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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of
dunindi (oct.) 28 -
nvdadegwa (nov.) 3 ,
2026

Adding resources

Ribbon-cutting held for additions to Big Cove Fire Station

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – A ribbon was cut and a fire hose was uncoupled to officially open the new additions to the Big Cove Fire Station in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) on the beautiful afternoon of Thursday, Oct. 22. Just 15 months after the groundbreaking, tribal officials of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) joined staff from Cherokee Fire & Rescue for the event.

Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks commented, “I just want to thank all the team, again,

see **FIRE STATION** page 4



In a traditional way of opening a fire station, Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks and Cherokee Fire Chief Tevin Smoker uncouple a fire hose to officially open the new additions to the Big Cove Fire Station in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) on the beautiful afternoon of Thursday, Oct. 22. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

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NOVEMBER 3

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The Cherokee One Feather is the official multi-media outlet for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and operates as an independent free press under Cherokee Code Chapter 75.

Winner of 9 North Carolina Press Assoc. awards in 2025-26 including: Community Coverage (third place)



Image of the Week:
Keredith Owens, left, and her mother, Annie Owens, both members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians from Elawodi (Yellowhill), are bundled up for the Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) football game against Andrews on the chilly evening of Friday, Oct. 23 at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



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

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

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

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

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FIRE STATION: From front page

for all your work - Fire Department and Public Safety - for making sure that we keep up with the needs of the community. It's very important that we do so.

We all know it takes a community to do this work."

He added, "We're just thankful to have this facility, especially this close to Head Start.

Meeting the needs of the tribe and meeting the needs of our programs and our people is what our responsibilities are."

Rebecca Bowe, EBCI Project Management manager, gave the details of the project. "We've added a third bay so that they can have a larger truck up here. The guys don't have to share a room anymore. They were all piled in one room with bunk beds. They each have their own room in the back. We also added a fitness area so they can do their workout and then a training and lounge area. So, now their kitchen can actually be a kitchen and not a shared space. I think, overall, it was 2,000 square feet we added to this project. Facilities helped us with adding the floor. Of course, Cherokee Enterprise was our partner on this. And Johnson Architecture was our design team."

Taline Ugvwiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley said the project started several years ago. "We started out with the Big Cove Community wanting the police department to have a headquarters up here. Then we got to talking about having the Fire Department up here. It takes so long to answer a call coming from Cherokee. That's when we really got the ball to moving on getting the Fire Department up here.



The front view of the Big Cove Fire Station shows the new bay, at left, which is part of the new additions.

Once the Fire Department got up here, they got involved with the community going out helping them clear trees out, working with the free labor group. That's what our community is all about - getting out and helping each other. They've set a good example up here so I hope they continue that and we get the other departments doing the same thing."

He went on to say, "This has been a great project. Anytime we can expand out into the communities makes serving the public a lot easier for all the departments."

Anthony Sequoyah, EBCI secretary of operations, noted, "I'm one of the most excited people about this. My career started with the Tribe as one of the paid Fire Department members. We had four paid firemen and one chief, and it has grown and grown.

I'm confident that we'll see more growth in public safety as we grow as well as the whole EBCI as a whole."

Tevin Smoker, Cherokee Fire Chief, commented, "It's an exciting day for us. I just want to thank the Chief, Vice Chief, Council and any other tribal leadership. Today's a big day. Adding onto the station and renovations brings more resources into Big Cove. It makes our community stronger. It gives the guys more resources to give the best of the best service.

I want to thank my staff for their dedication and hard work to make this Department what it is."

On the fire hose uncoupling ceremony, Smoker noted, "This is a Fire Department tradition of opening a brand-new station."

The event was opened with a prayer by Clement Calhoun, an EBCI tribal elder and first language Cherokee speaker. Ugvwiyuhi Hicks and Taline Ugvwiyu Ensley were joined by several other officials including Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Michael Stamper, Aniwodihi Rep. Shannon Swimmer, Tutiyi (Snowbird) and



Taline Ugvwiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley speaks at the event.

Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee County) Rep. Michael Smoker, and 2026-27 Miss Cherokee Caedence Smith.

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

CHEROKEE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

quallaween.com

Cherokee Police Commission holds October meeting

By BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C.— The Cherokee Police Commission monthly meeting was held on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 21 in the Ginger Lynn Welch Poke Salad Room. Gahvsgi (Chairperson) Anita Lossiah called the meeting to order at 12 p.m.

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

Guests in attendance were Cherokee Indian Police Department (CIPD) Chief of Police Carla Neadeau, CIPD Attorney Cody White, Lead Tribal Prosecutor Leo Phillips, Tribal Prosecutor Hayden Duncan, Tribal Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) Chief Agent Justin Wade, and One Feather Reporter Brooklyn Bigmeat.

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

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

Chief Neadeau gave the monthly CIPD report. She noted that a ribbon cutting was held recently for the new evidence building. The report was accepted with a motion by Crowe seconded by Rosario.

Chief Agent Wade gave the monthly ALE report. Wade noted that ALE gave educational presentations on underage drinking at a local judo club and the skate park. The report was accepted with a motion by Crowe seconded by Rosario.

Phillips and Duncan gave the monthly report from the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor. Duncan said their office is earmarked for a federal grant totaling $1.42 million. The grant would help create a position for a special prosecutor who would be a liaison between their office and the U.S. Attorney's Office. The prosecutor would focus on cases related to domestic violence and involving repeat offenders, deadly weapons, and/or abuse of children. Duncan said Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex Scott and U.S. Attorney Russ Ferguson have continuously advocated for the Office of the Tribal Prosecutor to receive the grant, and it looks promising. The grant would also allow for an additional victim advocate position that would work on the specific cases of the special prosecutor. They anticipate finalizing and receiving the grant package by November, with efforts in Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) for approval, and job descriptions completed and sent out before the new year. The report was accepted with a motion by Johnson seconded by Rosario.

White reiterated to the commission that CIPD does not have Flock cameras.

Gahvsgi Lossiah shared that the commission is working on amendments to the Juvenile Code in Chapter 7 of the Cherokee Code.

Rodriguez shared that Cherokee Supreme Court Chief Justice Bradley Letts will be present at the next Police Commission meeting Nov. 10 at noon to present on the procedures and standards for magistrates in Cherokee Tribal Court.

The commission entered closed session at 12:31 p.m.



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Ordinances submitted during Annual Council deal with bear hunting, hemp stores, and more

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – Several ordinances have been submitted, deemed read and tabled, during this year's Annual Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) session dealing with topics from bear hunting to hemp stores. Each ordinance has to set for at least 25 days from the day it was introduced before being acted upon.

Ord. No. 321 (2026) was submitted on Monday, Oct. 12 by Taline Ugviwyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley. It seeks to "amend Cherokee Code Section 113-8(c) to restore the bear hunting season to Sept. 1 through Dec. 31".

The whereas section of the legislation states, "The current language of Cherokee Code Section 133-8(c) provides that the bear hunting season begins on the first Monday in September at sunrise and continues through Dec. 31, thereby altering the longstanding Sept. 1 opening date; and the Tribal Council desires to revert the bear hunting season to the Sept. 1 through Dec. 31 season that has historically been used and recognized by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians."

It continues, "Returning the season to Sept. 1 restores the longstanding calendar date and provides consistency and clarity for tribal hunters, wildlife managers, and Natural Resources Enforcement personnel."

Ord. No. 322 (2026) was also submitted on Monday, Oct. 12 by Taline Ugvwiyu Ensley. It seeks "to amend Cherokee Code Section 113-4(b)(2) to restore the original hunting license provisions for First Descendants and non-Enrolled spouses".

The whereas section states, "The original language of Cherokee Code Section 113-4(b)(2) provided that First Descendants of EBCI (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) enrolled members and non-enrolled spouses of EBCI enrolled members, who reside on tribal trust lands, may be issued a hunting license by the Fisheries and Wildlife Management Program upon payment of $10, with the license remaining in effect for one year."

It continues, "Ord. No. 13 (2025) amended Section 113-4(b)(2) by removing the requirement that these applicants resident on tribal trust lands and replacing the specified $10 payment with a general fee provision. The Tribal Council desires to restore the original wording of Section 113-4(b)(2), including the residency requirement, the $10 payment, and the one-year license term."

Ord. No. 326 (2026) was submitted on Friday, Oct. 16 by the following: Sonya Wachacha, EBCI secretary of Public Health & Human Services; Anita Lossiah, EBCI director of human services; Chief Justice Bradley Letts; EBCI Attorney General Michael McConnell; and Carla Neadeau, chief of police of Cherokee Indian Police Dept.

The whereas section states, "In Chapter 7A of the Cherokee Code, there is a need to allow for diversion alternatives instead of initiation of a petition alleging delinquency, to promote and facilitate the administration of justice and judicial efficiency, improve access to the courts by the public it serves, and to protect the interests of the tribal community and the juveniles and their families appearing before the courts."

It continues, "The Juvenile Code Chapter 7A of the Cherokee Code should be amended to establish the specifically that the Tribal Council adopts a policy encouraging diversion opportunities for juveniles instead of filing delinquency petitions."

Ord. No. 333 (2026) was introduced on Friday, Oct. 16 by Rick Bird, an EBCI tribal member and local businessman. It seeks to amend Cherokee Code Section 17A-4 involving who is allowed to operate a business selling hemp-derived CBD (cannabidiol).

The whereas portion states, "Multiple businesses on EBCI trust lands sell hemp and hemp products, and some of the businesses are owned and/or operated by enrolled members of the EBCI, and some are owned and/or operated by non-members; and several businesses that sell CBD products have violated tribal law, for instance, by selling the products to minors, selling prohibited intoxicating hemp products, and violating the regulations issued by the EBCI Cannabis Control Board."

It continues, "The majority of these violations have occurred at businesses that are owned and/or operated by persons who are not enrolled members of the EBCI... the Tribe should amend its laws to provide that only EBCI enrolled members, or businesses owned or operated by EBCI enrolled members, may sell CBD products on tribal trust lands."

Specifically, the ordinance seeks to add the following language to Cherokee Code Sec. 17A-4 (Hemp store license), "(d) Hemp store licenses may only be issued to enrolled members, businesses wholly-owned by the enrolled members, or businesses wholly-owned by the Tribe."



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. What stadium in suburban Honolulu was the site of the NFL Pro Bowl 35 times from 1980 to 2016?
2. Name the catcher who played for the Philadelphia Phillies from 1983 to 1997 and penned a book about the paranormal titled "If They Only Knew" in 2007.
3. Tennis player Marcos Baghdatis, 2006 Australian Open finalist, hailed from which Mediterranean island?
4. Which USC Trojans tackle became the first offensive lineman to be selected No. 1 overall in the NFL Draft when the Minnesota Vikings picked him in 1968?
5. In 2021, Brazilian footballer Marcelo became which team's first non-Spanish club captain since 1904?
6. Name the only father/son duo to be elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. (Hint: Neither was a player.)
7. Henry Cabelus, Michael Mena, C.J. Bartholomew and Duncan Murray are all top competitors in which extreme sport?

Answers

1. Aloha Stadium.
2. Darren Daulton.
3. Cyprus.
4. Ron Yary.
5. Real Madrid CF.
6. Larry and Lee MacPhail, both baseball executives.
7. Extreme pogo stick (Xpogo).

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Swain County Democratic Party 2026 Slate Card:

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US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 11
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Anita Earls

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NC DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, DISTRICT 43 SEAT 03
William (Bill) Jones

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SWAIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEMBER (VOTE FOR 2)
Chris Reed
Erika Smith

SWAIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION (VOTE FOR 2)
Brandy Monteith
Dannie Shuler

SWAIN COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS
Diana (Williamson) Kirkland

SWAIN COUNTY SHERIFF
David Southards

You can take this with you to vote.

Paid for by the Swain County Democratic Party. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.



Ribbon cutting held for Nvdayeli Trail

A ribbon cutting was held on the afternoon of Tuesday, Oct. 20 for the newly renovated Nvdayeli Trail in the Cultural District of Cherokee, N.C. Shown, left to right, are Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Michael Stamper; Paxton Myers, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) chief of staff; Lance Culpepper, Cherokee Historical Association (CHA) operations director; Miss Cherokee Caedance Smith; A. Gus Zimmerman, CHA executive assistant; Larry Blythe, vice chair of CHA board of directors; Laura Blythe, CHA program manager; Eliza Reed, CHA finance manager; Tutiyi (Snowbird) and Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee Co.) Rep. Michael Smoker; EBCI Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks; Wayohi (Wolftown) Rep. Bo Crowe; Andrew Oocumma, chair of CHA board of directors; Elawodi (Yellowhill) Rep. Shennelle Feather; and Aniwodihi Rep. Shannon Swimmer. (BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT/One Feather photo)



Ribbon cutting held for housing development

A ribbon cutting was held on the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 20 for the new housing development on Macedonia Road in Cherokee, N.C. The site includes 22 two-bedroom units. (BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT/One Feather photo)

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Planning Board holds monthly meeting, discusses Fair location, Qualla Boundary entry signage

By BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C.—The Planning Board of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) met on the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 19. EBCI Project Management Grants and Planning Coordinator Kim Deas led roll call.

Members present included Mike Parker, Wayohi (Wolftown) and Widagalinidisgv (Big Y) rep.; Adam Wachacha, Tutiyi (Snowbird) and Tsalagi Gadugi (Cherokee Co.) rep.; Shannon Swimmer, Aniwodihi (Painttown) rep.; Lavita Hill, Kolanvyi (Big Cove) rep.; Shennelle Feather, Elawodi (Yellowhill) rep.; Sean Ross, secretary of commerce; Brandi Claxton, secretary of treasury; Anthony Sequoyah, secretary of operations; Ugvwiyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks; Taline Ugvwiyu (Vice Chief) Alan B. Ensley; Pat Oocumma; Brian Saunooke; Annie Owens; and Natalie Bradley. Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Rep. Boyd Owle was absent on travel.

Secreteary Claxton shared that the grant application submitted to the Economic Development Administration for the development of the multi-use sports and events building at the old High School site was rejected. Secretary Claxton said the grantors considered it to be more of a community project rather than economic development. Secretary Claxton said a separate application was submitted for several sites including the old Elementary School site as well as the development of a family fun center at Cherokee Cinemas, and they have not yet received word on the status of that application.

Secretary Ross said plans are still in place for the old High School site, but the multi-use building is now off the table. Secretary Ross said plans for the site include a permanent stage area, back-of-house area, multipurpose sports field, concession, pavilion area, bench seating for sports field area, elders parking, permanent bathrooms, exhibit hall/steel structure for simple events, green space, splash pad, and connecting bridge for alternate route across the river.

Secretary Ross said the plans create a permanent space for the Cherokee Indian Fair. Ross said the multipurpose sports field could host the anetso (stickball) games, but "they are not forcing anyone to move." Ross also shared that they had record-breaking numbers this year at Children's Day and Elder's Day.

He said they are beginning the permanent bathroom phase of the project at the end of the calendar year.

Rep. Feather shared that she felt the 114th Annual Cherokee Indian Fair was awesome, but she has heard from her constituents that it is still the desire of the





community to have the Fair back at the "Ceremonial Grounds," what is now under construction as the Cultural Grounds.

Rep. Feather also said it is her opinion that the stickball teams should express where they would like to play. She shared her family history of anetso being played at Feather Fields, as well as the history of games played at the Kolanvyi field and other locations throughout the Qualla Boundary.

Rep. Feather also advocated for a meeting to be held involving all the communities, so that the public can comment on where they would like the Fair to be held in the future.

Rep. Feather noted that she believes there were record–breaking numbers on

Children's Day partly because free wristbands were given to all children, not just EBCI enrolled children.

Owens said she believes the Fair should be held at the old Ceremonial Grounds, now the Cultural Grounds.

Ugvwiyuhi Hicks said that the Fair has grown substantially, and that the old High School site allows for more parking and has double the acreage of the Cultural Grounds. He said if the Fair were to be moved back to the Cultural Grounds, the Fair would need to be extended to the old Elementary School site, which would include three locations combined with the Cultural Grounds, Unity Field for anetso, and the old Elementary School site.

Rep. Feather said she would be in favor of extending the Fair to the old Elementary Site, because then everything would be within walking distance. Reps. Feather and Swimmer both said traffic was congested from anetso at Unity Field back to the Fair, and it was difficult to make it back in time for the pageants.

Saunooke added that consideration needed to be made in the future for purposeful designs of the Fair that maximized social interaction, because as it is now, the first thing you are met with as you enter the Fair is asphalt and rides. Saunooke said at the old fairs, you were met with green space and the exhibits. Feather agreed with Saunooke.

Ugvwiyuhi Hicks said the 4" x 6" space for community exhibits in the Exhibit Hall this year at the Fair was "completely inadequate," and the need for an exhibit hall structure is high on his priority list for the Fair site. He said the exhibit hall was his "biggest remiss from prior fairs."

Taline Ugvwiyu Ensley said a town hall would be scheduled so that the community could share their input about where the Fair should be held.

For the Johnson hotel property, Ross said he is asking the architects to come up with three concepts, including 1) refurbishing the space 2) a new hotel offering 3) using existing infrastructure to create a water feature and/or pool area. Taline Ugvwiyu Ensley said he thinks they should hold off on the Johnson property until the community can come to a resolve about the Fair, since the property is adjacent. Ross said his ask was purely conceptual.

Rep. Feather said Elawodi is requesting a community pool. Ugvwiyuhi Hicks said he would also love to see a pool built, but he would like to think outside the box about what could be built that would be available past the summer months, such as a pool that could be converted into a skating rink. Ross said that was a concept his team was working on, perhaps for the old Elementary School site.

Rep. Parker said the EBCI has an opportunity to expand its outdoor economy with more low-cost, high-impact projects like Soco and Mingo Falls.

Rep. Parker added that he thinks the Elementary School site should be utilized as a mixed use, economic development space to allow enrolled members the opportunity to become entrepreneurs and start businesses there.

Rep. Parker also said there is maintenance and beautification needed around businesses in Cherokee. Secretary Ross said he is working with Associate Attorney General Ryan Clayton to draft language in the Cherokee Code to set those types of standards for businesses in Cherokee. Wachacha said those amendments would fit well in Chapter 106 Business Regulation.

The board voted to begin the proposal process for the Sneed property.

Secretary Ross provided an update on the new entry signage. He said the Sign Committee has worked on verbiage that includes "Welcome to the Qualla Boundary" and a subtitle they are still workshopping that could read as:
"The sovereign homeland of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians,"
"The ancestral and sovereign homeland of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians," or
"The historic homeland of the sovereign Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians."

Secretary Ross said they are also looking to utilize a patina effect so that the sign looks better as it ages. He said there will also be a plaque explaining the significance of the term Qualla Boundary and why the distinction is important from "reservation," since the EBCI purchased the land.

Secretary Ross also said the committee wants to create community signage for each of the Cherokee communities, and they plan to consult the community clubs.

Rep. Feather said she does not like the use of the term "Indians" on the sign because it is outdated. She mentioned that there is some old and tattered signage on some of light poles throughout Cherokee, and the committee could replace those and utilize the light poles for the community signage.

Rep. Swimmer asked Secretary Ross who was on the Sign Committee. Ross said the committee includes, Dallas Bennett, Sheyahshe Littledave, Sky Sampson, Sean Ross, and Dr. Beau Carroll. Rep. Swimmer said she thinks it is an oversight that there is not a Cherokee elder or fluent speaker on the committee. She also said community signage is something Cherokee elder and fluent speaker Marie Junaluska has been working on for years, and Marie should be included in the meetings.

Taline Ugvwiyu Ensley said he would make sure Bennett let Swimmer and Junaluska know when and where the meetings were being held. Ugvwiyuhi Hicks said inclusion of the Cherokee Speakers Council would also be ideal as the project progresses.

Rep. Feather said pull-offs should be included in the project so people can take photos and access the signage.
Secretary Sequoyah said progress is being made on the restrooms in Saunooke Village and should be finished by Spring.

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

There are no new bills this week.

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

H.R. 3444. (Tribal Self-Determination and Co-Management in Forestry Act of 2025). This bill would "direct Federal land management agencies of the Department of the Interior to establish Tribal Co-Management Plans and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for the performance of certain activities of the Forest Service, and for other purposes".
Introduced: May 15, 2025 by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-Calif.)
Action: This bill was referred to both the House Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Federal Lands on June 3, 2025, and a hearing was held in that subcommittee on June 10, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 2022 (Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act of 2025). This bill would "amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat Indian Tribal governments in the same manner as state governments for certain federal tax purposes, and for other purposes".
Introduced: June 11, 2025 by U.S. Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Jun 11, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

Senate Bill 2160 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). This bill seeks the same as H.R. 3255 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025).

Introduced: June 25, 2025 by Sen. Gary C. Peters (D-Mich.)
Action: The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 25, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

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

H**.R. 4463 (To amend the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993).** The text of the legislation states, "Subsection (d) of section 7 of the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993 (Public Law 103–116), is amended by striking '; however, in no event may an individual be enrolled as a tribal member unless the individual is a lineal descendant of a person on the final base membership roll and has continued to maintain political relations with the Tribe'."
Introduced: July 16, 2025 by Rep. Ralph Norman (R-S.C.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 16. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on Sept. 4, 2025, and a hearing was held on this legislation in the subcommittee on Sept. 9, 2025. A Committee mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. It was reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 2, 2026 and was placed on the Union Calendar that same day. The bill was passed by a voice vote in the House on June 2, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 3, 2026. 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 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.

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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, Virginia Federal Recognition Act}. This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.
Introduced: Sept. 4, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer A. Kiggans (R-Va.)
Action: The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 4, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

H.R. 5327 (To extend federal recognition to the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia). This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.
Introduced: Sept. 11, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer L. McClellen (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 Warrant Fairness Act). This bill would "allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain tribal criminal matters".
Introduced: Oct. 23, 2025 by Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Oct. 23, 2025. This was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders on May 19, 2026. This bill was passed in the Senate by a voice vote on June 10, 2026. It was received in the House on June 15, 2026.

H.R. 5820 (Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribe Recognition Act). This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribe of California and Nevada, a group based in Lee Vining, Calif.
Introduced: Oct. 24, 2025 by Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Calif.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 24, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

tation and Infrastructure on Oct. 28, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 5910 (To authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian Tribes). As stated in the title, this bill would amend 69 Stat. 539, Chapter 615, 25 U.S.C. 514(a) to authorizes such leases.
Introduced: Nov. 4, 2025 by Rep. Harriet M. Hageman (R-Wyo.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 4, 2025. A Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session was held on Dec. 17, 2025, and the bill was reported and placed on the Union Calendar by the Committee on Jan. 14, 2026. This bill was passed by the House on a voice vote on March 3, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 4, 2026. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3236 (A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008). This is a "bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to ensure Tribal consultation and representation under the food distribution program on Indian reservations".
Introduced: Nov. 20, 2025 by Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on Nov. 20, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 6285 (Native Arts and Culture Promotion Act). This bill would amend the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Culture and Art Development Act Section 1521 to add the following subsection (c), "(2) For any grants made with respect to Native Hawaiian art and culture, the members of the governing board which is required to be established under paragraph (1) shall (A) include Native Hawaiians and individuals widely recognized in the field of Native Hawaiian art and culture."
Introduced: Nov. 21, 2025 by Rep. Jill N. Tokuda (D-Hawai'i)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce on Nov. 21, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 6206 (Protect Culturally Sensitive Information Act). According to the bill, the main purposes are,
"(1) to protect the confidentiality of culturally sensitive information provided by Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, and Native Hawaiian Organizations to the federal government;
(2) to create a safe, respectful space for consultation between the federal government and Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Entities, and Native Hawaiian Organizations that encourages a free-flowing exchange of information and ideas".
Introduced: Nov. 20, 2025 by Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-N.M.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 20, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3767 (A bill to establish Assistant Secretary for Indian Health). This bill would "amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health".
Introduced: Feb. 3, 2026 by Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Feb. 3, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7325 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act of 2026). This bill would establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies "to formally investigate, document, and report on the histories of Indian Boarding Schools, Indian Boarding School Policies, and the systematic and long-term effects of those schools and policies on Native American people". If passed, an initial Commission Report would be required within four years and annual reports would be required from that point on.
Introduced: Feb. 3, 2026 by Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.)
Action: This House bill was referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Committee on Education and Workforce on Feb. 3, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 7396 (Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act). This bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration which "shall be responsible for establishing a working relationship with Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations by targeting programs of the Administration relating to entrepreneurial development, contracting, and capital access..."
Introduced: Feb. 5, 2026 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Small Business on Feb. 5, 2026, and a mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026 where it was reported favorably (24-0 vote). The bill was passed by the House by a voice vote on June 23, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on June 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

H.R. 7627 (Tribal Conservation Priorities Inclusion Act). This bill aims "to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to include Indian Tribes in certain provisions relating to priority resource concerns".
Introduced: Feb. 20, 2026 by Rep. Joe Neguse (D-Colo.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture on Feb. 20, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Com-

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mittee for this bill as of press time.

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

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

H.R. 7698 (Tribal Firearm Access Act). This bill seeks "to allow members of federally recognized tribes to use their tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer".
Introduced: Feb. 25, 2026 by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on Feb. 25, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

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

Senate Bill 4179 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act). This bill seeks "to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations".
Introduced: March 24, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on March 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 8048 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act). This bill seeks "to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations".
Introduced: March 24, 2026 by Rep. Adelita S. Grijalva (D-Ariz.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce on March 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 4276 (Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Modernization Act of 2026). This bill would simply "reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996". It is an identical bill to H.R. 8092.
Introduced: March 26, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on March 26, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 8092 (Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Modernization Act of 2026). This bill seeks "to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996".
Introduced: March 26, 2026 by Rep. Troy Downing (R-Mont.)
Action: This will was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services on March 26, 2026. A hearing was held in this Committee on Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

H.R. 8658. (Indian Health Service Emergency Claims Parity Act). This bill would "amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to modify the notification requirement for emergency contract health services for certain beneficiaries".
Introduced: May 4, 2026 by Rep. Mike Kennedy (R-Utah)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on May 4, 2026. It was referred to the Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Activities on May 12, 2026. A hearing was held in that subcommittee on July 15, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. The bill was discharged by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Aug. 27, 2026 and placed on the Union Calendar that same day. 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 Chil-

dren's Commission Implementation Act of 2026). This bill seeks "to improve outcomes for Native children by empowering tribal communities, strengthening families, and increasing access to critical services". The bill would establish the Advisory Committee on Tribal Juvenile Justice which would "provide advice and recommendations to the Administrator, the Attorney General, and Congress on all matters relating to juvenile justice, delinquency prevention and system improvement with respect to tribal youth".
The bill also states, "Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior, shall conduct Tribal consultation and, after conducting that consultation, complete a study on the number and status of cases involving Native American missing children and youth, including the scope and context of those cases that are connected to juvenile justice system involvement, child welfare system involvement, and non-custodial parent abduction, including domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, drug activity, stalking, and human trafficking."
Introduced: July 14, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 14, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

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

Senate Bill 5299 (Native Language Educators in Classrooms Act). This bill seeks "to amend the Head Start Act to establish tribal certification standards for Indian Head Start programs".
Introduced: Aug. 6, 2026 by Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.)
Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Aug. 6, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 10205 (REACH Our Tribes Act). This bill would "amend the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish a budgetary Tribal Government consultation process at the Department of Agriculture".
Introduced: Sept. 1, 2026 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the House Committee on Financial Services on Sept. 1, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in those Committees for this bill as of press time.

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.

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.

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

Find Cherokee and area events at:
theonefeather.com/events-calendar/



Groups seeking federal acknowledgement as an Indian Tribe (October 2026 update)

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

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

Groups seeking acknowledgment through Congress

Haliwa-Saponi Tribe of North Carolina

This group, based in Hollister, N.C., has state recognition in the State of North Carolina. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 2929 which was introduced by Rep. Donald G. David (D-N.C.) on April 17, 2025. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 17, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians

This group, based in Grand Rapids, Mich., has state recognition in the State of Michigan. They are seeking acknowledgement through two Congressional bills – House bill H.R. 3255 which was introduced by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.) on May 7, 2025 and Senate Bill 2160 which was introduced by Sen. Gary C. Peters (D-Mich.) on June 25, 2025. H.R. 3255 was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 7, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time. Senate Bill 2160 was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 25, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia

This group, based in Fredericksburg, Va., has state recognition in the State of Virginia. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 4750 which was introduced by Rep. Eugene Simon Vindman (D-Va.) on July 23, 2025. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 23, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County, Virginia

This group, based in Southampton County, Va., has state recognition in the State of Virginia. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 5144 which was introduced by Rep. Jennifer A. Kiggans (R-Va.) on Sept. 4, 2025. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 4, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Nottoway Tribe of Virginia

This group, based in Spring Grove, Va., has state recognition in the State of Virginia. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 5327 which was introduced by Rep. Jennifer L. McClellen (D-Va.) on Sept. 11, 2025. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 11, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribe

This group is based in Lee Vining, Calif. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 5820 which was introduced by Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-Calif.) on Oct. 24, 2025. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 24, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas

This group, based in McAllen, Texas, has state recognition in the State of Texas. They are seeking acknowledgment through House bill H.R. 10435 which was introduced by Rep. Vincente Gonzalez (D-Texas) on Sept. 16, 2026. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Sept. 16, 2026. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Groups seeking acknowledgment through OFA Process

The OFA lists the following criteria that petitioning groups must meet in order to receive federal acknowledgment:
"Under the Department's regulations, in order to meet this standard, petitioning groups must demonstrate that they meet each of seven mandatory criteria. The petitioner must:
1. demonstrate that it has been identified as an American Indian entity on a substantially continuous basis since 1900;
2. show that a predominant portion of the petitioning group comprises a distinct community and has existed as a community from historical times until the present;
3. demonstrate that it has maintained political influence or authority over its members as an autonomous entity from historical times until the present;
4. provide a copy of the group's present governing document including its membership criteria;
5. demonstrate that its membership consists of individuals who descend from the historical Indian tribe or from historical Indian tribes that combined and functioned as a single autonomous political entity and provide a current membership list;
6. show that the membership of the petitioning group is composed principally of persons who are not members of any acknowledged North American Indian tribe; and
7. demonstrate that neither the petitioner nor its members are the subject of congressional legislation that has expressly terminated or forbidden the Federal relationship.

Note: Following are some definitions, from the OFA, to better understand the terms used.
• "A Phase I Technical Assistance (TA) review is a preliminary evaluation by the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA), within the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to check specific mandatory criteria of a documented federal acknowledgment petition."
• "The Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA) places a petition 'Awaiting Active Consideration' when it is fully documented and

ready for evaluation but staff are currently occupied with a limited number of active petitions ahead of it in the queue."

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

This group, based in Las Cruces, N.M., has state recognition in the State of New Mexico. They are currently awaiting petitioner response to Phase I TA Review.

Muscogee Nation of Florida

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

United Houma Nation, Inc.

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

Biloxi-Chitimacha Confederation of Muskogees, Inc.

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

Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe

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

Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation

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

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, Adjachemen Nation

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

Meherrin Tribe

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

Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians

This group, based in Grand Rapids, Mich., has state recognition in the State of Michigan. They are in a Phase I TA Review. This group, as referenced above, is also seeking acknowledgment through two Congressional bills.

Schaghticoke Indian Tribe

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

Butte Tribe of Bayou Bourbeaux

This group is based in Natchitoches, La. They are in a Phase I Proposed Finding.

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

This group is based in San Fernando, Calif. They are in a Phase II TA Review.

Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico

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

Tripanick Nansemond Family Indian Tribe

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

Salinan Tribe of Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties

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

Tuskarora Nation of Moratoc Indians

This group is based in Red Springs, N.C. They are awaiting active consideration.

Mattaponi Indian Tribe and Reservation

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

Affiliated Ute Citizens of the State of Utah

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

Salyersville Indian Community

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

Gabrielino/Tongva Nation

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

Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista

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



CIPD Arrest Report for Oct. 12-18, 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.

Figueroa, Francisco Kalvloi – age 24
Arrested: Oct. 12
Released: Oct. 12
Charges: Probation Violation

Mathis, Randy Dean – age 49
Arrested: Oct. 12
Released: Oct. 12
Charges: Probation Violation

Riggs, Charmagne Evans – age 32
Arrested: Ot. 12
Released: Oct. 12
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Teesatuskie Jr., Gary Mitchell – age 27
Arrested: Oct. 12
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Pre-Trial Release Violation

Wiggins, Ian Alexander – age 26
Arrested: Oct. 12
Released: Oct. 13
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor

Balfour, John Robert – age 47
Arrested: Oct. 13
Released: Oct. 13
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Littlejohn, Charity Colleen – age 39
Arrested: Oct. 13
Released: Oct. 15
Charges: Child Abuse in the Second Degree

Reed, Olivia Megan – age 37
Arrested: Oct. 13
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Probation Violation (two counts)

Hill, Taleika Nicole – age 43
Arrested: Oct. 14
Released: Oct. 16
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedule II, Probation Violation

Ledford, Mark Randal – age 50
Arrested: Oct. 14
Released: Oct. 15
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedules I-V, Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Sherman, Christopher – age 21
Arrested: Oct. 14
Released: Oct. 14
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedules I-V

Wolf, Jason – age 25
Arrested: Oct. 14
Released: Oct. 16
Charges: Pre-Trial Release Violation

Nations, Kristy Ann – age 54
Arrested: Oct. 15
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Pre-Trial Release Violation

Sequoyah, Azuriah Kay – age 20
Arrested: Oct. 15
Released: Oct. 18
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Probation Violation

Van Dyke, James- age 48
Arrested: Oct. 15
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers, Probation Violation

Watty, Irene Polly – age 32
Arrested: Oct. 15
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Possession Schedule II Controlled Substance, Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

Cardenas, Ayana Marie – age 26
Arrested: Oct. 16
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Drug Trafficking, Drug Paraphernalia, Failure to Comply with Pre-Trial Release

Payne, Kaela Breann – age 29
Arrested: Oct. 16
Released: Oct. 16
Charges: Possession of Schedule II Controlled Substance

Tail, Daniel Henry – age 53
Arrested: Oct. 16
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Failure to Appear on a Misdemeanor

Davis IV, William Tosh – age 26
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Oct. 17
Charges: Failure to Appear on a Misdemeanor

Girty II, Jeffrey Scott – age 27
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance Schedule II

Hardy, Wendy Dawn – age 48
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Oct. 17
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Holloway, Fallon Marissa – age 33
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Oct. 17
Charges: Temporary Hold

Murphy, Reena Lashanda – age 35
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Failure to Appear on Misdemeanor, Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Postell, Sharon – age 58
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Oct. 17
Charges: Temporary Hold

Prescott, Travis Manuel – age 45
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Oct. 18
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Sneed, Samuel Otter – age 25
Arrested: Oct. 17
Released: Not released as of report date (Oct. 19)
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

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Deadline: Fridays at 12 p.m.



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FOOTBALL

Cherokee tops Andrews for sixth win of season

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) hosted the Andrews Wildcats at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C. on the chilly evening of Friday, Oct. 23.



Cherokee's Spencer McCoy (#7) celebrates a fumble recovery for a touchdown during a game against Andrews at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Friday, Oct. 23. The fumble was caused by teammate McKyan Panther.

SCORING SUMMARY

By Sheena Brings Plenty
One Feather assistant

1st Quarter

- 8:17 - AND - Kelby Waldroup 1-yard run. PAT good by Myca Gibson. Andrews 7 Cherokee 0
- 8:00 - AND - Brady McLelland 39-yard run. PAT good by Gibson. Andrews 14 Cherokee 0
- 7:45 - CHER - Dillon Beam 53-yard pass to Tsula Howlingcrane. 2-point conversion run good by Johnny Long. Andrews 14 Cherokee 8.

2nd Quarter

- 10:59 - AND - McClelland 41-yard run. PAT good by Gibson. Andrews 21 Cherokee 8
- 6:33 - CHER - Kingston Welch 66-yard run. 2-point no good. Andrews 21 Cherokee 14.
- 1:19 - CHER - Beam 34-yard run. PAT good by Jonattan Escobar. Cherokee 21 Andrews 21.
- 0:03 - CHER - Beam 20-yard pass to Welch. PAT good by Escobar. Cherokee 28 Andrews 21.

3rd Quarter

- 2:59 - AND - McClellan 3-yard run. PAT good by Gibson. Cherokee 28 Andrews 28.

4th Quarter

- 11:53 - CHER - Spencer McCoy falls on an Andrews fumble in the end zone. PAT good by Escobar. Cherokee 35 Andrews 28.
- 5:22 - CHER - Beam 12-yard run. PAT good by Escobar. Cherokee 42 Andrews 28.
- 3:10 - AND - McClelland 2-yard run. PAT good by Gibson. Cherokee 42 Andrews 35.
- 2:21 - CHER - Beam 29-yard run. PAT good by Escobar. Cherokee 49 Andrews 35

FINAL SCORE: Cherokee 49 Andrews 35

GAME STATISTICS

Cherokee stats provided by Cherokee Central Schools, Andrews stats provided by MaxPreps

PASSING: Cherokee – Dillon Beam 3 of 7, 80 yds, 2 TD, 2 INT. Andrews- B. McLelland 3 of 12, 27 yds, 1 INT

RUSHING: Cherokee – Kingston Welch 19 rush, 252 yds, long of 66, 1 TD; Dillon Beam 11 rush, 128 yds, long of 35, 3 TD; Nashoba Tushka 3 rush, 24 yds, long of 10; John Gloyne 1 rush, 3 yds; Drallen Ledford 1 rush, 1 yd. Andrews – C. Jones 10 rush, 11 yds, long of 7; B. McLelland 19 rush, 133 yds, long of 41, 4 TD; K. Waldroup 19 rush, 99 yds, 1 TD

RECEIVING: Cherokee – Tsula Howlingcrane 1 rec, 53 yds, 1 TD; Kingston Welch 1 rec, 20 yds, 1 TD; Noah Watty 1 rec, 7 yds. Andrews – W. Phillips 1 rec, 2 yds; K. Waldroup 2 rec, 25 yds

KICK RETURN: Cherokee – Kaden Cucumber 24 yds. Andrews – A. Johnson 21 yds, P. Baxter 48 yds, W. Phillips 9 yds

DEFENSIVE STATS:
Cherokee –

- Drallen Ledford 11 tackles, 2 TFL, 5 pressures, 1 blocked punt
- Spencer McCoy 8 tackles, 1 fumble recovery, 1 defensive touchdown
- Zaynon Taylor 8 tackles, 1 TFL
- Sonny Foalima 8 tackles, 1.5 TFL
- McKyan Panther 7 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 caused fumble
- Levi Tramper 6 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 pressure
- Johnny Long 6 tackles, .5 TFL, 2 pressures, 2 fumble recoveries
- Siah Teesateskie 6 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 interception, 1 PBU
- Preston Roach 5 tackles
- Kyitan Johnson 3 tackles, .5 TFL, 1 pressure
- Dillon Beam 3 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 pressure
- Kaden Cucumber 3 tackles, 1 PBU
- Kimo Sokol 2 tackles
- John Gloyne 2 tackles
- Waya Hernandez 2 tackles
- Quinn Velazquez-Lossiah 2 tackles
- Greyson Ledford 1 tackle
- Noah Watty 1 tackle
- Trenten Larch 1 tackle

Andrews –

- C. Jones 2 tackles, 1 interception
- P. Baxter 4 tackles, 1 fumble recovery
- A. Garrett 1 tackle
- D. Rochester 2 tackles
- B. McLelland 1 tackle
- W. Phillips 1 tackle
- L. Patrick 2 tackles
- I. Vaught 6 tackles
- C. Orr 1 tackle
- C. DeJesus 2 tackles
- K. Waldroup 1 interception

KICKOFFS: Cherokee – Jeron Martens 7 for 252 yds

PUNTS: Cherokee - Siah Teesateskie 1 for 20 yds. Andrews – A. Garrett 2 for 78 yds

EXTRA POINTS: Cherokee – Jonathan Escobar 5-5 PAT, Johnny Long 1 two-point conversion run. Andrews – M. Gibson 5-5 PAT



SOCCER: The Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) played the Murphy Bulldogs at the Cherokee High School soccer field in Cherokee, N.C., on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 21. At the end of the first half, the score was tied 0-0. The second half got underway and saw the Anitsvyasdi get the first goal of the game by Carter Stephens (shown in photo scoring). A few minutes later, a handball was called in the box and Murphy scored on the penalty kick making the game 1-1. The game was played into overtime with neither team making a second goal. FINAL SCORE: Cherokee 1-Murphy 1. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)



VOLLEYBALL: The Tsalagi Anata Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Lady Braves) defeated the Cornerstone Charter Academy Cardinals in the fourth round of the NCHSAA State Volleyball Tournament on the afternoon of Saturday, Oct. 24 in the Charles George Memorial Arena in Cherokee, N.C. The Anata Anitsvyasdi won in straight sets (25-14, 25-21, 25-17).
Photo above: Cherokee's Lilly Lossiah (#5), junior setter, prepares as Joscelyn Stamper, senior middle hitter, and Livia Crowe, senior outside hitter, both get ready for a possible set. Photo below: Austin Fourkiller-Raby jump serves. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)



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Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

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

Team, Family, Community: Cherokee Youth Football program's key to success

By BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Cherokee Youth Football program has had a standout season, with the peewees and mites teams going undefeated and competing in the Cracker Bowl Saturday, Oct. 24, and the termites and midgets teams having strong finishes as well.

Mites Head Coach Israel Rodriguez has been coaching Cherokee mites football for six years and the head coach for two years. "I've grown passionate about this group of kids since I started...Coaching for me is about more than teaching football. It's more about the positive influence in these kids' lives and teaching them discipline, accountability, teamwork and helping them grow into good young men. I think that's what makes coaching rewarding for me."

Rodriguez says his group of players have formed a special bond. "This group, they've been together since peewees, and they've won Cracker Bowl after Cracker Bowl and they've stuck together and they've just been unstoppable. I think they're kind of building that momentum up because they're getting up to midgets, then eventually they'll be up to JVs and varsity. And I think that's where it really gets exciting because the last state [championship] team was 2017 and it's been a while, so, I think it's about time something like it comes through."

Rodriguez continued, "We've only given up 18 points all season, and six of those points was on our defense and six was on kickoff and six was on our second and third string. So, that tells you how good our boys are. I think coming into this year, our biggest goal was to just build on what we accomplished last year and just continue to develop these kids...I think we've been fortunate to have a lot of success on the field, but I'm pleased with the growth out of each one of these kids and their confidence and understanding of the game and ability to work together has improved a lot."

Rodriguez added that Cherokee Recreation Youth Sports and Events Coordinator Timmy Ray Smith has been instrumental in revitalizing the Cherokee Youth Football program.

Smith said he previously worked in the position for 14 years, before taking a hiatus and coming back to rebuild what he said the late Dave McCoy had built years prior. "Dave McCoy had built a really good program, and I wanted to keep it going. But then I noticed it fell off here in the last few years and then they came to me and asked me if I wanted to apply for the job. Nobody had applied for it, so I applied for it and got it. But for me, I've got grandkids now, but with my kids growing up, I just wanted to get the best out of each and every one of them and not just my kids, all of them. And we've got so much talent here. Coach [TC] Guyer, the [Cherokee Braves] high school coach, he's been quoted as saying besides A.C. Reynolds and Asheville, Cherokee's got the best talent in Western North Carolina."

Smith continued, "I just want to use ours as a feeder program. And I know we've got kids that go to Swain and Sylva both. I want them to all come to Cherokee, but I know that some of them are not. But I want those coaches at the other places to say, 'Hey, we don't have to worry about them Cherokee kids, they're coming in fundamentally sound.' And that's all I ask for my coaches is to do the fundamentals, and the talent will take care of itself if they do the fundamentals."

Smith said the coaches, players, and parents have contributed to the success of the program. "I'm just proud. I'm proud of our parents for sticking with it. And these two teams that we have in the Cracker Bowl - I think we only had maybe one player off each team quit since we signed up - everybody stuck it out...I give all the credit to the kids and the parents and the coaches. I don't want to take any credit. I just set up the rules and regs and talk to my coaches and set up the things that I think would make them successful."

Smith added, "I love my job. This is the best job that I've ever had because I get to deal with the kids and I get to be around sports all the time, but everybody has bought in for the most part and just knock on wood, we'll keep going straight ahead."

Emre Johnson, one of the parents committing her weekends to Cherokee Youth Football, says her players are hungry for the Cracker Bowl. "My son plays on the peewees (#12) and my nephew plays on mites (#44). It's my son's first year playing football, and we were kind of unsure at the beginning. Fast forward to today, the coaches have done an amazing job with these peewees! But they're not finished yet, they're hungry for that Cracker Bowl Championship! Go Braves!"

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FOOTBALL

Cherokee Peewees, Mites win Cracker Bowl

Photos by Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat/One Feather Reporter



Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) Peewee Raiden Wolfe runs the ball in for a touchdown in the Cracker Bowl Championship at Boyce Deitz Field on the afternoon of Oct. 24. The Peewee Braves went undefeated for the season and secured the Cracker Bowl Championship over the Robbinsville Black Knights with a final score of 36 to 14.



Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi Mite Zayden Armachain strips the ball for a game changing touchdown in the final quarter of the Cracker Bowl Championship.



Peewees Head Coach John Chastain, right, celebrates the Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi victory in the Cracker Bowl Championship as Cherokee Recreation Youth Sports and Events Coordinator Timmy Ray Smith presents Chastain and the Peewee football team with their trophies on the afternoon of Oct. 24.



Mites Head Coach Israel Rodriguez presents his team with their Cracker Bowl Championship trophy on the evening of Oct. 24 at Boyce Deitz Field. The undefeated Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi defeated the Franklin Panthers in the championship with a score of 22 to 12.

Patsy & Henry Lambert Legacy Fund established to support Cherokee families and community needs

Submitted by the Lambert Family

CHEROKEE, N.C. — Patrick and Cyndi Lambert have established the Patsy & Henry Lambert Legacy Fund through the Community Foundation of western North Carolina. The permanent charitable endowment will support Cherokee families and community needs for generations.

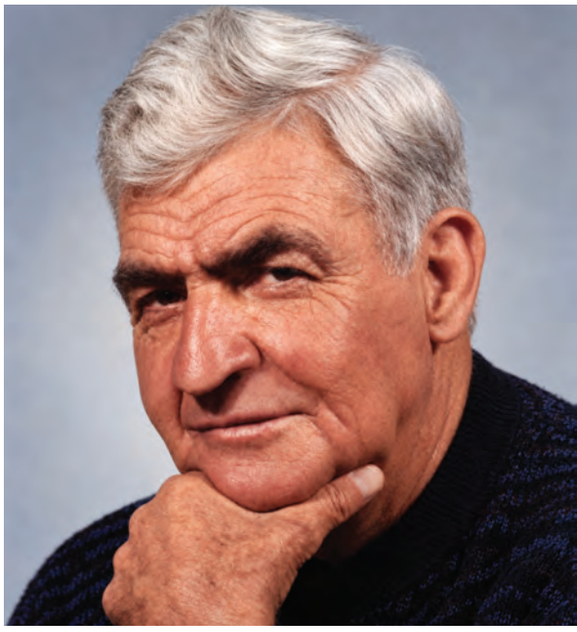
The fund honors Patrick's parents, Patsy Sneed Lambert and the late Henry Ray Lambert, whose lives reflected faith, family, hard work, and service to others. The initial $25,000 contribution includes:

• $10,000 in honor of Patsy Sneed Lambert and in loving memory of Henry Ray Lambert.

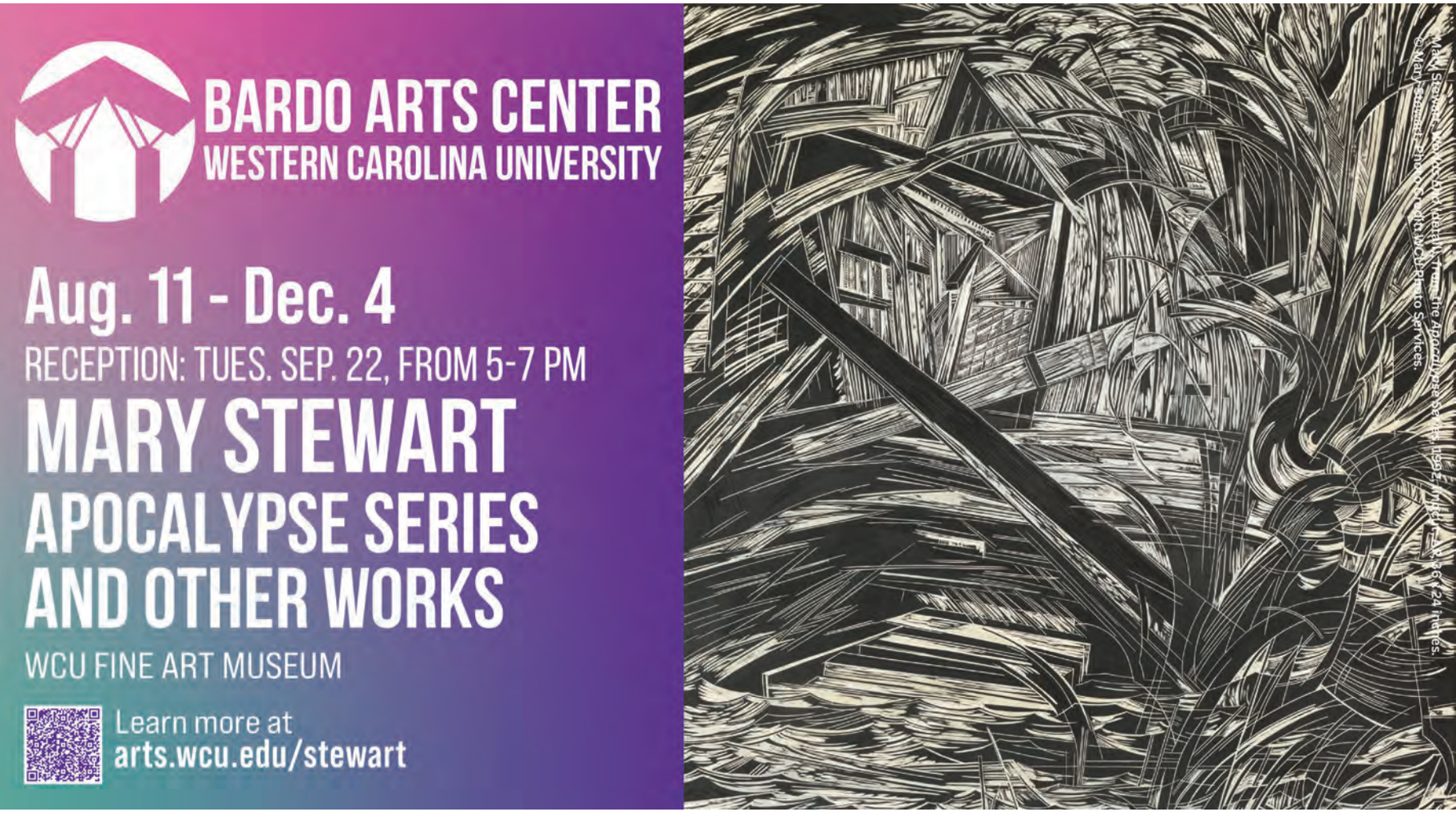
see **LEGACY** next page



Patsy Lambert



Henry Lambert



LEGACY: From page 26

• $5,000 in loving memory of Henrietta Lambert.
• $5,000 in loving memory of Edwina Lambert.
• $5,000 in loving memory of Becky Walker.

Henrietta and Edwina were Patrick's sisters. Becky was a close friend of Patrick and Cyndi, admired for her honesty, strong principles, and willingness to stand up for what she believed was right. The fund is both a memorial to loved ones who have passed and a living tribute to Patsy. Its contributions will be invested and managed by the Community Foundation, with annual distributions made under the Foundation's spending policies. Additional gifts may help the fund grow and provide greater assistance over time.

"My parents taught us that what matters most in life is not what we accumulate, but what we do with what we've been given," Patrick said. "They believed in faith, family, hard work, and helping others. Cyndi and I have been blessed in many ways, and we believe those blessings come with a responsibility to give something back. This fund honors those who have meant so much to us while helping ensure their values continue benefiting our Cherokee community long after we're gone."

The fund will support hardship relief, family stability, educational opportunities, and assistance for children, elders, and families facing difficult circumstances. Priority will be given to the Cherokee community and Qualla Boundary through qualified charitable organizations.



Patrick and Cyndi Lambert

Cyndi Lambert will serve as the fund's initial charitable advisor, recommending grants and identifying opportunities where assistance can make a meaningful difference. Her longstanding commitment to helping others was recognized in 2026 when she was honored as a Quiet Hero by the Birdtown Community and selected as a Grand Marshal of the Cherokee Fall Festival parade.

"I've always believed that when we're blessed with the ability to help someone, we should do what we can," Cyndi said. "Sometimes even the smallest act of kindness can make a tremendous difference. You don't have to have a lot to help somebody. Sometimes it's simply recognizing a need and being willing to act. What makes this fund special is knowing it can continue helping people long after we're gone. I hope it also encourages others to help, because when people come together with caring hearts, we can make a real difference in our community."

Their children, Nelson Lambert and Gina Lambert, have been designated as successor advisors. When Cyndi is no longer able to serve, they will recommend charitable distributions and continue the mission established by their parents.

After family members are no longer serving as advisors, the fund's permanent charitable instructions will guide its annual giving. These provisions include ongoing support for Cherokee Baptist Church and charitable efforts assisting people in need, particularly in the Cherokee community and Qualla Boundary.

"Our hope is that long after Cyndi and I are gone, and long after our children and grandchildren are gone, this fund will still be helping people," Patrick said. "Maybe it will help a struggling family, provide something a child needs, assist an elder, or support a local church. We may never know the names of the people who benefit from this fund, but that's part of the beauty of it; Helping others even after our own lives end."

Administered by the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, the fund may continue growing through future contributions and gifts from others who share the Lambert family's commitment to lasting charitable support.

It is a legacy measured not simply by the money given, but by the lives it may touch for generations to come.

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI
Submit your Good Stuff photos and posts to us at:
Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com



Members of the Cherokee Youth Council are shown with leaders of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians at the Birdtown Mound on Saturday, Oct. 17. Shown, left to right, are Katie Tiger, Odie Owle, Chaz Martens, Channing Toineeta, Utsela Saunooke, Evan Mathis, Georjia Girty, Story Martens, Shana Condill, Zailiana Blythe, MJ Tafoya, Meeka Taylor, Chavella Taylor, Miss Cherokee Caedance Smith, Little Miss Cherokee Mattie Moore, Teen Miss Cherokee Nevayah Panther, Felix Lossiah, Casey Cooper, Principal Chief Michell Hicks, and Junior Miss Cherokee Khloe Sequoyah. (Photo courtesy of Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute)

Cherokee Youth Council hosts sites tour

Submitted by
Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute

12 members of the Cherokee Youth Council (CYC) hosted a sites tour and cleanup for various leaders in the Cherokee community on Saturday, Oct. 17. During the tour, CYC members shared historical information, traditional stories and practices, maps, and pictures. Guests were provided with an opportunity to reflect at each site, as well as share any additional information they knew with the group. Their tour stops included Kituwah, Birdtown, and Nununyi Mounds; Ravensford (Cherokee Central Schools site); and the Cherokee School Campus/Welch Cemetery.

During these stops, CYC members took turns establishing a sense of place for the group by highlighting the locations of these historical accounts in stories and documents, the need to learn about and protect our sacred sites, the number of artifacts found in these areas, our history with other tribal nations, and related stories and traditional practices. At their last stop, CYC members discussed the history of boarding schools and importance of honoring those that came before us. The group then participated in cleaning up the cemetery.

While this was one touch point between the adult and youth leaders in the community, it sparked learning, appreciation, and connection that will last a lifetime. CYC members gained valuable skills in planning events, public speaking, and networking, while continuing to strengthen their cultural knowledge and understanding.

Chaz Martens closed out the event by saying, “So why have we shared all this information with you today? It’s because it is our hope that you start to see this town and area as something so much more than just the roads that you travel to work. We hope no one else complains about archeological work but instead view it as an opportunity to learn from our ancestors. We hope you all think of this town and these places with intent. Our town alone holds four mounds, over 10 known settlements are in the area, numerous place names tied to food or history and yet many of us go by important sites without thought about them. But now that you know a little about the area, we hope you intentionally think about yourself and those that came before you and just how long these families have been in these same mountains and valleys.”

Following their sites tour and cleanup event, CYC hosted a community event where they played traditional games and led social dances at Whitewater Landing. Community members were invited to bring recyclables in exchange for a reusable tote and edible straws. Members chose these giveaway items to provide attendees with more sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics.

CYC will be creating recyclable art pieces with the items collected. If you would like to donate clean recyclables to assist with their art project, please bring them to the Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute building located at 171 Boys Club Loop Rd., beside the Boys Club garage.



WLOS Teacher of the Week

Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program (CLMAP) Teacher Aaliyah "Aliyo" Swimmer and her students were featured on the morning of Friday, Oct. 23 on WLOS News 13 in the "Thanks to Teachers" segment. Meteorologist and Reporter Karen Wynne visited the Speakers Building in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon Wednesday, Oct. 21 to film the segment. (BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT/One Feather photo)

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.

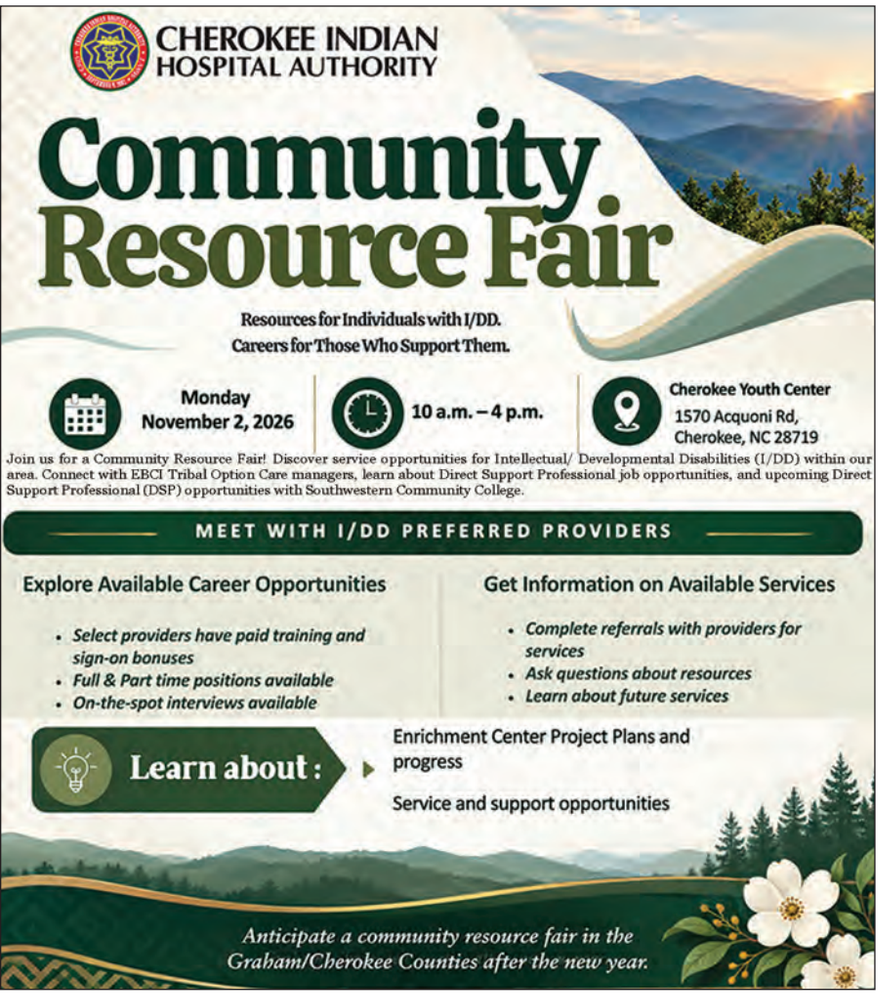
Ferebee was a former state senator and mayor of Andrews. A native of Elizabeth City, he moved to Western North Carolina in 1913 to work for the U.S. Forest Service.

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



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

Cherokee Indian Housing Division announces Tribal Foreclosure Process and Safety Nets for the Qualla Boundary

Submitted by
Cherokee Indian Housing Division

CHEROKEE, N.C. — Managing housing infrastructure on tribal trust lands involves a distinct legal framework separate from standard North Carolina state law. The Cherokee Indian Housing Division (CIHD) has formalized the structural pipeline for tribal loan default and foreclosure proceedings that is in compliance with Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Ordinance 45 to ensure clarity, transparency, and homeownership protection across all Eastern Cherokee Lands.

Because properties within the Qualla Boundary are held in federal trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), traditional state-level non-judicial foreclosures do not apply. Instead, the Tribe utilizes localized authority, judicial tribal court reviews, and robust Tribal safety nets rather than relying on federal or state legal channels.

Below is the official chronological progression of the tribal foreclosure process, moving from initial delinquency to the final resolution.

Step 1: Notice of Delinquency and Curing Period

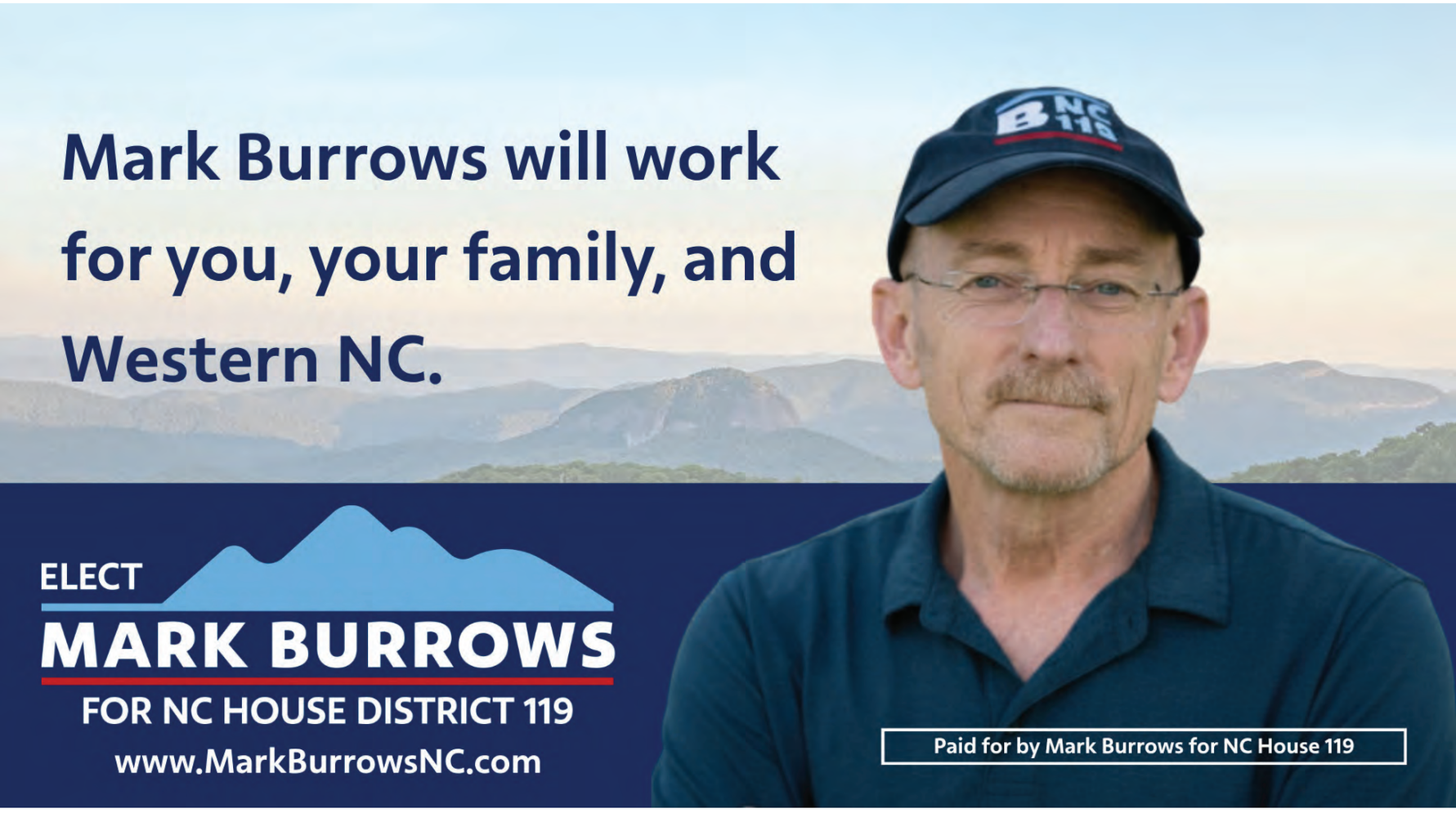
The process begins when a borrower falls behind on a tribal housing loan or a mortgage secured by a possessory interest (land assignment) on tribal trust land.

- Timeline: Initiated after a borrower misses scheduled payments, typically establishing a formal default window. Forty-Five (45) days to cure default.
- The Action: The CIHD issues a written Notice of Delinquency outlining the total past-due amount and accrued penalties. The borrower is given a clear window to resolve the default or contact housing authorities.

Step 2: Activation of Tribal Safety Nets (Loss Mitigation)

Unlike off-reservation lenders that quickly advance toward asset liquidation, the EBCI process mandates an aggressive intervention phase using native tribal protections designed to preserve community landholdings.

- Loan Modification: Re-structuring the principal balance or extending the loan terms to reduce the monthly obligation to an affordable level.
- Forbearance Agreements: Temporarily pausing or reducing payments for tribal members experiencing verified, short-term hardships (such as medical crises or seasonal employment gaps).
- Refinancing: Adjusting the primary interest rate or terms through internal CIHD financing



products to bring the loan back into good standing.

Step 3: Forced Placement of Insurance (If Applicable)

To preserve the physical integrity of the housing asset during an extended default period, specific tribal policies govern property protection.

• Escrow Deficiencies: If a loan is in default and lacks an active escrow account to cover property insurance premiums, the CIHD implements a forced placement of insurance. This ensures the tribal asset remains covered against catastrophic loss while the legal path is determined.

Step 4: Filing a Civil Complaint by the Trustee

If all loss mitigation efforts, forbearance windows, and modification options are exhausted without a resolution, the case is formally submitted for foreclosure. Once a case is officially submitted for foreclosure, the Cherokee Indian Housing Division plays no active part in the remainder of the process. A designated Trustee assumes control to handle all subsequent legal actions, filing a civil complaint to protect the assets held by the Tribe.

• Jurisdiction: The action is filed exclusively as a civil matter within the Cherokee Court of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

• Summons: The tribal member is formally served a civil summons and complaint detailing the default, providing them a legal timeline to file an answer with the tribal court.

Step 5: The Tribal Judicial Hearing

The foreclosure must be explicitly authorized by a Cherokee Court judge rather than an administrative state clerk.

• The Legal Examination: At the hearing, the Trustee must legally substantiate the debt, verify the ongoing default, prove that all required Tribal safety nets were offered, and confirm proper service of process under the EBCI Tribal Code.

• The Ruling: If the judge finds the Trustee has met all statutory requirements, the court enters an explicit judgment authorizing the foreclosure of the possessory interest and the sale of the equity or structural improvement.

Step 6: Advertisement and Notice of Tribal Sale

Following a judicial order, the appointed Trustee prepares the property for a public transfer.

• Public Posting: A Notice of Sale is drafted and physically posted in prominent community locations across the Qualla Boundary and filed directly with the tribal court.

• Community Publication: The upcoming auction must be advertised publicly, typically running in local news outlets like the One Feather for consecutive weeks leading up to the designated date.

Step 7: The Auctioned Sale

The foreclosure sale is conducted openly, typically at a designated public site or directly at the tribal courtroom facility by the Trustee.

• Bidding Constraints: Because non-tribal entities cannot hold legal or possessory titles to land assignments within federal trust boundaries, bidding is strictly regulated to comply with EBCI enrollment and inheritance laws, ensuring trust land remains securely within the Tribe.

Step 8: Final Judgment, Confirmation, and Eviction Order

Following the auction, the sale details are reported back to the Cherokee Court.

• Judicial Confirmation: The tribal judge reviews the auction results submitted by the Trustee to ensure a fair process before issuing a final confirmation order.

• Possession Transfer: Once confirmed, the possessory rights or structural ownership transfer to the winning eligible bidder. If necessary, the court will issue an Order of Possession, authorizing tribal law enforcement (EBCI Police Department) to safely oversee the eviction process.



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THANK YOU LETTERS

Thank you

The late Richard Crowe, who graduated with his master's degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville (1982), believed in supporting Native American college and graduate students. Crowe died too young at the age of 36. In his honor, the Richard Yogi Crowe Memorial Scholarship awards money to graduate and professional students, while they pursue their degrees. Thank you very much for supporting me. Your scholarship program also encourages recipients like me to understand the story of Crowe's life and career. Though I did not know him, I know that he was a talented man, a veteran, a mechanic, and a public speaker.

Thank you to those who once knew Crowe and who founded the scholarship in his name Thank you, Richard Yogi Crowe, for your inspiration and character. Let us carry your legacy forward.

Nolan Arkansas, PhD Student in Art History at Duke University

Post 143 says thanks for support of Memorial Wall

The American Legion Steve Youngdeer Post 143 wishes to express its deepest appreciation to all the local businesses and individuals who supported the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall during its visit to Cherokee from Oct. 7-12.

This event was a war memorial reflection of this Nations involvement in the Southeast Asia theater of combat operations, that claimed the lives of 58,318 American service men and women. Two of those lost lives were from Cherokee, N.C. PFC John Edward Oocumma 1967 and SGT. John Decatur Burgess 1969. Their lives were not given in vain.

Thank you, the Cherokee Community for your undying support of your Tribal Veterans service organization.

"By remembering their sacrifice, we honor their service."

Respectfully,

Warren D. DuPree

Committee Member

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall Support Staff

1. EBCI Parks & Recreation Department - Kamiyo Lanning, director
2. Wolftown Community Club - Tuff Jackson, president
3. EBCI TERO Mother Town participants
4. Brothers In The Wind
5. Cherokee Indian Police Department
6. Cherokee One Feather
7. Krazy Nation Drum
8. Amy Clark – Alcohol & Drug Counselor/ Military Peer Support Specialist- Analenisgi
9. VA Mental Health Services - Charles George VAMC- Ashville, N.C.
10. American Legion Steve Youngdeer Post 143 and Volunteers
11. The Sound Of Music - Todd Kent
12. Blue Wolf Inc. – John Agoo
13. The Vietnam and all Veterans of Bevard, Inc.
14. McNeely's Companies, Sylva N.C.
15. Order of the Orange Heart Foundation
16. USMC Marines - Gunny and Tom Vitales, Murphy, N.C.
17. Cherokee Grand Hotel
18. Night Security – Jeff Marcum
19. Jackson County Sheriff's Department
20. The Print Haus - Sylva, N.C.

EBCI COMMUNITY NEWS

114th Cherokee Indian Fair winners in Extension (update)

The EBCI Cooperative Extension Office has provided the following update to the list of winners in their contests at the 114th Cherokee Indian Fair:

Canning - Young Adult

Any Dehydrated Food: 1 – William Mesteth

Canning - Youth

Any Canned Food: 1 – Cedar Sequoyah, 2 – Atlas Slee, 3 – Kathyrn Owle

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEWS

Chiricahua National Monument becomes America's Newest National Park

Department of the Interior release

WILLCOX, Ariz. – Chiricahua National Monument is now Chiricahua National Park, following President Donald J. Trump's signing of the Chiricahua National Park Act into law on Tuesday, Oct. 20. The redesignation recognizes the national significance of the area's extraordinary natural and cultural resources and marks a new chapter for one of Arizona's most distinctive landscapes.

"Chiricahua's towering rock spires, rich Apache heritage and remarkable biodiversity make it one of America's most extraordinary landscapes," said Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum. "This new designation will shine a national spotlight on one of Arizona's hidden gems, creating opportunities to welcome more visitors, strengthen local economies and share this incredible landscape with more Americans."

Located in the southeastern corner of Arizona, the park protects a landscape of towering rhyolite rock spires and balanced rocks formed by an ancient volcanic eruption roughly 27 million years ago. Rising from the "sky island" of the Chiricahua Mountains, where desert, grassland, and forest ecosystems meet, the area supports remarkable biodiversity and provides opportunities for hiking, wildlife viewing, birding and stargazing.

"Chiricahua has been part of the National Park System for more than a century, and this new designation marks an exciting chapter in its history," said Jessica Bowron, Comptroller Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Director of the National Park Service. "While its name is changing, our commitment remains the same: protecting this remarkable landscape and its cultural heritage while providing opportunities for visitors to experience and enjoy it for generations to come."

First protected as a national monument in 1924, Chiricahua preserves thousands of years of human history, including its importance as the homeland of the Chiricahua Apache and its legacy of early homesteading families at Faraway Ranch. The redesignation reflects the national significance of the area's natural and cultural resources and the longstanding efforts to conserve them.

The park will continue to offer its hiking, camping, scenic drives, wildlife viewing and other opportunities. Visitors can find current information at nps.gov/chir.



Beginner Division (left to right): Participants Misha Slee, Trinnity Jackson, Kinley Crowe, and Catuce Tiger; Emcee - Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver; and Judges - Martha Ledford, Moses Oocumma, Sally Reed, and Elnora Nations. (Photos courtesy of Kituwah Preservation and Education Program)



Advanced Division (pictured left to right): Participants - Tohisgi Climbingbear and Ben Fry; Emcee – Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver; Participants - Kennedy Cucumber, Janita Paz-Chalacha; and Judges - Martha Ledford, Moses Oocumma, Sally Reed, and Elnora Nations.

THANK YOU LETTERS

Thank you to Cherokee Language Quiz Bowl participants, volunteers

Submitted by Kituwah Preservation & Education Program

The Kituwah Preservation & Education Program held its Cherokee Language Quiz Bowl on Oct. 9. The event was a great success with a total of 32 participants demonstrating their Cherokee language skills and dedication to language preservation. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the participants, judges, and volunteers who helped make this event possible. A special thank you goes to our emcee, Beloved Woman Myrtle Driver, a fluent Cherokee speaker who has been involved with the Language Quiz Bowl since its inception.

We are also grateful for our judges, all of whom are fluent Cherokee speakers: Sally Reed, Moses Oocumma, Elenora Nations, and Martha Ledford.

Participants in the Beginner Division answered 35 questions that tested their ability to listen to Cherokee and translate it into English, as well as hear English and translate it into Cherokee. The winners of the Beginner Division were Misha Slee, Catuce Tiger, Kinley Crowe, and Trinnity Jackson.

Participants in the Advanced Division were challenged with more rigorous language tasks. They listened to Cherokee sentences and translated them into English, and they were also given English sentences to translate into Cherokee. The winners of the Advanced Division were: Tohisgi Climbingbear, Kennedy Cucumber, Juanita Paz-Chalacha, and Ben Frye.

All winners received a plaque in recognition of their achievement, and each winning team received $200. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our sponsors for their generous support of this year's Cherokee Language Quiz Bowl. A special thank you to Tunney Crowe for donating the plaques presented to our winners and to the Cherokee Preservation Foundation for providing the prize funding. Their contributions helped make this event a success and allowed us to recognize and reward the hard work and dedication of our participants.

The Kituwah Preservation & Education Program looks forward to continuing this event and making it even better each year. We hope to add additional proficiency levels in the future and welcome even more participants as we continue to support and promote Cherokee language learning throughout our community.

Sgi to everyone who participated and helped make this year's Cherokee Language Quiz Bowl a success!

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Cherokee High School 1st quarter Honor Roll

Submitted by
Cherokee Central Schools

9th grade

Principal's Honor Roll: Laylauna Allison, Kirsten Anderson, Brannon Arch, Malyiah Carey, Carson Downs, Nahnie George, Kody Gloyne, Makai Hernandez, A-ge-yv-w Jenkins, Kealan Jumper, James Ledford, Hunter McMillan, Emma Milholen, Odie Owle, Gabriel Read, Adrian Santos, Sean Schultz, Carter Stephens, Nickyle Teesatuskie, Kimberlyn Thompson, Lillianna Toineeta

Alpha Honor Roll: Aiyana Arch, Uriah Ben, Michael Driver, Kaiser Hernandez, Abelia Mahan-Flores, Kaelyn Montelongo, Lucas Myers, Piper Owl, Aryahnie Pheasant, Aaliyah Queen, Channing Toineeta

Beta Honor Roll: Keilani Arch, Tybee Back, Joshua Bernhisel, Xavion Davis, Tai Foalima, Shane Hornbuckle, Phillip Littlejohn, Jeshua Lossiah, Emily J Maney, Curren McCoy, Jalen Murphy, Kyleigh Porter, Johnavon Postoak, Clarise Queen, Hayden Rhinehart, Nayati Sequoyah, Riley Standingdeer, Zoey Swimmer, Adalynn Taylor, Katielynn Taylor, Kynleigh Taylor, Serenity Teesateskie, Quinn Velazquez-Lossiah, Hunter Wittman, Selina Yanez

10th grade

Principal's Honor Roll: Braelyn Bradley Murphy, Blaze Crowe, Derreus Diaz, Ava Efird, Jessa Efird, Dominique Gonzalez, Maya Lossiah, Colin Lossie, Jeron Martens, Kennedy Moore, Janessa Owl, Greyson Panther, Kaila Reed, Nyra Reed, Cambry Stamper, Vincent Walker, Elliott Wildcat, Hailey Winchester, Ko'dee Wolfe

Alpha Honor Roll: Nazari Bell, Kellin Blankenship, Samuel Browning, Cher Crowe-Garcia, Hynasha Ledford, Christopher Martinez, McKyan Panther, Andyn Pheasant

Beta Honor Roll: Angelica A-kwi-na, Jaylee Arch, Jaymsey Armachain, Tyson Calhoun, Sophie Crowe, David Davis, Jordin Eaglestar, Jacqueline Fourkiller-Raby, Georjia Girty, Jody Grant, Savannah Hornbuckle, Greyson Ledford, Phoenix Martin, Ava Murphy Walkingstick, Jordan Panther, Boomer Pheasant, Janiyah Rattler, Kirk Reed, Kylond Stewart, Avrix Teesateskie, Emily Teesateskie, Siah Teesateskie, Joslynn Thompson, Nashoba Tushka, Julius Walkingstick, Harper Welch, Marissa Wilson, Devyn Wittman

11th grade

Principal's Honor Roll: Alexander Antone, Lillian Bradley, Zoe De Los Reyes, Morgan Hernandez, Ariel Hoyle, Nanette Hull, Jean Layno, Lilly Lossiah, John Morgan, Taliyah Sequoyah, James Smith Jr., Kimo Sokol, Roxy Solis, Briann Teesateskie, Thomas Tramper, William J Welch

Alpha Honor Roll: Kyam Arch, Kahya Cucumber, Khloe Cucumber, Eloise Frady, John C Gloyne, Camaron Oocumma, Armani Watty

Beta Honor Roll: Marek Brown, Kimberly Crowe, Mason Crowe, Dagoberto Guerrero, Raul Hernandez, Olivia Huskey-Morales, Trenten Larch, Haley Locust, Felix Lossiah, Jae McMillan, Nicolas Paramo, Ernest Pheasant, Jayla Pheasant, Jovane Saunooke, Kiara Sneed, Kylea Swayney, Jayanna Thompson, Jess Walkingstick, Ezekiel Welch, Brendan Wolfe

12th grade

Principal's Honor Roll: Nayaa Addo, Sage Bark, Dillon Beam, Brandon Blankenship, Elias Blankenship, Emilee Brady, Jarvis Brady, Israel Cotton, Livia Crowe, Keedan Drakeford, Jezakiah Driver, Brett Elders, Kayla Guillen, Courtney Hitt, Reginald Hyatt, Ayanna Lambert, Johnny Long, Christian Luna-Martinez, Emily H Maney, Evan Nations, Dailin Panther, Dawson Panther, Denver Porterfield, Utsela Saunooke, Gabriella Smith, Joscelyn Stamper, O-Ga-Na Swimmer, Ava Teesatuskie-Walkingstick, Mia Velazquez-Lossiah, Kingston Welch

Alpha Honor Roll: Martin Arteaga, Nicholas Ensley, Daisee Fourkiller-Raby, Kyitan Johnson, Chaz Martens, Levi Oocumma, Kyndra Postoak, Kaden Stephens, Noah Watty, Dalton Yates

Beta Honor Roll: Jayden Bradley, Trennan Calhoun, Carmen Cline, Chloe Cooper, Kaden Cucumber, Kiowa George, Aubree Grimes, Me-Li Hornbuckle, Braden Howlingcrane, Chloe Locust, Spencer McCoy, Elizabeth Myers, Russell Reed, Eric Rudisill, Philip Saunooke, Nicholai Solis, Zaynon Squirrell Taylor, Auron Taylor, Darius Taylor, Madigan Welch, Lucas Wildcat



"IT'S TIME FOR GUTTER MAINTENANCE"

6 REASONS TO STAY ON TOP OF YOUR GUTTER MAINTENANCE

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

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

Here is a list of some of those reasons.

PREVENT EROSION & MOLD

1. **Roof Damage**

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

2. **Wood Fascia Damage**

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

3. **Damage to Walls, Windows, Doors and Patios**

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

4. Damage to Foundations and Landscaping

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

5. Slip and fall

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

6. Prevent Mold

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

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



"DON'T TRIM YOUR GUTTERS"



"CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS"



Thinking About Building A Home?

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW AND YOUR DREAM HOME COULD COME TRUE

BUILDING HOMES TOGETHER

SITE INSPECTION APPLICATION	☐Site Inspection application process begins at Tribal Realty by the property owner. ☐The property will be inspected by five tribal departments and will be determined if site is buildable or not buildable.
PROPERTY SURVEY, TRANSFER & RIGHT OF WAYS	☐Surveying requests for approved buildable sites will be done by the Tribal Surveying dept. ☐Property transfers will be done by the owner to the home buyer at Tribal Realty. ☐The home buyer must own the property for financing purposes. ☐All road and utility right of ways or utility easements must be in place before any site work begins.
PRE-APPROVAL PRE-QUALIFICATION	☐Applicant will meet with Homebuyer Services Coordinator where they are required to have Site Inspection forms completed, unless applicant is wishing to purchase a home. ☐Homebuyer Services Coordinator will assist applicant with packaging loan applications to lender. ☐Lender will issue a prequalification letter indicating maximum loan amount. ☐Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send Infrastructure a copy of the prequalification letter
INFRASTRUCTURE	☐Once pre-approved/qualified, the infrastructure application must be completed. ☐Legal description proving ownership of the property must be included. ☐Must be an EBCI enrolled member constructing a permanent residence on trust lands to receive Infrastructure services.
HOME BUYING SEARCH & QUOTE	☐Prequalified borrower will begin their house search, keeping in mind the size of the site that was approved. ☐Borrower will request a sales quote, floor plans and foundation plan for their home. ☐After receiving quote and house plans, Borrower will submit all documents and drawings to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. ☐Homebuyer Services Coordinator will submit estimate, plans and drawings to Infrastructure. ☐Simultaneously, HBS Coordinator will submit same plans to the lending institution, as well as financial documents to keep loan active. Financial documents are updated with lender every 30 days.
DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE (DPA) & LOAN PROCESS	☐Homebuyer Services Coordinator will process documents to request Down Payment Assistance for 20% of sales contract amount, up to $50,000.00, and will request $5,000,00 in Rate Buy Down (RBD) gift funds simultaneously. ☐Coordinator will submit to Loan Compliance Committee for review. Committee will review for completeness of application. ☐Completed applications are submitted to Secretary of Housing for approval and signature. ☐Approved applications are then submitted to the Principal Chief for approval and signature. ☐The approved and signed applications are returned to Homebuyer Services Coordinator. ☐Coordinator will continue to send financial docs on a continual basis to lender until loan close is scheduled.
CIDH & REALTY – On Trust Lands	☐After receiving signed loan approvals, the Homebuyer Services Coordinator will send DPA firm commitment to Tribal Realty to initiate Ownership Statement (OS), Lease and Assignment. ☐Coordinator will also send a letter to lender to notify approval of DPA and RBD. ☐Once OS, lease and assignment are received, these documents will be forwarded to the lending institution. ☐Lending Institution will contact client to "lock in" their interest rate, taking into consideration the gift funds to purchase discount points.
DPA funds – Off Trust Lands	☐After loan approvals are received, Coordinator will send letter notifying lender the borrower has been approved for DPA and RBD funds and request closing attorney information. ☐Coordinator will complete the Promissory Note and Deed of Trust and to be signed at closing and recorded at Register of Deeds in the county of purchase. ☐Closing attorney will send copy of recorded documents back to Coordinator. ☐Coordinator will submit recorded documents to Realty to be recorded for off-boundary loans.
LOAN CLOSE	☐Prior to loan close, Coordinator will request AP checks for issuance of DPA and RBD to be disbursed to the lender at closing. ☐Coordinator will notify Site Prep that loan has closed. ☐Home construction may start after loan close. ☐Client will begin working with Lender's Construction Loan Specialist for completion of construction.
SITE PREP SCHEDULING	☐Signed purchase agreement, house floor plans and firm commitment must on file with homebuyer services and Infrastructure. ☐If 1 acre or more will be disturbed during site prep construction, a SWPP (Storm Water Protection Plan) must be completed by our contractor before any work can begin.
SERVICES PROVIDED BY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NEW HOMES	☐For qualified EBCI enrolled members residing on trust land, Infrastructure provides: ☐Site Prep, Footers, Block Foundation, Block Underpinning, Vinyl Underpinning, Gutter System and Final Grade to prevent erosion.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Timber Permits
Michelle Ruffman: (828) 359-6913

COMMENTARY

The Native vote was hard-fought

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

From the Museum of the Cherokee People, "For Native people here in the United States, voting is a right secured by the relentless advocacy of those who came before us.

Access to that right is even more complex for members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in North Carolina.

Let's look at recent history:
1899: North Carolina legislature passes an amendment requiring that "every person presenting himself for [voter] registration shall be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language." This Jim Crow-era law strategically grandfathers in illiterate white voters while disenfranchising Black voters, Native voters, and non-English speakers.
1900: The "Literacy Test" is added to the North Carolina Constitution.
1924: The Indian Citizenship Act grants Native people full U.S. citizenship. Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) members are still not guaranteed their right to vote.
1965: The Voting Rights Act passes. The Literacy Test is prohibited in federal elections after a series of lawsuits.
2024: N.C. House of Representatives unanimously passes House Bill 44 to amend the literacy test provision. The bill stalls and dies in the N.C. Senate. Though federally unenforceable, the language remains in the NC Constitution."

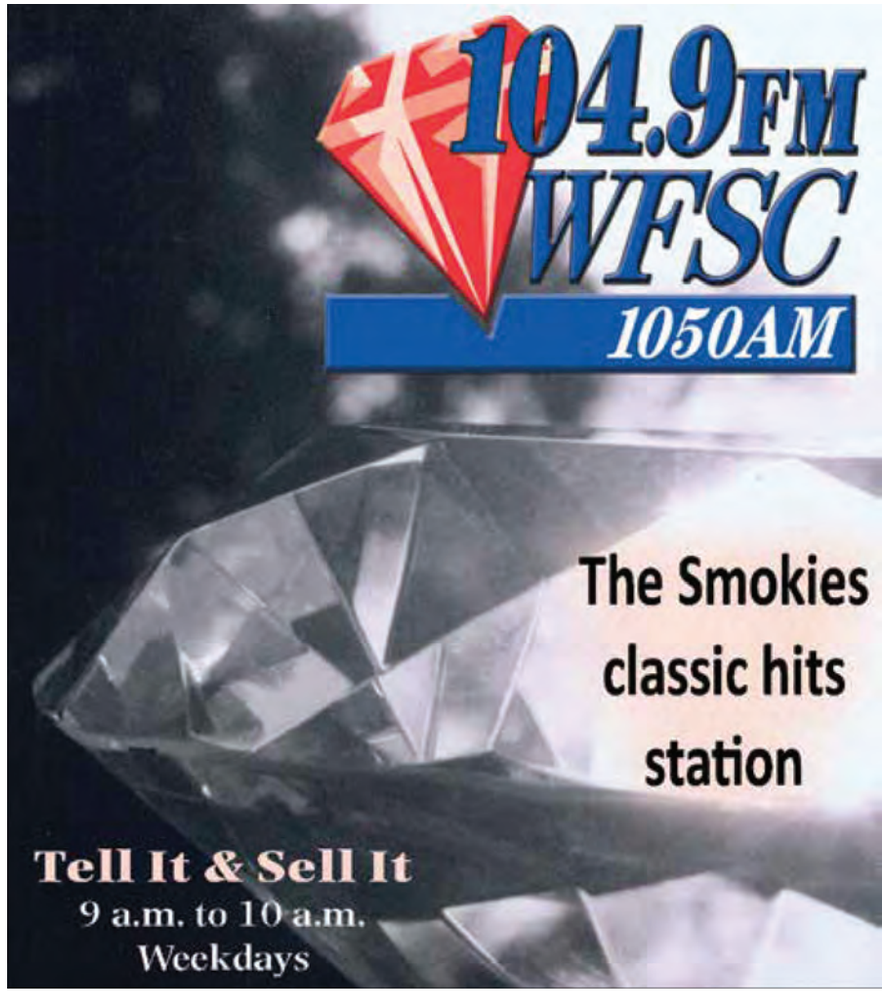
Here are some additional bullets of history regarding voter rights, or lack thereof (courtesy of NCPedia.org):

In 1930, Henry Owl, a member of the EBCI and the first American Indian to attend the University of North Carolina with a master's degree in history, was legally denied the right to vote in North Carolina. Local officials claimed that Cherokee people were "wards of the state" rather than full citizens.

From 1939 to 1946: Following World War I and World War II, returning Cherokee military veterans-backed by the American Legion and the U.S. Department of Justice-launched a sustained campaign that finally forced the local election board in North Carolina to allow Cherokee registrations by 1946.

Why would our ancestors, our





tribal elders, fight for the right to vote in the elections of another government or nation? Some might say that participating in other governments' voting processes undermines the sovereignty of a tribal nation. There are some realities of our sovereignty that we should always consider, especially during elections. As an alternative to war and subjugation, our ancestors chose negotiation and treaties to secure the future of tribal nations. That is very much how we ended up with dual citizenship in tribes and the United States. Remember, citizenship and race are separate issues; citizenship has to do with governance, and race has to do with blood.

I can tell you that, in my opinion, after reading the history of how the U.S. government tried to deny and delay indigenous people's ability to vote in their elections for so long, there are likely still some people out there who think we shouldn't be allowed to vote. And you can bet that they are just as pleased as they can be when we decide that, for whatever reason, we are not going to participate in something like the U.S. midterm elections. Maybe you feel like you are giving them what they want when you vote, or that indigenous peoples do not have the numbers to make a difference in the vote, or maybe you simply don't think that you are impacted by the voting outcomes.

Until adult gaming became a force in our economic engine, much of the operational economy was funded through grants and loans proffered outside of the tribe and tribal lands. And still today, although more supplemental in nature, the tribe still uses federal, state, and local funding to meet the needs of our tribal membership. So, life on the Boundary is affected every day by the decisions of those in the executive and legislative branches of the federal government, and the governors and state legislatures of states like North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Georgia. The tribe enjoys the reciprocal benefit of mutual aid agreements for emergency services with surrounding counties, which are governed by town aldermen and county commissioners. Our judicial system and that of the federal government coexist to address legal issues that involve incidents between indigenous Cherokee people and citizens of the U.S. who are not indigenous. And if you have a family member who is tribal and lives outside the five-county service area of the EBCI, those members are directly impacted by the municipal laws of the towns and counties they live in. There is very little in indigenous life that has not been or will not be impacted by our neighboring nation.

In an article written by Holly Kays for the Smoky Mountain News in 2020, EBCI member Gerri Grady shared her thoughts on voting. She said, "It is hugely important to me. I think that we as Cherokee people cannot forget that we are not only citizens of our own community here on the Qualla Boundary. We're also citizens of the state of North Carolina and the United States. I think it's important to every one of the tribal members who are of voting age to participate in all levels of voting opportunities."

Personally, I just don't want to leave my future up to someone else. I have seen too many times an election hinge on a single vote. So, last Saturday, I, along with my wife, drove to the polls in Haywood County, and we cast our votes. And, bonus, I got a sticker. Don't get me wrong, to feel like I had voted ethically and, to the best of my ability, represented my values, I did weeks and months of research on the candidates and issues that were on the ballot. But you do you. I am just saying that doing nothing puts governmental power completely in the hands of others, possibly in the hands of those who might have values totally opposed to your own. Ask yourself this: What would all those who fought so hard to ensure that we would be able to have a voice in these elections say to those of us who chose to ignore their efforts? And what are you saying to them by not voting?

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

The One Feather wants YOU to attend our monthly

Editorial Board Meeting!

When: **10AM, Every third Thursday of every month**

Where: **Ginger Lynn Welch Building**
Large Conference Room

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

As a therapist

Are You Forgiving Too Soon?



By BROOKE BARRETT, LMCHC

Question: How do you forgive someone when you're still hurt by what they did? Everyone is saying I am being sensitive and need to get over it so we can go back to normal. I don't want to hold a grudge, but I also don't feel like I can pretend everything is fine. I think we've gotten a little too comfortable telling people to forgive.

We hear it all the time. "Be the bigger person." "Life's too short to hold grudges." "You have to forgive to move on." And while I understand the intention behind these statements, I think we sometimes overlook what we're actually asking of someone who has been hurt.

We're asking them to move forward, sometimes before they've even had the chance to make sense of what happened.

I see this especially in people who are naturally empathetic. They're often so good at understanding everyone else's perspective that they struggle to even acknowledge their own. They can tell you exactly why someone behaved the way they did, what that person has been through, and why they probably didn't mean to cause harm. But when I ask how they felt about what happened, that's sometimes a much harder question to answer.

Understanding why someone hurt you doesn't make what they did hurt any less.

There is this notion that forgiveness is a requirement for healing, even when someone lacks accountability. It's like we've almost turned forgiveness into another responsibility for the person who was hurt.

Pause and think about that for a moment. Someone hurts you, and somehow you end up being the one responsible for making everyone comfortable again.

And sometimes, we participate in that without even realizing it.

We tell ourselves we're overreacting. We minimize what happened. We convince ourselves that holding on to anger is unhealthy, so we rush to make peace before we've actually processed anything. But anger isn't always something we need to get rid of. It actually can be telling us something important sometimes. Maybe a boundary was crossed. Maybe we weren't treated with respect. Maybe we're still waiting for someone to acknowledge what happened.

That doesn't mean we should live in anger, but it does mean we can listen to it.

I also think it's important to separate forgiveness from reconciliation. You can wish someone well and still decide that the relationship isn't healthy for you. You can accept an apology without falling into old dynamics. And you can move forward with your life without pretending something didn't happen.

Forgiveness doesn't automatically repair a relationship. Accountability, changed behavior, and consistency are what help rebuild trust.

If you grew up believing that keeping the peace was more important than expressing hurt, this can be difficult. Sometimes what we've called "forgiveness" has actually been avoiding conflict, suppressing your feelings, or putting everyone else's comfort ahead of your own.

So rather than asking yourself why you haven't forgiven someone yet, I'd encourage you to ask a different question:

Am I actually ready to forgive, or am I just uncomfortable with the fact that I'm still hurt?

If you're struggling to forgive someone, here are a few things I'd encourage you to try:

1. Get honest about what hurt. Instead of immediately trying to understand or justify the other person's behavior, take some time to acknowledge your own experience. What happened, and how did it affect you?
2. Pay attention to what you're still needing. Is it an apology? Changed behavior? A boundary? Sometimes what feels like an inability to forgive is actually an unmet need that hasn't been acknowledged.
3. Ask yourself whose comfort you're protecting. Are you ready to move forward, or are you feeling pressure to make things okay so someone else doesn't have to sit with the discomfort?
4. Give yourself permission to take your time. You don't have to make a permanent decision about forgiveness today. You can work toward healing without knowing exactly what your relationship with that person will look like.
5. Focus on healing rather than forgiveness. Instead of making forgiveness the goal, consider what would help you feel more at peace, secure, and connected to yourself. Those things are worth working toward, whether forgiveness happens or not.

I'm not suggesting that forgiveness is a bad thing. For many people, it can be incredibly meaningful and freeing. But I don't believe it should be something we force ourselves into because we think that's what a healthy or emotionally mature person would do. Trauma may help explain someone's behavior, but it doesn't excuse the harm they cause. Plenty of people have experienced significant trauma and still make the conscious choice not to inflict that same pain on the people they love. Compassion for someone's past shouldn't require you to minimize your own pain to move forward.

You are allowed to need time. You're allowed to have boundaries. And you're allowed to recognize that someone can have their own struggles AND still be responsible for how they treated you.

Have a mental health or relationship question? Submit anonymously to Ask a Therapist at asktherapistbrooke@gmail.com. Your question might help others too.

***This column is for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional mental health advice, diagnosis, or treatment. If you are in crisis, please reach out to a licensed mental health provider or dial 911*



FOUR SEASONS

HOSPICE CARE

Why Wait to Start Living?

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

Benefits of Earlier Hospice Care:

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

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

SPEAKING OF FAITH

A close call

Part 6 of 8

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

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

So, how do you face death? Maybe we need to realize we are all faced with death every day. God makes no promises to us for tomorrow. 1 Thessalonians 4:13 says, 13 But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning them that fall asleep; that ye sorrow not, even as the rest, who have no hope.

I have hope – My hope is in Jesus. That is how I face death. With hope. Do you have hope? What is your hope?

We have biblical examples of facing death, and one of the best is how Jesus faced death.

I believe He saw it wherever He was, wherever He went. He saw it all around Him. He talked about death as much as He spoke of Life. And like us, when He faced His death, He showed us much about Himself through the Word left for us to see how to face our death. He prayed in the garden.

Jesus faced death because He knew what death was all about. He knew exactly how he was going to die and what he would suffer. And like HIM, some of us no longer fear death as much as we fear just how we might die or how we might suffer.

He loves us, and He grieves with us when we grieve death. The story of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, when Jesus wept, tells us that He grieves. He shares with us when we grieve, and He is there to comfort us with His peace. He is a compassionate God. But he also grieves when he knows someone dies and will be separated from Him forever.

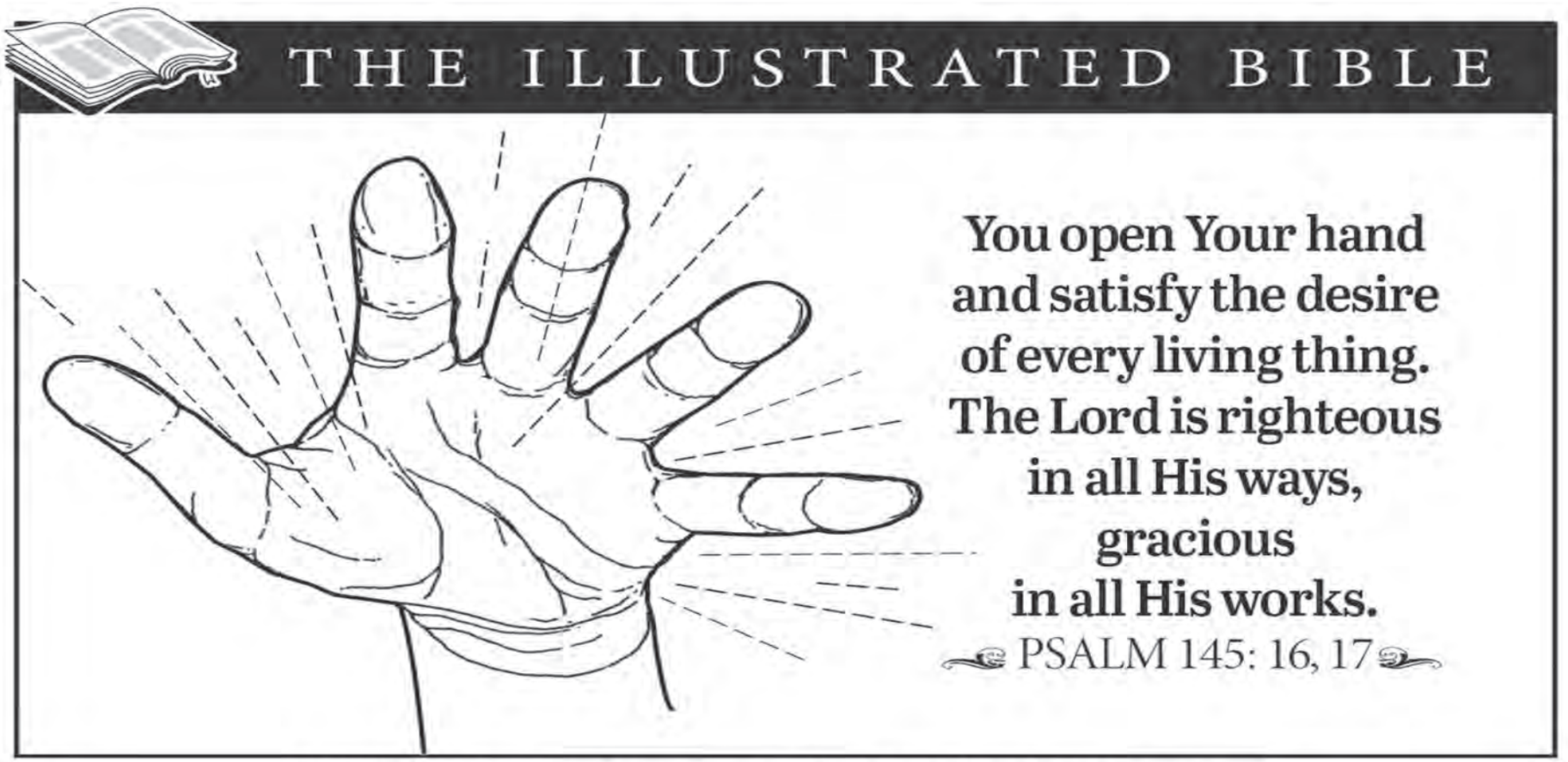
Jesus knows all there is to know about death. As God, He knows everything about us. His plans for us and His grace to give us are Holy. He is already standing there to welcome us home or be judged to eternal death once we cross that bridge.

A close call. Can you remember the one you have had? A close call? A close call to this Life? A close call to injury? Or a close call where your life on earth could have gone either way? But, by the grace of God, He saved you from certain death?

Think about that for just a minute because I am about to give you another close call. This invitation is a different kind of close call.

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@preacher-spurs.com.



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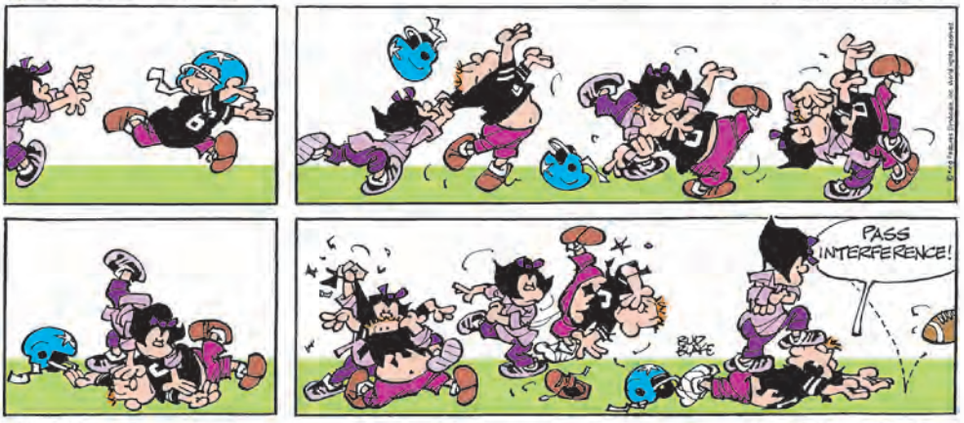
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



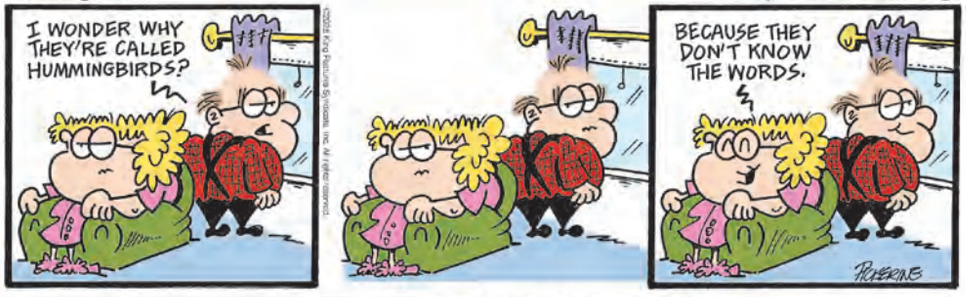
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

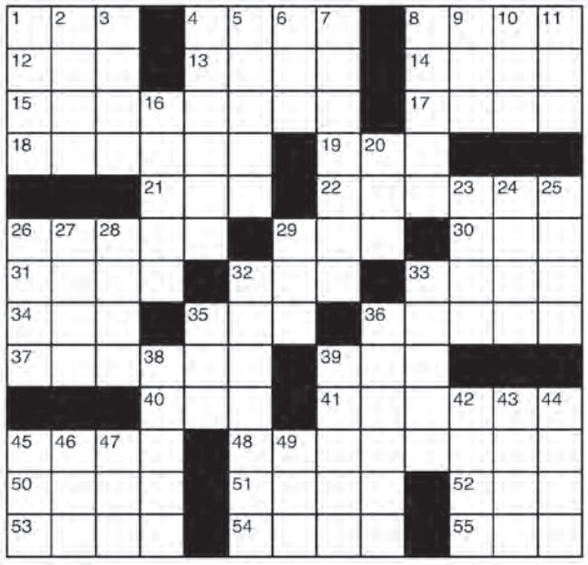


The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



King Crossword



ACROSS

1 Personal
4 Poi base
8 Fraud
12 Romance
13 — incline (tilted)
14 Unruly groups
15 Message from an admirer
17 Border on
18 On an angle
19 Vinyl records
21 Before
22 "Darn it!"
26 Scrabble pieces
29 Movie format
30 "Little piggie"
31 Rd. crossers
32 Grant's foe
33 1982 sci-fi film
34 "The Newsroom" actor Patel
35 Farm grazer
36 Resided
37 "I, Robot" author
39 Lanka lead-in
40 Storm center
41 Sculpted trunks
45 Sagan or Sandburg
48 Romantic Ella Fitzgerald song
50 Squad
51 — Stanley Gardner
52 PC linking system
53 Short cuts
54 Snitched
55 Vintage

DOWN

1 They give a hoot
2 Scarf material
3 De — (from the start)
4 Printer refills
5 Battery part
6 Squealer
7 Bob Marley hit song
8 Big hit
9 Corn core
10 — Dhabi
11 Rockies hrs.
16 Tools for duels
20 Third degree?
23 To be, in Tours
24 "Neato!"
25 Superman's alias
26 "There!"
27 Currier's partner
28 Jeans maker Strauss
29 Morning moisture
32 Mini-shutout at Wimbledon
33 Spin
35 Demure
36 Buzzed
38 Thaws
39 Unmoving
42 Aviator's milestone
43 Track shape
44 Email command
45 Young lion
46 Year in Spain
47 Chest bone
49 Granada gold

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Light is moved. 2. Sleeve is rolled up. 3. Hand is moved. 4. Door is moved. 5. Thumb is moved. 6. Painting is different.

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

B	O	B	S	■	T	O	L	D	■	O	L	D
U	N	I	T	■	E	R	L	E	■	L	A	N
C	A	R	L	■	S	O	I	N	L	O	V	E
S	O	S	■	E	Y	E	■	T	O	R	S	■
■	■	■	■	M	O	V	■	S	R	I	■	■
A	S	I	M	O	V	■	C	O	W	■	D	W
D	E	V	■	C	O	W	■	D	W	E	L	T
A	V	E	S	■	L	E	E	■	T	R	O	N
T	I	L	E	S	■	D	V	D	■	T	O	E
■	■	■	E	R	E	■	O	H	H	E	C	K
S	L	O	P	E	D	■	L	P	S	■	■	■
L	O	V	E	N	O	T	E	■	A	B	U	T
W	O	O	■	O	N	A	N	■	M	O	B	S
O	W	N	■	T	A	R	O	■	S	C	A	M

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. HISTORY: In which year was the euro currency introduced?
2. U.S. STATES: Which state is the driest in the nation?
3. ANATOMY: A phalange refers to what in the human body?
4. MOVIES: Which 2012 movie has the tagline "The D is silent"?
5. LANGUAGE: What does it mean to anthropomorphize?
6. TELEVISION: What's the name of Bart's teacher on "The Simpsons"?
7. MONEY: Which president is pictured on the $50 U.S. bill?
8. LITERATURE: The characters Tweedledee and Tweedledum appear in which children's novel?
9. MUSIC: Who was the founder of Motown Records?
10. GEOGRAPHY: Where is East Timor located?

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Trivia Test Answers

1. 1999; 2. Nevada; 3. Finger or toe; 4. "Django Unchained"; 5. To give human traits to non-human things; 6. Edna Krabappel; 7. Ulysses S. Grant; 8. "Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There"; 9. Berry Gordy Jr.; 10. Southeast Asia, occupying half of the island of Timor

EVENT LISTINGS

Event listings are FREE of charge. Send your flyers/info to Dawn at dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov or to Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com

Benefits/Fundraisers

NAIWA will be selling Soup/ Chili and Sandwich. Oct. 30 at 11 a.m. until gone during Qualla-Ween at Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, Inc. in Cherokee, N.C.

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

Scare-okee. 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.

Yellowhill Halloween Party. Oct. 29 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Yellowhill Community Building 918 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Fun games, prizes, cake walk, candy & drinks and more.

Happy Holiday RV Village Trunk or Treat. Oct. 30 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. Happy Holiday RV Village, 1553 Wolfetown Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Open to the public. Info: (828)497-9204.

Junalauksa Wreath Laying Ceremony. Nov. 5 starting at 11 a.m. Junaluska gravesite 151 Boring St., Robbinsville, NC. 28771. Info: kaylrock@ebci-nsn.gov or angejump@ebci-nsn.gov

2026 James A. Cooper Memorial Lecture: Luzene Hill (EBCI). Nov. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at the Museum of the Cherokee People TJ Holland Education Room at 589 Tsali Blvd. Cherokee, NC. 28719. The lecture is sponsored by the WCU Sequoyah Professorship, Cherokee Studies Program, College of Arts and Sciences, and the Museum of the Cherokee People. Her lecture is called "To Rise and Begin Again". This event is open to all and free of charge, and registration is not required. Info: (828) 497-3481.

Prevention Partnership Event. Nov. 10 from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Acquoni Expo Center, 1501 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, NC 28719. Giveaways, prizes, FREE car seat checks, children's activities, food truck and community vendors, see community service vehicles in person.

11th Annual Speak to the Mountain. Nov 11 – Nov. 15 nightly at 7 p.m. Sunday morning at 11 a.m. New Song Church 3548 Wolfetown Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Info: newsongcherokee@gmail.com

Turkey Strut 5K. Nov. 21 registration at 11 a.m., race begins at 12 p.m. Kituwah Mound 3831 Ela Rd, Bryson City, NC. 28713. Sponsored by Cherokee Choices. Info: (828)359-6784.

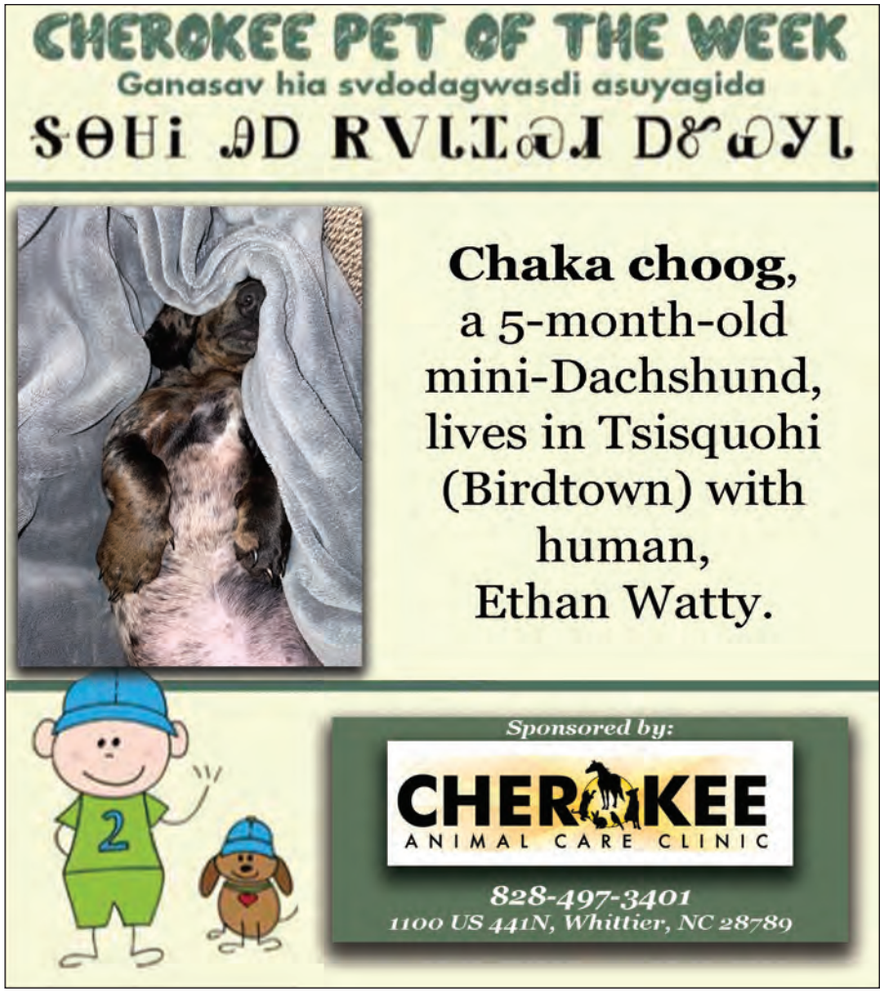
ᏩᎳᎩ ᎠᏂᏪᏂᏍᎩ ᎫᏓᎵᏗᏍᏗ ᏌᏊ **tsalagi aniwonisgi didandadisdi iga (Cherokee Speakers Memorial Day)** ceremony. Nov 24 at 10 a.m. at the Cherokee Speakers Place. Join to honor and remember the Cherokee speakers whose voices, wisdom, and dedication have helped preserve and sustain language for future generations.

Resilient Family Adventure. Dec. 1 from 3 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Cherokee Choices 806 Acquoni Rd., Cherokee, NC. 28719. Resilience adventure for the whole family. Activity stations with nature inspired arts, crafts and stories. Food & fun. Info: robibail@ebci-nsn.gov

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

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

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

None at this time.

Pow Wow Listings

Manito Ahbee Pow Wow. Oct. 30 – Nov. 1 at the Canada Life Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Info: (204) 956-1849, info@manitoahbee.com

14th Annual Gitchi Gami Veterans Pow Wow. Nov. 6 in

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You might be growing impatient with a situation that seems to resist efforts to resolve it. But staying with it raises the odds that you'll find a way to a successful resolution.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Travel and kinship are strong in the Bovine's aspect this week. This would be a good time to combine the two and take a trip to see family members for a preholiday get-together.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A colleague could make a request that you're not comfortable with. If so, say so. It's better to disappoint someone by sticking with your principles than to disappoint yourself if you don't.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The Moon Child's ability to adapt to life's ebbs and flows helps you deal with the changes that you might confront at work or at home — or both. Things settle down by the week's end.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) It's a good week for Leos and Leonas to get some long-outstanding business matters resolved. Then go ahead and plan a fun-filled family getaway weekend with the mate and cubs!

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A possible workplace change seems promising. If you decide to look into it, try not to form an opinion on just a small part of the picture. Wait for the full image to develop.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A newcomer helps keep things moving. There might be some bumpy moments along the way, but at least you're heading in the right direction! You win praise for your choices.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You could be pleasantly surprised by how a decision about one thing opens up an unexpected new option. Also, assistance on a project could come from a surprising source.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) With more information to work with, you might now be able to start the process that could lead to a major change. Reserve the weekend for family and friends.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) This could be a good time to begin gathering information that will help you turn a long-held idea into something substantive. Meanwhile, a personal matter might need extra attention.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A new challenge might carry some surprises, but you should be able to handle them using what you already know. A new supporter should be there to lend assistance.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Someone might be trying to disguise their true motives. But the perceptive and perspicacious Pisces should have little to no problem finding the truth in all that foggy rhetoric!

BORN THIS WEEK: You can always rely on your resourcefulness and determination to help you find solutions to problems that others often give up on.

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VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

Pharmacy chain nailed for fraud

Now here's a real shocker. Typically when the VA's Office of Inspector General (VAOIG) and the DOJ have nailed criminals, it's either an individual or a handful of thieves. To learn of a major chain in the U.S. being pegged for crimes isn't something we expect.

But it has happened. A long-established pharmacy chain, with approximately 9,000 locations around the country, has been hit with a $315 million fine for fraud crimes they've committed for 13 years. They were reported by a whistleblower.

The crime: illegally filling prescriptions for opioids and other substances and then filing for payment from the VA, Medicare and other federal healthcare programs. Specifically, they were filling prescriptions that they knew "lacked a legitimate medical purpose, were not valid and/or were not issued in the usual course of professional practice." Additionally, prescriptions were filled from prescribers known to issue fraudulent prescriptions and were in dangerous combinations of other opioids.

Why did pharmacists willingly fill prescriptions they knew were suspect or dangerous or fake? Apparently it was because of corporate policy. Headquarters imposed "performance metrics" and — in something that will send a chill down your spine — created policies that "allegedly prevented pharmacists from warning one another about certain problematic prescribers."

Read that again: They kept pharmacists from telling their co-workers about problems with prescriptions.

From now on the chain will be required to do something they should have been doing all along. They're going to create a hotline for employees and the public to report suspected illegal dispensing of drugs, monitor patterns of prescribing opioids and watch the prescribers suspected of illegal prescribing.

So, I'm shocked, but thinking back, maybe I shouldn't be. For years I had my prescriptions filled at a location in this chain, by a great pharmacist. But I always sensed he was unhappy and under stress. One day he disappeared. Word was he went to work for a very small local pharmacy and that he was very happy there. Now I know why.

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Halloween fun doesn't always extend to pets

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I'm planning to hold a Halloween party at my apartment, and I want my Toy Terrier "Skip" to be part of it. I even have a little costume picked out for him so he can be part of the fun. My roommate says that parties aren't a great environment for dogs, and Skip could be traumatized by all the noise. What do you say? — Carl in Brooklyn

DEAR CARL: Listen to your roommate. Terriers are energetic dogs who love attention, but a loud, crowded party is stressful for any dog. It's also difficult to keep tabs on where Skip is and what he might be eating. If there is stray chocolate sitting within reach, for example, he might ingest it and get really sick. Ditto for rich party foods with lots of cream, herbs, salt, onions or garlic — all these things can be dangerous for dogs, especially a little guy like Skip.

A better alternative is to keep Skip in your bedroom for most of the night, away from the party, with a nice bed, toys and fresh water. Stop in every hour to say hello, if you'd like.

You can put Skip into his costume and bring him out to meet the guests, but only for about 10 to 15 minutes. And if he begins showing signs of distress — trembling, barking at everyone, growling or snapping — take him back to the room right away. Take off the costume after his visit, so that he is comfortable and doesn't get tangled up in the fabric or chew on any dangling appendages, if the costume has any.

With a little planning, you can still show off Skip in his costume and have a party that is enjoyable for you and safe for him.

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

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EVENTS: From page 45

Ashland, Wisc. Info: Joseph Corbine (715) 682-7089, jcorbine@sdak12.net

Choctaw Pow Wow. Nov. 6-8 at the Choctaw Event Center in Durant, Okla. Emcees: Howie Thomson, Marty Thurman. Info: powwow@choctawnation.com

Sacred Path X The Autry Museum Pow Wow. Nov. 7 at the Autry Museum in Los Angeles, Calif. Info: powwwow@sacredpath.org

San Carlos Apache Tribe Veteran's Pow Wow. Nov. 7-8 at San Carlos High School in Peridot, Ariz. Emcees: Chris Dinehdahl, Erny Zah. Host Northern Drum: Ho-Chunk Station. Host Southern Drum: Cozad. Info: Kodee Goseyun (928) 475-1794, kodee.goseyun@scat-nsn.gov

Veterans Gourd Dance and Pow Wow. Nov. 7 at the Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center in Seattle, Wash. MC: Arli Neskahi. Host Drum: Quahada. Info: Benjamin Bryer (206) 450-0969, veterans@unitedindians.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 Christ-centered recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, hang-ups, and habits of any kind. All are welcome. Info: Chris McMillan (828) 788-5410

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

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

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

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

Bryson City Trick or Treat Downtown. Oct. 31 from 4 p.m. – 7p.m. Bryson City Downtown, Everett Street. Bryson City, NC. 28713. Trick or treat at local businesses, leashed dogs welcome, fun for the whole family.

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

Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society meeting. Nov. 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the Swain County Regional Business Education and Training Center at 45 East Ridge Dr. in Bryson City, N.C. Wendy Myers will take participants on a virtual hike of the Noland Creek settlement. Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation which is free and open to the public.

21st Annual Pottery Festival. Nov. 7 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Bridge Park 76 Railroad Ave., Sylva, NC. 28779. Throwing and firing demonstrations. Info: (800)962-1911 or WNCPotteryFestival.com

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

SCC Holiday Market. Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at SCC Swain Center 60 Almond School Rd., Bryson City, NC. 28713.

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.

Holiday Herbal Class. Nov. 20 at the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center 123 Crowmwell Dr., Townsend, NC. 37882. Info: (865) 448-0044

Holiday in the Smokies. Nov. 20 and Nov. 21 from 10 a.m – 6 p.m. Sevierville Fairgrounds 754 Old Knoxville Hwy., Sevierville, TN. 37862. Craft vendors, food trucks, live entertainment, holiday vendors, Santa Claus noon – 5 p.m. both days. Info: (865)388-0099

Regal Raptors & Short-eared Owls. Nov. 30 from 1 p.m. – 6:45

p.m. Cades Cove Orientation Shelter, Cades Cove Loop Rd., Townsend, Tenn. 37782. experience an evening of "owl-ology" where participants will learn about these remarkable birds of prey. Info: (865) 436-7318 or smokieslife.org

Cherokee Community Clubs

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

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

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

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

Aniwodihi (Painttown) Community meets the last Monday of each month at the old community building across from the casino at 6 p.m. Info: For building rental, contact Janet Arch (828) 736-2781

Tutiyi (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

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

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

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

Echota Baptist Church. 1274 Birdtown Road. Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Morning Service: 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service: 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening Service: 6 p.m. Pastor David Hall (828) 508-1906

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

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

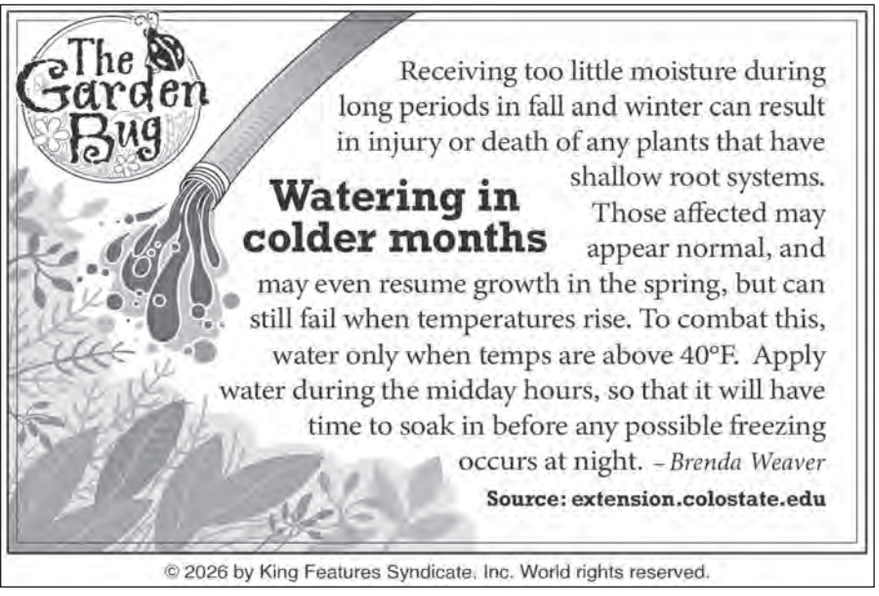
Goose Creek Baptist Church. Sunday School – 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m., Sunday Evening Services 6 p.m. Pastor – Bro. James Gunter 631-0331, Info: John and Linda George 497-3512

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

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

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

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



BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Beelzebub (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 12, when an evil spirit returns to a person, how many companions does it bring? *2, 3, 7, 16*
3. Who called the city of Nineveh the mistress of witchcraft? *Ahab, Nahum, Lucifer, Peter*
4. In which book's 22:18 does it state, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live"? *Exodus, Numbers, Isaiah, Hebrews*
5. From 1 Samuel 16, which king of Israel was tormented by an evil spirit? *Solomon, David, Elah, Saul*
6. What number of the beast comes from Revelation 13? *7, 333, 490, 666*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Seven, 3) Nahum, 4) Exodus, 5) Saul, 6) 666

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. 9, 1870**, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear a challenge from the state of Massachusetts on the constitutionality of the Vietnam War. In a 6-3 vote, justices rejected the state's effort to bring a suit in federal court defending Massachusetts residents who claimed protection under a state law allowing them to refuse military service in an undeclared war.

• On **Nov. 10, 1928**, the first installment of Erich Maria Remarque's novel of World War I, "All Quiet on the Western Front," debuted in the German magazine Vossische Zeitung. Released in book form in 1929, it sold a million and a half copies that year and was also adapted into an acclaimed American film in 1930.

• On **Nov. 11, 1988**, authorities in Sacramento, California, excavated a corpse in the lawn of 59-year-old Dorothea Puente, who had operated a residential home for elderly people. An investigation led to the discovery of six more bodies buried on her property. Puente — who was mentally ill, already had a criminal record and was suspected of additional deaths — died in prison in 2011.

• On **Nov. 12, 1969**, investigative journalist Seymour Hersh, in a cable picked up by more than 30 newspapers, revealed the extent of the U.S. Army's charges against 1st Lt. William L. Calley at My Lai, writing, "The Army says he [Calley] deliberately murdered at least 109 Vietnamese civilians during a search-and-destroy mission in March 1968, in a Viet Cong stronghold known as 'Pinkville.'"

• On **Nov. 13, 2020**, Kim Ng was named general manager of the Miami Marlins, becoming not only the first woman and first person of East Asian descent to lead a Major League Baseball front office, but also the first female general manager in North American professional men's sports history.

• On **Nov. 14, 1910**, U.S. Navy Lieutenant Eugene Ely became the first person to successfully take off in an airplane from the deck of a ship, lifting off the cruiser Birmingham in Virginia.

• On **Nov. 15, 1806**, explorer Zebulon Pike discovered the Colorado Peak that now bears his name, despite the fact he didn't climb it himself.

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

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

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

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

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

see **EVENTS** next page

MISSING PERSON

GWY ᏐᏉ ᎤᎩᏓᏣ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI





Andrew William Tipton

Tribal Affiliation: Cherokee Nation
Male Age: 40
Height: 5'10" **Weight:** 180 lbs
Hair: Brown **Eyes:** Hazel

Date of last contact: Aug. 8, 2026
Last known location: Tulsa, Okla.

Circumstances of Disappearance: Andrew left the house without telling anyone anything. No one has been able to locate or contact him since. Andrew was last seen driving a green 2014 Ford Escape with Oklahoma license plate CN2079 (expiration 2026). The vehicle was seen parked in the 700 block of Carlyle Drive in Broken Arrow, Okla. on Sept. 10, 2026.

If you have seen or have information about Andrew Tipton, contact Jack Hester, Case Support Specialist, Tulsa Police Department, at (918) 596-9143.

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

• A cook actually cuts himself or herself less with a sharp knife because the latter uses less force to cut through food.

• Goslings begin communicating with their parents while they're still in their eggs.

• Baseball's L.A. Dodgers, originally founded in Brooklyn, were named after the legendary skill local residents showed at "dodging" the city's trolley streetcar system.

• Since Pablo Picasso died without a will, his estate tax was paid with his paintings.

• On May 19, 1956, Kermit the Frog received an Honorary Doctorate of Amphibious Letters from Southampton College in New York. He also gave the commencement speech.

• In August 1914, German troops shot and killed 150 civilians at Aerschot as part of a war policy called Schrecklichkeit, or "frightfulness." Its purpose was to terrify civilians in occupied areas so they wouldn't rebel.

• About 1% of people have feet that are the same size.

• According to the U.N., the world's industries use enough sand to build a wall 88.5 feet tall and 88.5 feet wide around the Earth every day.

• South Carolina is the only state to own and operate its own school bus fleet.

• In a survey of 5,000 singles conducted by Match.com, 43% said fresh breath mattered the most before a date.

• A turkey's skin can either turn blue, vivid red or white when it's excited, frightened or attracting a mate.

• The South Pole's Don Juan Pond is too salty to freeze, even during Antarctica's winters.

• As recently as the 18th century, American women washed themselves in the warm urine of a young boy to erase their freckles.

***

Thought for the Day: "Everyone may not be good, but there's always something good in everyone. Never judge anyone shortly, because every saint has a past and every sinner has a future." — *Oscar Wilde*

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EVENTS: From page 49

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

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

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

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

Straight Fork Baptist Church. Big Cove Loop. Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening worship 6 p.m. Wednesday night Bible Study 7 p.m. Youth group services are Sunday evenings only. Interim Pastor – Harley Maney Jr.

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

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

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

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

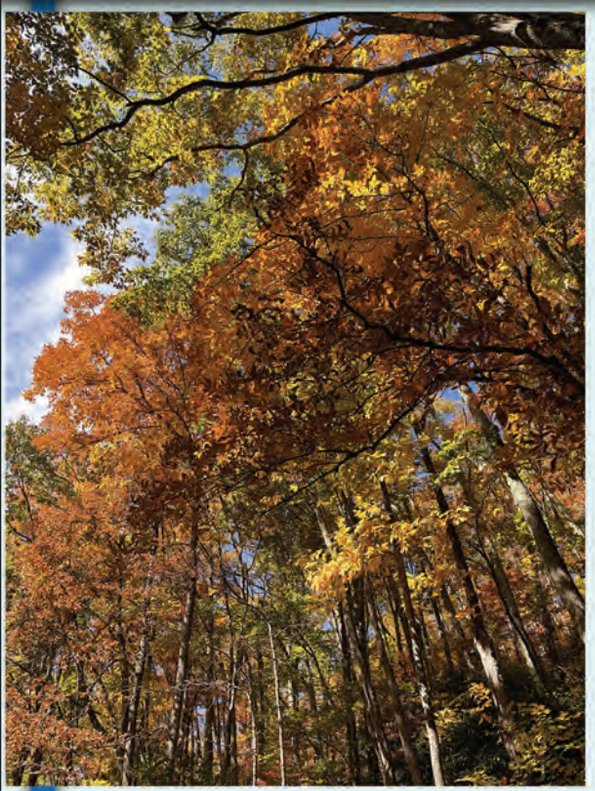
Yellowhill Baptist Church. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 5 p.m. Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m. Pastor Foreman Bradley 506-0123 or 736-4872

Event listings are FREE of charge.

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

Tsalagi NATURE

Brought to you through a partnership with EBCI Natural Resources



When fall days grow shorter and colder, trees stop producing chlorophyll, allowing hidden pigments to shine through. Carotenoids create yellow and orange hues, anthocyanins add reds and purples, and tannins bring browns. Each tree species has its own genetic colors, making our forests glow in autumn.

LONG HOUSE FUNERAL HOME, INC.

(828) 497-1408

407 Wolftown Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719

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

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*Common Questions

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

www.longhousefuneralhome.com

EBCI Services

EBCI Legal Assistance (828) 359-7400

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

Cherokee Indian Housing Division (828) 359-6320

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

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

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

EBCI Higher Education Program (828) 359-6650

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

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

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

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

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

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

Supreme Court Opinions, Tribal Court Documents

Cherokee Indian Hospital (828) 497-9163

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

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**

House For Sale
2 bedroom, 2 bath, large attic space, basement type crawl space, located in Cherokee/ Qualla Boundary on small lot. Private well and septic. Must be an enrolled member of the EBCI to purchase. Located on Wright's Creek, Asking $275,000. Call or text (828) 788-2479. Or (828)-788-2582. **11/18**

For Sale - AKC Chihuahua Cream Merle, Male 8 weeks old, First shots and health guarantee. Call Robin (828) 506-9189 Monday – Thursday 1 p.m.- 8 p.m. **11/11**

EMPLOYMENT

NOW HIRING
Museum of the Cherokee People is Frontline Associate – Key Holder (total hourly range: $17.50 — $27.00, hiring range: $17.50 — $22.00); Frontline Associate (total hourly range: $16.50 — $24.00, hiring range: $16.50 — $20.00), and Atsila Anotasgi Cultural Specialist (total hourly range: $16.50 — $24.00, hiring range: $16.50 — $20.00). Learn more and apply at motcp.org/employment. **11/4**

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 PUBLICATION
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 PUBLICATION
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 corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
Jacquelina Loch
P.O. Box 2254
Greenville, NC. 27836
11/4

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-082
Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:
Phyllis Elaine Jumper
All persons, and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.
Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION
Thomas Charles Jumper
1003 Wolftown Rd. Apt D-204
Cherokee, NC. 28719
11/18

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

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 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**

Notice for Bids

State of North Carolina
Department of transportation
Raleigh, NC

The Deadline for submitting Electronic Bids on the following projects as well as the public reading will be November 17, 2026, at 2:00 pm. The public reading will be held in Contract Standards and Development Unit Conference Room (Room 156 A/B), Building B, North Carolina Department of Transportation, Century Center Complex, 1020 Birch Ridge Dr., Raleigh, NC 27610. Please enter door B-2.
(C205222) BUNCOMBE;
C205223) MECKLENBURG;
(C205252) WAKE;
(C205227) ORANGE;
(C205254) MOORE;
(C205255) MOORE;
(C205253) DAVIDSON;
(C205091) DAVIDSON;
(C205251) MECKLENBURG:
(C204976) WILKES;
(C204481) GASTON

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

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

Plans, proposal forms, and specifications may be obtained at the Raleigh Office of the Department of Transportation, Telephone # 919-707-6925.
Department of transportation, Mr. Patrick Norman, PE, Chief Engineer. **10/28**

INVITATION TO BID

Re: 2027 Residential Remodeling Advertisement:

The Cherokee Housing Indian Division (CIHD) is seeking qualified TERO-certified vendors to provide lawn mowing and related grounds-maintenance services for properties located in the following service areas:
• Snowbird
• Robbinsville
• Cherokee County
• Cherokee/Qualla Boundary

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, ernetige@ebci-nsn.gov. **11/4**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians — Cherokee Department of Transportation (CDOT)
20-Year Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, through CDOT, invites qualified engineering and transportation planning firms to submit proposals for the development and/or update of a comprehensive 20-year Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Qualified firms should demonstrate experience in Tribal Transportation Program requirements, transportation planning, roadway and bridge inventory assessments, GIS mapping, traffic and safety analysis, public involvement, project prioritization, and transportation funding strategies. Experience with the National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory (NTTFI) and Road Inventory Field Data System (RIFDS) is required.

The selected firm will evaluate existing and future transportation needs, recommend prioritized improvements, identify potential funding sources, and deliver an implementable plan supporting the Tribe's transportation goals.
RFP Number: CDOT-LRTP-2026-01

Interested firms may request the complete RFP and submission requirements from:
Uriah Maney, CDOT Engineer
Email: umaney@ebci-nsn.gov
Cherokee Department of Transportation, 680 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC 28719
Proposals may be submitted electronically or by hard copy in accordance with the complete RFP. **11/4**

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CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Contact Dawn Arneach
to advertise with the One Feather:
(828) 359-6489,
dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov



CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

OPEN POSITIONS



NEW POSITIONS
Nurse Education Professional Assistant & Simulation Operator
EVS Supervisor – Day Shift
Laundry Aide – Temporary
EVS Technician

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

LABORATORY
Medical Lab Technician

MEDICAL
Psychiatrist
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

NURSING
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
Cook - Tsali Care

CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS | 828.497.9163 EXT. 6343

Kituwah Technologies LLC has the following jobs available:

Project Manager/Estimator
Project managers/estimators are responsible for planning and overseeing projects from the beginning stage of setting the budget to completion in a timely fashion and within budget. Project managers plan and designate project resources, prepare budgets, monitor progress, and keep stakeholders informed the entire way. This is all done within the confines of a company's goals and vision.

Service Coordinator
The Service Coordinator is responsible for managing and coordinating service activities for security and technology systems, ensuring the timely and efficient delivery of services to clients. This role serves as a central point of communication between customers, technicians, and internal departments, supporting service operations, scheduling, and customer satisfaction.

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 apply. Please contact Kristin Smith at kristin.smith@kituwahllc.com or pick up an application at the Kituwah LLC Office (Green Building across the Street from Waffle House) between the hours of 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday-Friday.

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

Public Notice
Notice to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for
Coopers Creek Village Development, Phase I

This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA; Cherokee Agency), as the lead agency, intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the proposed Cooper's Creek Village Development, Phase I.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians proposes the construction of new housing units for Tribal members. To authorize the construction on Tribal Trust land, the Bureau of Indian Affairs must approve a residential lease (25 CFR Part 162).

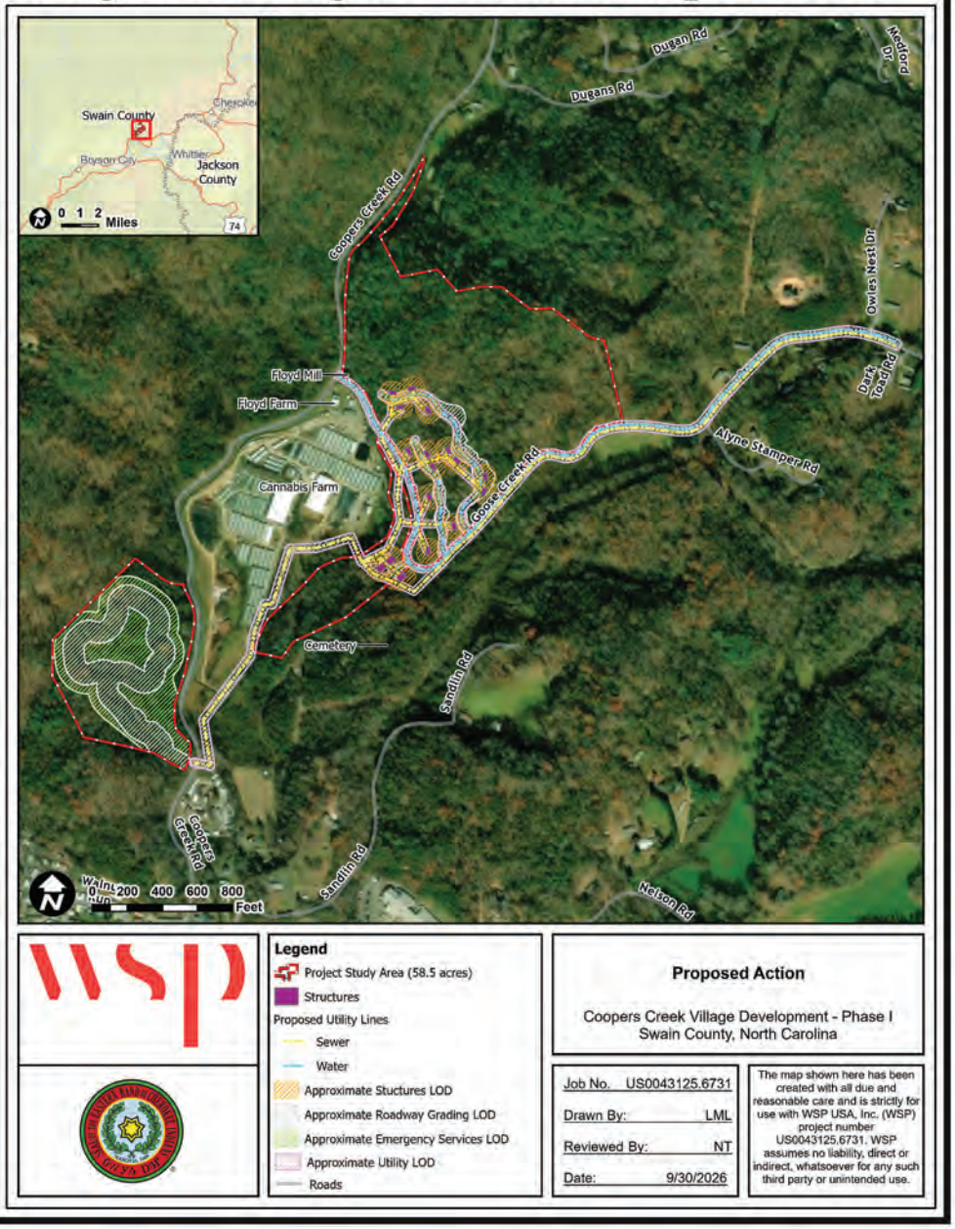
The project would be located near the intersection of Goose Creek Road and Coopers Creek Road, in Swain County, North Carolina. The Project Site comprises approximately 58.5 acres of Tribal trust land (Exhibit A). The preliminary site design includes up to 29 residential buildings with access roads, driveways, and utilities, which includes 26 single-family homes and 3 multi-family buildings containing three units each, plus a new emergency services facility.

This notice initiates a 30-day public scoping period to invite Tribal members, agencies, and the public to provide input on potential issues, concerns, and alternatives to be considered in the EA.

Comments received during this period will inform the scope of the EA and help identify environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic topics for analysis.

Written comments on the scope of the EA should be submitted no later than [November 30th, 2026] and may be emailed or mailed to:T.W. Saunooke, Director of Construction,EBCI Housing Division , P.O. Box 1749, Cherokee, NC 28719 Email: thomsaun@ebci-nsn.gov

Please include your name, return address, and "Scoping Comments: Coopers Creek Village Development EA" in the subject line.



WE GROW, YOU GROW

Whether you work in Cherokee or Murphy, there's a world of opportunity. Tuition reimbursement & advancement prospects await!

FINANCE • CULINARY ARTS • HOSPITALITY • IT • MARKETING SECURITY & SURVEILLANCE • CASINO OPERATIONS

Harrah's CHEROKEE CASINOS

SCAN TO APPLY

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo ID. An Enterprise of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians. Harrah's Cherokee Casinos value diversity, inclusion, and are equal opportunity employers. 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.2024, Caesars License Company, LLC.

COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES OF NORTH CAROLINA

A ResCare Community Living Agency



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@sevitahealth.com

Terrell Wheeler
terrell.wheeler@sevitahealth.com

Office: (828) 575-9802

CHEROKEE CINEMAS & MORE

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.

Job Opportunities

Closing Sunday, November 01, 2026

1. Electrician Assistant/Generator Maintenance – Facility Management – Operations (L9 $17.27 - $21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
2. Mechanic – Motor Pool – Operations (L10 $18.74 - $23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
3. Biological Technician – Fisheries & Wildlife Management – Operations (L10 $18.74 - $23.43 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE
4. Housekeeper I Light Duty – Housekeeping – Operations (L6 $16.37 - $20.47 per hour)
5. Financial Analyst II – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L15 $61,776 - $77,230)
6. Disbursements/Loan Specialist – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L12 $22.26 - $27.83 per hour)
7. Manager (Grants) – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L16 $68,827 - $86,050)
8. Salesperson (Bottled Water) – Enterprise Development – Commerce (L10 $18.74 - $23.43 per hour)

Open Until Filled

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

CHEROKEE BOYS CLUB VACANCIES

ALL POSITIONS ARE SAFETY SENSITIVE

CHEROKEE CHILDREN'S HOME	(3) Residential Counselor - Part Time - $17.00 per hour; no benefits (3) Residential Counselor - Full Time - $17.00 per hour with benefits
AGELINK CHILDCARE	(1) Teacher - $31,800 - $39,750 per year with benefits
BUS/TRUCK	Seasonal Bus Drivers Truck Drivers

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

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

Western Carolina University

STAFF OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE:

- Houskeeping - 2nd Shift (multiple positions)
- Technical Director - School of Stage & Screen
- Utilities Plant Operator
- Grounds Worker
- Auxilliary Services Maintenance Technician
- Assistant Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Director of Development
- Budget Director
- Agricultural Mediation Director
- Director of HR Systems and Data Management

VISIT JOBS.WCU.EDU FOR DETAILS AND TO APPLY

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Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations the application and interview process please call 828.227.7218 or email at jobs@email.wcu.edu.



ANALENISGI

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"They are beginning"

Analenisgi provides extensive behavioral health services for eligible members. Offering an extensive continuum of care and providing safe and supportive, culturally grounded environments.

Services Offered through Analenisgi:

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

IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY FOR GROUP THERAPY AND CLASSES

Recovery Services
Programs include:
- Analensgi Inpatient Services
- Men's & Women's Homes
- Kanvwotiyi (extended recovery)

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

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

Contact us:

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

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

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



Gorgeous lighting
This gorgeous photo of this awi equa (elk) in the Autumn colors was taken in Kolanvyi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. on Oct. 24, 2025. (Photo by Shelena Ledford)



Awi equa in Oconaluftee
This group of awi equa (elk) were hanging out in the Oconaluftee River in Cherokee, N.C. on Tuesday, Oct. 20. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)



Autumn colors
Autumn colors are starting to pop across the Qualla Boundary as shown by these leaves, silhouetted nicely by the crystal, clear, blue sky, in Aniwodihi (Painttown) in Cherokee, N.C. on the afternoon of Wednesday, Oct. 21. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)



Quick snack
This awi equa (elk) was seen eating a quick snack of mums on the bridge adjacent to Saunooke's Village in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Wednesday, Oct. 21. (Photo by Donny Owle)



Tow String awi equa

These awi equa (elk) were seen near Tow String Road in Cherokee, N.C. on Wednesday, Oct. 14. (Photo by Rachel S. McCurley)

Tsalagi Uwoduhi

(Beautiful Cherokee)

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

Submit clear, high resolution photos of plants, wildlife, or landscapes to us at

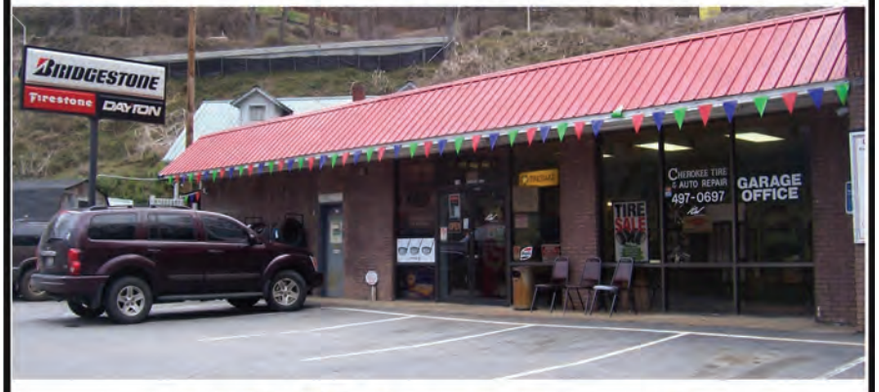
Cherokeeonefeather1966@gmail.com.

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

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Blythe selected as Officer of the Month

Adam Blythe, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, was recently selected as Officer of the Month for the central region of Alabama. Blythe currently lives and works in Montgomery, Ala where he is employed by Walden Security as the safety and security officer for the Dollar General distribution facility which is responsible for the inventory of fresh food and produce for all Dollar General stores across the central region of Alabama. His duties include monitoring the safety of over 100 warehouse employees, including upper management, as well as watching for suspicious activity, protection of property and assets, and making sure only authorized parties are allowed inside the facility. He occasionally has to remove troublesome individuals from the site.



Walden Security recognizes security officers who demonstrate extraordinary effort and exemplify excellence in their daily responsibilities while embodying the company motto of "Setting the Standard by Setting the Example." An officer in the central region of Alabama rarely earns this honor. Blythe says he enjoys going to work each day and getting to know as many workers as possible because so many of them have families they are trying to provide for as best they can and deserve the best work environment possible to come to each day. He also says the honor could not have come at a better time as he also won two blue ribbons for his artwork at the Alabama National Fair just two days prior.

Of the many degrees Blythe has earned, he says he is most proud of the masters degree in human environmental sciences from the University of Alabama (2019) with an emphasis on health and human safety in the Workplace. His capstone project for the degree focused on the history of the security officer in the workplace, their duties, cultural image, and impact in the workforce while enforcing measures established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, known as OSHA.

Blythe is the son of Cathy Blythe, the nephew of Nancy Owl, Barbara Owl and Raymond Owl Jr., all of Cherokee, and Betty Owle of Tennessee. He is an Alabama Crimson Tide fan and is considering returning to the University of Alabama for another degree in the near future. He also attends the Church of Christ. (Photo contributed)



"Legendary Fears"

This photo shows the cast of "Legendary Fears: Spearfinger's Awakening" at Oconaluftee Indian Village, presented by Cherokee Historical Association. The all-Native cast, mostly members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), play creatures from Cherokee legends.

Shown, left to right, back row - Michael Henry Harris (EBCI) as Tsulkalu (Judaculla); Noqwisi Crowe (EBCI) as Nunyunuwi (Stone Coat); Joshua Driver (EBCI) as Aganunitsi (the warrior who killed Uktena); Sienna Haas (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians) as Kolanv Ahkyelisgi (Raven Mocker); Tamara Sampson (EBCI) as Utlunta (Spearfinger); front row - Amiya Taylor (EBCI) as Ghost Guide and Understudy; and Tracy Michelle (EBCI) as Ama Yvwigisgi (Water Cannibal).

"Legendary Fears: Spearfinger's Awakening" is open Thursdays through Saturdays through Oct. 31 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. "Legendary Fears" is part of Qualla-Ween in the Cultural District, which is sponsored by the Cherokee Preservation Foundation. More info available at QuallaWeen.com
(Photo courtesy of Cherokee Historical Association)



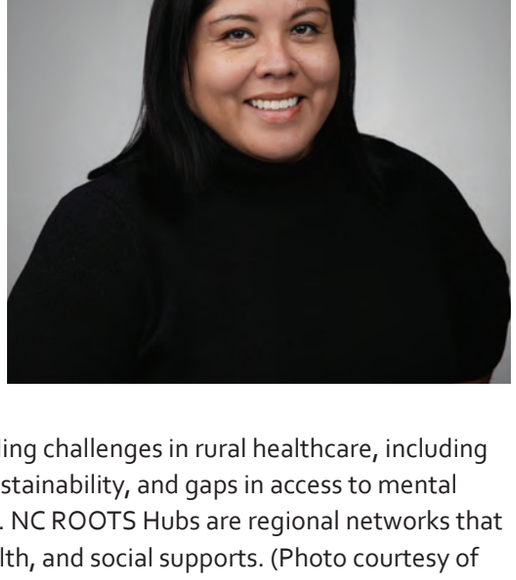
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Modeling in Arizona

Lindley Wyatt, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, recently modeled in the Ribbons by the River, a Fashion Show produced by Olie Esperanza in Yuma, Ariz. Wyatt modeled for RAID which is the Fashion House of Joanne Miles-Long, O'otham, San Carlos, and White Mtn Apache. Her next show will be Kananesgi in Cherokee, N.C. on Nov. 14 at the Harrah's Cherokee Event Center. Lindley is the daughter of Dr. Reva Ballew and David Wyatt and the granddaughter of Carla Sneed Ballew. (Photo used with permission by Luigi Foto)

Secretary Wachacha selected to regional health board

Sonya Wachacha, MHS, RN, secretary of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Public Health & Human Services (PHHS), has been selected by Impact Health to represent EBCI on the NC ROOTS Hub Region 1 Governance Body, along with 30 community leaders from across western North Carolina (WNC). This governing body will help ensure that North Carolina Rural Health Transformation Program (NCRHTP) initiatives reflect the priorities, needs, and strengths of the region's 19 counties and the Qualla Boundary. NCRHTP funding is designed to address longstanding challenges in rural healthcare, including workforce shortages, hospital sustainability, and gaps in access to mental health and primary care services. NC ROOTS Hubs are regional networks that connect medical, behavioral health, and social supports. (Photo courtesy of EBCI Public Health & Human Services)





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