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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of
dunindi (oct.) 21-27,
2026

Rising from the darkness

EBCI hosts Purple Lotus Day event

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The strong voices of Cherokee women were at the forefront of a Purple Lotus Day event which brought awareness about domestic violence as well as provided a space for healing and support.

The event, presented by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Program, featured speeches and information on domestic violence and MMIP (Missing and Murdered Indigenous People) in recognition of October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



Maggie Jackson, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and co-chair of the Qualla Boundary MMIW grassroots organization, speaks at a Purple Lotus Day event at the Cherokee Welcome Center in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Thursday, Oct. 15. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

see **PURPLE LOTUS** page 4

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Need to know EBCI voter information for the Midterm Elections in North Carolina (Federal/State/Local)

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 9: Voter registration deadline (5 p.m.).

Oct. 15: In-person early voting begins; same-day registration available.

Oct. 20: Absentee ballot request deadline (5 p.m.).

Oct. 31: In-person early voting ends (3 p.m.).

Nov. 3: Election Day. For more, see Vote in Person on Election Day.

Nov. 3: Absentee ballot return deadline (7:30 p.m.).

Statewide General Election

The statewide general election is Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026. This election is also known as the "midterm," as it is held two years (midway) into the four-year U.S. presidential term. Seats up for election include:

One U.S. Senate seat

14 U.S. House seats

1 N.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice seat

3 N.C. Court of Appeals Judge seats

50 N.C. Senate seats

120 N.C. House seats

Local judges and district attorneys

County offices like sheriffs, county commissioners, and Board of Education members

Municipal elections in some jurisdictions



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Statewide Referenda:

1. State constitutional amendment - REQUIRE PHOTO ID FOR VOTING-For or Against a constitutional amendment to require all voters, not just those voting in person, to present photo identification before voting.
2. State constitutional amendment - MAXIMUM INCOME TAX RATE OF 3.5%- For or Against a constitutional amendment to keep the State income tax rate from being raised higher than three and one-half percent.
3. State constitutional amendment- PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMIT- For or Against a constitutional amendment requiring limits on property tax increases by local governments.

**Info: www.ncsbe.gov, email: elections.sboe@ncsbe.gov
(919) 814-0700 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday)**

PURPLE LOTUS: From front page

“Domestic violence thrives in the dark,” Billie Jo Rich, EBCI Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Program manager, said as she opened Thursday’s event. “Domestic violence lies to victims, telling them that they are alone, that it’s their fault, and that things will never change. But, today we are here to bring those lies into the light and replace them with a single, powerful truth - you are a survivor and there is hope.

Healing is not a straight line. There will be days when the past feels overwhelmingly big and loud. But, please remember that you are no longer trapped in that storm. You are now walking toward a brighter horizon. Every single step you take away from abuse, no matter how small or shaky, is an enormous victory. You are not defined by the hands that hurt you. You are defined by the resilient heart that kept beating through it all.” Rich added, “Keep holding on. Keep reaching out. And never forget how incredibly strong you are. Just like the purple lotus flower, you, too, can rise from the darkness into the light.”

Information from the EBCI Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Program states, “Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive behavior that is used by a person against family, household members or dating partners to gain power or control over the other party in a dating relationship. These behaviors may include: Emotional abuse, physical violence, sexual abuse, psychological intimidation, verbal abuse and threats, and stalking.”

DeMakus Staton, executive director of the non-profit organi-



zation Reflection of Inspiration, commented, “Healing looks different for everyone. What matters is knowing that healing is possible and that you do not walk alone in this journey. There are people in this community who care about you, believe you, and support you. Your voice matters. Your experience matters. Most importantly, you all matter.”

According to a report from the National Institute of Justice entitled “Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women and Men”:

- “84.3 percent of women and 81.6 percent of men have experienced violence in their lifetime.
- Women have experience significantly higher levels of sexual violence (56.1 percent versus 27.5 percent for men) and stalking (48.8 percent versus 18.6 percent for men.
- 55.5 percent of women and 43.2 percent of men have experienced physical violence by an intimate partner.
- 66.4 percent of women and 73.0 percent of men have experienced

psychological aggression by an intimate partner.

• Although the exact number of victimizations per person is unknown, it is clear that most American Indian and Alaska Native victims have experienced at least one act of violence committed by an interracial perpetrator (97 percent of women and 90 percent of men). Fewer victims (35 percent of women and 33 percent of men) have experienced one or more act of violence by an American Indian or Alaska Native perpetrator.”

Keahana Lambert, chief executive officer of Resilient Roots Counseling, said, “You are not alone. You are not broken. And what happened to you does not define who you are.

The symbol of the lotus is so meaningful because it doesn’t grow in perfect conditions. It grows through the muddy water. It grows through the darkness. And, it pushes its way toward the light. Many of us understand what that feels like. We’ve had to grow through things we never should have experienced. We’ve carried

pain. We’ve carried grief. We’ve carried fear. We’ve carried shame that never belonged to us.”

Sheyashe Littledave, EBCI Office of the Principal Chief public relations officer, runs a MMIP podcast with Ahli-sha Stephens entitled “We Are Resilient”.

Littledave told the crowd on Thursday, “When we talk about resilience, we often focus on the experience itself. We talk about what someone endured, what they overcame, how they escaped. But, I think we forget about what happens to survivors after they break free. Because leaving doesn’t mean the fear automatically leaves with you. It doesn’t mean the damage disappears. It doesn’t mean you wake up the next morning and suddenly recognize yourself again. Sometimes, the hardest part is learning how to live when you’re no longer just trying to survive. And, that’s what resilience means to me now. Resilience is starting over. Resilience is getting up every morning, taking care of your babies, and making sure they know just how deeply loved they are.

I stand here as a survivor, as a mother, as a sister, as a woman who found her voice again. And I get to use that voice to tell stories that matter.”

Littledave went on to say, “We have to talk about domestic violence, even when it makes people uncomfortable. We have to stop treating it like something that should stay behind closed doors. We have to stop making survivors feel ashamed of what someone else chose to do to them because that shame belongs to the abuser - not the person who stayed, not the person who was afraid, not the person who went back, not the person who needed more time.”

Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat, One Feather reporter, is a strong advocate for MMIP awareness and has produced numerous articles and graphics on the topic. "As I worked with the families on these articles, I began to notice patterns of harm including domestic violence and sexual assault.

The brighter of a light we shine on domestic violence and sexual assault the less of a chance perpetrators have of continuing to harm."

Bigmeat added, "The One Feather is a platform for your voice. We serve the community. This is your paper, and I want to offer the paper as a platform to share your story. Your story is our hope for a safer community, and I thank you for your bravery in sharing it."

Maggie Jackson, co-chair of the Qualla Boundary MMIW

grassroots organization, stated, "We have to be willing to talk about domestic violence, recognize it, stand beside those who are experiencing it, and be brave enough to fight against it.

This crisis exists right here in our own community. Despite all our efforts to prevent domestic violence, raise awareness, and support those experiencing it, we continue to see our relatives harmed and our families impacted. That tells us that our work is not finished. Protecting our relatives from violence is a responsibility that belongs to us all."

Anita Lossiah, EBCI director of Human Services, commented, "I wear purple today to encourage continued education and continued advocacy around the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault. And, to encourage all to continue to empower others

and empower yourself."

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Shannon Swimmer said, "Domestic violence can happen to anyone. When a lot of people hear my story, they may be surprised that I went through that. To me, it just goes to show that it's not something that happens overnight. It's a process. You're basically groomed and you're broken down to the point where your self-esteem suffers, you feel like maybe you're to blame or you're at fault.

I'm still in therapy, and will be, because I think it's important to look at our mental health the same way that we look at our physical health. You have to take care of your body. You also need to take care of your mind."

Jill Lossiah, who works as a compliance officer in the EBCI Health Delivery Administration, commented, "As a matriarchal

society, we have adopted patriarchal mannerisms where men are upheld over women and women are to obey and abide by our men, husbands, and partners. But, women have their own minds, bodies, and souls. Women are nurturers and caretakers and historically took care of the household. Relationships are supposed to build each other up and improve each other."

Following is some contact information:

- Emergency – 911
- Cherokee Indian Police Dispatch - (828) 497-4131
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline (24/7) – (828) 359-6830
- <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/domestic-violence/>



MMIW/R

Biweekly PSA

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

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) upholds Boughman banishment

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) voted unanimously during an Annual Council session on Monday, Oct. 12 to uphold a banishment (exclusion from lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) it approved in February. Dinilawigi voted to kill Res. No. 319 (2026) which sought to dissolve the banishment of Arvis Boughman, a member of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina.

Res. No. 319 was submitted by Robert Osley Saunooke, an EBCI tribal member and attorney representing Boughman. The legislation states in part, “The action to

exclude or banish Arvis Boughman did not comply with notice provisions of Chapter 2 and was based on statements and publications attributed to Arvis Boughman as protected free speech under tribal and federal law and was an impermissible action under applicable tribal law.”

Res. No. 106 (2026), the piece of legislation which banished Boughman originally, was submitted by Dinilawigi as a whole and was approved unanimously on Feb. 5.

That legislation states in part, “Credible concerns have been raised by Cherokee scholars, fluent speakers of the Cherokee language, educators, and cultural

authorities about Mr. Boughman’s repeated misrepresentation of Cherokee history, culture, traditions, and oral histories, including allegations that he has plagiarized, altered, and appropriated Cherokee historical texts for non-Cherokee purposes; and comparisons performed by Cherokee scholars have identified substantial similarities between Mr. Boughman’s published work and existing Cherokee historical records, with material changes that misrepresent or wrongly attribute Cherokee history, culture, and traditions to non-Cherokee groups.”

Prior to Res. No. 319 being read into the record on Monday, some discussion was held as to

whether Boughman should be allowed to enter the Qualla Boundary to be heard on the issue.

Michael McConnell, EBCI attorney general, commented, “Because banishment is exclusively within the authority of Tribal Council, Tribal Council is the only one who can change a resolution. There is a resolution in place saying he cannot be on the Boundary; and so, Council would have to make that expression to allow him to come.”

Saunooke stated issues brought up in Res. No. 319. “My client wasn’t given notice. That’s the reason we’re here. He was not given notice. There was a phone call made to a number that is not



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his and a letter sent to an address that is not his.”

McConnell responded, “When the banishment resolution was passed, notice went out according to the addresses that I had that were given to me – and that included an email address. All of those addresses ended up not being working addresses. And, that notice was sent the day before the resolution was considered and passed.”

Driver Blythe, an EBCI tribal member who serves as the EBCI public policy analyst, noted, “As someone in an appointed position, whenever I use my freedom of speech, there’s consequences that come with your freedom of speech. Now, you can say what you want. But, if I go out and say some of the stuff that Arvis Boughman

said, back when I presented the evidence in January and February of this year, I’m going to answer to Chief Hicks or I’m going to answer to Chief of Staff Paxton Myers. Because, freedom of speech, while I can say what I want, you are not limited to getting away from consequences.”

After Res. No. 319 was read into the record, Jakeli Swimmer, an EBCI tribal member and Cherokee second language learner, was first to speak.

“Freedom of speech doesn’t protect plagiarism and doesn’t protect slander. You’re actively stealing from a source without giving accreditation. Then, essentially, that’s not freedom of speech. You’re just stealing and regurgitating it in a new way.”

Boughman is the author of

several books including “Legends of the Lumbee (and some that will be)”.

Swimmer takes issue with the stories included in the book. “Some of those stories that he is stealing are ones that my grandfather, my namesake, had been given to preserve and to provide for our community. For me, that’s very frustrating.

We’re a sovereign nation. We’ve always been a sovereign nation. We are a distinctive Cherokee nation living in these mountains since time immemorial. And, it is disheartening that one individual can try to threaten that and attack that.”

Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks commented, “I appreciate these young men coming in and expressing the facts of the

situation. This is a big issue. This is not just about social media and comments made on social media. But, when you start stirring the facts of who we are as a people, that is a historical message that is wrong. We’re not going to stand for it.”

Saunooke then commented, “Due process means notice and opportunity to be heard. I came here today to just let you know – that didn’t happen. There was not due process. Mr. Boughman, whatever his actions are..., he never got a chance to come and address the allegations against him.”

Tsisquohi (Birdtown) Rep. Boyd Owle made the motion to kill Res. No. 319. That move was seconded by Taline Gahvsgi (Vice Chairman) David Wolfe, and the vote to kill was unanimous.

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Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) votes to rescind Constitution Convention

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Following a vote by Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) during Annual Council on Monday, Oct. 12, the Constitution Convention of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is no longer. Dinilawigi voted unanimously to pass Res. No. 320 (2026). This resolution rescinds Res. No. 627 (2023) which established the Convention.

Res. No. 320, submitted by Nancy Pheasant, an EBCI tribal member from Wayohi (Wolftown) who was serving as Constitution Convention chairperson, states in part, “Despite the dedication and commitment of several Convention representatives, the Convention has faced ongoing challenges that have significantly hindered the ability to fulfill its responsibilities; and, due to insufficient attendance and the repeated inability to establish a quorum at scheduled meetings, the Convention has been unable to conduct official business as required.”

During discussion on the legislation on Monday, Pheasant commented, “To date, the meetings that we have had we have had less than 50 percent attendance with a quorum established which

greatly reduces the ability for this Convention to handle the business processes that were put into place through the resolution that created the Convention. I have made several attempts to ensure that we have a quorum, but unfortunately that is just not happening.

Now, as the Constitution Convention, the members that have been attending understand that this constitution is a voice of our people and without meeting that quorum, we’re not getting the voice of the actual people.”

She added “When the referendum was put through Council last and it was actually going to go out for referendum. It was stopped before it was allowed to go out for referendum. The Convention itself has been working towards getting a Constitution draft ready to come before Tribal Council before the next election. You guys know time-wise, we are extremely limited at this point. We have been working on a draft of the Constitution where it marries both the Constitution the way it was written before and also the Charter – to actually marry those two documents.”

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Venita Wolfe said, “I support this because this was created to give everyone an opportunity as a Convention, which is a colonial concept. Having a Constitutional

Convention is not what we do. We bring this to the communities. I believe that you all made a great effort in abiding by what was put in front of you and by the people who directed you to go this route.”

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Shannon Swimmer made the motion to pass Res. No. 320. Of the Constitution Convention, she noted, “It just made it really difficult to get any work done without a quorum. Whereas, before it was a community-led effort. Anybody could show up. The whole entire document was created at that point and was ready to be voted on. So, I fully support this.

It was very frustrating to show up and be ready to work and no work was done – not to mention months were spent just to even put down by-laws of how this Convention was going to be ran.”

Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shennelle Feather seconded the motion to pass. She commented during discussion, “I just wanted to acknowledge all of the hard work that the people who have been the engine that’s driving the Constitution...we need a Constitution...I want to thank Yellowhill because Yellowhill is a driving force in making sure that this is getting done.”

The Constitution effort now reverts back to the community effort of the group, Sgadugi.



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CHEROKEE YOUTH COUNCIL (CYC) 2027 APPLICATIONS



CYC is a culturally based leadership program striving to empower tribal youth through development of cultural identity, leadership skills, and community service. CYC is program under Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute funded by the Cherokee Preservation Foundation.



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Wednesday, Oct. 14th - Friday, Oct. 30th



Application Link:
rkli.org/cherokee-youth-council-application-2

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TIMELINE

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- Interviews: November 16th - 17th
- CYC Retreat: December 5th
- Two Monthly Meetings 5:30 - 7:30p



Questions?
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October Editorial Board meeting held

By **BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT**
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Cherokee One Feather Editorial Board held their monthly meeting on the morning of Oct. 15 in the Ginger Lynn Welch Large Conference Room. Members present included Robert Jumper, editor; Scott McKie Brings Plenty, assistant editor; Brooklyn Bigmeat, gahvsgi (chairperson); Dawn Arneach, taline gahvsgi (vice chairperson); Tina Laws, subscription clerk; and Sheyahshe Littledave, executive office appointee.

The Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) appointed board position remains vacant.

Gahvsgi Bigmeat called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The first agenda item was approved unanimously, which was an Editorial regarding artificial intelligence (AI) and journalism submitted by Jumper.

The North Carolina Press Association (NCPA) is forming a working group of journalists throughout North Carolina to discuss and monitor the growing use of AI in journalism. Jumper asked NCPA if a representative from the One Feather can serve on the working group remotely; if so, the One Feather will most likely appoint a representative to the working group.

The second agenda item was a question from Littledave about the process of the Editorial Board providing feedback on commentaries. The question was prompted by a commentary written by Jumper, which Jumper forwarded to the board requesting feedback. Littledave said the request for feedback was sent without much of a window to allow for review prior to publishing. Jumper expressed that his request for feedback is a courtesy, and he uses the feedback to inform his opinions for commentaries moving forward.

The third agenda item was a proposed ordinance change submitted by Brings Plenty regarding substitute ordinances and the required waiting period of 25 days for ordinances. The change reads, “(g) Once the proposed ordinance has met the required 25-day waiting period, Tribal Council may make minor floor amendments only to include grammatical and/or clerical errors. Further amendments and/or additions or subtractions constitute a new ordinance, and the introduction process must begin anew. Substitute ordinances also constitute an entirely new ordinance and must meet the 25-day waiting period before being acted upon.”

The board will take a formal vote on whether to submit the proposed ordinance change to

Dinilawigi at the next Editorial Board meeting Nov. 19.

The final agenda item was an interview request from an Appalachian State University student wishing to interview Jumper about ethics in journalism. The board unanimously encouraged Jumper to participate in the interview.

In open discussion, the board discussed One Feather coverage of the 114th Annual Cherokee Indian Fair. Overall, the board felt that Fair coverage went well. Brings Plenty and Bigmeat suggested

focusing next Fair on writing feature articles about various people behind the scenes.

The One Feather also shared in open discussion that the staff will not be participating in any upcoming Halloween events as a program but Brings Plenty will be present for coverage of the events.

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 19 at 10 a.m. in the Ginger Lynn Welch Large Conference Room.

Attention EBCI Artists/Craftspeople

The One Feather is developing a list of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians artists and craftspeople to help get your name out there for potential buyers. If you would like to be included, please send your name, contact information (phone, email, etc.), and what mediums you are selling to: Scott at scotmckie@ebci-nsn.gov





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Former Gov. Roy Cooper visits Cherokee during U.S. Senate Campaign

Submitted by Office of
Principal Chief Michell Hicks

CHEROKEE, N.C. - Principal Chief Michell Hicks, Vice Chief Alan B. Ensley, and members of the Tribal Council welcomed former North Carolina Governor and current U.S. Senate candidate Roy Cooper to the Qualla Boundary on Monday, Oct. 5.

Cooper's visit to Cherokee was part of his U.S. Senate campaign and included stops at the Tribal Council House and the Cherokee Speakers Building. During the visit, Cooper met with Tribal leadership and discussed issues important to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, western North Carolina, and the region.

Cooper has maintained a longstanding relationship with the EBCI throughout his years of public service, beginning during his tenure as North Carolina Attorney General and continuing through his two terms as Governor.

"Roy has been a good friend to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians for many years," Chief Hicks said. "We have built a strong working relationship based on mutual respect and an understanding of Tribal sovereignty and the government-to-government relationship."



Shown, left to right, back row - Tutiya (Snowbird) and Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee County) Rep. Michael Smoker and Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. David Wolfe; fourth row - Wayohi (Wolftown) Rep. Mike Parker, Aniwodih (Painttown) Rep. Shannon Swimmer, and Wayohi Rep. Bo Crowe; third row - Taline Ugwiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley, Elawodi Rep. Shennelle Feather, and Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Rep. Venita Wolfe; second row - Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Rep. Boyd Owle; and front row - Kolanvyi Rep. Lavita Hill, Roy Cooper, and Ugwiyu (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks. (Photo courtesy of Office of Principal Chief Michell Hicks)

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Federal legislative updates of interest to EBCI citizens

By SCOTT MCKIE B.P.

One Feather Asst. Editor

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

New this week

H.R. 10751 (Tribal Oral Health Sovereignty Act). This bill seeks “to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to remove restrictions on the provision of dental therapist services under the Community Health Aide Program”. Introduced: Oct. 6, 2026 by Rep. Jack Bergman (R-Mich.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Oct. 6, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

Bills with recent action

There was no new recent action on bills.

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. A hearing is scheduled in that Committee for Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026.

Senate Bill 761 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act).

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

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

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

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

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

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

This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group.
Introduced: April 17, 2025 by Rep. Donald G. Davis (D-N.C.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 17, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians, a state-recognized group in Michigan.
Introduced: May 7, 2025 by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 7, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 3444. (Tribal Self-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 Secre-

tary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for the performance of certain activities of the Forest Service, and for other purposes”.

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

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

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

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

Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Jun 11, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Senate Bill 2211 (Special Diabetes Program Reauthorization Act of 2025). This bill seeks to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

on Indian Affairs on June 3, 2026. A hearing was held in this Committee on the Senate version of this bill (Senate Bill 3859) on Sept. 23, 2026.

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

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

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

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

H.R. 4750 (To extend federal recognition to the Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia).

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

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

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

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

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

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

Action: This bill was referred to the

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

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

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

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

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

Senate Bill 2564 (Tribal Gaming Regulatory Compliance Act).

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

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

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

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 31, 2025. There

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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.

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 Sept. 16, 2026. A business meeting was held in that Committee on Sept. 23, 2026, and it advanced being reported favorably.

H.R. 5144 {Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County, Vir-

ginia 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 Bill 3041 (Tribal War-rant Fairness Act).

This bill would “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain tribal criminal matters”.

Introduced: Oct. 23, 2025 by Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Oct. 23, 2025. This was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders on May 19, 2026. This bill was passed in the Senate by a voice vote on June 10, 2026. It was received in the House on June 15, 2026.

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

This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe of California and Nevada, a group based in Lee Vining, Calif.

Introduced: Oct. 24, 2025 by Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Calif.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 24, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 5869 (Tribal Water Infrastructure Grants Expansion Act).

This bill would “amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to assistance for Indian Tribes”. According to the bill, “In addition to amounts otherwise made available under Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, there is authorized to be appropriated

\$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031 to make grants, in cooperation with the Director of the Indian Health Service...for (A) projects and activities eligible for assistance under 603(c) of such Act; and (B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs related to the operation and management of treatment works eligible for assistance...”
Introduced: Oct. 28, 2025 by Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-Fla.)

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

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

ferred 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 Commit-

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tee 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 Treat-

ment 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. 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.

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-cus-

tomial 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 Insur-

ance 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.

H.R. 10435 (Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas Recognition Act). This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas.

Introduced: Sept. 16, 2026 by Rep. Vincente Gonzalez (D-Texas)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 16, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

Here is the contact information for your federal legislators:

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

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**CIPD Arrest Report for
Oct. 5-11, 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.

Blanton, Taylor James – age 23
Arrested: Oct. 5
Released: Oct. 8
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Smith, Alexis C. – age 28
Arrested: Oct. 5

Released: Oct. 9
Charges: Larceny (two counts), Second Degree Burglary (two counts)

Burgess, Dalton Chad – age 20
Arrested: Oct. 6
Released: Oct. 7
Charges: Providing Alcoholic Beverages to, Possession of, Consumption of, Alcoholic Beverages by a Person Under 21 years of age

Javier, Francisco – age 31
Arrested: Oct. 6
Released: Oct. 6
Charges: Temporary Hold for Graham Co.

Pheasant-Weeks, Krystal – age 44
Arrested: Oct. 7
Released: Oct. 8
Charges: Drug Trafficking, Posses-

sion Drug Paraphernalia

Lossiah, Thomas Lyle – age 30
Arrested: Oct. 8
Released: Oct. 8
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedule I-V, Drug Paraphernalia

Santiago, Hannah Maria – age 37
Arrested: Oct. 8
Released: Oct. 9
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance I-V; Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver, or Possession with the Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver a Controlled Substance (two counts); Drug Paraphernalia – Delivering, Manufacturing

Watty, Ryan Keith – age 31
Arrested: Oct. 8
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 12)
Charges: Pre-Trial Release Violation, Drug Trafficking, Probation Violation

Weeks, Charles Albert – age 44
Arrested: Oct. 8
Released: Oct. 8
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance – Temporary Hold

Brady, Torie Ann – age 38
Arrested: Oct. 9
Released: Oct. 9
Charges: Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Figueroa, Francisco Kalvloio – age

24
Arrested: Oct. 9
Released: Oct. 9
Charges: Aggravated Weapons Offense

Freeman, Makeyla Faye – age 22
Arrested: Oct. 10
Released: Oct. 10
Charges: Possession of Controlled Substance (two counts), Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Sherrill, Jerry – age 54
Arrested: Oct. 10
Released: Oct. 10
Charges: Drug Trafficking; Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver or Possession with Intent to Manufacture, Sell, or Deliver a Controlled Substance; Interference with a Criminal Process; Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Taylor, Jonathan David – age 39
Arrested: Oct. 10
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 12)
Charges: Drug Trafficking; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Ortega, Chris Lea – age 31
Arrested: Oct. 11
Released: Oct. 11
Charges: Hold Until Sober

West, Justin B. – age 51
Arrested: Oct. 11
Released: Oct. 11
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers



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FRELL OWL AWARD

2026 marks the 39th year that the Cherokee Boys Club Board of Directors will publicly recognize a person or persons with the Freil Owl Award. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a recipient was not selected in 2020.

The Frell Owl Award is given to those who best exemplify the character and accomplishments of the late Mr. Freil Owl, Cherokee educator and civic leader and to those who have significantly contributed to the welfare of Cherokee children and families.

Past recipients of this award are: John Crowe, Stella Kanott, the Scar Crowe Family, Ray Kinsland, Pearl and John Reagan, Betty Crisp, Jerri Kinsland, Mary Chiltoskey, Dora Reed, Marie Junaluska, Sharon and David Crowe, Ernestine Walkingstick, Jody Adams, Gary Maney, Mary Sneed, Mary Mantooth, David McCoy, Glenda Crowe, Denise Ballard, David McQueen, Skooter McCoy, Johnson "Booger" Arch, Kathy Wolfe, Carmaleta Monteith, Roy Lambert, Sandi Owle, Lana Lambert, Catherine Blythe Sanders, Will Poolaw, Lou Johnson, Wilbur Paul, Alan and Mary Jane Smith, Isaac "Ike" Long, Michael Vannette, Mianna "Peaches" Squirrel, Lloyd Carl Owle, Butch & Louise Goings and Jennifer Thompson and the Physical Therapy Staff at CIHA, and Sheyahshe Littledave and Ahli-sha Stephens.

Anyone may submit a nomination. Any person or persons may be nominated with the exception of current Cherokee Boys Club Board Members.

The closing date for receiving nominations is Friday, November 13th, 2026. You may pick up a nomination form from the receptionist at the Boys Club's Information Window. Please return the nomination form and any support documents (Marked Confidential) to Jackie Bradley, Cherokee Boys Club, P. O. Box 507, Cherokee, NC 28719 or deliver to the Cherokee Boys Club at 52 Cherokee Boys Club Loop, Cherokee, NC 28719. If you have any questions, please call Jackie Bradley at (828) 359-5508 or 828-506-4939.

11/11



TRACK & FIELD:

Stamper signs with UNC

Joscelyn Stamper, second from right in top photo, signed a letter of intent to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Track & Field Program during a ceremony at the Charles George Memorial Arena in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Friday, Oct. 16. Stamper, a multi-time state champion in field events and basketball, is a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a senior at Cherokee High School. TOP PHOTO: Joscelyn is shown with her family, left to right, Cambry Stamper, sister; Miranda, mother; Joscelyn; and Rob, father.

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



SOCCER: The Tsalagi Anitsvvasdi (Cherokee Braves) played the Hayesville Yellowjackets at the Cherokee High School soccer field in Cherokee, N.C., on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 14. At the end of the first half, Hayesville was up 3-0. The second half saw Hayesville score two more goals and Cherokee got their goal of the game by an assist from Odie Owle to Adrian Santos (shown in photo). **FINAL SCORE:** Hayesville 5 Cherokee 1. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)



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Ball receives Chapel of the Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – A member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) has been recognized with an esteemed honor recognizing his service to veterans. Samuel Gerard Ball was presented the Chapel of the Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award during a session of Annual Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) on the morning of Monday, Oct. 12.

Ball, an EBCI tribal member, serves as the program director for the EBCI Department of Military & Veterans Affairs.

According to the Chapel of the Four Chaplains Foundation, “The Legion of Honor Award Program, consisting of six honorable awards, publicly recognizes and pays tribute to outstanding members of society whose lives model the giving spirit and unconditional service to community, nation, and humanity without regard to race, religion, or creed exemplified by the Four Chaplains.”

The six awards include a Gold Medallion, Bronze Medallion, Humanitarian Award, Lifesaving Medallion, Legion of Honor Award, and the Junior Legion of Honor Award.

Gregory Hunt (USMC, Ret.), a 2017 recipient of the Bronze Medallions, presented the award to Ball. Hunt commented, “The Chapel was founded to honor four chaplains that, on Feb. 3, 1943, gave their life trying to save soldiers and sailors from the U.S.A.T. Dorchester who were dying in the freezing waters after a torpedo bombed their ship. Today, the Memorial Foundation honors those



Samuel Gerard Ball, shown speaking at the 114th Cherokee Indian Fair Veterans Day event on Oct. 8, was presented the Chapel of the Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award during a session of Annual Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) on the morning of Monday, Oct. 12. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

who give back to their community – locally, nationally, and internationally. Today, I am here to welcome a new member into our family of the Chapel – a member of your local community who has given of his time, his efforts of selfless service, and his military history as well.”

The four chaplains were: Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed.

Hunt read a portion of the four-page nomination letter for Ball. “When we think of selfless and uncompromising service to one’s community, family, and country, Samuel Gerard Ball comes to mind as a forerunner of those qualities and life mission.

Having served in the United States Army for eight years, followed by a desire and love for serving and giving back, he began his civilian career in capacities where he was a public servant and continues to serve as an advocate for all veterans regardless of race, religion, and/or position in life.”

He continued, “Everything Gerard does and continues to do is done with an opportunity to show his love and commitment, compassion, dignity, and respect for veterans and their families to ensure they are taken care of.”

Hunt presented Ball with a certificate and lapel pin that accompany the Legion of Honor Award.

Following that presentation, Ball said, “It truly is something I’ll never forget. I just want to say

thank you to our veteran community and the Cherokee community. Helping our veterans has been an eye-opening experience. I knew of our service and all we’ve done, but to be able to interact and bring that population back to the forefront and be able to assist them to get the services that they so rightly deserve has been a true honor and I enjoy that and coming to work every day to help them.”

Several EBCI tribal members have received awards previously including: former Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Joyce Dugan, Bronze Medallion; the late EBCI Beloved Man Chief Robert S. Youngdeer, Bronze Medallion; the late PFC Reuben Taylor, Bronze Medallion; and Warren Dupree, Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143, Legion of Honor Award.

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woke their parents up and it's because of fire prevention...With our new training officer, Keith [Kornegay], we sat down and came up with an idea of getting into schools on fire prevention weeks. And that's not the only time. We educate the kids every time we come up here."

tsalagi soquo ugidahli, week of dunindi (Oct.) 21-27, 2026

QUALLA-WEEN

OCTOBER



CHEROKEE, NC



Legendary Fears: The Sgili (Ghost) Hunt

Guests will have the opportunity to explore **Mountainside Theatre** after dark and conduct their own paranormal investigations. Guides will be stationed throughout the theatre to share some of the unexplained things our staff members have experienced over the years. Not recommended for children under 10.

October 15-17, 22-24, 29-31, 7pm - 10pm



Legendary Fears: Spearfinger's Awakening

Something has awakened Spearfinger from her grave. Now, she has called the others from the darkness. Ancient creatures once whispered about around the fire are stirring again, summoned from the shadows to join her. This October, Cherokee's darkest legends come alive. Encounter them after dark at Oconaluftee Indian Village. Not recommended for children under 10.

October 15-17, 22-24, 29-31, 7pm - 10pm



Fear as a Teacher Exhibit

View this month long exhibit at the **Museum of the Cherokee People**. The Museum is open 9am-5pm with the last ticket sold at 4pm. Admission to the exhibition is included in a general admission ticket.

October 1 - 31



Shape Shifters

Hands on crafts and goodies for the whole family at the **Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual**.

DIY activities

Oct 30, 9am - 3pm

DIY activities & Open Air Market

Oct 31, 9am - 3pm

Costume Contest Kids - Teens - Adults

Oct 31, 11am - 1pm



Cherokee Art Heist

Follow clues around Cherokee to solve the mystery of the stolen painting. Start at the **Museum Pavilion**. Hosted by Sequoyah Fund.

October 30 & 31, 9am - 3 pm

quallaween.com



114th Cherokee Indian Fair winners in EBCI Cooperative Extension contests

Agriculture - Adult

Best of Show Agriculture: Charlene Wolfe

Best of Show Livestock: Paul West

Any Traditional Cherokee Crop not Listed as a Category: 1 - Charlene Wolfe, 2 - Isaiah Armachain

Corn Beads: 1 - Charlene Wolfe, 2 - Isaiah Armachain, 3 - Lolita Sequoyah

Field Corn, 10 Ears, Yellow: 1 - Finley McMillan

Field Corn, 10 Ears, White: Finley McMillan

Gourds:

Ornamental, Displayed in an Indian Basket: 1 - Keaton Arch, 2 - Charlene Wolfe

Birdhouse Gourd: 1 - Thomas David Bradley, 2 - Marvin Thomas Bradley Jr.

Dipper Gourd: 1 - Erma McMillan, 2 - Charlene Wolfe, 3 - Isaiah Armachain

Any Other Gourd: 1 - Isaiah Armachain, 2 - Charlene Wolfe, 3 - James Lossiah

Largest Gourd: 1 - James Lossiah

Herb Display: 1 - Isaiah Armachain

Indian Beans:

October Beans: 1 - Marvin Thomas Bradley Jr.

Indian Flour Corn, White: 1 - Finley McMillan

Irish Potatoes: 1 - Charlene Wolfe, 2 - Marvin Thomas Bradley Jr.

Popcorn: 1 - Finley McMillan, 2 - Erma McMillan, 3 - Keaton Arch

Pumpkin:

Largest: 1 - Finley McMillan

Other Pumpkin: 1 - Thomas David Bradley

Unusual Vegetable: 1 - Keaton Arch, 2 - James Lossiah

Winter Squash:

Candy Roaster: 1 - Marvin Thomas Bradley Jr.

Largest Candy Roaster: 1 - Thomas David Bradley

Any Other Winter Squash: 1 - Erma McMillan, 2 - Finley McMillan, 3 - Thomas David Bradley

Livestock:

Chickens: 1 - Paul West, 2 - Olivia Saunooke,



Charlene Wolfe took Best of Show Adult Agriculture as well as first place in the Any Traditional Cherokee Crop not listed in a category with this stunning display. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

3 - Angela Gunter

Cows: 1 - David Wolfe, 2 - David Hicks, 3 - Jeremy Wolfe

Horses: 1 - David Hicks, 2 - David Wolfe, 3 - Jeremy Wolfe

Rabbits: 1 - Brittany Hampton, 2 - Keniethea Roy, 3 - Christy Burgess

Swine: 1 - Brittany Hampton, 2 - Angela Gunter

Traditional Crops of the Cherokee: 1 - Charlene Wolfe

Flower Arrangements:

Garden: 1 - Nancy Brown, 2 - Janet Smith

Wild: 1 - Nancy Brown, 2 - Janet Smith, 3 - Brittany Hampton

Dried: 1 - Nancy Brown

Agriculture - Young Adult:

Cows: 1 - Jerron Martens

Horses: 1 - Jerron Martens

Agriculture - Youth:

Best of Show Agriculture: Jessa Teesateskie

Best of Show Livestock: Gunnar McMillan

Any Traditional Cherokee Crop: 1 - Jessa Teesateskie, 2 - Zaiden Armachain

Corn Beads: 1 - Piper Owle, 2 - Zaiden Armachain, 3 - Jessa Teesateskie

Corn:

Field Corn: 1 - Sam McMillan, 2 - Gunnar McMillan

Indian Corn: 1 - Gunnar McMillan, 2 - Sam McMillan

Gourds:

Birdhouse Gourd: 1 - Naomi Bird, 2 - Zaiden Armachain

Dipper Gourd: 1 - Sam McMillan, 2 - Jessa Teesateskie, 3 - Gunnar McMillan

Largest Gourd: 1 - Jessa Teesateskie, 2 - Zaiden Armachain

Herb Display: 1 - Waylon Walkingstick, 2 - Zaiden Armachain, 3 - Jessa Teesateskie
Irish Potatoes: 1 - Jessa Teesateskie, 2 - Zaiden Armachain

Pumpkin:

Largest: 1 - Jessa Teesateskie, 2 - Zaiden Armachain, 3 - Sam McMillan
Ugliest: 1 - Jessa Teesateskie, 2 - Zaiden Armachain
Other Pumpkin: 1 - Gunnar McMillan

Winter Squash:

Any Other Winter Squash: 1 - Gunnar McMillan, 2 - Sam McMillan

Livestock:

Chickens: 1 - Gunnar McMillan, 2 - Copelyn Beck, 3 - Waylon Walkingeagle
Swine: 1 - Holland Hampton
Goats: 1 - Holland Hampton, 2 - Sloane Hampton

Baked Goods - Adult:

Best of Show: Connie Rose, Mary McCoy

Breads:

Traditional Bean Bread: 2 - Erma McMillan, 3 - Brittney Rogers
Traditional Chestnut Bread: 1 - Mary McCoy, 2 - Lavinia Hicks, 3 - Brittney Rogers
Traditional Gritted Bread: 3 - Erma McMillan
Traditional Lye Bread: 2 - Tammie Ledford, 3 - Lavinia Hicks
Cornbread: 1 - Erma McMillan, 2 - Tammie Ledford, 3 - Reyna Solis
Sourdough: 3 - Kendall Toineeta
Casseroles: 2 - Reyna Solis, 3 - Jason Beck

Homemade Cakes:

Pound Cake: 1 - Connie Rose, 2 - Tina Donkor, 3 - Jason Beck
Applesauce Cake: 1 - Jason Beck, 2 - Reyna Solis, 3 - Brittany Frady
Other Cake: 1 - Connie Rose, 2 - Charlene L. Wolfe, 3 - Kimlyn Sneed Lambert

Pies:

Cream: 1 - Amorie Gunter, 2 - Jason Beck
Fruit: 1 - Vita Nations, 3 - Shelby Mae Solis
Other Pies (including cobblers): 3 - David

Hicks
Diabetic Food: 2 - Charlene L. Wolfe
Other: 1 - Brittney Rogers, 2 - Tammie Ledford, 3 - Kendall Toineeta

Baked Goods - Young Adult:

Best of Show: Roxy Solis

Breads:

Traditional Bean Bread: 3 - Roxy Solis
Traditional Chestnut Bread: 1 - Roxy Solis
Traditional Lye Bread: 1 - Roxy Solis
Cornbread: 1 - Avery Brown, 2 - Roxy Solis
Muffins: 1 - Avery Brown
Cake: 1 - Carlito Perez
Diabetic: 1 - Avery Brown
Other: 1 - Roxy Solis

Baked Goods - Youth:

Best of Show: Atlas Slee

Breads:

Traditional Bean Bread: 1 - Atlas Slee, 2 - Lukas Reed
Traditional Chestnut Bread: 1 - Cedar Sequoyah, 2 - Isreal Solis, 3 - Waylon Walkingeagle
Traditional Lye Bread: 1 - Atlas Slee, 2 - Riley Solis
Cornbread: 1 - Isreal Solis
Muffins: 1 - Vaelyn Owl, 2 - Emberlynn Beck, 3 - Isreal Solis
Cake: 1 - Copelyn Beck, 2 - Vaelyn Owl, 3 - Xaiden Bigmeat
Diabetic: 1 - Jessa Teesateskie
Other: 1 - Riley Solis, 2 - Sam McMillan, 3 - Emberlynn Beck

Canning - Adult:

Best of Show: Marvin Thomas Bradley
8 Jar Canning Collection: 1 - Kendall Toineeta, 2 - Angela Gunter

Jam, Fruit, Butters, Jelly, Preserves, and Marmalades Collection: 1 - Kendall Toineeta, 2 - Angela Gunter
Pickles and Relishes Collection: 1 - Brittany Hampton, 2 - Lucy Dean Reed, 3 - Angela Gunter
Vegetable Collection: 1 - Erma McMillan, 2 - Lavinia Hicks, 3 - Angela Gunter

Traditional Foods Collection: 1 - David Hicks, 2 - Erma McMillan, 3 - Lavinia Hicks
Dried Foods Collection: 1 - Alissa Marie Owle
Best Traditional Food: 1 - Marvin Thomas Bradley, 2 - Lavinia Hicks, 3 - David Hicks
Any Canned Food: 1 - Lavinia Hicks, 2 - Alissa Marie Owle, 3 - Donald James Owle
Any Dehydrated Food: 1 - Donald James Owle, 2 - Marvin Thomas Bradley, 3 - Jason Beck

(Note: The results from the Young Adult and Youth canning categories were not ready by press time.)

Hobby - Adult:

Best of Show: Austin Ryver Gunter

Cherokee Traditional Craft:
Basket: 1 - Lori Reed, 2 - Dianna Brady, 3 - Amanda Lanning
Mat: 1 - Waylon Long
Jewelry: 1 - Olivia Owle, 2 - Mary E. McCoy, 3 - Rebecca Shane Howell
Diamond Art: 1 - Sky Sampson, 2 - Brittany Hampton, 3 - Anna Mintz
Woodworking: 1 - Austin Ryver Gunter, 2 - Gregory Wyatt Bradley, 3 - William McCoy
Dried or Decorated Gourd: 1 - Nancy Brown, 2 - Charlene L. Wolfe, 3 - Janna Girty
Graphic Design/Digital: 1 - Sky Sampson

Drawing:

Pencil/Charcoal/Pastel: 1 - Bayley McKenna Wright
Mixed or Other: 1 - Bayley McKenna Wright

Painting:

Acrylic: 1 - Laurel Welch, 2 - Bayley McKenna Wright, 3 - William Harris
Watercolor: 1 - Nancy Brown
Mixed or Other: 1 - Brian Aaron Lambert, 2 - Sky Sampson
Poetry or Creative Writing: 1 - Brittany Hampton, 2 - Kimlyn Sneed Lambert, 3 - Madeline Welch-Carroll
Other Hobby Reflecting the Fair Theme: 1 - Nancy Brown, 2 - Kayla Bigmeat, 3 - Brittany Hampton

Hobby - Young Adult:

Best of Show: James Smith Jr.

Cherokee Traditional Craft:

Basket: 1 - James Smith Jr., 2 - Ava Walking-stick, 3 - Cher Crowe-Garcia

Jewelery: 1 - Avery Brown, 2 - Odie Owle, 3 - Nina Montelongo

Decorated Dried Gourd: 1 - Avery Brown

Cornhusk Doll: 1 - Avery Brown, 2 - Aliyah

Watty

Other Jewelry: 1 - Avery Brown

Drawing: 1 - Nygel James, 2 - Avery Brown

Painting: 1 - Reece Kerbow, 2 - Avery Brown

Ceramics: 1 - Karyn Bradley, 2 - Avery Brown, 3 - Mason Crowe

Woven Paper Basket or Mat:

Basket: 1 - Taytem Saunooke, 2 - James Smith Jr., 3 - Cher Crowe-Garcia

Mat: 1 - Dagoberto Guerrero, 2 - Cher

Crowe-Garcia

Essay, 1,000 word: 1 - Avery Brown

Other Hobby: 1 - Samuel Wachacha, 2 - Avery Brown, 3 - Nina Montelongo

Other Hobby: 1 - Odie Owle

Hobby - Youth:

Best of Show: Mataya Sampson

Cherokee Traditional Craft:

Basket: 3 - Aubrey Arch

Mat: 1 - Aubrey Arch

Jewelry: 1 - Mataya Sampson, 2 - Aubrey Arch, 3 - Patrick Lambert

Decorated Dried Gourd: 1 - Mataya Sampson, 2 - Jessa Teesateskie, 3 - Kathryn Owle

Cornhusk Doll: 1 - Mataya Sampson, 2 - Naomi Bird

Other Jewelry: 1 - Shaye Thompson, 2 - Mataya Sampson, 3 - Wally Watty

Drawing: 1 - Piper Owle, 2 - Kathryn Owle

Painting: 1 - Vaelyn Owl, 2 - MaKayla Kerbow, 3 - Kathryn Owle

Ceramics: 1 - Mataya Sampson, 2 - Atlas Slee, 3 - Aubrey Arch

Woven Paper Basket or Mat:

Mat: 1 - Piper Owle

Other Hobby: 1 - Patrick Lambert, 2 - Allana Kemp, 3 - Piper Owle

Other Hobby: 1 - Piper Owle, 2 - Mataya Sampson, 3 - Patrick Lambert

Sewing and Needlework - Adult:

Best of Show: Keyonna Rodriguez

Historical Cherokee Clothing, 1800's era: 1 - Erma McMillan

Traditional Cherokee Garment: 1 - Marvel Welch, 2 - Amy Postal

Ribbon:

Skirt: 1 - Kathryn Queen, 2 - Keyonna Rodriguez, 3 - Marvel Welch

Set: 1 - Kayla Wood

Moccasins:

Pucker Toe: 1 - Kelly Murphy, 2 - Janna Girty

Contemporary Clothing:

Advanced Level: 1 - Marvel Welch, 2 - Janna Girty, 3 - Rachel Slee

Stuffed Toy: 1 - Vita Nations, 2 - Keyonna Rodriguez, 3 - Madeline Carroll

Other Sewn Item: 1 - Mary E. McCoy, 2 - Keyonna Rodriguez, 3 - Lori Ann Reed

Sewn Item Reflecting the Fair Theme: 1 - Kathryn Queen

Afghan:

Crochet: 1 - Sharon Leigh Queen, 2 - Madeline Carroll

Quilt:

Baby: 1 - Faith Long Presley

Other (Handsewn) 1 - Nikki Blankenship

Baby Afghan, Crochet, or Knitted: 1 - Madeline Carroll, 2 - Sharon Leigh Queen, 3 - Keyonna Rodriguez

Baby Clothes: 1 - Keyonna Rodriguez, 2 - Madeline Carroll

Sweaters: 2 - Madeline Carroll, 3 - Shelby Mae Solis

Scarf: 2 - Shelby Mae Solis, 3 - Keyonna Rodriguez

Crochet, Other: 1 - Sharon Leigh Queen, 2 - Keyonna Rodriguez

Cross Stitch:

Counted: 1 - Theresa Ann Robinson, 2 - Frankie Bradley

Stamped: 1 - Charlene L. Wolfe

Sewing and Needlework -

Young Adult:

Any Other Sewn Item: 1 - Bentley Lambert

Any Crochet or Knitted Item: 1 - Georgja Girty

Sewing and Needlework - Youth:

Accessory: 1 - Patrick Lambert

Ribbon:

Skirt: 1 - Amya Welch, 2 - Jessa Teesateskie, 3 - Piper Owle

Shirt: 2 - Zaiden Armachain, 3 - Patrick Lambert

Any Other Sewn Item: 1 - Jessa Teesateskie, 2 - Piper Owle

Any Crochet or Knitted Item: 1 - Copelyn Beck

Special Exhibits:

Best of Show: Dennis Jumper

Drawing: 1 - Gabriella Milholen

Painting, Acrylic: 1 - Tsali Welch

Corn Husk Doll: 1 - Dennis Jumper

Pumpkin Banana Muffins: 1 - Gabriella Milholen

Apple Cake: 1 - Dailen Panther

Banana Bread: 1 - Sage Bark

Deer Mask: 1 - Kendra Arch

Mask: 1 - Gabriella Milholen

Corn Husk Doll: 1 - Dennis Jumper

Black Lego Flower: 1 - Dustin Pheasant

Other Hobby: 1 - Tsali Welch

Christmas Tree: 1 - Dailen Panther

Senior Elder:

Best of Show: Merritt Youngdeer and Yvonne Bushyhead

Vegetable Collection: 1 - Judith Smith

Lye Bread/Dumplings: 1 - Judith Smith

Cornbread: 3 - Carolyn Huskey

Pound Cake: 1 - Sadie Bradley

Carrot Cake: 1 - Carolyn Huskey

Mexican Cornbread: 2 - Carolyn Huskey

Decorated Gourd: 1 - Merritt Youngdeer

Any Other Gourd: 1 - Merritt Youngdeer

Pucker Toe Moccasins: 1 - Judith Smith

Other Sewn Item: 1 - Reva Brown

Quilt, Pieced: 1 - Yvonne Bushyhead, 2 - Sue McManus

Quilt, Other: 1 - Yvonne Bushyhead, 2 - Sue McManus

Pillow Cases: 1 - Reva Brown

Honey Production: 1 - Juanita Swimmer



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T9821
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2026 Ford Bronco Big Bend
Stock #: V9822
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OBITUARIES ᏍᏏᏏᏏᏏ

Marilyn (Susie) Lee Smith Chastain

Marilyn (Susie) Lee Smith Chastain, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026, at Tsali Care Center in Cherokee, N.C., at the age of 80. She leaves behind a legacy of fierce love, unwavering loyalty, strong opinions, and countless memories that will continue to live on through the family she cherished.

Born May 18, 1946, in Swain County, N.C., Susie was the daughter of the late Stella Sneed and Noah Smith. A proud member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, she was deeply connected to her Cherokee heritage.

Susie spent her married life in Otto, N.C., where she raised her family alongside Tom Chastain.

After 35 years of marriage, they divorced, though Susie remained deeply loved by the entire Chastain family. Throughout her life, she worked at multiple places in Franklin, most notably the Blue Bell Factory (Wrangler plant). She was especially proud of her time there, frequently sharing stories about the time the plant was featured in The Franklin Press after she and her co-workers were selected to make custom Wrangler blue jeans for NBA legends Kareem Abdul-Jabar and Shaquille O'Neal.

A fierce sports fanatic, Susie knew every rule, every player, and never hesitated to loudly call out the referees. Her sports loyalties included the Miami Dolphins and Dan Marino, Carolina Panthers and Cam Newton, Pete Rose and the Cincinnati Reds, San Antonio Spurs and Victor Wembanyama, and tennis greats Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams.

Her love for local athletics was just as strong. A longtime Franklin Panthers supporter and Franklin High School Booster Club member, she collected newspaper clippings and game programs dating back to the 1970's. She faithfully supported her children and grandchildren through decades of Little League, high school, and college sports. She followed her son John through football, basketball and baseball, and her daughters in softball and basketball. She was a familiar face at fields and courts and was well known to the referees. In later years, one of her greatest joys was watching her great-grandson, Malachi Hayes play baseball, proudly carrying on the families love of sports.

Susie had a natural green thumb and loved every plant and flower. An amazing cook, she

enjoyed watching hummingbirds reading, cross-stitching, sewing, listening to her impressive Elvis collection, and spending time with her family.

During her time at Tsali Care Center, she formed special bonds with nurses and staff. We would especially like to recognize Kim, Daniel, Linda, T.K., who held a very special place in Mom's heart. You brought her comfort, smiles, and happiness in ways you may never fully realize. To all the nurses, CNAs, and staff who cared for her, thank you for your kindness, patience, and compassion. Our family will always be grateful. We are deeply thankful to the ER and ICU staff at Harris Regional Hospital for the wonderful care they provided. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Four Seasons Hospice Care, especially Rebecca Birolin, for helping our mother pass peacefully and with dignity. They took care of all the difficult things so that we could simply be her family, hold her hand, love on her, and cherish every precious moment we had left together. For that we will be forever grateful.

Susie's greatest pride was her family, especially her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She is survived by her children, Latresa Chastain Hayes (Tim), Sharon Chastain Garner (Mark), Gail Chastain Gibson (Kent), and John A. Chastain (Susan Mathis); and her brother, John Wilbur Smith.

She is also survived by her grandchildren, LaDonna and Katrina Hayes, Cheyenne Carson (Britney), Michael Carson, Devan Gibson Wallace (Aaron), Austin Gibson (Riley Mayer), Caeden Chastain, Parker Mathis, and her JoJo. Her great grandchildren

Malachi, Juleesa, Kemberr Hayes, Xavier, Zaeden, Zola, Draya, Major, Kenyan, and Kyler Carson, Cameron, Kellan, Nolan Gibson, Rykah and Rza Wallace; and great great-grandson; Jaxton Gibson; as well as many nieces and nephews whom she loved immensely.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her siblings, Oscar Smith, Georgia Smith, Philip Smith, Phyllis Sequoyah, and Pat Smith; and a granddaughter, Juleesa Hayes.

Susie's strength, humor, determination, and devotion touched everyone that knew her. She was truly one of a kind and will be forever missed, cherished, and loved.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1 at The Oconaluftee Island Park: US -441, Cherokee NC 28719.

Parking is located along US-441 or in the dedicated parking lot across the river on Acquoni Road, then cross over either of the two bridges to reach the island.

Thomas "Brandon" Stephens

Feb. 5, 1972 – Oct. 11, 2026

Thomas "Brandon" Stephens was born on Feb. 5, 1972, to Thomas "Tommy" Earl Stephens and Evangeline "Vangie" Wolfe Stephens. A man of remarkable intellect, unmistakable laughter, boundless curiosity, and an unwavering love for his people, Brandon lived a life defined by his passion for learning, his gift for storytelling, and his determination to leave the world a little better than he found it.

Brandon was a graduate of Smokey Mountain High School and Western Carolina University. His pursuit of knowledge also took him to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the



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Haslam College of Business at the University of Tennessee, where he earned his Master of Business Administration. Among his many academic accomplishments, he was especially proud of earning his Master of Public Administration from the prestigious Harvard Kennedy School at Harvard University.

But for all his education and accomplishments, Brandon was never defined by the degrees he earned or the titles he held. He was defined by the lives he touched, the stories he told, the laughter he shared, and the fierce love he had for his family, friends, community, and his Tribe.

If you ever heard Brandon laugh, you never forgot it. His laughter was unmistakable, infectious, and entirely his own. He had a way of filling a room with his personality, turning an ordinary conversation into an unforgettable story, and making people feel as though they had known him forever. He loved good food, great conversation, and the opportunity to experience something new. An avid traveler, Brandon visited all 50 states and 15 countries, collecting experiences, friendships, and, of course, stories along the way.

One of Brandon's greatest passions was broadcasting. He understood the power of a voice, the importance of a story, and the extraordinary ability of a microphone to bring people together. Whether calling a football game, sharing a moment of excitement, or telling the stories of the people and places he loved, Brandon brought an energy and authenticity that could never be duplicated. He had a special love for Murphy football. To Brandon, broadcasting was never simply about the score on the field. It

was about the young men giving everything they had, the coaches who believed in them, the families cheering from the stands, and the communities that came together under the Friday night lights. He understood that sports were part of the fabric of a small town, and he took pride in helping preserve those moments through his voice. His enthusiasm was genuine, his knowledge was deep, and his love for the game was undeniable.

Yet perhaps Brandon's greatest passion was his commitment to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the advancement of Indian Country. Brandon believed that his Tribe deserved nothing less than the very best. He believed in the strength, intelligence, resilience, and limitless potential of the Cherokee people. His commitment to making his Tribe better was not rooted in personal recognition or ambition, but in a genuine belief that strong leadership, education, accountability, and a willingness to challenge the status quo could create a better future for generations to come.

Brandon had a remarkable ability to recognize potential in others, sometimes before they could see it in themselves. He pushed people to become the best versions of themselves, not because he expected perfection, but because he believed they were capable of more. He could be passionate, outspoken, and unwavering in his convictions, but behind that determination was a man who cared deeply about the people and communities he was fighting for. He leaves behind a legacy that cannot be measured in degrees, destinations, or professional accomplishments. It lives in the people he encouraged, the conversations he started, the stories he

shared, the young athletes whose moments he helped make unforgettable, and the belief he instilled in others that tomorrow could be better than today.

Brandon is survived by his brother, Jake Stephens (Ahli-Sha) of Cherokee; his nephews, Kaden (Keniliya) and Carter (Wayasdi); and several other brothers and special nieces and nephews. Brandon is also survived by his Aunts, Jackie Moody, Gerri Grady and Robin Wolfe; Uncles, Joe Wolfe and Tony Wolfe. He is preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Dr. Jeremiah Wolfe and Juanita (Bradley) Wolfe and paternal grandparents, Earl Stephens and Mary Joyce (Smith) Stephens; and Uncles, Mike Wolfe, Dennis Wolfe and Rick Stephens.

Visitation was held on Saturday, Oct. 17 at Appalachian Funeral Home.

Johnny Dale Tramper

Johnny Dale Tramper, 68, passed away Monday, Oct. 12, 2026 at his residence.

He is survived by his companion of 37 years, Judy Hall; twin brother, Jimmy Tramper; sister, Sally Reed; brother Buddy Taylor; daughter, Nadine Tramper, son Bryan Tramper, granddaughters Kylee Tramper, Teja Littlejohn, Rae Littlejohn, grandson Tyler Wolfe; great granddaughters Laney Teesatuskie, Leia Teesatuskie, Zahra Wolfe, Achaia Johnson; step-granddaughter, Lauraina Hall; step-daughters, Crystal Hall, Bridgett Hall; and several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Johnny was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Frances Saunooke Tayler "Bell"; father, John Tramper; grandmother, Margaret Rattliff; grandfather,

Jake Rattliff; grandson, Kollin Lane Tramper; step-son, Lee Hall; step-grandson, Levi Stinnett; sisters, Barbara Saunooke, Peggy Lynn Tramper, and Tiney Taylor.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Oct. 17 in the chapel of Crisp Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Bryan Tramper, Dustin Tramper, Emerson Sequoyah, Emery Driver, Levi Tramper, Hawk Wooten, Cordale Wooten, Dalton Maney, Tyler Wolfe, and Shawn Saunooke.

Maybelle Smoker Welch

Maybelle Smoker Welch, 69, of the Snowbird Community in Robbinsville, N.C., went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026, at her residence, surrounded by her loving family, following a period of declining health.

Born on May 31, 1957, Maybelle was the daughter of the late Jack C Smoker and Amy Teesateskie Smoker of Robbinsville, N.C.

Maybelle was a devoted wife, loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She was a lifelong member of Zion Hill Baptist Church, where her faith and love for the Lord were an important part of her life. A fluent speaker of the Cherokee language, Maybelle took great pride in her Cherokee heritage and the traditions passed down through generations. She understood the importance of preserving her native language and sharing it with others. Her faith, family, and Cherokee heritage were deeply woven into the life she lived and the legacy she leaves behind.

One of Maybelle's greatest joys was sharing the Gospel through

see **OBITUARIES** next page

music. Alongside her husband, Alfred, she traveled throughout the country singing gospel music in both the Cherokee and English languages. Known as the Welch Family Singers, Maybelle and Alfred dedicated much of their lives to sharing God's Word through song. Their ministry took them to churches, gospel singings, festivals, and special gatherings across several states, where they touched countless hearts through their music and testimony.

Their singing was more than a musical performance; it was a ministry rooted in their faith and a way of keeping the Cherokee language and traditions alive. Together, they shared traditional Cherokee hymns and gospel songs,

carrying a message of hope, faith, and salvation wherever the Lord led them. Their son, Hunter, also joined them in their musical ministry. The family was recognized for its contributions to Cherokee gospel music, including participating in a special Smithsonian Institution program celebrating Christian songs in Native languages.

Maybelle and Alfred's dedication to their ministry made a lasting impact on the many churches, communities, and individuals who had the opportunity to hear them sing. Their willingness to travel and share their gifts was a reflection of their devotion to the Lord. Through their music, they not only shared their faith but also helped preserve a cherished part of Cherokee culture for future generations.

Above all, Maybelle loved her family. She leaves behind a lifetime of memories and a legacy of faith, love, and devotion that will continue through her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all those who knew her.

In addition to her parents, Maybelle was preceded in death by her sister, Rachel Smoker; her grandson, Riley Adam Welch; her great-granddaughter, Lively Crüe; her nieces, Sally Jo Teesateskie, Angela Teesateskie, and infant Alana Smoker; and her great-nieces, Tosha McCarter and Juniper Rattler Smoker.

She was also preceded in death by her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Garfield Harris, James, Jesse, Davis, Sam, Freida, and Tommy Welch.

She is survived by her loving husband, Alfred Welch of Robbinsville, N.C.; her sons, Mitchell Wayne Ayers, Hunter Adam Welch, and Alfred "Junior" Welch, all of Robbinsville, N.C.; and her daughters, Victoria Welch Sluder (Albert) of Cherokee, N.C., and Dinah Welch Nunez (Jose) of Robbinsville, N.C.

Maybelle also leaves behind her beloved grandchildren, Tiara, Walosi, Mosi, Liam, J.R., Kaleisha, Corbin, Caroline, and Connor; and her cherished great-grandchildren, Grayson, Elijah, Wilson, Westin, Jayden, Ethan, Ty, Dray, and Kyler.

She is also survived by her sisters, Myrtle Smoker, and Irene Smoker-Jackson (Howard) of Robbinsville, N.C.; her brothers, Richard Smoker and Lane Smoker (Bessie), all of Cherokee, N.C. and

Tony Smoker, and Roger Smoker (Dawn) all of Robbinsville, N.C.

She is further survived by her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Rachel Harris, Juanita Harris, Will Harris, Joe Welch, Charlie Ute Welch, Abraham Welch, Mickey Welch, Mattie Welch, and Sharon Panther.

Maybelle was blessed with many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and great-great-nieces and nephews, all of whom she loved dearly.

Maybelle will be remembered for her unwavering faith, her love for her family, her Cherokee heritage, and the beautiful gift of music that she so willingly shared with others. Although her earthly voice has grown silent, the songs she sang, the faith she shared, and the love she gave will continue to echo in the hearts of those who knew her.

Her life's journey was one of faith and service, and while her family and friends will deeply miss her presence, they find comfort in knowing that she has finished her earthly journey and is now at home with the Lord she faithfully served.

The pallbearers will be Maybelle's Grandsons and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, Oct. 18 at Zion Hill Baptist Church, located at 308 Cornsilk Road, Robbinsville, N.C. Reverends Ernie Stiles and Scott Chekelelee officiated. Burial followed the service at the Welch Family Cemetery.

Townson-Smith Funeral Home was honored to serve the Welch family.

PUBLIC NOTICE AND TESTIMONY

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

Confirmation hearing for Trista Welch to the Kituwah, LLC Board of Directors

Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 10:30 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. 20.**



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

WNC Nonprofit Pathways receives Cherokee Preservation Foundation grants

Submitted by
WNC Nonprofit Pathways

ASHEVILLE, N.C. – WNC Nonprofit Pathways has received two grants this year from the Cherokee Preservation Foundation to support nonprofit leaders and organizations serving the Qualla Boundary and far western North Carolina. The awards include a \$7,500 grant for outreach and planning for a future Far West Nonprofit Navigator program and a \$62,317 grant supporting Pathways' ongoing nonprofit training, leadership development, and capacity-building work.

The most recent grant will support outreach and engagement with nonprofit and community leaders on the Qualla Boundary and in far western North Carolina. Through conversations, Cherokee Office Hours, and other opportunities to connect, Pathways will work with organizations to identify priorities and explore how individualized capacity-building support can best serve them.

This work will inform the development of a plan for a future Far West Nonprofit Navigator Program, with the goal of making individualized capacity-building support more accessible to current and potential Cherokee Preservation Foundation grantees.

"Listening to nonprofit leaders and helping organizations find the right support is already at the heart of how Pathways works," said Jeannette Butterworth, director of WNC Nonprofit Pathways.

"This grant gives us the opportunity to build on that work with the Cherokee Preservation Foundation and strengthen how we serve organizations on the Qualla Boundary and in far western North Carolina."

A second grant received this year supports Pathways' ongoing work with Cherokee Preservation Foundation grantees through nonprofit training, leadership development, coaching, and other capacity-building opportunities.

Together, the grants will help nonprofit leaders build skills, strengthen their organizations, and access practical support as they serve communities across far western North Carolina.

These programs are sponsored in part by the Cherokee Preservation Foundation.

Sequoyah Birthplace Museum awarded a grant from the Tennessee State Museum

Submitted by
Sequoyah Birthplace Museum

VONORE, Tenn. – Sequoyah Birthplace Museum is a recipient of a 34,545 grant for Capital Maintenance and Improvements from the State of Tennessee as administered through the Tennessee State Museum. The grant award will be used for repainting the outside poles at the entrance way as well as the amphitheater, and pavilion. The Tennessee General Assembly made available \$5 million in funding from the 2026-2027 Appropriations Act, "for the sole purpose of providing grants to museums with a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or affiliated with a governmental

entity for capital maintenance and improvements."

In the fourth year of the grant program, it remains a highly competitive process. In total, the Tennessee State Museum received 160 applications, totaling \$10,434,851 in requests. The Museum has made full or partial awards to 102 museums across the state, representing 49 counties. In the four years the Museum has administered the grant program, it has served museums in 76 counties across the state. A complete list of 2026-27 grantees, counties and amounts is posted at TNMuseum.org/grants.

"The Tennessee State Museum's Capital Grant program continues to support the infrastructure of Tennessee museums," said Ashley Howell, Tennessee State Museum executive director. "It is an honor to support the incredible work of our strong network of Tennessee museums. This grant is an extension of how the State of Tennessee can further support their efforts and the preservation of local and state history. We thank the Tennessee General Assembly for their support for Tennessee museums."

Charlie Rhodarmer, manager/director of Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, stated, "The Capital Maintenance Grant from the Tennessee State Museum assist smaller museums, like ours, to cover large capital projects that other grants will not cover. Without the support and funding from the Tennessee State Museum we would not be able to complete projects like repainting and repairing the entrance way poles, pavilion poles, and the amphitheater."

The Capital Maintenance and Improvements grant had a minimum request amount of \$5,000

and a maximum request amount of \$100,000. All projects must be completed by June 30, 2027.



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. In January 1994, boxer Frankie Randall won a split decision and handed which Mexican boxing legend his first professional loss?

2. Which Phoenix Suns player, nicknamed the "High-Ayatollah of Slamo-la," won the NBA Slam Dunk Contest in 1984?

3. In 1953, which Catholic fraternal organization purchased the land underneath Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, New York, for \$2.5 million?

4. The Oscar Mathisen Award, first presented in 1959, honors the season's most outstanding performance in which sport?

5. The Secretaries' Cup is an NCAA Division III football rivalry game played by which two U.S. service academies?

6. Before he became a football legend, who coached St. Cecilia to a 6-1 victory over Bogota High School in a 1940 New Jersey high school basketball game?

7. Which World Golf Hall of Famer won the 1956 U.S. Girls' Junior, the U.S. Women's Amateur five times from 1957 to 1968 and the U.S. Women's Open in 1971 and 1976?

Answers

1. Julio Cesar Chavez, who was 89-0-1 before the fight.

2. Larry Nance.

3. The Knights of Columbus.

4. Speed skating.

5. The U.S. Coast Guard Academy and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

6. Vince Lombardi.

7. JoAnne Gunderson Carner.

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COMMENTARY

Slow down and choose wisely

By ROBERT JUMPER
Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

In a world where the only things needed to publish an article, or what passes for an article, are a smartphone and a social media account, it is no wonder that many of us sit at home dazed and confused. Everyone publishes, and everyone purports truth. The problem with purporting truth is that, like beauty, truth is in the eye of the beholder. Modern truth

is very much about perspective, sometimes in defiance of reality. Many times, we see the world with blinders on, taking a set of facts and applying our passions to them, twisting those facts into something a logically thinking person might not recognize.

We are all put in a position of judgment every day. And many perceive judging as a negative thing. After all, if you ever attended Sunday School in your life, you may have gotten an earful of “judge not, lest you be judged”. For the most part, people take that old Bible admonition out of context and misrepresent its meaning. Clear understanding of that slice of biblical advice requires a more thorough reading, and, as Paul Harvey used to say, to get “the rest

of the story”.

For the Bible in Matthew 7:1 did not ban judging as a practice of discernment, but only as a practice of condemnation. I mention this as an example of how allowing someone to provide you with information without context can lead to misguided conclusions. If you are a student of the Bible, you quite clearly see even leaders of churches take snippets of Bible truth and twist them into a new meaning. If you want to truly know the meaning behind a verse, I really urge you to take the time to read the entire message, the entire book, the Old and New Testaments. As one friend and Bible scholar said to me, “The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible itself”. This advice is not to convict you or

convince you of anything except to say that when making judgment calls in your life, to the best of your ability, judge considering all facts as you determine “your truth”.

And for many of us, that is hard to do. Generations of us have grown up in a time when entitlement is the golden rule. We believe that we should get and we should get it now, whatever “it” is. And we don’t think we should have to do the math. Whether it is a good thing or not is something we will decide after we get it. Our attention spans seem to be shorter with each generation that emerges. The younger we are, the less patient we seem to be. And, logically, it should be the other way around. As an elder now, I can tell you from experience that I have much more patience today than when I was in my twenties, even though I know I have much less time on earth to devote to waiting.

It is an ongoing joke, maybe rule, in journalism that if you can’t engage a reader in the first paragraph, many times with the headline, you may as well not write the rest of the article, because if the reader doesn’t find something of interest early on, their attention will drift to something else. Have you ever seen a squirrel run in front of you to the safety of the other side of the road, only to run back in front of your car at the last moment? That’s the mentality I am talking about. And I see many squirrel pancakes on the roads on my daily commute. We are squirrely people.

Speaking of roads, how many of you know that traffic is supposed to stop in both directions when a school bus is stopped with its lights flashing? Driver’s ed 101, right? You are doing the right

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thing by stopping if you are part of the opposing traffic, right? Well, some folks have never taken the time to read the rest of the law that states that if there is a median or a turn lane that separates a four-lane road, you are not required to stop. As a result, near-collisions and road rage have grown because people don't pay attention to the law. In this case, those who look like they are creating safety for children are actually creating greater risk.

In this election, we are seeing influence peddling on a grand scale. Hard left-wing activists are pushing their truths in our faces. Hard right-wing activists are pushing their truths in our faces. Special interest groups are pounding on our cars, shouting obscenities, and publicly beating people (I guess they are literally trying to "beat some sense into us"), all to get us to see things their way so that they can have it their way. And apparently, we no longer worry about the merits of a candidate so much as we keep a scorecard of a candidate's negatives. And the candidates, their special interest groups, and their marketers are using the 80/20 rule when it comes to advertising. They use 20 percent of their messaging to give us the reasons why we should vote for their candidate, and then they spend the other 80 percent trying to convince us how bad their opponent is.

Over the past 40+ years, I have been involved in many hiring processes. I have had the privilege of hiring some motivated, productive employees. I have had the sad duty of telling candidates that they were not selected and even had to engage in disciplinary processes, including termination, for those who did not meet job performance

standards. In those four decades of managing people, I never once had a job candidate send me a resume or job application that spent 20 percent of their words on their education and experience and then took the remaining 80 percent to belittle the other applicants. Had they done so, it would have made the decision so much easier for me as a hiring agent. A person who did that wouldn't make it to the table for an interview.

As I have stated many times, getting facts instead of someone's opinion (what I call situational truth) can be very difficult in society today. From 1962 to 1981, Walter Cronkite was the anchor of the CBS Evening News. His famous tagline at the end of the broadcast was "And that is the way it is," followed by the date. He had a broad reputation as being "The Most Trusted Man in America". He was known for being a straightforward, objective reporter. For most of his career, he worked in an environment where the news divisions and entertainment divisions were primarily kept separate because early media owners understood the influence of news media and how its reporting could easily be used to manipulate public opinion. And in today's culture, media owners and publishers seem to have no limit to what they will do or say in an alleged news article to either sensationalize for increased audience or push their personal political agendas. We have gone from journalists who say "that's the way it is" to "that's the way I see it". There is a big difference. And the more aware we are of that, the better equipped we are to seek the facts and the truth of a matter, or a candidate.

North Carolina voters are in election season as we speak. In

addition to the selection of candidates to positions of political power in all branches of government and at federal, state, and local levels, there are three referendum questions to consider that will affect you if you live in the state of North Carolina, and particularly if you have off-Qualla Boundary property. In most states, their boards of election have websites. North Carolina has www.ncboe.gov. In North Carolina, you can even put in your zip code, and they will show you a sample ballot specifically for your district.

Wisdom is a dish best served slowly and deliberately. Some of my most costly mistakes in life were made because I rushed decisions and didn't do my due dili-

gence. So, let's all try to restrain our squirrel nature and make sound choices for our futures. And here is a quick note to my colleagues. Not the ones who hold to the Cronkite philosophy of journalism, but to those who have been educated and indoctrinated into the modern take on journalism. As a reporter, you hold a public trust. Your articles are not yours. You are a public servant, and the articles you write belong to the communities you serve. Do not throw away your integrity by chasing a buck, someone's approval, or trying to satisfy your vision of what you think the world should be. The world will be a better place if you simply stick to the facts.

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

The race seen around the world

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Those of us who were lucky enough to attend the 114th Cherokee Indian Fair Baby Crawling contest on the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 6 witnessed an epic race. Kobah Charginghorse Tushka-Reed barely edged out Zahra Wolfe to win the 6-9 Month category. The video of that race went viral.

As of the morning of Wednesday, Oct. 14, the video posted to the One Feather Facebook page and shot by my wife, Sheena, has been viewed 1,318,547 times by a total of 1,246,834 viewers. The One Feather maintains a very active Facebook presence, and we get decent numbers, but those are pretty insane.

So, why were so many people interested in a baby crawling race?

That can be answered, at least in my opinion, by two words – wholesome fun.

One reader commented, “Now this is how to wake up and have a smile on your face. Thanks for posting. It was awesome.”

Another reader noted, “Adorable!! Thank you, we needed that!”

I think the world does need more wholesome fun.

I’m not big on social media. I don’t have a personal Facebook



Kobah Charginghorse Tushka-Reed (green) crosses the finish line to win the 6-9 Month Category just ahead of Zahra Wolfe (pink). (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

account. Seeing comments on the One Feather page is quite enough for me. But, I do understand how it can be helpful to people trying to connect with family and friends.

Videos like this one connect people to a concept – one based in wholesome fun but one that also exudes peacefulness.

It is almost impossible to escape the negativity in our world

these days. Negative headlines (some true, some false) are thrown all over the internet and social media trying to draw us into the madness.

So, seeing something as purely wholesome as a baby crawling race video first thing in the morning has to be a welcome change to the doom scrolling. It gives people that sense of peace and escape

from the madness that they so desperately crave and need.

The late Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century American writer, once noted, “When a happy person comes into the room, it is as if another candle has been lit.”

We all fall into negativity, but let’s all strive to be that candle. And, let’s all strive to find more ways each day that it can be lit.



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The One Feather stance on the use of AI

By the One Feather Editorial Board

On June 18, the Cherokee One Feather Editorial Board adopted the policy of not using artificial intelligence in any of our work products. That means that, as a media outlet, we are choosing not to incorporate writing, photos, videos, or graphics that have been altered in any way by “thinking” computer programs. The art and profession of journalism require adult supervision, and that supervision is less likely to happen if we are lazy and let computer programs and applications do the investigative and creative work.

Artificial intelligence pulls together information, even down to writing style, to create. It pulls its information from Internet re-

sources. The problem with unfettered and arbitrary pulls of data from the Internet is that the computer program becomes the writer and editor without direct human input. And there have been many instances of AI creating “factual” articles using social media opinion and concocted narratives.

The speed at which AI can do this appeals to those who may not have the drive, initiative, skills, or financial resources to produce a similar product. It is simply easier to depend on AI output than it is to put in the time, effort, talent, and legwork needed to bring a particular audience a quality product. Open a computer window in an application, type in directions in a text box, hit enter, and AI generates, as closely as possible, your

command for an article, picture, graphic, or even a video.

The One Feather stands in opposition to the use of AI in the field of journalism. In August, we discussed the possibility of further restricting AI content in the One Feather media offerings to include all reader submissions. It was the consensus of the Editorial Board that, while we agree that AI is detrimental to the profession of journalism, the stance and opinion of the board is that AI should be used with great caution and limited as much as possible; it would be inappropriate to dictate to the readership the methods by which they arrive at the content they submit for publication. Again, this is a consensus of the board, and the decision was by no means

unanimous.

We encourage you to consider the consequences of relying on artificial intelligence when you are creating publicly consumed content. While the Cherokee One Feather has not set a policy prohibition that bans anyone outside of the newspaper from using AI, we do strongly discourage it. And all content submitted to the Cherokee One Feather continues to be subject to editorial review and approval, regardless of how it is created.

We ask that you join us in opposing the use of AI in media, including art, photography, and journalism. And, as much as humanly possible, limit your submissions to material created without the use of Artificial Intelligence.



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

PRIMARY CARE PHONE NUMBERS

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

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

Eagle Clinic

Dr. Mahar:
(828)497-3476

Dr. Houser:
(828)497-3727

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

Dr. Winchester:
(828)497-3576

Dr. Brown:
(828)497-3576

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

Seven Clans Clinic

Dr. Jones:
(828)497-3475

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

Dr. Givens:
(828)497-3552

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

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

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

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

Satellite Clinics

Snowbird

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

Cherokee County Clinic

June Hensley
(FNP)828-837-4312

DCC

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



EVERY APPOINTMENT MATTERS, SHOW UP FOR YOUR HEALTH



A Close Call

Part 5 of 8

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

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

I heard a quote the other day that rings true. “What was once shunned and hidden in the dark alleys is now openly displayed in our living rooms and broad daylight on Main Street.”

Dramas and movies about the tragedies of war and catastrophes of nature are sometimes entertaining; they might even be accurate and historically relevant, but rarely do they draw us face to face with our mortality.

Let us talk about real life and death that are relevant to us. Personally. Tragic deaths and tragic stories of death. The ones

we read about – Are you moved by the deaths you hear about on the news? The car accidents, shootings, murders, tree fallings, drownings – I mean, even with all the deaths from hurricanes or tornadoes, floods, or those who lost their lives in the California fires. What about all those who died of COVID-19? Did any of those deaths come close to you? Did or do you know any of the victims? Do you have family or friends, or even a friend of a friend, who was affected by one of those kinds of tragedies? Did any of those deaths touch your heart?

My son and his family escaped the dangerous onslaught of a recent storm. They were in a remote beach house on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. But, if they had not heeded the potential danger, and if they had not listened to the warnings, and if they had waited just another hour before they left

while the tide and storm surge was rising if they would not have got out and swept by the storm if they could not find gas...IF...IF...IF.

We all have someone we love, and when we see them faced with death, we think about the separation that will come from the death of a loved one, even if it is ourselves – it makes most of us sad to think about that.

And now we are getting close to home. The death we face in Life. The most intimate kind. Actual death – the kind that impacts us personally. Sometimes we face death when it involves a close friend, a loved one, a family member, or someone we knew at work or school who was here one day and gone the next. A classmate, military buddy, or an old friend or relative you grew up with. We know people who have had a close call, an accident, or hospitalization due to an illness of some kind. You

know that whoever that person was, they faced death. Some of us may be facing death right now. Dear Lord God and Father, with tears, I request that you inspire 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



**...They learn to be idle,
wandering about
from house to house,
and not only idle but also
gossips and busybodies,
saying things which
they ought not.**

❧ 1 TIMOTHY 5:13 ❧

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R

Figure 1. A map of the study area showing the location of the study sites and the surrounding areas. The map includes the following information:

DARN SLIDE'S TOO HOT TO TOUCH!

YUCK! THE WATER IS WARM

THIS SEESAW STIRS UP BUGS!

A cartoon illustration of a woman with blonde hair and a pink dress looking at a man in a green suit who is sitting in a wheelchair. The man has a speech bubble above him that says "GULP...".

...BUT THIS TIME I'VE GOT A "GRAND SLAM BREAKFAST."

AL J. GIBERT

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

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BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cupcake is moved. 2. Money is missing. 3. Sign is moved. 4. Man is taller. 5. Counter is wider. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

1. Wham-O; 2. Addis Ababa; 3. Insurance exec
7. Dwight D. Eisenhower; 8. 1947, Bell Labo

7. Dwight D. Eisenhower; 8. 1947, Bell Laboratories; 9. The Equality State; 10. 100

1 Off-white
5 "Star Trek II"
villain
9 Yoga pad
12 Lopsided win
13 — the Great
(kid-lit detec-
tive)
14 Yucatan
"Bravo!"
15 Lead singer
of Matchbox
Twenty
17 Present loca-
tion?
18 Most devious
19 Den fixture
21 ICU worker
22 No-frills
24 Big cheese
27 Warm-up run
28 Kitten calls
31 — Jima
32 Noshed
33 Slangy denial
34 Arrears
36 Roast VIPs
37 Hereditary
unit
38 Jazz legend
Vaughan
40 Concerning
41 Prefix with
violet
43 Social blun-
ders
47 Egg — yung
48 Workplace
invitations

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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41	42						43			44	45	46
47					48	49	50					
51					52				53			
54					55				56			

51 Sharing word	7 — premium	29 Pallid
52 Sciences' partner	8 Tree houses	30 That ship
53 Coup d'—	9 Frenzied gathering	35 Pitch
54 Messy room	10 Lotion additive	37 Lincoln Center's David — Hall
55 Diner dish	11 Libretto	39 Indian prince
56 D.C. baseball team	16 QVC alternative	40 U.K. fliers
	20 Energy	41 Sci-fi vehicles
	22 Foul up	42 LummoX
DOWN	23 Ice and Bronze	43 "Gee whiz!"
1 Blunders	24 Auction action	44 Greek salad cheese
2 "Neato!"	25 Have bills	45 Part of Q.E.D.
3 July birth-stone	26 Pitiful tale	46 Swift jets
4 Says	27 Magazine for docs	49 — pro nobis
5 Shoelace snarl		50 "Dynamite" band
6 Deli choice		

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Trivia

test by Fifi Rodríguez

1. BUSINESS: Which company produced the Frisbee?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Ethiopia?
3. LITERATURE: What was American poet Wallace Stevens' job aside from writing poetry?
4. HISTORY: The first atomic submarine was built in which decade?
5. MEDICINE: What is the medical name for low blood sugar?
6. MOVIES: In what year was the terrorist-threat movie "Black Sunday" released?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president's image was featured on a dollar coin in 1971?
8. INVENTIONS: When was the transistor invented?
9. U.S. STATES: What is Wyoming's official nickname?
10. MEASUREMENTS: How many hectares are in 1 square kilometer?

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

Weekly Sudoku

[illegible]

Solution time: 25 mins.

— King Crossword —

Benefits/Fundraisers

NAIWA will be selling Indian Tacos. Oct. 31 at 11 a.m. until gone during Qualla-Ween at Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, Inc. in Cherokee, N.C. \$10 each

EBCI Community Events

October Health Screen. Oct. 22 from 5 p.m. – 7p.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.

Halloween Event. Oct. 26 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Tsali Care Center 267 Tsali Care Way, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. A family friendly trick or treating with the residents of Tsali Care. Trick or treat bags provided upon entry. Info: (828) 497-5048

Scare-o-kee. Oct. 29 from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Acquoni Expo Center 1501 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. A night of Halloween magic featuring trick or treating, food trucks, music and spooky fun for all ages.

Pot Luck Trunk or Treat. Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. Towstring Community Building 1216 Towstring Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Costume Contest, bring your favorite

spooky side dish, and cake walk.

GWY Dhw̃h̃w̃ỹ ʡ̃oʡ̃ʡ̃w̃ 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.

NAIWA Christmas Bazaar. Dec. 10-11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at the Pam Taylor Painttown Gym in Cherokee, N.C. Indian Dinners w/drink will be available for \$15 on Thursday, Dec. 10 and soup/chili/cornbread on Friday. Tables are \$10/each. Info: Lucille Wolfe (828) 736-5285

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

Campfire and Stories. Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. at the Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center 121 Schoolhouse Rd., Robbinsville, N.C. 28776.

Bo Taylor, EBCI Tribal Member, will be the storyteller for this day event, which will kick off the Harvest Festival weekend. No admission fee, there will be hot dogs, hot chocolate and drinks for sale. Info: (828) 479-3364

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

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

Health Board. Oct. 21 at 8:30 a.m.

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

CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

S̃oʡ̃i ʡ̃D RVL̃w̃i D̃w̃ỹl

Submit your pet to us at:

Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

Include the following:

Name, breed, age, human's name(s), community/town



Sponsored by:

CHEROKEE

ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

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

Confirmation Hearing for Trista Welch to the Kituwah, LLC Board of Directors. Oct. 27 at 10:30 a.m.

Pow Wow Listings

Chambers Farm Intertribal Pow Wow. Oct. 23-25 in Fort McCoy, Fla. MC: Rick Bird. Host Drum: Gray Cloud. Info: ChambersFarm2025@gmail.com

Halloween Round Dance. Oct. 24 at Wichita Community Building in Anadarko, Okla. MC: Jason Lightfoot. Head Singers: JR Ross, John Hamilton, Tristian Raw.

Info: (405) 394-1203 or (405) 638-1817

North Texas Pow Wow. Oct. 24 at Esports Stadium in Arlington, Texas. MC: Marty Thurman. Host Northern Drum: White Eagle. Host Southern Drum: Wild Band of Comanches. Info: info@indigcommunity.org

Support Groups

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

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Some flashes of Aries ire might erupt as you confront an unusually bewildering situation. But you should be able to keep your temper under control as you work through it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The marriage 'twixt the arts and practicality, which Taureans excel at, once again highlights your enjoyment of much of the week. However, you need to watch any sudden urge to splurge.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Even with all the plusses apparently outweighing the minuses, you still might want to defer an important decision to make sure that you have all the facts you need.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) One or two problems might threaten to derail otherwise smoothly running situations at work or at home. But a few well-placed words should help get things back on track quickly.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This could be a good time for all you Leos and Leonas in the spotlight to open your generous Lion's hearts and share the glory with those who've helped you accomplish so much along the way.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Before investing time or money (or both) into a questionable matter, you might want to get advice from someone who has been there and knows these situations better than you

do.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Be careful with how you handle a workplace matter that seems out of place in the schedule you've prepared. Before you act, one way or another, find out who set it up and why.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your entertainment aspect is strong this week. Besides providing a wonderful break from everyday obligations, sharing fun times brings you closer to those you care for.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Having a weekend fun fest? Your friend or relative who's down in the emotional dumps could perk up if you find a way to include them in your plans.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) If you're stuck in one of those "the Goat knows best" moods, you might want to ease up and try listening to what others have to say. You could learn something.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A new challenge is getting closer, so you should now be out there showing facts and figures to potential allies to help persuade them to rally to your support. Good luck!

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Getting a head start on holiday plans could help free up some time later for you to spend on other projects. Meanwhile, a colleague has some ideas that you might find worth discussing.

BORN THIS WEEK: You're always there for others, but sometimes you need to be reminded that you need to be there for yourself as well.

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VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Adaptive sports programs

In a repeat of last year, the VA is set to give \$16 million in grants to 91 groups around the country that host the annual adaptive sports program. What has gone up is the number of veterans who will be able to participate. This year the VA has enrolled an additional 290,000 veterans in healthcare.

The adaptive sports program, as well as the therapeutic arts program, is run by community, regional and national grant recipients to provide opportunities for disabled veterans to participate.

If you're interested in competing or training in these events, whether you want to aim for skiing, the wheelchair games, golf, the Golden Age games or the arts, there is a place for you.

If you want to become a Paralympic athlete, there's even a training allowance, a monthly stipend for those who are selected to compete with the national Olympic team.

For the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, the adaptive ski program, see wintersportsclinic.org. Veterans with spinal cord injuries, visual impairment, traumatic brain injury and more are eligible. The clinic runs from March 27 to April 3 next year. Click "Participate" to see how to register and to review the participant requirements.

The Golden Age Games, for veterans age 55 and above, includes 20 medaled sports events broken into eight age categories. Whether you're into archery, track and field, bowling, horseshoes or any of the 19 sports, there is room for you. Competitions will be held June 23 to June 29, 2027.

The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival submission window will be Feb. 1 - March 15, 2027, and covers a wide range of artistic endeavors, from creative writing to dance to music to art, and more. See department.va.gov/veteran-sports/national-veterans-creative-arts-festival for more information.

Keep an eye on department.va.gov/veteran-sports for information on all the categories and events, and especially the registration dates.

As always, volunteers are needed. These events can't take place without the hundreds of volunteers who step up to ensure that disabled veterans have the opportunities to participate.

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Fall leaves hide ticks and fleas, new danger

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I wanted to share a scary event that happened a few days ago. My chocolate Lab "Terry" was romping around in the leaf piles that my son had raked together when she suddenly yelped and limped back toward me. Her front paw was cut and bleeding.

Because it looked significant, I took her to the veterinarian to get checked out, where she got stitches and an inflatable collar to prevent her from licking the injured area while it heals. We looked through the leaf pile later and found a garden tool that had been forgotten during cleanup!

The vet also found three ticks on Terry, but fortunately they weren't attached. I hope you'll publish my story so your readers will know to put safety first before letting their dog play in the fall leaf piles! — Karen G., Lebanon, New Hampshire

DEAR KAREN: Thank you for sharing your story. Most dogs absolutely love romping in leaf piles, and if a few precautions are taken, they can play safely and have a great time.

Before raking leaves into piles, walk through the area and pick up any trash or sharp debris. Keep your garden tools together, and when putting them away, check whether any are missing.

Make sure your pet is adequately protected against flea and tick infestation before letting them play in the leaves. Ticks especially love to hide out under leaves in the grass, waiting to hitch a ride on the first warm-blooded creature that passes by. Use a tick repellent on yourself if you plan to hang out in the yard with your dog.

And, of course, do a thorough check of your dog's coat for ticks after playtime and before they come into the house.

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

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EVENTS: From page 41

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

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

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

Halloween Trick or Treat

Farm Tours. Oct. 31 space is limited, get a ticket to reserve your spot. Winchester Alapaca Farm 386 Walker Rd., Waynesville, NC. 28786. Trick or treaters 12 and under will receive lots of treats along our guided Halloween farm tour. Pet and feed the animals, wear your costume. Treat bags provided. Info: (828) 246-9486

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

Doctrine of Discovery: Unmasking the Domination

Code. Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. – noon at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Athens, 780 Timothy Rd., Athens, Ga. 30606. Dwayne Tomah, Passamaquoddy Tribe, will explain the impact of the Doctrine of Discovery on Native Americans then and now. Info: (706) 254-7822.

Regal Raptors & Short-eared

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

Cherokee Community Clubs

Kolanvyi (Big Cove) Community

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

Widagalinidisgv (Big Y) Community

meets the second Tuesday of each month at the commu-

nity gym at 6:30 p.m. Info: Chair Bunsey Crowe (828) 788-4879, bunsey.crowe@kituwahllc.com For building rental contact Bunsey Crowe.

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Community

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

Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee County) Community

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

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Community

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

Tutiya (Snowbird) Community

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

Toledvyi (Tow String) Community

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

Wayohi (Wolftown) Community

meets the first Tuesday of each month at the community building; potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Dwayne “Tuff” Jackson (828) 788-4088, dwayne4251@gmail.com,

For building rental contact Lynn Catt (828)736-6150.

Elawodi (Yellowhill) Community meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Yellowhill Community building, potluck at 5:30 p.m. meeting at 6 p.m. Info: Chairman (to be elected on in November). For building rental, contact Robert Stalcup (828) 736-0149

Cherokee Houses of Worship

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

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

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

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

Big Cove Missionary Baptist Church. 6183 Big Cove Road. Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday morning service 11 a.m., Sunday

evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday evening prayer meeting 7 p.m., Monthly business meeting is first Wednesday 7 p.m. Pastor Brandon Harrell (828) 777-4923

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

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 Service 3 p.m. Thursday Service 6:30 p.m. Pastor Marty Pressley

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

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

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

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

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

Echota Baptist Church. 1274

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

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

Embassy Christian Center Church of God in Christ. 87 Vinewood Circle, Whittier, located on the campus of Church of God Gateway Campground and Conference Center. Full season starts Aug. 4. Sunday School 10 a.m. and Morning Worship 11 a.m. Year-round services – church online live streamed from the 24/7 church channel, Embassy TV [https:// embassytv.net](https://embassytv.net) Tuesday Night 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.

see **EVENTS** next page

EVENTS: From page 43

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

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

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

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

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

doniabaptistcherokee.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. Outreach Coordinator: German Vivas (904) 314-6123

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

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

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

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

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

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 3 John (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From 2 Samuel, who proclaimed, "How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished"? *Saul, Simon, David, Peter*
3. Who said, "I have heard many such things; miserable comforters are ye all"? *Samson, Goliath, The devil, Job*
4. From the Beatitudes, who shall be called the sons of God? *Hungry, Peacemakers, Merciful, Lonely*
5. What Jewish lady became queen of Persia? *Abigail, Sarah, Esther, Ruth*
6. Whose biblical name means "God is my judge"? *Titus, Festus, David, Daniel*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) David, 3) Job, 4) Peacemakers, 5) Esther, 6) Daniel

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

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Moments in time

• On Nov. 2, 1986, Norwegian distance runner Grete Waitz won her eighth New York City marathon, finishing the 26-mile, 385-yard course more than a mile ahead of the second- and third-place women in the race. In 1988, she won it for the ninth time, something no other marathon runner had accomplished.

• On Nov. 3, 1900, the first U.S. auto show opened at Madison Square Garden in New York, with automakers displaying 160 vehicles. Since early internal combustion engines were noisy, noxious and quite jarring, potential buyers of the period, not surprisingly, tended to favor steam- and battery-powered models.

• On Nov. 4, 1842, Abraham Lincoln, then a struggling lawyer, married Mary Todd at her sister's home in Springfield, Illinois, after a two-year courtship and previously broken engagement that some historians believe was linked to Lincoln's history of depression.

• On Nov. 5, 1968, Republican Richard Nixon defeated Vice President Hubert Humphrey in one of the closest presidential elections in American history, by less than 500,000 votes. Due to third-party candidate George Wallace's strong showing, neither Nixon nor Humphrey received more than 50% of the popular vote.

• On Nov. 6, 1988, Soviet scientist and human rights activist Andrei Sakharov embarked on a two-week visit to the United States, during which he petitioned the American government and citizens to support Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of glasnost (political openness) and perestroika (economic reforms).

• On Nov. 7, 1996, former NFL running back and Heisman trophy winner Mike Rozier narrowly survived being shot three times in his hometown of Camden, New Jersey, by Louis Pierce. Pierce was originally convicted and sentenced to life in prison, while maintaining his innocence and claiming he'd been incorrectly identified, but was released on \$50,000 bail after serving 20 years of his sentence.

• On Nov. 8, 2011, asteroid 2005 YU55, which was at least 1,300 feet wide according to radar measurements, passed about 201,700 miles from Earth, the closest known approach by an asteroid of its brightness since 1976.

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The Garden Bug

This plant's low-growing habit and captivating blooms make it a great choice for bordering garden beds and lining pathways. Its tidy growth adds definition and structure to the scenery. Candytuft thrives in rock gardens, and is rabbit- and deer-resistant. When used in pots and containers, it creates charming focal points on patios, balconies and decks. Pollinators love candytuft!

Candytuft

"Autumn Beauty" is a type of candytuft that blooms in spring, then again in fall.

— Brenda Weaver

Sources: martinnursery.com, bloomhandworks.com, garden.org

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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

see **EVENTS** next page

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- Silver conducts electricity better than any other substance.
 - The origin of the phrase “to put someone on hold” was Alexander Graham Bell handing his telephone to his partner, Mr. Watson, and saying, “Here, hold.”
 - There are 86 LEGO bricks for every person on earth.
 - Barbie was co-designed by engineer and professional missile designer Jack Ryan, who was also the sixth husband of Zsa Zsa Gabor.
 - The flute requires more air than any other instrument, including the tuba.
 - One of Stan Laurel’s favorite practical jokes was a trick toilet built into the bathroom of one of his homes. When flushed, it sank into the floor.
 - An ounce of gold can be stretched more than 50 miles.
 - The first prototype of cold cream was created around 150 C.E. by the Greek physician Galen.
 - A dashboard was initially a piece of wood attached to a horse-drawn carriage to prevent mud from splattering up from the horses and onto the driver.
 - Chefs traditionally wear white because the chef of the first prime minister of France believed it was the most hygienic of colors.
 - Over 80% of patients on the U.S. national transplant waiting list need a kidney.
 - Scientists believe that the nictitating membrane (the small pink tissue in the corner of a human eye) is the remnant of a third eyelid, similar to the semi-transparent eyelid used by birds, reptiles, fish and other mammals.
 - The first movie fashion fad was Hollywood star Mary Pickford’s long curls.
- ***
- Thought for the Day:** “Life begins now — right now — not tomorrow or the next day or the next. Every minute of every hour of every day, life begins anew. That means everything can change in an instant. It also means you can have a new beginning whenever you want.” — Neale Donald Walsch

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Tsalagi NATURE

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EBCI Natural Resources



Laetiporus sulphureus, or chicken-of-the-woods is a species of bracket fungus (fungi that grow on trees). Its fruiting bodies form golden-yellow, shelf-like structures on tree trunks. One notable identification feature is that the underside has tiny pores rather than gills. They can be found from late summer through fall, often growing in clusters on dead or mature hardwoods. To harvest sustainably, be sure to cut from the tree instead of pulling, gently shake the after harvesting, or carry it around for a while to help disperse spores. Remember to only touch mushrooms that you can confidently identify.

EVENTS: From page 45

Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday
Evening Service 5 p.m. Wednesday
Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor
Foreman Bradley 506-0123 or
736-4872

Event listings are
FREE of charge.

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



MARK YOUR CALENDAR. FIND YOUR SPIRIT.

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

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WNC TRUCK SHOW

OCT 24

SCARE-O-KEE
TRICK OR TREAT EVENT

OCT 29

QUALLA-WEEN

OCT 1-31

"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"



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**

For Sale – 1985 Ford Ranger

long bed, runs good, needs some body work. Serious inquiries only. \$1,500. Call Marion Thompson (828) 226-6961. **10/21**

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-077

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

Phillip Charles Pheasant

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 PUBLICA-

TION

Devona Toineeta
PO Box 1802
Cherokee, NC. 28719
11/4

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-075

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

Henry Martin Dover

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 PUBLICA-TION

Kathryn S Dover
38 Red Clay Rd.
Cherokee, NC. 28719
11/4

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. 26-068

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

MERLINA SNEED

All persons, firms and corpo-

rations 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 PUBLICA-TION

Jacqueline Loch
P.O. Box 2254
Greenville, NC. 27836
11/4

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

Call For Board Members

Applications are now open to join the Museum of the Cherokee People's volunteer board of

directors. The Museum's board of multigenerational community members advances our 501(c)3 nonprofit organization's mission to preserve and perpetuate the history, culture, and stories of the Cherokee people. Board members serve a five-year term, and meetings are held quarterly. Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest to communications@motcp.org by Friday, November 6. **10/21**

Request for Proposals

The Cherokee Tribal Court seeks competitive proposals for two (2) Guardian ad Litem Attorney Advocates. The GAL Attorney Advocates will assure the protection of a child's legal rights by taking all action necessary to

JOIN OUR TEAM



WE ARE HIRING

Open Positions

- Production Technician I
- Processing Operator I



Apply Online
www.quallallc.com/careers



More Information
828.589.8285

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



Employment Opportunities

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

zealously represent the child's best interest. This service will be paid on a contractual basis from the Cherokee Tribal Court. Interested individuals should submit a brief proposal including the following: Name and Contact Information Copies of Certificates and Licenses Relevant Work Experience

Proposals may be submitted at any time, but those received on or before October 31, 2026, will receive priority over later submissions. Please email proposals to: Amber Shuler, Court Administrator ambeshul@ebci-nsn.gov

This is a solicitation of proposals and not an offer to contract. The Cherokee Tribal Court reserves the right to decline any proposals received. **10/28**

INVITATION TO BID

Re: October 2026 Residential Remodeling Advertisement
The Cherokee Housing Indian

Division is seeking sealed bids from qualified TERO contractors to complete Residential Remodeling Services in Cherokee, NC. Road to Soco Apartments Unit A-103

Soco Heritage Apartments Unit-10
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. **10/28**

GWY ᏆᏍᏆᏍᏆ ᏍᏍᏍᏍᏍᏍ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

**Got ads?
Call
Dawn Arneach
at
(828) 359-6489**

GRANT APPLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Percy B. Ferebee Endowment Fund will be accepting grant applications through October 31, 2026.

The Endowment was created under the will of Percy B. Ferebee for educational, charitable, and benevolent purposes.

Ferebee was a former state senator and mayor of Andrews. A native of Elizabeth City, he moved to Western North Carolina in 1913 to work for the U.S. Forest Service.

Grants from the Endowment are limited to municipal entities and exempt organizations, under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, located in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties and the Cherokee Indian Reservation in western North Carolina. The Endowment's primary focus is on capital projects and typically does not fund requests for general operating and salary expenses.

Primary considerations will be given projects which will be of a non-recurring nature or short term in duration. Grants may be made to match contributions or other sources of funds for the support of a particular project.

To apply, reach out to the Private Trust Company via email requesting an application to Jason.Myers@lplfinancial.com or call 216-242-2810. Please put "FEREBEE GRANT APPLICATION REQUEST" in the subject line of your email.

10/28



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

K-6 Special Education Severe and Profound Teacher
K-6 Special Education Teacher Assistant (Multiple)- Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathway exam for a reading/writing and mathematics.
K-6 Self-Contained Teacher Assistant - Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathway exam for a reading/writing and mathematics.
7-8 Special Education (Inclusion) Teacher
Cherokee Language Instructor / Teacher
Part Time Food Service Worker
Substitute Teacher
AM Custodian
PM Custodian



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

OPEN POSITIONS



NEW POSITIONS

Tribal Option Care Manager
Cook - Tsali Care

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health Therapist - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
(Cherokee Central Schools, Child and Family –
Snowbird, Dora Reed, Family Safety, Family In-
tensive Treatment, Medication Assisted Treat-
ment, Kanvwtiyi, Adult Outpatient)
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwtiyi
Behavioral Health Consultant Supervisor
Qualified Mental Health Professional
Medication Assisted Treatment Program Supervi-
sor
Residential Technician – Female – Part Time
without Benefits

DENTAL

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

EYE CLINIC

Optometrist

FINANCE

Patient Access Specialist – Temporary
Patience Access Specialist - PTI

Health Information Management
Certified Coder

LABORATORY

Medical Lab Technician
Phlebotomist – Part Time with Benefits

MEDICAL

Psychiatrist
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

NURSING

Case Management Support
License Practical Nurse – Primary Care - \$5,000
Hiring Bonus
Clinical Care Manager - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
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
Tribal Option Care Manage Specialty Lead – RN
Preferred

TSALI CARE

Licensed Practical Nurse - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
Registered Nurse – \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
RN MDS Coordinator
RN Supervisor

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828.497.9163 EXT. 6343

Now Hiring Assistant Project Manager (APM) – Construction

****Entry-Level Position | Training Provided | Western North Carolina****

We're looking for a dependable, motivated person to join our team as an ****Assistant Project Manager**** supporting projects in ****cold-formed metal framing, gypsum board, insulation, and acoustical systems****. No construction management experience is necessary—we'll train the right candidate on the job.

This is a hands-on opportunity to learn the construction trade and project management skills, with room to advance quickly. Candidates with prior APM or Project Manager experience will be considered for an accelerated path to a ****Project Manager**** position.

What you'll do

- Assist with coordinating construction projects and communicating with the project team.
- Learn to review plans, track schedules and materials, and support project documentation.
- Help coordinate with field crews, subcontractors, suppliers, and general contractors.
- Visit local job sites throughout Western North Carolina.
- Build practical construction and project-management skills through on-the-job training.

What we're looking for

- A valid driver's license and ability to travel to local project sites.
- Ability to read a tape measure—or a willingness to learn.
- Reliability, a positive attitude, and a strong work ethic.
- Basic computer skills are helpful, but not required.
- A high school diploma is valued as evidence of dedication and follow-through.
- Prior APM or PM experience is welcome and may qualify you to advance ahead of schedule.

College education is a valued qualification and will be recognized in compensation, but it is ****not required****. Candidates with different education and experience backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

****Local work through out Western North Carolina—home every night.****

****Training, responsibility, and opportunities for advancement are available to the right candidate.**

**** Send email with a resume to jobs@buildwnc.com or contact us at jobs@buildwnc.com to schedule an informal interview.**

11/11



Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, October 25, 2026

- 1. Electrician Assistant/Generator Maintenance – Facility Management – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
- 2. Graphics Operator – Tribal Construction – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
- 3. Pipe Fitter – Tribal Construction – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
- 4. Field Technician II – Water & Sewer – Operations (L10 \$18.74 - \$23.43 per hour)**
- 5. Housekeeper I – Housekeeping – Operations (L6 \$16.37 - \$20.47 per hour)**
- 6. Arts & Crafts Instructor – Cherokee Youth Center – CERS (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour)**
- 7. Certification Eligibility Specialist – Tribal Food Distribution – Public Health & Human Services (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 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. Driver (Cherokee County) – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
- 8. 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**

JOB FAIR

WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF HIRING.
ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR NEXT CAREER?
JOIN US!

October 22
1pm - 5pm

Located in the Employment
Office on the Second Floor



Harrah's
CHEROKEE
CASINO RESORT

Restrictions apply. Please see Talent Acquisition department for details. Harrah's Cherokee Casinos value diversity and inclusion and are Equal Opportunity Employers. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo ID. Must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble, and must present a valid state or federal photo ID upon request. Know When To Stop Before You Start. © Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. © 2026, Caesars License Company, LLC.



Cherokee Cinemas & More has the following job opportunities

POSITION: Assistant Theater Manager – Part-time (Non-Exempt)

GENERAL FUNCTION: The primary responsibility of the Assistant Theater Manager is to assist the Theater Manager in overseeing the daily operations of the theater. The Assistant Manager is responsible for establishing and maintaining guest services. The Assistant Manager supervises employees at the location. The position is responsible for the various tasks involved in the overall operation of the theater, including maximizing sales/profitability with staff and by controlling expenses, shortages, and all aspects of merchandising and inventory control.

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.



NOW HIRING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL (DSP)

FULL-TIME + PART-TIME

Flexible schedules may be available based on the needs of the individuals we support.



ROLE DEFINITION

DSPs are responsible for providing direct care, support, and assistance to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The DSP promotes independence, personal growth, health and safety, and community involvement while ensuring services are provided in accordance with each individual's person-centered plan.



CONTACT US



Anthony Devore
anthony.devore@sevitahhealth.com



Terrell Wheeler
terrell.wheeler@sevitahhealth.com



Office: (828) 575-9802



Kituwah Technologies LLC has the following jobs available:

Low Voltage Cable Technician I

A Low Voltage Cable Technician installs and tests low-power systems like security, fire alarms, data networks (Cat5/6, Fiber), and AV/home theaters, cable pulling, termination, troubleshooting, documentation, and ensuring code compliance, often working in residential, commercial, or data center settings. Follow safety protocols (OSHA) while working with specialized low-voltage (<50V) wiring.

Job Requirements:

- 2+ years of experience in cable repair and installation (preferred, not required)
- High School Diploma

Low Voltage Cable Technician II

A Low Voltage Cable Technician installs, tests, and maintains low-power systems like security, fire alarms, data networks (Cat5/6, Fiber), and AV/home theaters, reading blueprints, cable pulling, termination, troubleshooting, documentation, and ensuring code compliance, often working in residential, commercial, or data center settings. Configure devices, provide customer training, and follow safety protocols (OSHA) while working with specialized low-voltage (<50V) wiring

Job Requirements:

- 2+ years commercial and/or industrial low voltage experience
- BICSI, NICET, ESA & OSHA Certifications are a PLUS but not required
- Must Pass a Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen
- Possess a Valid Driver's License
- Have Reliable Transportation
- Must have own hand tools and basic testers
- Working knowledge of telecom, data & fiber networks
- High School Diploma

Low Voltage Cable Technician III

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- 5+ years commercial and/or industrial low voltage experience
- 2+ years supervisory experience
- Current BICSI, NICET, ESA & OSHA Certifications or the ability to successfully pass these are highly desired.
- Must Pass a Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen
- Possess a Valid Driver's License
- Have Reliable Transportation
- Must have own hand tools and basic testers
- Working knowledge of telecom, data & fiber networks
- High School Diploma

Anyone interested should submit resumes, request the job description, and application to Kristin Smith at kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com or at the Kituwah G3 Office (Across the Street from Waffle House) between the hours of 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.



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



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Completes first 5K

Roxanne Thomas finished her first-ever 5K by completing the Spooky 5K in Bryson City, N.C. on Saturday, Oct. 10. She placed fourth overall in the women's division and 42nd overall out of 80 participants. She noted, "Someone once told me I could never run a race because I was an addict and I was overweight. Well, I just proved them, and anyone else who doubted me, wrong including myself. All glory goes to God because it was him that got me to the finish line. I couldn't be more grateful and thankful, and I'll be doing another 5K really soon!" (Photo contributed)



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Cousins place at Spooky 5K

Cousins Kree Stephenson, age 12, and Hudson Deas, age 8, both members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, took the top two spots overall at the Spooky 5K held in Bryson City, N.C. on Saturday, Oct. 10. Stephenson took first place and Deas took second place. (Photo contributed)



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Birth announcement

Lillian Wrenn Hardister, 10 lb 1 oz, daughter of Nathan and Ashley Hardister, was born Wednesday, Oct. 14. John Bryson is the proud grandpa! (Photo contributed)



Turkey Shoot winners

The Annual Jesse Welch Memorial Turkey Shoot was held at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. on Saturday, Oct. 17. Delbert Ross, left, and George Goings, second from right, both won a commemorative-engraved Case XX pocketknife. Shown, left to right, Ross; Jesse Welch Jr., Goings; and William Jesse Welch, grandson of Jesse Welch. (Photo contributed)

COSTUME CONTEST & HALLOWEEN BASH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 | MYST BAR

READY TO STEAL THE SPOTLIGHT?

The first 30 guests to register between 7:30PM and 8:30PM will compete for a chance to win a share of \$1,500 in cash prizes! The top costume of the night will walk away with \$500 cash!

The contest begins at 8:30PM, where our special guest judges will crown the five most fang-tastic costumes of the night.

Not in the mood to strut your stuff? Enjoy a Poison Apple Cocktail, great food, and live entertainment until 2AM.



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Subject to change or cancellation. Free Admission. Must be 21 or older to enter casino floor and to gamble, and must present a valid state or federal photo ID upon request. Know When To Stop Before You Start. @ Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. © 2026, Caesars License Company, LLC.