to (D-Nev.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Jun 11, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 3956 (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Act of 2025). This bill would amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 “to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts and self-governance agreements with Indian entities to administer the food distribution program on Indian reservations”. Introduced: June 12, 2025 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.) and Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture on June 12, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 2160 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). This bill seeks the same as H.R. 3255 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). Introduced: June 25, 2025 by Sen. Gary C. Peters (D-Mich.)
Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 25, 2025. There

is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 4276 (To amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act). According to congress.gov, this bill amends the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act “to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations”. Introduced: July 2, 2025 by Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawai’i)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources as well as the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on July 2, 2025. This bill was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, and a hearing was held in that Subcommittee on Nov. 19, 2025.

Senate Bill 2211 (Special Diabetes Program Reauthorization Act of 2025). This bill seeks to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. For both programs, it seeks funding in the amount of \$160,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027. Introduced: July 8, 2025 by Sen. Susan M. Collins (R-Maine)
Action: This will was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on July 8, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 4463 (To amend the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993). The text of the legislation states, “Subsection

(d) of section 7 of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–116), is amended by striking ‘; however, in no event may an individual be enrolled as a tribal member unless the individual is a lineal descendant of a person on the final base membership roll and has continued to maintain political relations with the Tribe.’.” Introduced: July 16, 2025 by Rep. Ralph Norman (R-S.C.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 16. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on Sept. 4, 2025, and a hearing was held on this legislation in the subcommittee on Sept. 9, 2025. A Committee mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. It was reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 2, 2026 and was placed on the Union Calendar that same day. The bill was passed by a voice vote in the House on June 2, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 3, 2026.

H.R. 4596 (McCarren-Walter Technical Corrections Act). This bill would “amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the right of members of federally recognized Indian Tribes in the United States and First Nations individuals in Canada to cross the borders of the United States”. Introduced: July 22, 2025 by Rep. Timothy M. Kennedy (D-New York)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on July 22, 2025. There

is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 4750 (To extend federal recognition to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia). This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group. Introduced: July 23, 2025 by Rep. Eugene Simon Vindman (D-Va.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 23, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 9

Affairs on July 24, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

It specifically seeks to amend Public Law 100-89 (Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act). Section 3 of the bill states, “This Act shall be construed to ensure the full applicability of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701) to gaming activities on Indian lands of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Indian lands of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe.” Introduced: July 31, 2025 by Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 31, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

Judiciary on July 31, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

Introduced: Aug. 29, 2025 by Rep. Lori Trahan (D-Mass.) Action: This resolution was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Aug. 29, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this resolution as of press time.

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

Resources on Sept. 4, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 5257 (To reaffirm the trust status of land taken into trust). The full title of the bill states “To reaffirm the trust status of land taken into trust by the United States pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1934, for the benefit of an Indian Tribe that was federally recognized on the date that the land was taken into trust”. Introduced: Sept. 10, 2025 by Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.) Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 10, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 5327 (To extend federal recognition to the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia). This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group. Introduced: Sept. 11, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer L. McClellan (D-Va.) Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 11, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

Business and Entrepreneurship on Sept. 17, 2025.

H.R. 5488 (To extend funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians). This bill would amend Title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. It would 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 Expansion Act).

This bill would “amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to assistance for Indian Tribes”. According to the bill, “In addition to amounts otherwise made available under Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, there is authorized to be appropriated \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031 to make grants, in cooperation with the Director of the Indian Health Service...for (A) projects and activities eligible for assistance under 603(c) of such Act; and (B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs related to the operation and management of treatment works eligible for assistance...”

Introduced: Oct. 28, 2025 by Rep.

Frederica S. Wilson (D-Fla.)

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

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

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

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 4, 2025. A Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session was held on Dec. 17, 2025, and the bill was reported and placed on the Union Calendar by the Committee on Jan. 14, 2026. This bill was passed by the House on a voice vote on March 3, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 4, 2026. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3236 (A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008). This is a “bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to ensure Tribal consultation and representation under the food distribution program on Indian reservations”.

Introduced: Nov. 20, 2025 by Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on Nov. 20, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 6285 (Native Arts and Culture Promotion Act).

This bill would amend the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Culture and Art Development Act Section 1521 to add the following subsection (c), “(2) For any grants made with respect to Native Hawaiian art and culture, the members of the governing board which is required to be established under paragraph (1) shall (A) include Native Hawaiians and individuals widely recognized in the field of Native Hawaiian art and culture.”

Introduced: Nov. 21, 2025 by Rep. Jill N. Tokuda (D-Hawai’i)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce on Nov. 21, 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

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

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

H.R. 7325 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act of 2026). This bill would establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies “to formally investigate, document, and report on the histories of Indian Boarding Schools, Indian Boarding School Policies, and the systematic and long-term effects of those schools and policies on Native American people”. If passed, an initial Commission Report would be required within four years and annual reports would be required from that point on.

Introduced: Feb. 3, 2026 by Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)
Action: This House bill was referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Committee on Education and Workforce on Feb. 3, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7396 (Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act). This bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration which “shall be responsible for establishing a working relationship with Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations by targeting programs of the Administration relating to entrepreneurial development, contracting, and capital access...”

Introduced: Feb. 5, 2026 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Small Business on Feb. 5, 2026, and a mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026 where it was reported favorably (24-0 vote). The bill was passed by the House by a voice vote on June 23, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on June 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7490 (Tribal Warrant Fairness Act). This bill will “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain Tribal criminal matters.”
Introduced: Feb. 11, 2026 by Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 11, 2026. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7627 (Tribal Conservation Priorities Inclusion Act). This bill aims “to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to include Indian Tribes in certain provisions relating to priority resource concerns”.

Introduced: Feb. 20, 2026 by Rep. Joe Neguse (D-Colo.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture on Feb. 20, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3945 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act). This bill aims “to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply to Tribal law enforcement agencies”.
Introduced: Feb. 26, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Feb. 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3946 (Tribal Firearm Access Act). This bill seeks “to allow members of federally recognized Tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer”.
Introduced: Feb. 26, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7698 (Tribal Firearm Access Act). This bill seeks “to allow members of federally recognized tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer”.
Introduced: Feb. 25, 2026 by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.)
Action: This bill was referred

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

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

Senate Bill 3994 (PRIME Meat Processing in Indian Country Act). This bill aims “to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to authorize tribal meat inspection under that Act by tribal personnel”. In the title, PRIME means “Promoting Regulatory Independence, Mastery, and Expansion”.
Introduced: March 4, 2026 by Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 4, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 4179 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act). This bill seeks “to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations”.

Introduced: March 24, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on March 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 8048 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act). This bill seeks “to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations”.

Introduced: March 24, 2026 by Rep. Adelita S. Grijalva (D-Ariz.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on 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 bill was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services on March 26, 2026. A hearing was held in this Committee on Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

H.R. 8954 (Tribal Regulatory Reform Implementation Act of 2026). This bill would “amend the Indian Tribal Regulatory Reform and Business Development Act of 2000 to transfer certain administrative responsibilities to the Secretary of the Interior”.
Introduced: May 21, 2026 by Rep. Jeff Hurd (R-Colo.)

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

Senate Bill 4976 (Native Children’s Commission Implementation Act of 2026). This bill seeks “to improve outcomes for Native children by empowering tribal communities, strengthening families, and increasing access to critical services”. The bill would establish the Advisory Committee on Tribal Juvenile Justice which would “provide advice and recommendations to the Administrator, the Attorney General, and Congress on all matters relating to juvenile justice, delinquency prevention and system improvement with respect to tribal youth”.

The bill also states, “Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior, shall conduct Tribal consultation and,

after conducting that consultation, complete a study on the number and status of cases involving Native American missing children and youth, including the scope and context of those cases that are connected to juvenile justice system involvement, child welfare system involvement, and non-custodial parent abduction, including domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, drug activity, stalking, and human trafficking.”

Introduced: July 14, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 14, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 5132 (A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008). The full text of this legislation is not yet available. The title currently states, “A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to allow for dual enrollment in the supplemental nutrition assistance program and the food distribution program on Indian reservations.”

Introduced: July 23, 2026 by Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on July 23, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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.

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.

Here is the contact information for your federal legislators:

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

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Fridays at
12 p.m.**

Cochran and Sleight III cases continued to December

By **BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT**
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Duliisdi (Sept.) 8 session of Cherokee criminal and civil domestic violence court was cancelled. The One Feather inquired about two sexual abuse cases that were set to appear in the Duliisdi 8 session: former Swain Co. Sheriff Curtis Cochran, and former Santa's Land Santa Bevier Hasbrouck Sleight III. Both cases were continued to the Vsgiyi (Dec.) 7 court session.

Cochran is facing charges in

Cherokee Tribal Court for two counts of oppression in office, one count of assault on a female, and one count of abusive sexual contact. He is also charged by the state with felonious restraint, assault on a female, sexual battery, and solicitation to commit prostitution.

Sleight III is charged in Cherokee Tribal Court with two counts of aggravated sexual abuse, two counts of sexual abuse, two counts of abusive sexual contact, three counts of offensive touching, two counts of contributing to the delinquency, undiscipline, neglect, or abuse of minors, and two counts of child abuse in the first degree. Shawnenna Caroline Roland, the mother of Sleight's alleged victims, is facing federal charges for child abuse, child neglect, and assault in

Indian Country. She is scheduled to appear before Judge Max O. Cogburn Jr. on Dunindi (Oct.) 5.

The One Feather will continue to monitor and provide updates on these cases.

Federal Jury acquits Derrick Cucumber of First-Degree Murder and all related charges

Special to the One Feather

ASHEVILLE, N.C.— A federal jury sitting in the Asheville Division of the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, at the United States Courthouse in Asheville, returned verdicts recently of not

guilty on all counts in the prosecution of Derrick Cucumber, including a charge of first-degree murder.

The verdict followed a jury trial before U.S. District Judge Martin Reidinger. Cucumber was represented by western North Carolina criminal defense attorney Frank Lay.

Cucumber had been held in pretrial confinement for approximately 22 months while awaiting resolution of the charges. Following the jury's verdicts, he was released and returned home to his family.

The central issue at trial was whether Cucumber acted in lawful self-defense when he shot and killed Mario Sanchez Nino.

Cucumber testified at trial and maintained that he fired after

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Sanchez Nino pointed a .45-caliber handgun at him and Cucumber believed his life was in danger.

The defense challenged the Government's account through witness testimony, physical evidence, and significant discrepancies in the timeline surrounding the shooting. The defense maintained throughout the trial that the Government bore the burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that Cucumber did not act in self-defense.

"This was an extraordinarily serious case involving the loss of a human life, and our thoughts remain with Mario's family and everyone affected by what happened that night," Lay said. "A not-guilty verdict does not diminish that loss. At the same time, the right of self-defense is a fundamental human life, and our thoughts remain with Mario's family and everyone affected by what happened that night. A not-guilty verdict does not diminish that loss.

At the same time, the right of self-defense is a fundamental protection under our law," Lay continued. "That right has meaning only if it is faithfully applied when the stakes are at their highest. Derrick placed his life and his future in the hands of a jury, and we are profoundly grateful for the care and attention the jurors gave this case."

Lay also praised the members of the jury who served during the trial.

"Jury service requires ordinary citizens to step away from their work, their families, and their daily lives to assume an extraordinary responsibility," Lay said. "The men and women of this jury listened carefully to difficult evidence and fulfilled one of the most important civic duties in our justice system.

Without citizens willing to serve as jurors, our system simply cannot work."

The defense also expressed appreciation to the United States Attorney's Office for what Lay described as a professional and well-trying prosecution, as well as to the court staff, court reporter, courtroom security personnel, and the United States Marshals Service for their professionalism throughout the proceedings.

"For 22 months, Derrick waited for the opportunity to have a jury hear his case," Lay said. "This week, that jury spoke. Not guilty of first-degree murder. Not guilty on every count. And after nearly two years in custody, Derrick finally went home to his family."

CIPD Arrest Report for Sept. 7-13, 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.

Pipes II, Eric Lee – age 37
Arrested: Sept. 7
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 14)
Charges: Pre-Trial Release Violation, Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Ward, Delbert Carlsyle – age 36
Arrested: Sept. 8
Released: Sept. 10
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree (three counts); Contributing to the Delinquency,

Undiscipline, Neglect or Abuse of Minors (three counts); Reckless Endangerment (three counts)

Ward, Rhiannon Tracy – age 32
Arrested: Sept. 8
Released: Sept. 10
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree (three counts); Contributing to the Delinquency, Undiscipline, Neglect or Abuse of Minors (three counts); Reckless Endangerment (three counts)

Bernhisel, Emma Gene – age 23
Arrested: Sept. 9
Released: Sept. 9
Charges: Second Degree Trespass

Martin, Brandon Keith – age 43
Arrested: Sept. 9
Released: Sept. 9
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Martinez, Jose Tomas – age 61
Arrested: Sept. 9
Released: Sept. 10
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Rattler, Tony – age 61
Arrested: Sept. 9
Released: Sept. 9
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Gould, Kenneth – age 43
Arrested: Sept. 10
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 14)
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Tsatoke, Isaac David – age 22
Arrested: Sept. 10
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 14)
Charges: Driving While Impaired; Child Abuse in the Second Degree; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers; Escape from Imprisonment and Custody

onment and Custody

Smith Jr., Billy Ray – age 22
Arrested: Sept. 11
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 14)
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Stapleton, Lance Edward – age 40
Arrested: Sept. 12
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 14)
Charges: Violations of Exclusion Resolutions and Orders

White, Heather Michelle – age 31
Arrested: Sept. 12
Released: Sept. 12
Charges: Assault Inflicting Serious Bodily Injury

Arneach, Samuel George – age 18
Arrested: Sept. 13
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 14)
Charges: Weapons on Tribal Property, Aggravated Weapons Offense

Martin, Brandon Keith – age 43
Arrested: Sept. 13
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 14)
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Smith, Ashley Nicole – age 38
Arrested: Sept. 13
Released: Sept. 14
Charges: Larceny, Fraudulent Use of a Credit, Debit, or Bank Card

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FOOTBALL

Cherokee wins SMC conference-opener

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

ROSMAN, N.C. – The Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) traveled to the Rosman Tigers in Rosman, N.C. on the evening of Tsungilosdi (Friday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 18 and came away with a 42-14 win in their Smoky Mountain Conference opener.

SCORING SUMMARY

By Sheena Brings Plenty
One Feather Assistant

1st Quarter

- 8:07 - CHER - Jeron Martens 31-yard pass to Tsula Howlingcrane. Jonattan Escobar kick good. Cherokee 7 Rosman 0
- 5:53 - CHER - Kingston Welch 1-yard run. Escobar kick good. Cherokee 14 Rosman 0.
- 1:11 - ROS - Zeke Gainey 27-yard pass to Isaac Muniz. Gainey 2-point conversion run good. Cherokee 14 Rosman 8.

2nd Quarter

- 10:33 - CHER - Kingston Welch 4-yard run. Escobar kick good. Cherokee 21 Rosman 8.
7:53 - CHER - Kingston Welch 3-yard run. Escobar kick good. Cherokee 28 Rosman 8.
- 0:00 - CHER - Martens 8-yard pass to Noah Watty. Escobar kick good. Cherokee 35 Rosman 8.

3rd Quarter

- 5:54 - CHER - Kingston Welch 1-yard run. Escobar kick good. Cherokee 42 Rosman 8.

4th Quarter

- 6:26 - ROS - Brayan Reynaldo 4-yard run. 2-point conversion no



Cherokee's Cain Welch gets a hard tackle on a Rosman runner (cannot see number). On the night, Welch had 6 tackles, 2 tackles for loss, and 1 sack.

good. Cherokee 42 Rosman 14.
FINAL SCORE: Cherokee 42 Rosman 14

GAME STATISTICS

Source: Cherokee Central Schools and Maxpreps

PASSING: Cherokee - Jeron Martens 4 of 7, 62 yds, 2 TD, 1 INT; Rosman - M. Griffin 1 of 6 for 27 yds, 1 TD
RUSHING LEADERS: Cherokee - Jeron Martens 3 for 23 yds; Kingston Welch 23 for 225 yds, 4 TD, long of 67; Rosman - B. Reynaldo 15 for 103 yds, 1 TD; B. Owen 8 for 34 yds; C. Dodson 11 for 73 yds; Z. Gainey 13 for 34 yds

RECEIVING: Cherokee - Tsula Howlingcrane 2 for 39 yds, 1 TD; Noah Watty 1 for 8 yds, 1 TD; Mack Burgess 1 for 15 yds; Rosman - I. Muniz 1 for 27 yds, 1 TD
TOTAL YARDS: Cherokee - 322; Rosman - 277
DEFENSIVE LEADERS: Cherokee - Siah Teesateskie 10 tackles; Levi Trampler 10 tackles, 1.5 TFL; Colin Lossie 9 tackles; Sonny Foalima 8 tackles; Drallen Ledford 8 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 Sack, 1 PBU, 1 Fumble Recovery; Zaynon Taylor 7 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 QB Pressure, 1 Fumble Recovery; Cain Welch 6 tackles, 2 TFL, 1 Sack, 1 Fumble Recovery; Kyitan Johnson 6 tackles; Greyson Ledford 5 tackles;

Kaden Cucumber 4 tackles, 1 PBU; Kimo Sokol 4 tackles, 2 PBUs; Johnny Long 3 tackles, 1 TFL, 2 QB Pressures; Waya Hernandez 2 tackles; Tsula Howlingcrane 2 tackles; Noah Watty 2 tackles; John Gloyne 2 tackles; Noah Dossett 1 tackle, 1 QB Pressure; Preston Roach 1 tackle; Nakai Pheasant 1 tackle. ROSMAN - M. Griffin 7, 1 TFL; Z. Gainey 9; C. Dodson 9, 1.5 TFL, 1 sack; D. Friend 5
PATs: Cherokee - Jonathan Escobar 6 of 6

PATs: Cherokee - Jonathan Escobar 6 of 6



SOCCER: The Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) played Tri County Early College (TEC) at the Cherokee High School soccer field in Cherokee, N.C., on the afternoon of Tsoine Iga (Wednesday) Duliisdi (Sept.) 16. Pictured is Ivan Santos taking the ball upfield. FINAL SCORE: Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi 6 Tri County Early College 0. The goal scorers for the game included Kayden Stephens (2), Ajayden George, Adrian Santos (2), and Odie Owle. Coaches for Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi are Kevin Primo, Matt Martens, and Scott Lambert. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)

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Misty Millsaps	mistmill@ebci-nsn.gov	828-359-6919

Pam Straughan joins SCC's Board of Trustees

Submitted by
Southwestern Community College

SYLVIA, N.C. – Continuing a rich tradition of representation from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), Pam Straughan, an EBCI tribal member of Cherokee, was sworn in as the newest member of Southwestern Community College's Board of Trustees.

Mark Jones, who currently serves as chair, was also appointed to a new term and sworn in on Sept. 8.

Straughan currently serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff-Constituent Services under Principal Chief Michell Hicks. She previously served for 13 years as the EBCI Director of Youth and Adult Education Programs.

She joins a board at SCC that previously included former EBCI Principal Chiefs Walter Jackson, Noah Powell and Leon Jones. She holds an associate degree in Business Administration and a certificate in Paralegal Technology – Real Estate from SCC. She also earned a bachelor's in Business and Public Administration from The University of Virginia – Wise as well as a master's in Higher Educational Leadership from Liberty University.

Appointed to SCC's board by the Senate of the N.C. General Assembly, Straughan has begun a four-year term that runs through



Pam Straughan, an EBCI tribal member of Cherokee, is sworn in as a member of SCC's Board of Trustees on Sept. 8 at the college's Jackson Campus in Sylva. (SCC photo)

June 30, 2030.

"It is an honor to serve on the SCC Board of Trustees," Straughan said. "I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to serving with the Board of Trustees to support SCC's mission, its students, families and communities it serves."

Jones was appointed by the House of Representatives of the N.C. General Assembly. A fourth-generation resident of

Jackson County, he has served as chair of the Jackson County Airport Authority since 2012.

He previously served four terms on the Jackson County Board of Commissioners and also was past president of both the Cashiers and Jackson County Chambers of Commerce. After spending 36 years as a hospitality professional in Jackson County, Jones retired three years ago.

"Throughout our history,

Southwestern Community College has been extremely fortunate to have so many qualified individuals willing to serve in the capacity as members of our Board of Trustees," Dr. Don Tomas said. "We are grateful to our Board of Trustees for their commitment to supporting the college's mission on student success, workforce development and community engagement."

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

Tribe hosts Cherokee Archaeological Symposium

By **DAWN ARNEACH**

One Feather Ad Sales Coordinator

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The 12th Annual Cherokee Archaeological Symposium was held on Nvagine iga (Thursday) Duliisdi (Sept.) 17 at the Harrahs' Cherokee Casino Resort in the Event Center in Cherokee, N.C. The event was hosted by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) which is led by Dr. Beau Carroll, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer.

In a welcome to the attendees, Dr. Carroll stated the purpose of the symposium is to bring Cherokee Community members and

academics into the same room, to help reconnect with ancestral landscapes. Before the presentations started, Uwesti (Jack Cooper) led the group in an opening prayer in the Cherokee language. Historic Preservation Specialist, Stephen Yerka, was the day's master of ceremonies.

The presenters were EBCI tribal members, honorary EBCI tribal members, and professors that work to promote and preserve Indigenous/ Cherokee sites, knowledge and to bring a better understanding of how the ancestors of the Cherokees lived precontact.

Several professors from the University of South Carolina, University of Georgia, University of

Kentucky, and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill shared how they are working within their universities to work better with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAG-PRA) as well as working with tribal entities to aid in returning items in the archives.

Angelina Jumper, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the cultural resource supervisor for the Junaluska Museum, shared how people can reach out to the Cultural Institutional review Board (CIRB) for any plans of upcoming research people are thinking of doing. The CIRB ensures that the research is conducted ethically, respectfully and with accountability to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Dr. Brett Riggs gave an overview of the Watauga mound, the significance of the area and its alignment for the winter and summer solstice. Dr. Tasha Benyshek talked about the archaeological work that was performed on what is known as the Boundary Tree tract and finding evidence of

there being a 15th century Cherokee palisade. Other talks covered prescribed fire burns and how it is being used more today. Tennessee is set to add 14 new state parks, one of which has a mound site within the park's boundaries. Also discussed was the use of ground penetrating radar to help identify areas of importance without disturbing the sites.

The Symposium ended with the Principal Chief Leon D. Jones Award for Archaeological Excellence. This is given to an individual whose work has made an important contribution to protecting Cherokee places and improving our understanding of Cherokee history. This year's award was given to Shawn Patch of new South Associates, for his work in geophysics in the Southeast. He has spent much of his career using ground penetrating radar, magnetometry and other nondestructive methods to better understand archaeological sites while limiting physical disturbance.

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Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

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

2026 Cherokee High School Homecoming Court

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



<<

The boys on the court are shown, left to right, including Chaz Martens, senior, Widagalinisidgv (Big Y); Gabriel Reed, freshman, Siliqwo (Sylva); Kyson Jenkins, sophomore, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Noah Dossett, junior, Elawodi (Yellowhill); Reginald Hyatt, senior, Aniwodihi (Painttown); Gunner Bird, first grade, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Greyson Ledford, sophomore, Wayohi (Wolftown); Johnny Long, senior, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Kimo Sokol, junior, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); John Gloyne, junior, Elawodi (Yellowhill); and Kingston Welch, senior, Kolanvyi (Big Cove).



<<

The girls on the court are shown, left to right, including Zoe De Los Reyes, junior, Kolanvyi (Big Cove); Ava Walkingstick, senior, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Jaylee Arch, sophomore, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Kyla Keel-Aguilera, sophomore, Widagalinisidgv (Big Y); Oaklynn Arch, first grade, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Briann Teesateskie, junior, Tsisqwohi (Birdtown); Joscelyn Stamper, senior, Aniwodihi (Painttown); Adalynn Taylor, freshman, Wayohi (Wolftown); Lilly Lossiah, junior, Wayohi (Wolftown); Daisee Fourkiller-Raby, senior, Towstring; and Livia Crowe, senior, Widagalinisidgv (Big Y).

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- If using a phone, make sure it is in Airplane Mode and ad-free.
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- Have your music ready when you arrive at the stage.
- Performance order will be determined by a random name drawing.
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BABY/TODDLER DIVISION (0-3)

(Sponsored by Medicine Man Crafts)

YOUTH DIVISION (4-14)

(Sponsored by Andy Shaw Ford)

ADULT DIVISION (15+)

(Sponsored by Bearmeat's Indian Den)

GROUP DIVISION

(Sponsored by Cherokee Hospital Foundation)

Prizes per
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\$300

2nd place:
\$150

3rd place:
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Submit your entries at: Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com.

For best results, please shoot your photos in portrait mode.

Deadline: Sunday, Oct. 25 at 12 p.m. / Winners announced Oct. 31 at 12 p.m.



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EBCI Tribal Option unveils Third StoryWalk at Cherokee County Clinic

Submitted by EBCI Tribal Option

MARBLE, N.C. - EBCI Tribal Option joined community partners to unveil a new StoryWalk at the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority's Cherokee County Clinic, creating an outdoor space where children and families can read, walk, and spend time together.

The StoryWalk is the third established through EBCI Tribal Option's Eat Well, Play Well, Stay

Well initiative, which promotes healthy lifestyles by making opportunities for literacy, movement and family connection more accessible throughout the community. The third installment, along with the other two locations at the Oconaluftee Island Park and Whitewater Landing in Cherokee, is a joint project with the Office of the Principal Chief Michell Hicks to promote Early Literacy.

"This is the third StoryWalk created as part of EBCI Tribal Option's Eat Well, Play Well, Stay Well initiative, and each one advances the vision we had from the beginning of creating welcoming spaces where children and families can read, move and spend time together," said James Burns, director of EBCI Tribal Option. "A StoryWalk brings literacy and

physical activity together in a simple but intentional way. As families follow the trail from page to page, children are strengthening their reading skills while moving their bodies, enjoying the outdoors and connecting with those around them."

The new installation features "The Colored Rabbits", written by J.C. Wachacha. The book incorporates the Cherokee language throughout the story, helping introduce young readers to the language while honoring Wachacha's work to preserve it for future generations.

With the help of Principal Chief Hicks, Students from New Kituwah Academy led guests on the inaugural walk around the trail, stopping at each station to follow the story from page to page. EBCI Tribal Option also provided colored rabbits to accompany the featured book and help make the experience more engaging for the children. The Qualla Library partnered with the event and provide free books to students, including additional other language books written by JC Wachacha.

"Thank you to the Hospital and the Foundation and everyone who made it possible to feature JC's book on this StoryWalk," said Tribal Councilman Adam Wachacha. "It means a lot to our entire family to see his legacy and the work he has done around our language preserved in a way that can reach more people."

The Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation worked with Arrowhead Contractors and Diamondback Contractors to construct and install the StoryWalk. CIHA's Maintenance Department also assisted with the broader beautification project, including the new

garden area outside the clinic.

"The location of this StoryWalk here at this clinic would not have been possible without the Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation and the generous supporters of its 2025 Gala," said Burns. "The Foundation made the beautification of the Cherokee County Clinic a priority for that year's Gala as a way to honor this clinic's location next to the Trail of Tears Corridor. The funds raised helped create the trail that circles the clinic and now features this StoryWalk, as well as the outdoor sitting area that offers patients, families and staff a comfortable place to rest, gather and enjoy the surroundings. We are grateful to the Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation, its donors and everyone who supported the Gala. Their generosity transformed an idea into a space that will promote literacy, movement, connection and wellness for years to come."

Located beside the Trail of Tears Corridor, the Cherokee County Clinic holds a meaningful connection to the history of the land and the Cherokee people. The new walking trail, StoryWalk and outdoor gathering area were thoughtfully developed to recognize that connection while providing patients, families, staff and other community members with additional opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and be active.

Through the Eat Well, Play Well, Stay Well initiative, EBCI Tribal Option will continue working with Principal Chief Hicks and other community partners to create spaces and programs that support the health and well-being of children and families.

PUBLIC NOTICE AND TESTIMONY

Confirmation Hearing pursuant to Cherokee Code Chapter 117 Article III-A

Confirmation hearing for

Barbara Parker as an Associate Judge, Kirk Saunooke as an Associate Judge, and John D. Crowe to the TABCC (Tribal Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission)

Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 11 a.m.

Tribal Council Chambers; Cherokee, N.C.

These hearings are open to the public, and Tribal Council invites public testimony only in accordance with Cherokee Code Chapter 117, Article III-A.

Anonymous comments will not be accepted.

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

The final date for public comment will be Tuesday, Oct. 6.



OBITUARIES ᏍᏏᏏᏏᏏ

Sarah N. Toineeta

Sarah N. Toineeta, 45, of the Big Y Community, went to her Heavenly Home unexpectedly on Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026.

She was the daughter of the late Mike Leroy Thompson and Dorothy L. Lossiah Thompson. She was a member of Waterfalls Baptist Church and like her mom, Sarah enjoyed singing. She worked many years at Tribal Construction, but spent the last year at the Tribal Courthouse, where she was an assistant Court Clerk. Outside of work, Sarah had recently opened up her own “Scoops” shop called “Ta-la-du Scoops”.

Sarah is survived by her daughters, Praire Toineeta (Maddox), and Teela Ross; two broth-

ers, Albert Martin, Jr. (Candy), and Jason Shell; nieces, Kara Martin (Austin) and Felicity Shell; nephews, Earl Martin and Ezra Brown; great nephew, Grayson McKinney; great nieces, Naavy McKinney, Aspen Thompson, and Macy Thompson, as well as her two cats, Stormi Rose and Pryscilla Rae who she loved greatly.

Along with her parents, she is preceded in death by her son, Cylas Mychal; several aunts, uncles, and cousins who she loved dearly. Funeral Services were held Friday, Sept. 18 at Straight Fork Baptist Church. Rev. Scotty Chekelelee officiated with burial at Lossiah Family Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Perry Arkansas, John Chastain, Maddox Smith-Sneed, Josh Crowe, David Wolfe, and Bo Crowe.

Honorary pallbearers were Grayson McKinney and Ezra Brown.

Janice Faye Foltz (née Ander)

Janice Faye Foltz (née Ander), 80, of Bryson City, N.C., passed away peacefully on Monday, Sept. 14, 2026, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Born in Los Angeles, Calif., in 1946, she will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Janice lived a life rooted in nature and connection. She found peace on long walks through the woods and joy in quiet mornings spent watching birds from her porch. She cared deeply about the health of the natural world around her, and it showed in how she moved through life — attentive, grounded, and grateful for the

small things.

Though she never had children of her own, Janice’s capacity to love was boundless. She poured that love into her niece and nephew, her friends, and everyone lucky enough to be part of her circle. She was known for having an opinion and sharing it, whether you asked for it or not — always from a place of honesty and care. She loved those she called friends fiercely and would do anything for them.

Janice had a gift for storytelling. She had cooked for many people throughout her life, and the stories she told about them and about everything she’d lived through were treasured by those who heard them. To her niece and nephew, she was not only an aunt but also a friend and confidante,

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Tsalagi Uwoduhi
(Beautiful Cherokee)

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

Submit clear, high resolution photos of plants, wildlife, or landscapes to us at
Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

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

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

someone she spoke with almost daily. That closeness, that constant presence, leaves a hole that won't be easily filled.

Janice will be remembered for her love of nature, fierce loyalty, sharp opinions freely expressed, and the stories that shaped who she was.

She was preceded in death by her father, Albert Ander Sr.; her mother, Sarah Smythe (née Reed); and her sister, Patricia Mount (née Ander).

She is survived by her former spouse, Levi Foltz; her half-brothers, Albert Ander Jr. and Joseph Ander; her step-brother, Tommy Tonkoci; her niece and nephew; many cousins from her mother's beloved family; and a far-flung web of dear friends and loved ones who were her family by choice.

At Janice's request, there will be no funeral at this time. A celebration of life will be planned for later this fall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project or to the Mainspring Conservation Trust.

Long House Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Diamond John Rattler

Diamond John Rattler, age 89, of Fayetteville, N.C., went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, Sept. 13, 2026. He was born to the late Woodie Cornsilk Rattler and John West Rattler on Jan. 20, 1937. He served in the Marines during the Korean War.

Diamond was the husband to Patricia Williamson whom he

loved dearly.

In addition to his parents, Diamond is preceded in death by his brothers, Norman and Walter Rattler; sister-in-law, Theresa Rattler; and niece, Loretta Adams.

He is survived by children, Bobby Lynn Locklear (Justin Chavis), and Stella Renna Williamson (Coma Jenkins); grandchildren, Mycia Locklear, Leeondra Black, Raquan Williamson, Serenity Jenkins, Jusiah Chavis; great grandchildren, Melah Teddar, Cartier Ingram, and Kessiaus Smith; nieces Dawn Jumper (Dave), Debra Thomas (Roy); great nieces, Clareece Rattler, Karina "Botch" Squirrel, Brionna Jumper; great great niece, Go-gi Jumper; great great nephew, Zaynon Taylor, and a special brother-in-law, Bobby "Chicken" Williamson.

A graveside service was held Sunday, Sept. 20 at Rattler Family Cemetery.

Pallbearers were family.

Sammy Lee Evans

Sammy Lee Evans, age 65, of Knoxville, Tenn., passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026. He was born on Jan. 8, 1961.

Sammy was preceded in death by his father, Sam (Buster) Evans, and his mother, Geraldine Evans.

Those who knew Sammy will remember a man shaped by steady determination and a strong work ethic, meeting life with resilience and seeing each day as something to be lived fully. An adventurous spirit ran through him, whether

he was spending time outdoors or simply enjoying the company of others. He also had the rare gift of storytelling - sharing moments and memories in a way that brought people together and kept laughter and conversation close at hand.

Sammy worked as a Master Concrete Finisher, a trade that reflected his persistence, skill, and pride in doing things the right way.

In his personal time, Sammy found joy in camping, riding horses, and especially in the freedom of riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He also loved socializing and valued the simple, meaningful connection of time spent with family and friends.

Sammy enjoyed volunteering for Tribal Services, offering his time in a way that spoke to his sense of responsibility and his willingness to show up where help was needed.

He is survived by his daughters, Samantha Norris, Tabatha Cameron (Wesley), and Bella Jones; his sons, Ayden Evans (Becky) and Corey Rogers; his sisters, Robin Hembree and Stephanie Randles (Rick); his special friend, Michelle Evans; and his partner, Kay Jones; along with nine grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

A special thank you to UT Hospice Staff.

A service will be announced at a later date.



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*Learn more about
the EBCI Constitution
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sgadugi.org

COMMENTARY

Clowns to the left of me. Jokers to the right in 2026

By ROBERT JUMPER

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

In 1972, a band called Stealers Wheel released a song written by Gerry Rafferty and Joe Egan titled “Stuck in the Middle with You”. It was a parody song, but not nonsensical, and it meant more to many of us than Rafferty and Egan intended.

They wrote the song as a whimsical narrative about what they called “a dull, pretentious record label party full of fake

industry executives” and being surrounded by “insincere people” (American Songwriter).

This struck me as a model for much of what we are going through in modern society today. I feel like a vast majority of people in the membership of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and those not of EBCI descent are in the “stuck in the middle” state. We are surrounded by a small percentage of people at the far ends of the political and ideological spectrums. They are like the poles of a magnet, trying to pull those of us in the middle north or south, or, in political speak, “to the left or to the right.”

I live and vote in Haywood County for municipal, state, and federal elections. By heritage, I

vote in Snowbird in tribal elections. And I don’t miss the opportunity to vote in either, because I feel that any election of leadership that might make laws that impact me should receive my voice on the matter.

There has never been a shortage of childishness in politics. Name-calling, berating, and verbal challenges to the integrity of candidates and those who support them are commonplace in modern society. Politicians have engaged in the practice of insult politics for centuries. For my part, I think it is a disgusting way to distract the public, the constituents, the voters from the things that matter: the qualifications of candidates and their plans to make our lives better.

I have watched with great interest and sadness the race between candidates Michael Whatley and Roy Cooper for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Thom Tillis. While a few advertisements are highlighting the capabilities of these candidates, most ads are attack ads, trying to “cut down” the reputation of the other candidate to garner our votes.

The game of “Tug of War” is simple. You get one team on one end of the rope and an opposing team on the other end. Typically, there will be a mud pit between the two teams (a simple line can be drawn on the ground to move a flag tied to the middle of the rope across it, but that is not as much fun). So, the teams attempt to drag each other through the mud.

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The team that gets all the other team into the mud wins. Sound familiar? It should. That is exactly how modern politics works. It isn't about highlighting your strengths as a candidate. It is about calling out the other candidate's weaknesses.

In the town of Waynesville over the past month, there has been a debate as to exactly what free speech is and how far an individual or group can go in communicating its message to the public, and where free speech ends and harassment begins. One side of the argument is bringing signs and bodies to do a public protest in the courtyard downtown. The issue is that some of the group gets in the main street roadway, sometimes blocking traffic and shouting, which, in turn, enflames the passions of some of the motorists who might have an opposing viewpoint. Stuck in the middle are those just trying to get from one place to the other. Daytime schedules are tight for most people, and they need to get from Point A to Point B as quickly and safely as possible. They are not on the roadway to participate in political debate, and it is unlikely that their bosses would accept that as a reason for being late either. It isn't about keeping anyone from their right to free speech. They just don't want to be held hostage by it.

As I mentioned before, there is nothing new about negative, mean-spirited campaigning. There is also nothing new about news media exploiting it. Look at this excerpt from an article on the Merriam-Webster website:

Lewis Cass, who ran unsuccessfully as the Democratic candidate for president in 1848 (he lost to Zachary Taylor), did not receive so much invective as to make him

a particularly notable candidate. But he did manage to earn the dislike of Horace Greeley, and Greeley happened to own a newspaper, The New York Tribune (and was not shy about using it for political ends). The Tribune referred to Cass as a man "whose life has been spent in grasping greedily after vast tracts of land, buying up large estates round Detroit, and selling them out in small town lots, huckster fashion, at immense profits to tradesmen and immigrants."

Yet Greeley appeared to save his truly memorable insults for his personal correspondence. In a letter to Schuyler Colfax in 1848, he wrote of the candidate as "that pot-bellied, mutton-headed, cucumber-soled Cass." Potbellied is fairly self-explanatory and known to many people; mutton-headed refers to an oafish or dimwitted state; cucumber-soled has not, to the best of our knowledge, been used by anyone save Greeley, and its meaning remains shrouded in mystery.

More colorful language has been offered to us in the community over the centuries, offered by politicians at every level of government, and most notably the current President of the United States. His favorite tool of torment is adding an adjective like "Crooked", "Sleepy", "Slow", "Little", or "Laffin'" to his opponents' names. These seem particularly childish and nasty when you realize that they are coming from the highest seat in the federal government.

Back in the day, we could rely on the media to clean up the mess for us. There has always been some media bias when it comes to politics, typically close to election days, but no more. Much of the news media, be it local, regional, or national, has gone all in on

crafting social agendas and exploiting special interests to create an environment for themselves that will benefit their worldview and their pocketbooks. Tribal government news organizations used to, and maybe still do, get looked down on as organizations controlled by governments and therefore inherently biased. But with the help of dedicated managers and editors, and forward-thinking tribal leaders, tribal media operations are working together to embed media and First Amendment protections into governing documents. On the other hand, owners, publishers, and editors of commercial news media outlets are free to create their operations "in their own image". In other words, if the owner has a political agenda, it is a good bet that the crafting of articles and commentary (they are two separate things, just so you know) will be affected by the owner's beliefs, regardless of the facts. Publishers and editors have enormous ability to guide public opinion, even down to what they select to cover or include in what they publish, and what they choose to ignore.

All this to say to my fellow middle-of-the-road crowd: we may be confused, bewildered, and boxed in, but at least we are not alone. Resist the pull to be polarized by the thinking of the far extremes. Choose your news sources judiciously. The expansion of Artificial Intelligence has made finding the reality of an accusation even more challenging. Diligence and discernment are your friends, as are prayer and a good sense of humor.

In the words of Rafferty and Egan, "Yes, I'm stuck in the middle with you. And I am wondering what it is I should do. It's so hard

to keep this smile from my face. Losing control, yeah, I'm all over the place. Trying to make some sense of it all, but I can see, it makes no sense at all. Is it cool to go to sleep on the floor? Because I don't think I can take any more. Clowns to the left of me. Jokers to the right. Here I am, stuck in the middle with you."



1. Which golfer recorded two rounds under 60 in his PGA Tour career with a 58 at the 2016 Travelers Championship and a 59 at the 2013 BMW Championship?

2. Name the tennis player who was disqualified for misconduct during the fourth round of the 1990 Australian Open.

3. How many points did the Houston Rockets score during the overtime period in their 113-96 loss to the Portland Trail Blazers on Jan. 22, 1983?

4. Who became the first Black referee in the NFL when he was promoted to the position in 1988?

5. Name the sports equipment and apparel company that was founded by Minoru Yoneyama in Japan in 1946 and is a world leader in producing badminton racquets.

6. Which Basketball Hall of Famer coached the Stanford Cardinal to three NCAA women's national championships during her tenure from 1986 to 2024?

7. How many separate stints did Rickey Henderson have with the Oakland Athletics as a player?

Answers

1. Jim Furyk.
2. John McEnroe.
3. Zero.
4. Johnny Grier.
5. Yonex.
6. Tara VanDerveer.
7. Four (1979-84, 1989-93, 1994-95, 1998).

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SPEAKING OF FAITH

A close call

Part 1 of 8

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

Scripture references: Psalms 118:17-29; 1 Timothy 2:3-4; Luke 15:7

FACED WITH DEATH

Before and since I met my wife, I was a motorcycle enthusiast for fifty-some years. Back then, that is what you would have called me unless you saw me riding on the street with my colors, and then you would probably call me a biker.

For 14 years, until as recently as 2018, I was a Christian Biker,

and I belonged to a group called Heaven's Saints Motorcycle Ministry. I am no longer a biker. I have quit riding, and though I still desire to ride, I cannot ride safely for reasons resulting from a motorcycle accident I sustained in 2005 and my age.

One week while studying the book of James for Sunday School, I became convicted by God's Holy Spirit. As a teacher in Sunday School, the blessing is learning more than your students because you must be prepared to teach and answer questions. All teachers and preachers know this. James and the Holy Spirit inspired me, and I felt the call to go out on faith to work as a home missionary to a lost world of bikers. I felt then, as

I do now, that we are all called as Christians to GO OUT as written in (Matthew 28:19) and spread the gospel.

I felt drawn to the motorcycle biker ministry because most of those sinners do not come looking for Jesus or seeking Him in buildings or sanctuaries like most of our churches, and I lived closely in that circle of bikers. Bikers have a code that is lived by and understood only by other bikers. It is a code I knew well and respected. Luke 14:23 says, Those He invites are found out there on the highways and the hedges, and we must compel them to come in so God's house might be filled.

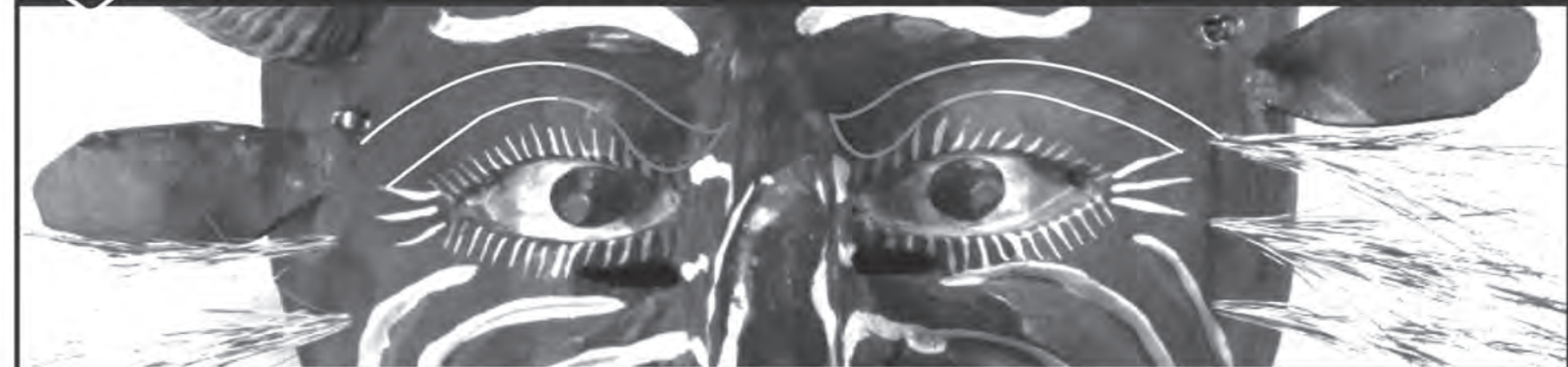
Dear Lord God and Father, with tears, I request that you in-

spire those who read and hear this message to repent and draw unto you before it is too late. I pray that each soul might realize how precious Your gift of Life is and how You are in control of every breath we take. Invite those who do not know You today to bring their Life to You and give You their devotion and purpose for living.

Editor's note: Lamont H Fuchs, Ed.D. is the author of Preacher Spurs and Preacher Spurs 2nd Edition. Excerpts are published in the Cherokee One Feather with permission from the author. Both books are available for purchase from www.preacherspurs.com. The author's email address is author@preacherspurs.com.



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Detail of Mexican devil mask dated to early 1900s

But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you
and guard you from the evil one.

2 THESSALONIANS 3:3

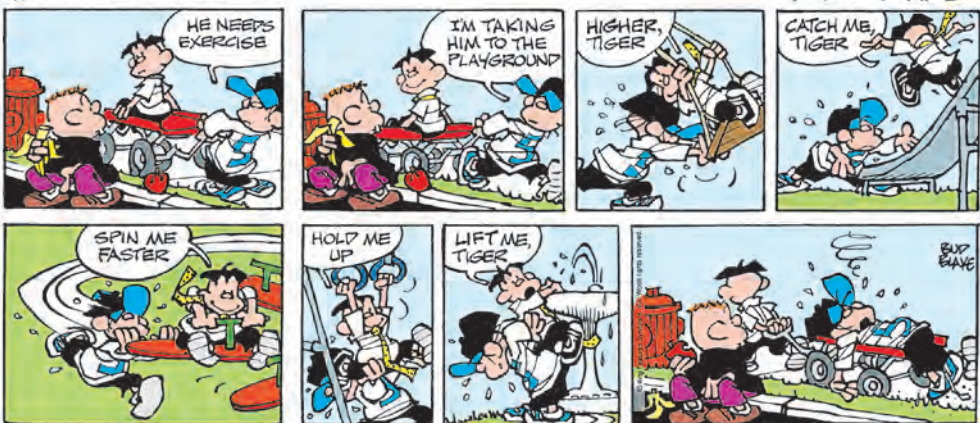


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Amber Waves



TIGER



The Spats



Weekly **SUDOKU**

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Menu is shorter. 2. Pad is longer. 3. Finger is moved. 4. Curtain is not as wide. 5. Apron strap is moved. 6. Tie is missing.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bath powders
6 Selected
11 Patronize, as a bistro
12 Cuts at an angle
14 Long-haired cat
15 Rise in defiance
16 Montmartre Mrs.
17 Wide
19 Big fuss
20 — ale
22 Rocker Nugent
23 Raced
24 Nosh at midnight
26 Bishop's district
28 Free (of)
30 Spanish gold
31 Pianist Arrau
35 Slowpoke
39 Fireplace shelves
40 Ump's call
42 Old U.S. gas brand
43 Balloon filler
44 Impetus
46 Weeding tool
47 Roma's land
49 Pub perches

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	
11								12				13
14								15				
16					17		18				19	
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31	32	33				34		35		36	37	38
39					40		41		42			
43				44				45		46		
47			48				49		50			
51							52					
	53						54					

- 51 Pay off
52 Digital greetings
53 Lasso
54 Afternoon hour
- 6 Trucker's device
7 Obey
8 Eggs
9 Mexican shawl
10 Shakes off
11 Muffles
13 Fine china brand
18 British ref. work
21 Beige shades
23 Tea biscuit
25 Tease
27 Choice words?
- 29 Museum display
31 Desk go-with
32 Hang around
33 Rub the wrong way
34 Gigi's "yes"
36 On the beach
37 Tristan's love
38 Windblown soil
41 Sports bar fixture
44 Food regimen
45 Engrave
48 Meadow
50 Rowing need

Weekly **SUDOKU**

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

Answer

Weekly **SUDOKU**

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

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Which South American country has two capitals?
2. AD SLOGANS: Which car company uses the ad slogan "Let's go places"?
3. FOOD & DRINK: What is a johnny cake primarily made of?
4. LITERATURE: In which Harry Potter novel is the portkey (a method of magical transportation) first mentioned?
5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the most popular animal used on national flags?
6. MOVIES: What object is Wilson in the movie "Cast Away"?
7. U.S. STATES: Which U.S. state is the only one that has parishes instead of counties?
8. MUSIC: Which 1980s band released the album titled "Synchronicity"?
9. TELEVISION: What is James Kirk's middle name in the "Star Trek" series?
10. MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek goddess of wisdom?

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1. Bolivia, Sucre and La Paz; 2. Toyota; 3. Cormeal; 4. "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"; 5. The lion; 6. A Wilson-brand volleyball; 7. Louisiana; 8. The Police; 9. Tiberius; 10. Athena

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. 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

Honoring Long Person. Sept. 25 from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. meet at Peaches Squirrell Recreation Complex 1139 US-19, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Share a meal, learn about river heritage, then head to the different parts of the Oconaluftee to clean. Info: facebook.com/HonoringLongPerson

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

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

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.

Homecoming 2026. Oct. 25 starting at 10:30 a.m. at Yellowhill Baptist Church, 297 Yellowhill Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Fellowship dinner following services. Preaching by Bro. Sam Steele. Various Singers. Everyone welcome.

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

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 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

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

CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

SŌHi ḂD RVLḷḷḷ DḂḂYL



Precious Shell lives in Wayohi (Wolftown) with humans, Ashley and Joshua Shell.



Sponsored by:

CHEROKEE

ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

828-497-3401

1100 US 441N, Whittier, NC 28789

encouraged. All Cherokee Dance groups welcome, bring your rattles and drums. Nikki's Frybread will be set up. Info: CherokeeWinterSocial@gmail.com

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

Confirmation Hearings for Barbara Parker as an associate judge, Kirk Saunooke as an associate judge, and John D. Crowe to the TABCC (Tribal Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission). Oct. 13 at 11 a.m.

Work Session on Res. No. 294 (Disbursement of TABCC Funding). Oct. 15 at 9 a.m.

Work Session on Ord. No. 251 (Spousal Inheritance of Possessory Holdings). Oct. 15 at 10 a.m.

Work Session on Ord. No. 212 (Public Nuisance). Oct. 15 at 11 a.m.

Work Session on Golf Board. Oct. 15 at 1 p.m.

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) After much traveling this year, you're due for some settled time with family and friends. Use this period to check out situations that will soon require a lot of serious decision making.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Keep your keen Bovine mind focused on your financial situation, as it begins to undergo some changes. Consider your money moves carefully. Avoid impulsive investments.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll need to adjust some of your financial plans now that things are changing more quickly than you expected. All the facts you need haven't yet emerged, so move cautiously.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Personal and professional relationships dominate this period. Try to keep things uncomplicated to avoid misunderstandings that can cause problems down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) An elusive goal that you'd been hoping to claim is still just out of reach. But something else has come along that could prove to be just as desirable, if only you'd take the time to check it out.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to get away for some much-needed rest and relaxation. You'll return refreshed and ready to take on a workplace challenge that awaits you!

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Confidence grows as you work your way through some knotty situations. Watch out for distractions from well-meaning supporters that could slow things down.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Consider spending more time contemplating the possibilities of an offer before opting to accept or reject it. But once you do make a decision, act on it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You're in a very strong position this week to tie up loose ends in as many areas as possible. Someone close to you has advice you might want to heed.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Congratulations! This is the week that you've been waiting for: After a period of sudden stops and fitful starts, your plans can now move ahead without significant disruptions.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're in an exceptionally strong position this week to make decisions on many still-unresolved matters, especially those involving close personal relationships.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) This week starts off with some positive movement in several areas! A special person becomes a partner in at least one of the major plans that you'll be working on.

BORN THIS WEEK: You work hard and get things done. You also inspire others to do their best. You would do well heading up a major corporation.

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VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

Speeding up the process

An executive order was recently signed that will reduce the time it takes to secure our benefits. The order, signed by President Trump, is titled "Accelerating Access to Veterans' Benefits and Employment Opportunities." It accomplishes this by requiring the Department of Defense and the VA to work together and share records from the first day a veteran joins the military.

In the past there have been delays in accessing benefits — education, job training, healthcare and all the others — when a veteran leaves active-duty service, mostly due to antiquated records management.

Now, within 180 days, the order requires the VA and the Department of Defense to update the information technology that will let them share information from day one of a veteran's service.

Also within 180 days they will create digital tools to streamline the process of a veteran applying for benefits and training offered by the Department of Labor.

Within one month they need to be able to share all the health files and records of a veteran immediately when they are discharged from military service.

Within 120 days, working with Health and Human Services (HHS), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and others, the various departments will review any current contracts for information technology to ensure that the contracts include the requirement that any systems with veteran files and health records be compatible with the technology and systems used by the VA and the Department of Defense.

Have you ever known any government activity to move this fast? And that's not all.

Within 180 days every veteran leaving the service will either be hooked up with jobs in their field (if desired), enrolled in career and tech education or training (again, if desired), and connected with a veteran's rep who will help with applications for home loans, job placement, education benefits, disability compensation or healthcare.

One thing not to miss is the Department of Defense's Project Patriot Pipeline (www.mypatriotcareer.mil). This huge website has a wealth of information for veterans, service members and military spouses looking for career development and opportunities.

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Safe pest control around pets

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: We recently moved, with our Springer Spaniel "Gabe," into an old New England house. It unfortunately was already inhabited by a few critters! We quickly rehomed the chipmunks, but it's clear from the tiny droppings behind our stove that the mice haven't gotten the message. What pest control can I use that won't harm my dog? — Gerald & Doug in North Adams, Massachusetts

DEAR GERALD: Old houses are charming and full of surprises — especially mice, which can squeeze through spaces one-third their size. And this time of year, mice and other rodents are looking for cozy, warm places to hole up for the winter. A house with a warm kitchen and lots of crumbs everywhere is their ideal winter vacation spot.

Pest control is essential to maintain a healthy (and happy) home. To keep pets safe, avoid using poisoned bait (which can be just as tempting to dogs and cats). Sticky traps are risky as well — a curious paw can get stuck fast.

Snap traps are a highly effective option, but must be placed out of reach of your pet. Enclosed snap traps are available to prevent painful incidents, but in my experience they don't work as well as the two-dollar specials. If you're squeamish about cleanup, or opposed to killing cute little field mice, a live trap is an option — you'll need to rehome them several miles away and far from anyone else's house.

If traps or nontoxic pest control don't work, consider calling in a professional pest control service, which can apply deterrents and traps in areas that are not accessible by your dog.

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

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EVENTS: From page 31

Work Session on Ord. No. 252 (Establish the Committee of Aging and Disability). Oct. 15 at 2 p.m.

Work Session on Cherokee Language Program. Oct. 21 at 1 p.m.

Pow Wow Listings

35th Annual Morongo Thunder and Lightning Pow Wow. Sept. 25-27 at the Morongo Pow Wow Grounds in Cabazon, Calif. Info: 1-888-MORONGO, www.morongopowwow.com

Frog Lake Pow Wow. Sept. 25 at 6 Chiefs Cultural grounds in Frog Lake, Alberta, Canada. Info: Frog Lake First Nation (780) 943-3737, info@froglake.ca

Last Chance Community Pow Wow. Sept. 25-27 in Helena, Mont. MC: Vincent Short. Host Drum: DB Express. Info: <https://lastchancepowwow.com>

3rd Annual Dance By the River Pow Wow. Sept. 26-27 at Adado Riverfront Park in Lansing, Mich. Info: <https://anishinaabefriendshipcenter.com>

43rd Annual Wilco Pow Wow. Sept. 26-27 at Wilson County Fairgrounds in Lebanon, Tenn. MC: Rob Daugherty. Host Drum: Southside. Info: (615) 512-0952, wilcopowwow@gmail.com, <https://wilcopowwow.com/>

47th Annual Council of Three Rivers American Indian Center Pow Wow. Sept. 26-27 in Dorseyville, Pa. Info: Jason Whitehouse. Host Drum: War Paint.

Info: (412) 782-4457, www.cotraic.org

Broken Arrow Intertribal Veterans Association 5th Annual Benefit Pow Wow. Sept. 26 at Broken Arrow Public Schools Event Center in Broken Arrow, Okla. MC: John Arkeketa. Head Singer: Silas Satepauhoodle. Info: <https://baiva4veterans.org/>

South Sound Pow Wow. Sept. 26 at Bethel High School in Graham, Wash. MC: Arlie Neskahie. Host Drum: 206 Singers. Info: Rachael Barger at rbarber@bethelsd.org, or Grace Leatham at gleatham@bethelsd.org

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

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

Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society meeting. Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Swain County Regional Business Education and Training Center at 45 East Ridge Dr. in Bryson City, N.C. Dick Sellers will present "Lufty/Smokemont: The Church, The History, The People, and The Community". Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation. This event is free and open to the public.

Mountain Monarch Festival. Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Gorges State Park 976 Grassy Ridge Rd., Sapphire, N.C. 28774. Join in the celebration of the migration of Monarch Butterflies. Free event. Rain or shine. Info: (828) 966-9099

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

David Arthur Smith to present his new book, "Letters from the Qualla Boundary: William C. McCarthy's Reports as Special Agent to the Eastern Cherokees, 1875–1876". Oct. 8 at 6 p.m. at City Lights Bookstore 3 E. Jackson St Ste 1, Sylva, N.C. 28779. The letters provide a rare, first-hand account of the complex relationship between the United States government and the East-

ern Band of Cherokee Indians in western North Carolina. Serving as a federal Special Indian Agent, McCarthy was tasked with assessing living conditions, preventing unauthorized land sales to white settlers, and supporting agricultural, educational, and economic development among the Cherokee who had remained in the East after the Trail of Tears. Info: (828) 586-9499

Archaeology Day at the Chief Vann House. Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Chief Vann House 82 GA-225N, Chatsworth, Ga. 30705. Take part in Archaeology themed activities. Info: (706) 695-2598

Flag Retirement Ceremony. Oct. 10 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Fairview Elementary baseball field parking lot 251 Big Orange Way, Sylva, N.C. 28779. If you would like to submit a flag for retirement, contact POC's C/MAJ Ford Perry or C/1SG Davis or C/1LT Evelin before Oct. 10. Patriotic guest speakers, live music, free hot dog lunch. Info: fordper@student.jcpsmail.org, Davis – (828) 506-7063, evelome@student.jcpsmail.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

Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with
EBCI Natural Resources





Field Thistle is a native biennial to short-lived perennial in the daisy family and is native to eastern and central North America, including North Carolina. It can grow 3–10 feet tall and is commonly found in moist to dry soils along roadsides, fields, pastures, and forest edges.

Field Thistle blooms from June through October, producing many showy flowers throughout its bloom cycle. Its flowers provide nectar and pollen for many pollinator species, like butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. Its seeds are also a valuable food source for goldfinches and other birds. Field Thistle can be confused with several non-native thistle species, but one helpful distinction is its bloom time. Unlike many non-native thistles that flower in spring or early summer, Field Thistle typically blooms from mid-summer into fall.

see **EVENTS** next page

Cherokee Community Clubs

Grandma Gatewood's Walk. Nov. 4 from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Great Smokies Welcome Center 7929 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy., Townsend, Tenn. 37882. Explores the inspiring story of the first woman to solo hike the Appalachian Trail in 1955. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

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

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

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.

Widagalinidsgv (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

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Damascus (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From 2 Samuel 14, who was the best-looking man in Israel during King David's reign? *Joel, Samuel, David, Absalom*
3. After being healed, to whom did Naaman the Syrian speak about his future service in the house of Rimmon? *Saul, Christ, Elisha, Darius*
4. From John 3, who was a pharisee and ruler among the Jews? *Zacchaeus, Nicodemus, Judas, Peter*
5. Who was known as the “Supplanter”? *Aaron, Moses, Jacob, Hosea*
6. What was the name of David's first wife? *Rachel, Priscilla, Michal, Ruth*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Absalom, 3) Elisha, 4) Nicodemus, 5) Jacob, 6) Michal

Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at www.patreon.com/triviaguy. FREE TRIAL!

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Moments in time

• On Oct. 5, 1877, Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce tribe formally surrendered to U.S. General Nelson A. Miles in the Bear Paw mountains of Montana, saying, “Hear me, my chiefs: My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever.” He and his people were forcibly relocated to a reservation in Indian Territory.

• On Oct. 6, 1908, the Dual Monarchy of Austria-Hungary announced its annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, dual provinces in the Balkan region of Europe that were formerly under the Ottoman Empire's control.

• On Oct. 7, 1916, in what proved to be the most wildly lopsided game in college football's history, Georgia Tech, coached by John Heisman (the namesake of college football's most famous trophy), took a 63-0 lead in the first quarter against Cumberland University, eventually trouncing their opponent with a final score of 222-0.

• On Oct. 8, 1957, a piano-thumping, bible-school dropout named Jerry Lee Lewis gave the music world what would become the definitive version of “Great Balls of Fire” for Sun Records. Hours into the session, Lewis began arguing with the label's head, Sam Phillips, that the song was “too sinful” for him to record, but Phillips prevailed and the tune quickly became Lewis' second smash hit, after “Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On.”

• On Oct. 9 2004, Afghans made history by holding their first direct presidential election. Despite security concerns, more than 10 million Afghans had registered to vote, 41% of them women; approximately 8.1 million ultimately cast ballots.

• On Oct. 10, 1991, former U.S. postal worker Joseph Harris shot and killed two of his former co-workers at the Ridgewood, New Jersey, post office. The night before, he'd murdered his former supervisor, Carol Ott, with a samurai sword and shot her fiancée, Cornelius Kasten, in the couple's home. After a four-hour standoff with police at the post office, Harris was arrested. His crime was one of several high-profile attacks that led to the inclusion of the phrase “going postal” in the American vocabulary.

• On Oct. 11, 1987, the new AIDS Memorial Quilt, larger than a football field and pieced together with 1,920 panels memorializing those who died from the disease, went on display at the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

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This behavior, where butterflies and other insects gather to feed at sandy puddles, moist soil, or on dung, carrion or animal secretions, enables them to supplement their diet with amino acids, sodium and nitrogen necessary for survival and reproductive success. Male butterflies puddle more often than females, as the sodium obtained enhances offspring fitness. Sunlight, moisture, humidity and mineral concentration strongly affect site selection.

– Brenda Weaver

Source:
Vigyan Varta 6

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EVENTS: From page 35

Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor Roberta French 497-6918

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cherokee Church of God. 21 Church of God Drive. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Wednesday Night Service 6:30 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited for any of the

services and meals. Pastor Rev. Owen Isaacs (828) 242-0754

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

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

Cherokee United Method-

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

Cherokee Wesleyan Church. Hwy 19 across from Happy 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-

MISSING PERSON

GWY ᏍᏏᏉ ᏅᏍᏔᏍᏔ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



Alphonsus Andrew Peters

Aliases: Plphonsus Andrew Peters, Vincent Silas, Albert Peters, Alphonsus A. Peters, Albert A. Peters, Vincent A. Silas, Al Peters, Albert Silas, Alphonsus Peters, Alphonous Peters, Alphonso Peters

Tribal Affiliation: Alaska Native

Male Age: 69

Height: 5'10" **Weight:** 155 lbs

Hair: Black **Eyes:** Brown

Date of last contact: Guyegwoni (July) 28, 2026

Last known location: Nulato, Alaska

Circumstances of Disappearance: He was last known to be at his residence in Nulato. Alphonsus has a history of getting disoriented and wandering off this time of year.

If you have seen or have information about him, contact Malia Miller, Missing Persons Clearinghouse manager, Alaska State Troopers (907) 269-5511.

Source: Namus.gov

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

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

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

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

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

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

Living Waters Lutheran

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

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

tist 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

Smoky Mountain Church of God. 3501 Hwy 441, Whittier, N.C. Pastor: Melanie Jean Garuffi (828) 556-0115

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

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

CLASSIFIEDS

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. 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

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-073
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

CLARA SAUNOOKE

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

David Saunooke
1927 S.Gail Ln.
Anaheim, CA. 92802
10/14

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

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 Hensley, 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, Howard L Toineeta, Issac A Catt, Jackie

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

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, Joseph 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 Screamer, Omer A Buchanan Jr., Patrick S Montelongo, Patsy Marie French, Portia Hayden, Robert A Maney, Robert F Bradley, Ronda L Lossiah, 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 Indian 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 additional information.
Ernest Tiger, Property Manager,
Qualla Housing Services, Cherokee Indian Housing Division, PO Box 1749, 687 Acquoni Rd., Office 828-359-6748, Cell 828-736-6922, ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov. **9/23**

BID

State of North Carolina
Department of Transportation
Raleigh, NC



**Cherokee Central Schools
Job Openings**

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

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

The Deadline for submitting Electronic Bids on the following projects as well as the public reading will be November 17, 2026, at 2:00 pm. The public reading will be held in Contract Standards and Development Unit Conference Room (Room 156 A/B), Building B, North Carolina Department of Transportation, Century Center Complex, 1020 Birch Ridge Dr., Raleigh, NC 27610. Please enter door B-2.

(C205222) BUNCOMBE

A bid bond or bid deposit in the amount of 5% of the bid will be required.

These contracts are subject to all appropriate Federal Laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Plans, proposal forms, and specifications may be obtained at the Raleigh Office of the Department of Transportation, Telephone # 919-707-6925.

Department of Transportation, Mr. Patrick Norman, PE., Chief Engineer

9/23

BIDS

State of North Carolina
Department of Transportation
Raleigh, NC

The Deadline for submitting

Electronic Bids on the following projects as well as the public reading will be October 20, 2026, at 2:00 pm. The public reading will be held in Contract Standards and Development Unit Conference Room (Room 156 A/B), Building B, North Carolina Department of Transportation, Century Center Complex, 1020 Birch Ridge Dr., Raleigh, NC 27610. Please enter door B-2.

(C205216) MARTIN

(C205207) PENDER

(C204338) WAKE

(C205247) ROWAN

(C205236) UNION

(C205223) MECKLENBURG

(205246) POLK

A bid bond or bid deposit in the amount of 5% of the bid will be required.

These contracts are subject to all appropriate Federal Laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Plans, proposal forms, and specifications may be obtained at the Raleigh Office of the Department of Transportation, Telephone # 919-707-6925.

Department of Transportation, Mr. Patrick Norman, PE., Chief Engineer

9/23



*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

Behavioral Health RN - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health Therapist - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family – Snowbird, Dora Reed, Family Safety, Family Intensive Treatment, Medication Assisted Treatment, Kanvwtiyi)
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwtiyi
Behavioral Health Consultant Supervisor

DENTAL

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

EVS

EVS Technician – Evening Shift

EYE CLINIC

Optometrist

FOOD & NUTRITION CIHA

Food Service Worker

LABORATORY

Medical Technologist
Medical Lab Technician

MEDICAL

Psychiatrist
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

NURSING

Registered Nurse Emergency Department – Temporary
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

Radiology

Radiology Technologist I

TRIBAL OPTION

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

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 MDS Coordinator

CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, September 27, 2026

1. Electrician Assistant/Generator Maintenance – Facility Management – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
2. Detective – Cherokee Indian Police Department – EBCI Law Enforcement (L15 \$29.71 - \$37.14 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
3. Senior Office Administrator – Health Delivery (Administration) – Public Health & Human Services (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)

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



Cherokee Cinemas & More
has the following job opportunities

POSITION: Manager – Full-Time (Exempt)

GENERAL FUNCTIONS: The Manager is a full-time, salaried, exempt employee responsible for the overall operation of the movie theater. This role includes proactively leading the theater team to achieve business goals related to revenue, expense management, profitability, guest satisfaction, inventory control, and employee morale. The Manager also serves as a representative of Kituwah, LLC and is expected to act in a manner consistent with the Company's mission statement, values, and policies.

The theater operates 365 days per year; therefore, the Manager is responsible for ensuring the business is open and adequately staffed each day.

POSITION: Floor Staff – Part-Time (Non-Exempt)

GENERAL FUNCTIONS: Floor Staff team members are classified based on individual theatre needs, and employees whose primary responsibility is ensuring our guests receive exceptional service. Floor Staff may be scheduled to work in the Box Office, Concession Stand, or as an Usher. Floor Staff employees must act as a representative of Cherokee Cinemas & More in a way that is consistent with our mission statement and policies. Assisting with all opening and closing duties as assigned by management

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

Independent Contractor Position



WE'RE HIRING

Protected Species Coordinator

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate implementation of the 2021 Bat Programmatic Consultation
- Conduct habitat assessments & acoustic bat surveys
- Track, evaluate, and document timber, fire, construction & land-management projects
- Support flying squirrel habitat planning
- Analyze biological data and prepare reports
- Coordinate with Tribal, federal & state partners
- Support outreach and education

Contact:

Jessica Nagel or Doug Reed

jessnagel@ebci-nsn.gov or dougreed@ebci-nsn.gov

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in wildlife biology, natural resources, forestry, or related field
- Min. of 1 year professional field experience
- Experience with protected species regulations & survey protocols and applications
- Strong communication, written, data-management & field survey skills
- Ability to work in rugged, remote conditions & travel regularly, with valid driver's license
- Preferred Qualification (not required): Demonstrated experience with bat acoustic call ID & analysis

Key Details:

- Up to \$68,000 annually (commensurate with experience)
- 40 hrs/week • Field • office • Not remote
- Start: after 10/1/2026 and before 1/1/2027
- Applications accepted until position is filled.

Detailed Scope of Work Available Upon Request.



Bats, flying squirrels & forest conservation

Provide cover letter, CV, and professional references

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"IT'S TIME FOR GUTTER MAINTENANCE"

6 REASONS TO STAY ON TOP OF YOUR GUTTER MAINTENANCE

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

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

Here is a list of some of those reasons.

PREVENT EROSION & MOLD



1. Roof Damage

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

2. Wood Fascia Damage

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

3. Damage to Walls, Windows, Doors and Patios

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

4. Damage to Foundations and Landscaping

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

5. Slip and fall

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

6. Prevent Mold

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

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

"DON'T TRIM YOUR GUTTERS"



"CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS"





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- Individual and group outpatient therapy
- Substance abuse treatment
- Domestic Violence program
- Targeted case management
- Recovery Center with peer support services
- Walk-ins accepted for outpatient

IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY FOR GROUP THERAPY AND CLASSES

Recovery Services

Programs include:

- Analensgi Inpatient Services
- Men's & Women's Homes
- Kanvwotiyi (extended recovery)

Family & Child Services

Programs include:

- School-based services
- Dora Reed & Early Childhood services
- Juvenile court-based services
- Family Safety Services
- Child outpatient services (walk-ins accepted)

Scan the QR Code below to access a list of our services and learn more!



Contact us:

Analenisgi
828-497-6892
1 Hospital Road
Cherokee, NC

Child and Family Services
828-497-9163 ext. 6549

On-Call Mobile Crisis After Hours:
Adult: 828-269-0301
Child: 828-736-9797



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



Jonathan Gwyn, of Winston-Salem, N.C., took this shot of the beautiful Mingo Falls in Cherokee, N.C. during a recent trip.



This beautiful rainbow was spotted over Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Nvgine Iga (Thursday), Duliisdi (Sept.) 17. (Photo by Shawn Crowe)



<<

This Ogana (groundhog) was spotted eating chestnuts in Elawodi (Yellowhill) on Tsunigilosdi (Friday) Duliisdi (Sept.) 18. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

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

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**Subscription Clerk - Tina Laws
359-6262, tinalaws@ebci-nsn.gov**

**NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION SWAIN COUNTY,
NORTH CAROLINA**

The statewide general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

Voters will be asked to show photo ID when they vote. All voters will be allowed to vote with or without ID. Voters who lack ID can get one for free from their county board of elections. Find out more at ncsbe.gov/voter-id.

Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

Early voting will be held at the following locations from Thursday, October 15, 2026, through Saturday, October 31, 2026.

- Swain County Board of Elections office, 45 East Ridge Dr., Room 200, Bryson City, NC 28713
 - Peaches Squirrel Sports and Recreation Complex, 1212 Birdtown Rd., Cherokee, NC 28719 Weekdays from 8:00 AM to 7:30 PM; Saturday, Oct. 24th and 31st from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Absentee ballots will be mailed to voters who have requested them beginning September 4, 2026.

Absentee ballots must be received by the county board of elections no later than 7:30 p.m. on Election Day, November 3, 2026. A voter can fill out an absentee ballot request at votebyemail.ncsbe.gov, or by filling out a request form provided by the county board of elections office. The request must be received through the website or by the Swain County Board of Elections by 5 p.m. October 20, 2026.

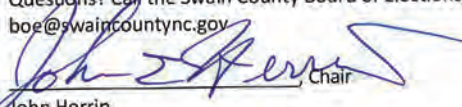
Contests on the ballot include U.S. Senate, U.S. House, N.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice, N.C. Court of Appeals Judge, Superior and District Court Judge, N.C. House and Senate, and county offices: Swain County Board of Commissioners Chair, Swain County Board of Commissioners Members, Swain County Board of Education, Swain County Clerk of Superior Court, Swain County Register of Deeds, Swain County Sheriff, and Swain County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor. A Statewide Referendum proposing amendments to the N.C. Constitution will also be on the ballot.

All persons who are registered to vote with the Swain County Board of Elections may vote in this election. The voter registration deadline for this election is 5 p.m. Friday, October 9, 2026. Eligible individuals who are not registered by that deadline may register and vote at any early voting site during the early voting period. Individuals registering to vote at an early voting site will be required to provide current documentation of their residence (for example, a government ID, other government document, or a paycheck, bank statement, or utility bill).

Voters voting in person are entitled to assistance by an election official, or, if assistance is needed due to disability or illiteracy, by a qualified person of their choice. Voting sites are accessible to all voters.

Curbside voting is available for voters who are not able to enter voting sites without physical assistance because of age or physical disability.

Questions? Call the Swain County Board of Elections Office at 828-488-6177, or send an email to boe@swaincountync.gov.


John Herrin
Swain County Board of Elections

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

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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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