



Page 7

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

week of
dunindi (oct.) 7-13 ,
2026

Every Child Matters

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

see **ORANGE SHIRT** page 4



Information from the Museum of the Cherokee People states, “Photograph from the Cherokee Indian School (Cherokee Boarding School). EBCI students (including girls and boys) standing and sitting in front of a rock wall (built by Cherokee Boarding School students on the school campus). The rock wall in the background of the photo still exists as of 2026 and is the site of the EBCI PHHS Building today. This photo was likely taken around 1933.” (Collection of the Museum of the Cherokee People, 1989.006.001.13)

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

The logo for "smokieslife" is located in the bottom right corner. It features the word "smokies" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by "life" in a similar font. The "life" is partially enclosed by a white circular shape that also contains a stylized mountain range silhouette.

2026 Chevrolet **SILVERADO**

0% APR for 60 Months
90 DAYS Until Your First Payment

**ZERO
REASONS
TO WAIT**



COUNTYSIDE



CHEVROLET

71 CAT CREEK RD FRANKLIN, NC. 28734 (828) 354-1198



2026 Chevrolet Trax 1RS
\$24,180 Stock# T02830



2026 Chevrolet Trax Activ
\$26,131 Stock# T02843



2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Custom
\$43,324 Stock# T02798



2026 Chevrolet Colorado Trail Boss
\$39,896 Stock# T02713



2027 Chevrolet Traverse LT
\$43,016 Stock# T02866



2026 Chevrolet Colorado Z71
\$47,139 Stock# T02799



2026 Chevrolet Trailblazer RS
\$28,794 Stock# T02787



2026 Chevrolet Trax Activ
\$26,249 Stock# T02852



2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 RST
\$47,433 Stock# T02808



2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 RST
\$56,804 Stock# T02833



2026 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD LT
\$75,197 Stock# T02846



2026 Chevrolet Equinox LT
\$29,463 Stock# T02869

Contact our Sales Department at
(828) 475-4340

Monday	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Thursday	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday	Closed

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

Check out our selection today

tsalagi soquo ugidahli, week of dunindi (Oct.) 7-13, 2026

P.O. Box 501, Cherokee, N.C., 28719 - Located in Ginger Lynn Welch Complex
theonefeather.com, (828) 359-6261 - Cherokee's award-winning newspaper since 1965.

CONTENTS (c) 2026 CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER



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:

Cherokee's Sonny Foalima (#33) celebrates a tackle for loss during a game against the Hayesville Yellowjackets at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C. on the evening of Friday, Oct. 2. Foalima had 6 tackles including 2 tackles for loss in the game which the Anitsvyasdi (Braves) won 57-21. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

Quote of the Week

GWY ᏥᏍᏔ ᏍᏍᏗᏍᏔ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

"Today is not just about somber remembrance. It is a gentle reminder of our role and duty as Cherokee people to educate ourselves about our shared history."

Renissa McLaughlin, an EBCI tribal member who serves as the EBCI director of youth and adult education, speaking during the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation event hosted by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) in Cherokee, N.C. on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 30

Photo: Cherokee Boarding School ca. 1933
(Collection of the Museum of the Cherokee People, 1989.006.001.16)

Letters Policy

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

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

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

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

One Feather staff

Editor - Robert Jumper

robejump@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6482

Assistant Editor - Scott McKie Brings Plenty

scotmckie@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6263

Reporter - Brooklyn Brown Bigmeat

broobrow@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6264

Ad Sales Coordinator - Dawn Arneach

dawnarne@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6489

Subscription Clerk - Tina Laws

tinalaws@ebci-nsn.gov, 359-6262

ORANGE SHIRT: From front page

Canada, and according to its official governmental website, “The day honours the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.”

Renissa McLaughlin, an EBCI tribal member who serves as the EBCI director of youth and adult education, served as emcee for the event.

“What we, the organizers and committee members of this event, hope is that our community walks away today with a feeling of connection to our ancestors who attended boarding and day schools here and across the United States. Today is not just about somber remembrance. It is a gentle reminder of our role and duty as Cherokee people to educate ourselves about our shared history.

The experiences of our ancestors who attended this and other boarding schools were mixed. Some children left and never returned, or irrevocably harmed, while others found a foundation of education, agriculture, and preparation for military service. All these truths belong to our history and deserve to be remembered, honored, and shared with future generations. This is why today matters. So that when we gather on the same ground next week for the fair, we carry the full story of this place with us - not only its grief and trauma, but it's resilience.”

McLaughlin added, “Although we still feel the impacts of his-



Several hundred people came out as the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians held its 2nd Annual Every Child Matters Walk as part of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation in Cherokee, N.C., on the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 30. The walk was in recognition of the history of Indian boarding schools, particularly the Cherokee Boarding School. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

torical grief and trauma, and our history, we should remember how resilient and strong we are.”

The Cherokee Boarding School operated from 1880 to 1954.

According to an informational kiosk at the event, “From 1892-1933, the Cherokee Boarding School structure followed a militaristic model. Students wore military style uniforms on certain occasions, marched to military style drills between classes, performed manual labor, and were harshly punished for not meeting certain standards or disobeying the rules. The military education model is reflected across most boarding schools nationwide, as seen in Carlisle Industrial training school in Pennsylvania and the Chillicothe Indian Industrial School, for example.”

Ugviyuihi (Principal Chief)

Michell Hicks was on official tribal business and couldn't attend Wednesday's event, but he pre-recorded a video message which was played.

In it, he stated, “Today we join tribal nations across North America in recognizing Orange Shirt Day and remembering the children who were taken from their families and sent to boarding schools. This is a somber day for Native people. We remember the children who never returned home. We honor those who survived. And we recognize the families and generations who have lived with the effects of what happened in those institutions.

But, remembrance also requires understanding. We have a responsibility to learn about this history - not only what happened, but what it meant for our Native

families, our languages, our cultures, and our communities. Because, when we understand what previous generations endured, we better understand the strength and determination it took for our people to remain who we are... first listen, learn, and never lose sight of where we have been as we decide where we are going.”

His message continued, “This history is not as distant from us as sometimes we think. The effects of the boarding school era did not disappear when those schools closed their doors. When you deliberately separate children from their families, their language, their culture, and their community, there are consequences. That trauma is something families and communities have struggled with for generations. We still see those effects throughout Indian Country

today. Understanding that history matters because it helps us better understand challenges our people faced. And, it also gives us a greater appreciation for the determination of the people who came before us, despite everything that was done to separate us from who we are. Our ancestors continued.”

Atsei Cooper, an EBCI tribal member, is currently a graduate student at the University of Tennessee – Knoxville studying towards a master’s degree in anthropological archaeology. She told the crowd on Wednesday of research she is conducting at the site of the Cherokee Boarding School.

“I don’t take it lightly and there’s a lot of responsibility in this. I’m grateful for the community trust and I’m glad that we can all be here because there has been so much love and hard work and dedication that has been going on behind the scenes. It really has been gadugi in the greatest sense. It’s really powerful work.”

She said a ground-penetrating radar survey is being conducted at the site. “There is a lot more work coming down the road for this. This is really only the beginning. This is really only scratching the surface with this sort of thing... this is going to be a long process. It’s delicate work and it’s got to be very informed. These are people’s hearts and lives, and we have to really treat that with the upmost care and respect.”

Cooper added, “There is an anomaly that has appeared on the survey from UNITY Field which looks very similar to a pathway where students would walk and march that you can see in historic archives and photographs... the boys here, specifically, would march twice a day and the girls



Atsei Cooper, an EBCI tribal member, speaks to the crowd during Wednesday’s event about research she has undertaken involving the Cherokee Boarding School. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

would march once a day.”

She concluded, “The buildings for the boarding school may no longer be here, but if you know what you’re looking at, the ghost of the boarding school is still here all around us.”

The Cherokee Boarding School Research Initiative Committee is continuing to research and educate the public on this portion of history of the EBCI. The committee includes:

- Community, Education, Recreation, and Services Division -
- Amber Ledford, Qualla Boundary Public Library cultural outreach coordinator
- Chi Shipman, QBPL manager
- Renissa McLaughlin, director of youth and adult education
- Museum of the Cherokee People
- Evan Mathis, director of collec-

see **ORANGE SHIRT** page 6



ORANGE SHIRT: From front page 5

tions and exhibitions

• Robin Swayney, genealogist and archivist

• Lily Huskey, registrar

Cherokee One Feather

• Dawn Arneach

Public Health and Human Services

• Chelsea Hemphill, public relations supervisor

EBCI Natural Resources

• Malia Crowe-Skulski,

Office of the Principal Chief

• Driver Blythe

Atsei Cooper, community re-

searcher and historical grief and trauma advocate

Patty Grant, EBCI tribal elder

Family members of the late Mary

Wachacha - Sarah Wachacha,

daughter; Judy Gloyne Tiger,

sister

Ugviwyuhi Hicks also issued an official proclamation designating Sept. 30, 2026 as Orange Shirt Day on the lands of the EBCI. The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS: Orange Shirt Day is observed annually on Sept. 30 as a day to remember and honor Indigenous children who were taken from their families and communities and forced into residential and boarding school systems designed to separate them from their languages, cultures, families, and identities, and

WHEREAS: Orange Shirt Day began with the story of Phyllis Webstad, whose new orange shirt was taken from her on her first day at a residential school, and whose experience has become a powerful symbol of the harm inflicted upon generations of Indigenous chil-

dren, and

WHEREAS: For generations, Indigenous children across the United States were removed from their homes and sent to government-operated and church-run boarding schools where many experienced the loss of language and culture, separation from family and community, abuse, neglect, and, in far too many cases, death, and

WHEREAS: Cherokee children and families were also affected by policies intended to assimilate and disrupt the transmission of Cherokee language, traditions, identity, and ways of life from one generation to the next, and

WHEREAS: The lasting effects of these policies continue to be felt within Cherokee families and communities today, making truth, remembrance, education, cultural revitalization, and healing essential to the well-being of future generations, and

WHEREAS: The message of Orange Shirt Day reminds us that every Indigenous child deserved then, and deserves now, to be safe, loved, valued, and connected to their family, culture, and identity, and

WHEREAS: The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians honors the children who endured the boarding school era, remembers those who never returned home, recognizes the strength of survivors and their descendants, and remains committed to protecting Cherokee children, families, language, culture, and community for generations to come

Now, therefore, I, Michell Hicks, Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, do hereby proclaim Sept. 30, 2026, as Orange Shirt Day within the Qualla Boundary and encourage

our community to wear orange in remembrance of the children who were taken, in honor of the survivors and families whose lives were forever changed, and as a visible commitment to ensuring that every child matters.



1. Which Brooklyn Dodgers catcher suffered a broken neck and paralysis in a 1958 auto accident that ended his Hall of Fame career?

2. In 2012, Australia's Rhein Gibson set a Guinness World Record for the lowest 18-hole round of golf with what score?

3. Which team selected UC Berkeley quarterback Steve Bartkowski with the first overall pick in the 1975 NFL Draft?

4. In 1939, Australian tennis player Adrian Quist developed which athletic shoe that is still in production?

5. Who has two NBA record streaks - 157 (2014-16) and 268 (2018-23) - of regular-season games with a 3-point shot made?

6. Toni Sailer, who swept all three alpine skiing events at the 1956 Cortina d'Ampezzo Winter Olympics, competed for which country?

7. Name the IndyCar driver who won the inaugural editions of the Java House Grand Prix of Arlington in Texas and the Freedom 250 Grand Prix in Washington, D.C., in 2026?

Answers

1. Roy Campanella.

2. 55 (16 under par).

3. The Atlanta Falcons.

4. The Dunlop Volley.

5. Stephen Curry, Golden State Warriors.

6. Austria.

7. Kyle Kirkwood.

© 2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

We also can do seated chair yoga!

ALPACA YOGA & MAT PILATES CLASSES

Classes April 24th - Oct 24th

- Gentle Yoga & Mat Pilates
- Blended Yoga

Outdoors under our covered pavilion surrounded by serene mountain views. Friendly Alpacas will be roaming nearby. We'll meet and feed Alpacas after every class. Our classes are for all levels and we rent yoga mats.

Classes Friday & Saturday mornings. See our website for class schedules, registration, & more. Private Group Sessions can also be scheduled.

Winchester Creek Farm
Waynesville, NC
Winchestercreekfarm.com

386 Walker Rd, Waynesville, NC 28786
(828) 246-9486

EBCI receives \$3.7 million grant to expand Burgess-Oocumma Veterans Memorial Cemetery

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. – The Burgess-Oocumma Veterans Memorial Cemetery was dedicated in 2022, and now a sizable grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration (NCA) will help the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) honor its veterans for generations to come. A groundbreaking ceremony for the expansion work is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 3 p.m. at the Cemetery which is located in Wayohi (Wolftown) off of Jarrett Blythe Homestead Drive in Cherokee, N.C.

The Cemetery was named in memory and honor of Sgt. John Burgess and PFC John Edward Oocumma – both members of the EBCI who were killed in action during the Vietnam War.

Sgt. Burgess, a soldier with the 9th Infantry Division, was killed in action on April 18, 1969 at the age of 22 years. PFC Oocumma, a soldier with the 4th Infantry Division, was killed in action on Feb. 16, 1967 at the age of 25. Sgt. Burgess' name appears on Panel W27, Line 105 of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., and PFC Oocumma's name appears on Panel 15E, Line 49.

For his service, Sgt. Burgess received the Silver Star with one oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, the Army Good



The Burgess-Oocumma Veterans Memorial Cemetery, shown on the morning of Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026, was dedicated in 2022, and now a sizable grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration (NCA) will help the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) honor its veterans for generations to come. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

Conduct Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. PFC Oocumma received the Silver Star, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Service Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

According to the NCA, the grant totals \$3,739,379. Information from NCA states, "The tribal cemetery will serve veterans and their eligible family members. The grant will fund the cemetery with construction of 250 in-ground burial plots, 190 columbarium niches, memorial wall, maintenance building (partial), commitment shelter, flag plaza, hardscape, landscape, and supporting infrastructure and equipment."

Gerard Ball, EBCI Military & Veteran Affairs director, told the One Feather, "I am super excited

about this opportunity and what it represents for our people and all of Indian Country. This has become a true legacy project that has become bigger than what it originally started out as and it is a true honor to be a part of this wonderful opportunity that will become truly hallowed ground that our people will be proud of."

While meeting with VA officials recently in Washington, DC, Ball gave the following statement, "Our veterans carry more than one story of service. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians are a living tribal people, rooted in our homeland, carrying language, kinship, memory, and responsibility forward through our military service to the United States. This military service can stand alongside enduring responsibility to a Tribal nation, family, and homeland.

This memorial cemetery brings those responsibilities together in one place: service, sovereignty, family, and homecoming. The 15th national tribal veteran's cemetery in the United States should, therefore, be understood not only as a burial place, but as a Cherokee place of homecoming for veterans and families where we can honor the veteran, welcome the family, and preserve the Cherokee story."

VA Undersecretary for Memorial Affairs Sam Brown, said in a statement when the grant was announced, "These grants enable the states and tribes to better serve veterans and their families where they live. Because of this program, more than 94 percent of veterans living in the United States have access to the burial benefits they have earned at a cemetery within 75 miles of where they live."

September Planning Board meeting held; several ribbon cuttings and groundbreakings upcoming

By BROOKLYN BROWN BIGMEAT
One Feather Reporter

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The monthly meeting of the Planning Board for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) was held on the afternoon of Monday, Sept. 21.

Brian Saunooke, nominated by Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks, was selected as the business representative for the board. Charles Bryson, who was nominated by Pat Oocumma and received the second most votes, will be selected if Saunooke rejects his selection. Janet Arch and Faith

Long-Presley were also nominated.

Damon Lambert, director of engineering at Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA), requested approval for a piece of tribal property for a new outpatient child behavioral health building. Currently, children's behavioral health is housed at the immediate care clinic near Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort. Lambert said a new property is needed for several reasons including, the program has outgrown the space, CIHA does not own the building, the lease is up at the end of the year, and the leasers are not

open to renewing the lease long term. Lambert added that adult behavioral health services and child behavioral health must remain separate, so CIHA budgeted a new building for fiscal year 2027. The building plan was also approved by the Health Board, upon the contingency that the Planning Board approve the property that CIHA wishes to lease from the EBCI for the building. Lambert said the requested property is on the other side of the new Tsali Care Center, so it would also be close to the CIHA campus.

The Planning Board requested that Lambert present the plan to Elawodi (Yellowhill) community club. They held the request until feedback could be given by the community.

T.W. Saunooke, director of housing, provided a program update. Saunooke said the general contractor for Whitetree Court sent out requests for quotations (RFQs) and got qualifications for all the subcontractors. Requests for proposals (RFPs) were released Sept. 22. Tribal Construction is about 90 percent complete with filling and compaction on the site. Construction is set to start at the end of October, beginning of November.

- Macedonia Road is 97-98 percent complete. Fine grading is complete. Paving began Sept. 22.
- The general contractor is on site for the Olivet housing development, which is 19 individual housing lots.
- The Coopers Creek development environmental assessment has been submitted to the Bureau of

Indian Affairs (BIA). Hydraulic analysis is complete. The project includes 13 individual housing units and 16 multi-family units in the first design phase.

- RFPs have been released for the Whittier School site.
- The environmental assessment for Emma Taylor Road has been submitted and should be reviewed by Sept. 30.
- Big Cove Loop land swap has been passed by the Housing Board. Saunooke said he knows the tribe is in cost containment but asked for special consideration. Ugviyuhi Hicks said they would set up a meeting to discuss what is possible.

Tyler Blankenship, director of infrastructure, provided a program update. Tribal Construction has completed 85 percent of Johnson Arch Road.

- No closures will happen on Acquoni Road during the 114th Annual Cherokee Indian Fair.
- Around 25 Swain County High School students did a site visit of the EBCI water treatment, wastewater treatment, and solid waste facilities.
- Tribal Construction is looking at a November start date for the National Park restoration for the wash-out from Hurricane Helene.
- The tree-cutting crew is on Lickstone Ridge cutting about five acres for an EBCI Natural Resources project.
- Tribal Construction is also working on the Tribal Bingo site.
- Tribal Construction, Cherokee Department of Transportation, and Water and Sewer are doing patching work on the roads.

ᏍᏏᏁᏍᏔᏁ De da li he si ha
'We All Rise Together'

"I have the opportunity to meet & visit with many people throughout our community, and with that comes a responsibility to do what I can to help keep others safe. Getting my flu shot is a simple step I can take to protect myself and those around me, especially our elders and others who are more vulnerable. Taking care of our community means looking out for one another, and this is one way I can do my part."
-EBCI Principal Chief Michell Hicks

Contact your Primary Care team to get your vaccine today!

When we protect one another, ᏍᏏᏁᏍᏔᏁ.

- The Archives Collection Facility

- Oct. 28 Meat Processing Facility

- There are upgraded restroom

- A bridge connecting the Tsisqwohi Community Field and Peaches Squirrell Sports and Recreation Complex is in the fiscal year 2027 capital plan, as well as an upgrade for the walking path at the field.

**Deadline:
Fridays at
12 p.m.**

WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
HOMECOMING



Oct. 20-21
Carnival

Oct. 23
Parade & Alumni Party

Oct. 24
**WCU Football
vs. Chattanooga**



Learn more at

homecoming.wcu.edu

**Swain County Democratic Party
2026 Slate Card:**



US SENATE
Roy Cooper

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 11
Jamie Ager

NC SUPREME COURT
Anita Earls

NC COURT OF APPEALS SEAT 1
John A. Arrowood

NC COURT OF APPEALS SEAT 2
Tobias (Toby) Hampson

NC COURT OF APPEALS SEAT 3
Christine Marie Walczyk

NC STATE SENATE DISTRICT 50
Tom Downing

NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT 119
Mark Burrows

NC DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, DISTRICT 43 SEAT 02
Justin B. Greene

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

SWAIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CHAIRMAN
Jeremy Shuler

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

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

You can take
this with you
to vote.



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



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**

Ugviyuhi Social: September

Compiled by **ROBERT JUMPER**
One Feather Editor

Editor's Note: Ugviyuhi (Principal Chief) Michell Hicks maintains a Facebook page to share public information. This report recaps the postings on his page. These are excerpts. We encourage you to visit the Chief's page for full content and context.

Sept. 3: Statement issued by Ugviyuhi Hick expressing a position on Kituwah LLC and protecting Tribal investments. "When questions arise regarding an investment made by a Tribal enterprise on behalf of our Tribe, it is important that the appropriate diligence is taken to protect our interests and seek accountability." He indicated that the matter referenced is currently in court and that he intends to "respect that process".

Sept. 5: He congratulated the Cherokee Braves on their Battle of the Nations win.

Sept. 7: He acknowledged Labor Day and thanked the Tribal workforce for their contributions.

Sept. 8: A post by his staff celebrating his birthday.

Sept. 10: A post of a "From Darkness to Hope" flyer giving the date, time, and location of the event. A subsequent post featured pictures of the event. Ugviyuhi Hicks said, "As Cherokee people, resilience has always been part of our story, but resilience does not mean we never struggle or that we have to face difficult times alone. Our strength has always been found in one another, in showing up, reaching out, listening, and

making sure our people know help and hope are available."

Sept. 10: Ugviyuhi Hicks condemned the statement of Texas Representative Brandon Gill, who "mocked the acknowledgement of Tribal homelands". He said, "The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians will continue to speak out when our history is misrepresented and when the sovereignty and experiences of Tribal Nations are dismissed for praise and applause. Acknowledging Indigenous history does not ask anyone to be ashamed of America. It asks America to be honest about itself."

Sept. 11: The Ugviyuhi posted a 9-11 remembrance. He said, "On this anniversary, I ask that we remember those who were lost, keep their families in our thoughts, and honor the courage and sacrifice shown on Sept. 11, 2001."

Sept. 14: He posted the Cherokee Indian Fair schedule.

Sept. 14: He attended the Dadiwonisi graduation ceremony. He said, "Last week, I had the honor of attending the Dadiwonisi graduation ceremony and celebrating another group of Cherokee language learners who have made an incredible commitment to our people and our future. One of the most powerful parts of the evening was just listening. To the newest Dadiwonisi graduates, Alaina Haney, Westin Smoker, Aisha Owle, Sena Fortenberry and Naomi Swimmer, congratulations. To our previous graduates who have continued learning and are now teaching, mentoring, speaking, and giving back to our community, sgi."

Sept. 14: A post of a PHHS drive-thru flu clinic with date, time, and location.

Sept. 16: He reposted the Kituwah LLC monthly newsletter link.

Sept. 16: The Ugviyuhi issued a statement regarding the Clarity Act, celebrating the U.S. Senate vote against the proposed act. He said, in part, "I know many people hear "CLARITY Act" and think cryptocurrency, which is an important part of the bill. The cryptocurrency and prediction market industries teamed up to invest in and push the CLARITY Act. For Tribal Nations, it was the possibility that something that looks and operates like gambling could instead be falsely classified as a federally regulated financial product".

Sept. 17: Ugviyuhi Hicks congratulated Deputy Chief of Staff Pam Staughan for being selected to serve on the Southwestern Community College Board of Trustees.

Sept. 17: He attended the un-

veiling of the new StoryWalk at the Cherokee County Clinic (September 9). He thanked those involved in bringing it to fruition.

Sept. 18: Posted a Water & Sewer traffic advisory for Acquoni Road.

Sept. 18: Posted a Bingo Night notice for September 24 with time and location.

Sept. 19: Posted a Water & Sewer notice about a discharge of untreated water at 1144 Birdtown Road, along with instructions for the public.

Sept. 19: Ugviyuhi Hicks congratulated Michael Bradley for earning "the individual gold medal and helping Team USA win its first-ever Senior Division team gold at the 2026 World Fly Fishing Championships.

Sept. 22: Posted a flyer for Bin-



Ride The Famous Rudicoaster!

SANTA'S LAND
FUN PARK & ZOO

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

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

go Night (containing date, time, and location).

Sept. 23: Reposted a COF report on Cherokee High School winning awards at the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

Sept. 23: Posted a video celebrating the first day of Fall.

Sept. 23: Posted, in three posts, an advisory of testimony at a Congressional hearing, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, that encouraged the community to tune in. Ugvwiyuhi Hicks stressed the importance of his testimony on H.R. 226, "This legislation is important to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and our continued efforts to reacquire our homelands in Tennessee. I'm honored to have the opportunity to speak on behalf of our Tribe and share with

members of the Senate Committee why the return of these historic lands matters to our people. H.R. 226 gives us an opportunity to bring these significant lands back into trust. I believe we have a responsibility to advocate for our homelands and protect the places that tell our history. That responsibility is to our people today and to the generations who will come after us."

Sept. 24: Posted a flyer for Bingo Night (containing date, time, and location).

Sept. 25: Ugvwiyuhi Hicks recapped a 2026 Quarterly 441 Corridor meeting that was held "earlier in the week" involving "the Executive team, Vice Chief's Office, and Tribal Council. He also thanked the leadership in East Tennessee and Western North

Carolina. At the meeting, he said that Kituwah LLC "shared exciting news about a major development planned for the Exit 407 corridor in Spring 2027. The 407 Gateway to Adventure will be located off Interstate 40 at Exit 407, directly across from Buc-ee's. The development is planned as a premier destination featuring a five-star hotel, attractions, dining, shopping, and family-friendly amenities. This investment represents another opportunity to strengthen tourism, support economic growth, and create a welcoming gateway for the millions of visitors traveling to the Great Smoky Mountains region each year."

Sept. 25: A post regarding Dolly (Parton) Day and photos of the community wearing pink in remembrance.

Sept. 25: Ugvwiyuhi Hicks wished Cabe "Cody" Lambert a happy 100th birthday.

Sept. 25: Photos of the Community Bingo event. He said, "These gatherings are a good reminder of what makes our community special, coming together, enjoying each other's company, and sharing a few laughs along the way".

Sept. 28: Two separate flyer posts concerning the "Scare-o-kee"

event (October 29th, 3 pm to 7 pm, Old High School site).

Sept. 30: Ugvwiyuhi Hicks posted, "I know there has been a great deal of concern in our community following the recent incident involving one of the elk. Our team reached out directly to Charles Sellars, Superintendent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, who provided the following statement, 'The park is aware of the petition and recent rumors suggesting that we plan to euthanize an elk that made contact with a visitor. These claims are false. The park has no plans to euthanize the animal. Our focus remains on educating visitors about the importance of giving elk ample space to ensure both visitor and wildlife safety.'"

Sept. 30: 3 posts with a flyer, photos, and a video about the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation/Wear Orange Shirt Day and Every Child Matters Walk. He stated, "Every Child Matters' acknowledges the thousands of Native children who were taken from their families and sent to boarding schools across the United States, where their cultures, languages, and traditions were stripped away."



EBCI TRIBAL HOUSING FORECLOSURE PREVENTION

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

Lending Services can HELP!

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

Call or email for more information:

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



GWY ᏫᏊᏍᏔᏅ ᏆᏍᏔᏅ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER * TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

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

For subscriptions:
Subscription Clerk - Tina Laws
359-6262, tinalaws@ebci-nsn.gov

Federal legislative updates of interest to EBCI citizens

By **SCOTT MCKIE B.P.**

One Feather Asst. Editor

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

New this week

H.R. 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.

Bills with recent action

There was no new recent action on bills.

Bills we're currently watching

H.R. 226 (Eastern Band of Cherokee Historic Lands Re-acquisition Act). This bill would place 76 acres of land in eastern Tennessee into trust for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Included in that land are the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, the Chota Memorial, and the Tanasi Memorial sites. Introduced: Jan. 7, 2025 by Rep. Charles J. "Chuck" Fleischmann (R-Tenn.) Action: This bill was passed in the House by a voice vote on Feb. 4,

2025. It was received in the Senate the next day and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. A hearing is scheduled in that Committee for Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026.

Senate Bill 761 (Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act). This bill would establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. According to Congress.gov, "Among other duties, the Commission must investigate the impacts and ongoing effects of the Indian Boarding School Policies – federal policies under which American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian children were forcibly removed from their family homes and placed in boarding schools." Introduced: Feb. 26, 2025 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. It was "ordered to be reported without amendment favorably" by the Committee on March 5, 2025. It was reported without amendment by Sen. Murkowski (R-Alaska), Senate Committee on Indian Affairs chairperson, on July 31, 2025. That same day, it was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders (Calendar No. 139).

H.R. 2412 (Indigenous Diplomacy and Engagement Act). This bill would establish an Office for Indigenous Affairs and an Advisory Commission for Indigenous Peoples within the Department of State. Introduced: March 27, 2025 by Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawai'i) Action: This bill was referred to

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

H.R. 2929. (Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe recognition bill). This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe of North Carolina, a state-recognized group. Introduced: April 17, 2025 by Rep. Donald G. Davis (D-N.C.) Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 17, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 3255. (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians, a state-recognized group in Michigan. Introduced: May 7, 2025 by Rep. Hillar J. Scholten (D-Mich.) Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on May 7, 2025. There is not a scheduled hearing in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

H.R. 3444. (Tribal Self-Determination and Co-Management in Forestry Act of 2025). This bill would "direct Federal land management agencies of the Department of the Interior to establish Tribal Co-Management Plans and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for the

performance of certain activities of the Forest Service, and for other purposes".

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

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

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

H.R. 3956 (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations Act of 2025). This bill would amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 "to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts and self-governance agreements with Indian entities to administer the food distribution program on Indian reservations". Introduced: June 12, 2025 by Rep. Sharice Davids (D-Kan.) and Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Okla.)

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

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

This bill seeks the same as H.R. 3255 (Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians Restoration Act of 2025). Introduced: June 25, 2025 by Sen. Gary C. Peters (D-Mich.)

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

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

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

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

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

Senate Bill 2211 (Special Diabetes Program Reauthorization Act of 2025).

This bill seeks to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. For both programs, it seeks funding in the amount of

\$160,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

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

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

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

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

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

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on July 16. It was referred to the House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs on Sept. 4, 2025, and a hearing was held on this legislation in the subcommittee on Sept. 9, 2025. A Committee mark-up session was held on Feb. 11, 2026, and it was ordered to be reported by unanimous consent. It was reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on April 2, 2026 and was placed on the Union Calendar that same day. The bill was passed by a voice vote in the House on June 2, 2026. It was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 3, 2026. A hearing is scheduled 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.

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 15

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

Introduced: July 31, 2025 by Sen. Steve Daines (R-Mont.)

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

Senate Bill 5354 (Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Modernization Act of 2026).

This bill would simply reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996. It is an identical bill to both Senate Bill 4276 and H.R. 8092.

Introduced: Aug. 6, 2026 by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)

Action: This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Aug. 6, 2026. An oversight hearing entitled “Examining Housing Needs in Native Communities” was held in that Committee on Sept. 16, 2026. A business meeting was held in that Committee on Sept. 23, 2026, and it advanced being reported favorably.

House Resolution 666 (Supporting the goals of Overdose Awareness Day and strengthening efforts to combat the opioid crisis in the United States). This House resolution

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

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

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

H.R. 5144 {Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County, Virginia Federal Recognition Act}.

This bill would grant federal acknowledgement to the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.

Introduced: Sept. 4, 2025 by Rep. Jennifer A. Kiggans (R-Va.)

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

H.R. 5257 (To reaffirm the trust status of land taken into trust). The full title of the bill states “To reaffirm the trust status of land taken into trust by the United States pursuant to the Act

of June 18, 1934, for the benefit of an Indian Tribe that was federally recognized on the date that the land was taken into trust”.

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

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

H.R. 5327 (To extend federal recognition to the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia). This bill would grant federal acknowledgment to the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, a state-recognized group.

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

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

Senate Bill 2832 (Native American Entrepreneurial and Opportunity Act of 2025).

This bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration.

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

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

H.R. 5488 (To extend funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians). This bill would amend Title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the funding for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. It would approve “\$160,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to

remain available until expended”.

Introduced: Sept. 18, 2025 by Rep. Paul Ruiz (D-Calif.)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on Sept. 18, 2025.

H.R. 5739 (Italian Heroes and Heritage Act). This bill would “prohibit federal funds from being provided to any state or local government that celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day instead of Columbus Day”. Section 2(a) (1) of this bill states, “Christopher Columbus set sail 533 years ago in 1492 to bravely cross the Atlantic Ocean and discovered new land that would soon after become known as America.”

Section 2(b) states, “It is the sense of Congress that Oct. 13 should continue to be celebrated nationwide as Christopher Columbus Day, as it has been since 1892, to honor our Italian-American heritage and our forefather, Christopher Columbus, who helped to discover this great land.”

Introduced: Oct. 10, 2025 by Rep. Michael A. Rulli (R-Ohio)

Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on Oct. 10, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Resolution 450. (A resolution expressing support for the designation of the second Monday in October 2025 as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” to celebrate and honor Indigenous Peoples and their shared history and culture). The resolution states, “Columbus Day does not currently provide an opportunity to reflect on the stories and perseverance of the Indigenous Peoples of the lands that are now part of the United

States; and where, prior to western contact, Indigenous Peoples lived and flourished in the lands that are now part of the United States for thousands of years”.

Introduced: Oct. 14, 2025 by Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.)

Action: This resolution was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Oct. 14, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

House Resolution 809 (A resolution expressing support for the designation of the second Monday in October 2025 as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” to celebrate and honor Indigenous Peoples and their shared history and culture). This House resolution is identical to S. Res. 450 (above).

Introduced: Oct. 14, 2025 by Rep. Norma J. Torres (D-Calif.)

Action: This resolution was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources on Oct. 14, 2025. There are no scheduled hearings in that Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 3041 (Tribal Warrant Fairness Act). This bill would “allow the U.S. Marshals Service to assist in certain tribal criminal matters”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

H.R. 5869 (Tribal Water Infrastructure Grants Expansion Act). This bill would “amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to assistance for Indian Tribes”. According to the bill, “In addition to amounts otherwise made available under Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, there is authorized to be appropriated \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2031 to make grants, in cooperation with the Director of the Indian Health Service...for (A) projects and activities eligible for assistance under 603(c) of such Act; and (B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs related to the operation and management of treatment works eligible for assistance...”

Introduced: Oct. 28, 2025 by Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-Fla.)

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

H.R. 5910 (To authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian Tribes). As stated in the title, this bill would amend 69 Stat. 539, Chapter 615,

25 U.S.C. 514(a) to 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.

see **LEGISLATIVE** next page

LEGISLATIVE: From page 17

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

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

H.R. 7396 (Native American Entrepreneurial Opportunity Act). This bill would establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration which “shall be responsible for establishing a working relationship with Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations by targeting programs of the Administration relating to entrepreneurial development, contracting, and capital access...”
Introduced: Feb. 5, 2026 by Rep.

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

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

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

Senate Bill 3945 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act). This bill aims “to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply to Tribal law enforcement agencies”.

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

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

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

H.R. 7699 (Tribal Police Department Parity Act). This bill aims “to ensure that federal laws that enable federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply to tribal law enforcement agencies”.
Introduced: Feb. 25, 2026 by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Committee on

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

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

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

H.R. 8048 (AI/AN Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act). This bill seeks “to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require that equitable distribution of assistance include equitable distribution to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations”.
Introduced: March 24, 2026 by

Rep. Adelita S. Grijalva (D-Ariz.)
Action: This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce on March 24, 2026. There are no scheduled hearings in either Committee for this bill as of press time.

Senate Bill 4276 (Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Modernization Act of 2026). This bill would simply “reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996”. It is an identical bill to H.R. 8092.

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

H.R. 8092 (Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Modernization Act of 2026). This bill seeks “to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996”.
Introduced: March 26, 2026 by Rep. Troy Downing (R-Mont.)
Action: This 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 Children’s Commission Implementation Act of 2026). This bill seeks “to improve outcomes for Native children by empowering tribal communities, strengthening families, and increasing access to critical services”. The bill would establish the Advisory Committee on Tribal Juvenile Justice which would “provide advice and recommendations to the Administrator,

the Attorney General, and Congress on all matters relating to juvenile justice, delinquency prevention and system improvement with respect to tribal youth”.

The bill also states, “Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior, shall conduct Tribal consultation and, after conducting that consultation, complete a study on the number and status of cases involving Native American missing children and youth, including the scope and context of those cases that are connected to juvenile justice system involvement, child welfare system involvement, and non-custodial parent abduction, including domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, drug activity, stalking, and human trafficking.”

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

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

bill as of press time.

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

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

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

CIPD Arrest Report for Sept. 21-27, 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.

Armachain Jr., Phillip Sampson – age 36
Arrested: Sept. 21
Released: Sept. 24
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence; Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Wolley, Deondra – age 39
Arrested: Sept. 21
Released: Sept. 21
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Lewis, Isaiah Nittakmiti – age 30
Arrested: Sept. 22
Released: Sept. 22
Charges: Temporary Hold

Martin, Brandon Keith – age 43
Arrested: Sept. 22
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 28)
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Pre-Trial Release Violation

Murphy, Joseph Michael – age 52
Arrested: Sept. 22
Released: Sept. 22
Charges: Temporary Hold

Williams, Hailey Beth – age 26
Arrested: Sept. 22
Released: Sept. 25
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Assault by Strangulation

Ingate Jr., Steven Richard – age 37
Arrested: Sept. 23
Released: Sept. 23
Charges: Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing Officers

Lambert, Nikki Nicole – age 35
Arrested: Sept. 23
Released: Sept. 23
Charges: Probation Violation

Panther, Allana Kayleen – age 33
Arrested: Sept. 24
Released: Sept. 24
Charges: Possession Drug Paraphernalia

Taylor, James Algar Dean - age 36
Arrested: Sept. 24
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 28)
Charges: Larceny, Probation Revocation (two counts)

Bell, Alexander Kent – age 26
Arrested: Sept. 25
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 28)
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Child Abuse in the Second Degree (two counts), Probation Violation

Smith, John Patrick – age 42
Arrested: Sept. 25
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 28)
Charges: Possession of a Controlled Substance, Pre-Trial Release Violation

Bradley, Kyren Jade – age 22
Arrested: Sept. 26
Released: Not released as of report

date (Sept. 28)
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence, Probation Violation

Caley, Evan William – age 22
Arrested: Sept. 26
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 28)
Charges: Domestic Violence and Dating Violence

Davis, Jeffery Marcell – age 42
Arrested: Sept. 26
Released: Sept. 26
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Owl, Sierra Anna – age 40
Arrested: Sept. 26
Released: Sept. 27
Charges: Hold Until Sober

Rickman Jr., Tommy Lee – age 41
Arrested: Sept. 26
Released: Sept. 26
Charges: Breaking and Entering

Chamblee, Kenya De Baron – age 45
Arrested: Sept. 27
Released: Sept. 27
Charges: Temporary Hold for Jackson Co.

Fourkiller-Raby, Malakai – age 22
Arrested: Sept. 27
Released: Not released as of report date (Sept. 28)
Charges: Failure to Obey a Lawful Order of the Court

EXPERIENCE A New Kind of Dentistry



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

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

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

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

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

GWY ᏍᏏᏉ ᏅᏍᏔᏅ
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI

Deadline: Fridays at 12 p.m.

FOOTBALL

Cherokee tops Hayesville for Homecoming

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

CHEROKEE, N.C. - The Tsalagi Anitsvysdi (Cherokee Braves) hosted the Hayesville Yellowjackets at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C., on the evening of Friday, Oct. 2. Kingston Welch, who surpassed 1,000 yards on the season during this game, led the way for the Anitsvysdi with 14 carries for 230 yards and 3 touchdowns.

SCORING SUMMARY

By Sheena Brings Plenty
One Feather assistant

1st Quarter

- 5:22 - HAYES - Lance Coker 25-yard pass to Crow Collins. PAT good. Hayesville 7 Cherokee 0.
- 4:48 - CHER - Jeron Martens 17-yard pass to Noah Watty. PAT good. Cherokee 7 Hayesville 7.

2nd Quarter

- 11:24 - CHER - Martens 28-yard pass to Tsula Howlingcrane. PAT good. Cherokee 14 Hayesville 7.
- 7:42 - CHER - Kingston Welch 21-yard run. PAT blocked. Cherokee 20 Hayesville 7.
- 3:46 - HAYES - Dominick King 4-yard run. PAT good. Cherokee 20 Hayesville 14.
- 0:58 - CHER - Welch 48-yard run. Martens to Howlingcrane good for 2-point conversion. Cherokee 28 Hayesville 14.

3rd Quarter

- 9:23 - CHER - Martens 55-yard pass to Nashoba Tushka. PAT no good. Cherokee 34 Hayesville 14.



Cherokee's Kingston Welch runs behind blockers Felix Lossiah (#63) and Zaynon Taylor (#51) en route to a 21-yard touchdown in the second quarter.

- 5:41 - HAYES - Coker 47-yard pass to Collins. PAT good. Cherokee 34 Hayesville 21.

4th Quarter

- 11:04 - CHER - Welch 86-yard run. Zaynon Taylor run good for 2-point conversion. Cherokee 42 Hayesville 21.
- 7:24 - CHER - Tushka 6-yard run. PAT no good. Cherokee 48 Hayesville 21.
- 4:29 - CHER - McKyan Panther 11-yard run. PAT good. Cherokee 55 Hayesville 21.
- 0:14 - CHER - Levi Trampler sacks Hayesville quarterback for safety. Cherokee 57 Hayesville 21.

FINAL SCORE: Cherokee 57 Hayesville 21

GAME STATISTICS

Cherokee stats per Cherokee Central Schools Athletics, Hayesville stats per Maxpreps

PASSING: Cherokee – Jeron Martens 6 of 15, 147 yds, 3 TD, long of 55; Kingston Welch 1 of 1, 3 yds, 2-point conversion throw. Hayesville – L. Coker 7 of 18, 140 yds, 2 TD, long of 53

RUSHING: Cherokee – Kingston Welch 14 rush, 230 yds, 3 TD, long of 86; McKyan Panther 3 rush, 28 yds, 1 TD, long of 21; John Gloyne 3 rush, 27 yds; Nashoba Tushka 3 rush, 27 yds, 1 TD; Noah Watty 2 rush, 10 yds; Zaynon Taylor 1 rush, 3 yds, 2-point conversion

see FOOTBALL next page

run; Drallen Ledford 1 rush, 2 yds. Hayesville – D. Soto (junior) 2 rush, 15 yds; D. Soto (senior) 8 rush, 29 yds; C. Finn 8 rush 9 yds; D. King 5 rush 15 yds, 1 TD; K. Shaheen 5 rush 31 yds

RECEIVING: Cherokee - Nashoba Tushka 2 rec, 55 yds, 1 TD; Drallen Ledford 2 rec, 36 yds, long of 21; Tsula Howlingcrane 2 rec, 31 yds, 1 TD, 1 two-point conversion reception, long of 28; Noah Watty 2 rec, 28 yds, 1 TD, long of 17. Hayesville – D. Soto (junior) 1 rec, 2 yds; D. Bruggers 1 rec, 8 yds; C. Collins 3 rec, 106 yds, 2 TD, long of 53; E. Jones 2 rec, 24 yds

KICK RETURN: Cherokee - Tsula Howlingcrane 1 for 19 yds. Hayesville – D. Soto (senior) 2 for 8 yds; D. Bruggers 1 for 24 yds; C. Finn 2 for 30 yds, P. Cordell 2 for 15 yds

PUNT RETURN: Cherokee - Tsula Howlingcrane 1 for 46 yds, Noah Watty 2 for 14 yds. Hayesville – C. Collins 1 for 0 yds

DEFENSIVE STATS:

Cherokee –

- Drallen Ledford 10 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack, 6 QB pressures
 - Levi Tramper 8 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 sack, 5 QB pressures, 1 PBU, 1 safety
 - Zaynon Taylor 8 tackles, 1 TFL, 2 QB pressures
 - Noah Watty 7 tackles
 - Spencer McCoy 6 tackles, 2 TFL
 - Sonny Foalima, 6 tackles, 2 TFL
 - Siah Teesateskie 6 tackles
 - Kaden Cucumber 5 tackles, 2 PBU
 - Kyitan Johnson 5 tackles
 - Kimo Sokol 3 tackles, 1 PBU
 - Nashoba Tushka 3 tackles
 - John Gloyne 2 tackles
 - Quinn Velazquez-Lossiah 2 tackles
 - Colin Lossie 2 tackles
 - Preston Roach 1 tackles, 2 QB pressures
 - Aiden Larch 1 tackle
 - Trenten Larch 1 tackle
 - McKyan Panther 1 tackle
 - Nakai Pheasant 1 tackle
 - Greyson Ledford 1 tackle
 - Tai Foalima 1 tackle
- Hayesville –
- D. Soto (junior) 1 tackle



Cherokee's Drallen Ledford (#80) tackles Hayesville's Dustin Lockaby. On the night, Ledford had 10 tackles, 1 tackle for loss, 1 sack, and 6 quarterback pressures.

- D. Bruggers 3 tackles
- E. Hughes 1 tackle
- C. Collins 2 tackles
- C. Finn 1 tackle
- P. Cordell 1 tackle
- D. King 4 tackle, 1 TFL
- J. Caruso 1 tackle
- K. Shaheen 5 tackles
- W. Fullmer 5 tackles, 1 TFL
- M. Gorham 3 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 fumble recovery
- E. Eller, 1 fumble recovery

KICKOFFS: Cherokee – Jeron Martens 3 for 159 yds, long of 60, 1 touchback; Jonthan Escobar 6 for 238 yds, long of 45

PUNTS: Cherokee – Siah Teesateskie 2 for 57 yds, long of 29. Hayesville – L. Coker 5 for 165 yds, long of 48

EXTRA POINTS: Jonathan Escobar 3 of 6 PAT, Tsula Howlingcrane 1 two-point conversion catch from Kingston Welch; Zaynon Taylor 1 two-point conversion run. Hayesville – J. Salas 3 of 3 PAT



SOCCER: Highlands 1 Cherokee 0

The Tsalagi Anitsvvasdi (Cherokee Braves) played the Highland Highlanders at the Cherokee High School soccer field in Cherokee, N.C., on the afternoon of Wednesday, Sept. 30. At the end of the first half, Highlands was up 1-0. Cherokee had several attempts on goal, and defense was able to keep Highlands out of the box. Trey Drakeford kept shutting down the left side. Utsela Saunooke (#3) is shown heading up field for an attempt on goal. FINAL SCORE: Highlands 1 Cherokee 0. (DAWN ARNEACH/One Feather photo)

Cherokee Youth Council Community Event

October 17 @ Whitewater Landing

Traditional Games & Social Dancing

4-7pm

PLEASE BRING A GROCERY BAG OF CLEANED RECYCLABLES IN EXCHANGE FOR SOME SWAG!

Logos for the Cherokee Youth Council, the Cherokee Nation, and the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office are displayed at the bottom.



Kituwah Spirit Cheer wins second in a row

Kituwah Spirit Cheer, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, won the North Carolina Senior Games state title for the second year in a row recently. They are shown, left to right, back row - Sherri Watterson, Kema Crowe, Renee Cole, Candy Martin, Patty Grant, Shelli Buckner, Kathy Burgess; front row - Nikki Crisp, Robin Wolfe, Richie Bottchenbaugh, and Kim Wildcatt. Shelly Buckner is the coach. (Photo contributed)

REFLECTION OF INSPIRATION

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Awareness

4th Annual Event
November 5-6, 2026

Location: Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Resort

Uwatohiyvda Adanvtedi (Peace of Mind):
For our people and our communities

Registration is open!

Event Registration QR code
November 5-6, 2026 | 9a-5p

Room Block QR code
November 5-6, 2026 | 9a-5p

Harrah's CHEROKEE CASINO RESORT

This project was supported by Grant No. 15J0001-24-001-0001 awarded by the National Institute of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the grantee and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.

2025-26 EBCI Royalty Farewells

2025-2026 Miss Cherokee - Marcela Garcia

ᑭᑦ shiyo ᑲᑭᑭ nigada
my name is ʌᑭᑭ nuna ʌᑭᑭᑭ
uganasda Marcela Garcia and I am
your 2025-2026 Miss Cherokee,
welcome to this year's Cherokee
Indian fair, I hope you all enjoy. As
I say ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ de-da-da-go-hv-
yu, I wanna wish the contestants
good luck, and to remember God is
always with you protecting you as
you travel and represent our tribe.
This opportunity was amazing and
I am excited to pass it on in tears.
Although my year is up I will carry
all the things I learned with me
and pass it down. Learning the im-
portance of who I am, who I rep-
resent, having the ability to do the
hard things, and to live with ʌᑭᑭ
Tohi. This is what I will pass down
to the future children of our tribe.
ᑭᑭᑭ Sgi to my sponsor's, family
& friends. From your 2025-2026
Miss Cherokee Marcela Garcia



The 2025-26 Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Royalty is shown at the 30th Annual Kituwah Celebration on June 6. They are shown, left to right, including Little Miss Cherokee Alessandra Ramirez, Junior Miss Cherokee Keilani Arch, Teen Miss Cherokee Ava Walkingstick, and Miss Cherokee Marcela Garcia. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

2025-2026 Teen Miss Cherokee - Ava Walkingstick

Shi-yo Nigad (Hello Every-
one!)
My name is Ava Walkingstick, I
am the 18-year-old daughter of
Candi and Monk Walkingstick. I
have 3 sisters and 1 brother. We
reside in the Birdtown Communi-
ty, and I am a proud member of
the Long Hair Clan.
In October of last year, I was
crowned the 2025-2026 Teen Miss
Cherokee. It has been an abso-
lute honor serving as a good will
ambassador for the EBCI & my
fellow community members. This

is something that I could never
achieve alone and I have a lot of
people to thank for such an oppor-
tunity.

First and foremost, I'd like
to thank God for giving me the
courage, guidance and wisdom to
serve my people to the best of my
abilities. My family for always en-
couraging and supporting me in all
of my endeavors. My sponsors for
believing in me enough to help me
prepare to compete for the crown
and supporting me throughout my
reign once I won. I truly could not
have done this without all of your
support. To the Pageant Board

for helping us navigate this crazy
pageant life of events, traveling,
and guiding us through all that we
need to know to serve to the best
of our ability. And lastly to you,
my people, the EBCI Community!
You all are so awesome for always
supporting me and my fellow prin-
cesses. Whether it be an encour-
aging smile or words of wisdom
while we are out in public.

It has truly been my honor to
serve you and represent the EBCI
as your 2025-2026 Teen Miss
Cherokee!
Sgi (Thank You!)
Ava Walkingstick

2025-2026 Junior Miss Cherokee - Keilani Arch

As my reign as Jr. Miss comes
to an end, I am grateful for the
memories, friendships, and oppor-
tunities this year has brought
me. From attending parades, local
community events to traveling to
Florida, Mississippi, and Oklaho-
ma.

I have been honored to rep-
resent the EBCI and share our

see **ROYALTY** next page

Senior Miss Cherokee 2025-26 Farewell

Shi-yo,

My name is Lisa Fowler Penick, and I am honored to have served as your 2025-2026 Senior Miss Cherokee.

I reside in the Yellowhill community with my husband, Charles, and our two Weiner dogs, Roscoe and Max. I have two children, Amanda Awee and Jackson Samuel, and I am Nene to six amazing grandchildren, Wyatt, Mattie, Hartleigh, Britt, Ella, and Amiyah. Each of them means the world to me and each of them has walked this journey with me.

Since being named Senior Miss Cherokee, I have had such a wonderful year representing my people. I've had the opportunity to attend local events, parades, Seminole Fair, Cherokee Night at the Swarm game, and Cherokee Holidays. Being able to attend these events has meant the world to me, creating memories that will last a lifetime. To highlight a couple of trips: Seminole Fair in Hollywood, Fla., where Little Miss and I had the best time, right up until we found ourselves stranded; and Cherokee Holidays in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where it was hot, hot, hot - like 105 degrees hot. No worries, though - we didn't melt

away.

On March 13, 2026, upon returning home from the Lady Braves' back-to-back-to-back state championship title game, I was involved in an incident that would change my life forever. I sustained injuries from an attack by a family member. Since March, I've had hip surgery, received care and support from Tsali Care Center, attended weekly physical therapy, and made adjustments to my life so that I am able to keep on living. This incident changed my life, but it also gave me a voice - not just for myself, but for others who have experienced similar situations.

To my fellow elders - Sgi - for being my biggest supporters. It warms my heart every time someone asks, "How is our princess doing today?". To those of you who lifted me up in prayer or sent encouragement along the way, I cannot begin to tell you how much your kindness has carried me. After the incident, I was left broken and unsure what the coming months would hold. But, through self-perseverance, encouragement, and strength from God, I have come out stronger and more blessed.

To my family - Charles, Aman-



2025-26 Senior Miss Cherokee Lisa Fowler Penick (Photo contributed)

da, Jackson, and my six grandchildren - thank you for standing beside me every step of this journey, through the celebrations and through the hardest days. You are the reason I kept going.

Thank you to my best friend, Deb Owle, who has been with me

through this entire journey.

And to this community - thank you for the honor of representing you. It has truly been a blessing to serve as your 2025-2026 Senior Miss Cherokee. I carry this year, and all of you, with me always. Sgi

ROYALTY: From page 24

culture and traditions. Each experience has helped me grow as a person and got me out of my comfort zone. I want to thank everyone and my sponsors for helping me and supporting me during my reign as Jr. Miss Cherokee.

Sgi, your Jr. Miss Cherokee

2025-2026 Little Miss Cherokee - Alessandra Ramirez

Siyo,

My name is Alessandra Ramirez, I'm also known as Ro or Gitaya. I am the 10-year-old daughter of Adrianne and Jesse Ramirez. I am from the Bird Clan, and I live in the Wolfetown

Community with my parents, my brothers, Andreas and Christiano, and my little sister Leona.

I have enjoyed representing the EBCI as the 2025-2026 Little Miss Cherokee. I would like to give a special thank you to Dan and Rosie McCoy who have helped me since the very beginning with the pageant and continue to show me love and support. I also want to

thank my parents who are always there for me. Thank you to all my family and friends. It has been a pleasure, and I wish I could name everyone that has helped me and cheered me on during my reign, but most importantly I want to thank God who made it all possible. Gvgeyu nigad! Sgi

EBCI Public Health and Human Services honors employees at Annual Division Gathering

Submitted by EBCI Public Health and Human Services

CHEROKEE, NC – The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) held the PHHS Division Gathering at the historic Kituwah Mound on Tuesday, Sept. 29. The annual PHHS division gathering brought together staff from across the division to honor the employees' dedication to the EBCI community.

PHHS Secretary Sonya Wachacha opened the event with remarks regarding the commitment and service of employees throughout the division. "Our employees serve the EBCI community in many different ways," said Sonya Wachacha. "Every role contributes to our shared responsibility to care for our people, strengthen our community, and support one another."

Human Services Director Anita Lossiah, provided a touching tribute to the life and career of Amy Yerka, whose impact will be remembered by colleagues and the community. "I have had the honor of getting to know Amy and the extraordinary impacts she made in her program," remarked Director Lossiah. "She approached every interaction with genuine compassion, ensuring those in vulnerable situations felt heard, respected, and valued. Although she is no longer with us, the impact of her work and the lives she touched will continue to resonate throughout our community for years to come."

The awards ceremony was introduced by PHHS Secretary Sonya Wachacha, who recognized



Program of the Year Award - Tsalagi Public Health. They are shown, left to right, including Sheena Lambert, Public Health Director; Jolena Hill, Catherine Sutton, Jessie Watty, Jessica "Ellen" Crowe, Majestic Rogers, Micheal Stamper, Stella Watkins, Leticia Mejia, Daisy Garcia, Cristin Cooper, and PHHS Secretary Sonya Wachacha. (Photos courtesy of PHHS)

the employees and programs that demonstrated excellent service to the community.

2026 PHHS Award Recipients

Group Harmony Award – Tori Bryson, Cherokee Choices

The Group Harmony Award is given to an individual who fosters teamwork, resolves conflict, and builds a supportive environment.

Interconnectedness Award – Lindsay Crowe, Family Support Services

The Interconnectedness Award honors an individual who builds strong partnerships, connects departments, and brings people together to achieve shared goals.

Strong Individual Character Award – Jessica Mitchell,

Family Safety

The Strong Individual Character Award celebrates integrity, resilience, and ethical leadership. Recipients act as role models by demonstrating honesty, perseverance, and a commitment to doing what is right.

Compassionate Service Award – Alysa Roseman, EBCI WIC Program

The Compassionate Service Award recognizes an individual who provides care with empathy, kindness, and respect and who goes above and beyond to support the well-being of others.

Respect for Cherokee Heritage Award – Tamara Jackson, Family Safety Program

The Respect for Cherokee Her-

itage Award honors an individual who integrates Cherokee cultural values, languages, and traditions into daily work and helps strengthen cultural awareness throughout PHHS.

Value Families Award – Reva Toineeta, Family Support

The Value Families Award recognizes someone who prioritizes the health and well-being of families and works to create environments where families feel supported and valued.

Sense of Humor Award – Heather Singleton, Tribal In-Home Care Services

The Sense of Humor Award celebrates an individual who brings joy, laughter, and positivity to the workplace and recognizes the power of humor to build con-

connections and lift spirits.

**Generosity Award –
Rebecca “Shelby” Parker,
Cherokee Choices**

The Generosity Award recognizes someone who selflessly gives time, knowledge, skills, and energy for the benefit of others without seeking recognition in return.

**Enthusiasm Award –
Katherine “Kate” Beddard**

The Enthusiasm Award goes to an individual whose passion and energy inspire everyone around them. It celebrates dedication, motivation, and a positive spirit that lifts the entire team.

**Commitment to Stewardship
– Brittany Toineeta,
Supplemental Health
Insurance Program**

The Commitment to Stewardship Award recognizes someone who demonstrates exceptional responsibility in managing and protecting the resources entrusted to PHHS and the community.

**PHHS Champion Award
Employee of the Year –
Dr. Nicolas Squirrell**

The PHHS Champion Award is the highest individual honor in the division. This award goes to someone who embodies servant leadership and lives out all ten PHHS core values. A PHHS Champion is more than an outstanding employee. They inspire others and strengthen our organization and community through leadership and service.

For nine years, Nicolas has served through Family Safety with a commitment to improving outcomes for children and families while honoring Cherokee values, culture, and traditions.

His nomination describes a leader who understands that meaningful change happens through relationships. Nico-



PHHS Human Services Director Anita Lossiah, PHHS Champion Award winner Dr. Nicolas Squirrell, PHHS Secretary Sonya Wachacha

las builds partnerships across programs, departments, Tribal entities, and outside organizations, connecting people, resources, and perspectives to strengthen services for children and families.

One of the strongest examples is his work with the Family Safety licensing program. As a trainer, Nicolas has used the National Training and Development Curriculum to prepare foster and kinship parents to provide safe, nurturing, and culturally connected homes. His impact has extended far beyond EBCI. Nicolas became an NTDC Ambassador, sharing knowledge and best practices with federally recognized tribes across the country as they strengthen their own foster care licensing programs. This work supports kinship care and opportunities for Native children to maintain connections to family, community, culture, and identity.

A Champion does more than achieve personally. A Champion brings others along. Nicolas teach-

es, mentors, collaborates, advocates, and shares what he knows.

**Program of the Year Award –
Tsalagi Public Health**

Tsalagi Public Health demonstrates what it means to approach community health from both directions: preventing problems before they begin while also being there for people who need support today. Their work spans the prevention continuum through Botvin LifeSkills Training at Cherokee Central Schools, the EBCI Public Health Vending Machine Program, and the EBCI Syringe Service Program.

At Cherokee Central Schools, staff provide evidence-based LifeSkills education designed to strengthen students' decision-making, coping, communication, problem-solving, and substance-use resistance skills. The 2026 Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey included 529 students in grades 6 through 12 and identified a broad downward shift in many substance-use indicators com-

pared with previous survey years.

Between 2024 and 2026, current marijuana use among middle school students decreased from 10.3 percent to 4.7 percent, while current alcohol use decreased from 5.7 percent to 1.8 percent. Among high school students, current marijuana use decreased from 18.5 percent to 9.8 percent, and current alcohol use decreased from 11.1 percent to 5.6 percent.

Those trends are encouraging, and Tsalagi Public Health's work recognizes that prevention is only one part of public health. Through the Public Health Vending Machine Program, staff track inventory and maintain access to essential health and harm reduction supplies. Through the Syringe Service Program, they provide sterile supplies, safer-use education, overdose-prevention resources, and connections to health and supportive services.

In addition to these services, Tsalagi Public Health has distributed more than 111,588 health and wellness supplies through its 12 Public Health Vending Machines strategically located throughout the community. Staff ensure these machines remain operational, regularly monitor inventory, and restock supplies to maintain consistent access to essential health and harm reduction resources. Their continued efforts help reduce barriers to care by making critical supplies readily available to community members when and where they need them.[SK1.1]

Tsalagi Public Health shows us that public health is not one intervention or one program. It is prevention. It is access. It is education. It is data. It is partnership. And most importantly, it is people.

OBITUARIES ǪᏊᏂᏁᏁ

Jarrett Cody Youngdeer

Jarrett Cody Youngdeer, 41, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026, at 11:10 a.m. at his residence in Cherokee, N.C. Jarrett was born on Dec. 28, 1984, in Sylva, N.C., to parents Jose Gomez Arana Sr., and the late Benny Youngdeer Wildcat. In addition to his mother, he was predeceased by his grandparents, Becky Arch Smith and Jimmy "Greasy" Bradley.

He is survived by his father, Jesus Gomez Arana Sr.; sons, Ostani Cole Youngdeer and Elijah Jae Youngdeer of Cherokee; daughter, Kayandra Elaine Youngdeer of Cherokee; brothers, Jordan Oocumma and Andy Arch

of Cherokee, and Daniel, Jesus Jr., and Alejandro Arana of Florida; sisters, Vanessa John (Frank) of Cherokee and Maria Arana of Florida; nephews, Liam John, Orie John, Benny John, and Arthur John; and three grandchildren, Daeohna, Amiri, and Akari. His smile, goofy laugh, and kindness will be missed. Continue to keep his family, friends, and Boss Baby Ohna in your thoughts and prayers.

Funeral services were held on Friday, Oct. 2 at Rock Springs Baptist Church in Cherokee, N.C., with Pastor Greg Morgan and Rev. Dan Conseen officiating. Burial followed at Drama Cemetery in Cherokee, N.C.

Pallbearers were family and friends.

Long House Funeral Services was in charge of arrangements.

Nancy Leopard Finger

Nancy Leopard Finger passed on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2026, at the age of 93. She was born in Haywood County on Aug. 13, 1933, into a family of 13 children, to the late Frank and Alice (Ashe) Leopard.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Billy M. Finger.

Left to cherish her memory is her son, David Finger, daughter, Anita (David) Smith; a sister, Jeanette Overby; brother-in-law,

Wayne Finger; step grandson, Nathaniel (Leslie) Smith, and step great grandchildren, Caiden and Fern Smith.

Services were held at Garrett Funeral Home on Saturday, Oct. 3 with Reverend Jerry Nelson and Millard Grant officiating. Burial followed at Garrett Hillcrest. Pallbearers were Neil and Don Carpenter, Tommy and Terry Finger, Carroll Mehaffey, and Caiden Smith.

The family would like to thank Maggie Valley Nursing & Rehabilitation for years of care and compassion.

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



(828) 497-1408

**407 Wolftown Rd
Cherokee, NC. 28719**

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

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

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

www.longhousefuneralhome.com

THANK YOU LETTERS

Thank you

The family of Regina P. Ledford would like to sincerely thank everyone who showed us such kindness, love, sympathy, and support during the loss of our precious mother/grandmother.

Your prayers, comforting words, visits, calls, messages, flowers, food, and every thoughtful gesture meant more to us than we can put into words. During such a difficult time, knowing that we were surrounded by so much love and support brought us comfort and strength.

We want to extend our gratitude to: Cherokee Indian Hospital staff, Tribal EMS, Mission Hospital staff, Four Seasons Hospice Care, Vice Chief B Ensley and Libby, Chief Michell Hicks and Marsha, Joe Wolfe, Harley and Janell Maney, Straight Fork Baptist Church family, CCS Central

Office staff and School Board, CCS Facility dept., CHS, CES, Tribal Construction, Tribal Facilities, Water & Sewer department, Tribal Motorpool, Sanitation dept., New Kituwah Academy, Dad and Martha, Michelle W. Long, Renee Cole, Samantha and Devin, Boo and Brian Matthews, Parsh Pheasant, Loretta, Dee Dee and Tammy Bradley, Karen French, Frank and Peaches Oocumma, Maddie Welch, LeeAnn Panther, Moira George, Nikki Rhinehart, Steph Watty, Marsha George, Sharri, Carla, Dee and families, Aunt Rosie, Pam, Tara Reed-Cooper, Vickie Reed, Consie Girty, Driver Jr, Hope and Nancy Pheasant, Zena and Melvin Wolfe, Vicki and Junior Sluder, Perry Shell, Nakoa Chiltoskie, Deb Lambert, Cody Driver, Help Program, Charlie and Francine Watty, Big Cove Grocery, Annie Owen's and grave diggers Kirk Lossiah, Steve Brady and

Danny Thompson.

I'm sorry if I forgot to mention anyone but please know your love and kindness was appreciated. Special thanks to Rita and Ollie for helping us care for mom when she came home from the hospital. We are deeply grateful to each and every one of you for helping us through this difficult time and for honoring our mother with your kindness and compassion. She was deeply loved, and it brings our hearts comfort to know how many people cared for her and for our family.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. May God bless each of you for your kindness and love.

Diane and Frank, Calloway Jr. and Shelly, Allen and Lisa, Mark and Carla, Chris and Joni, and all her grandchildren and great grandkids

114th Cherokee Indian Fair Schedule

Submitted by EBCI Destination Marketing

PARADE DAY (OCT 6) TUESDAY

9:00AM Begin set up for Parade Line-up
9:45AM Community Floats Arrive
11:00AM Childcare/ Youth Floats Arrive
12:00PM Business/ Youth Floats Arrive
12:30PM Teen Miss Contestants Arrive
1:00PM Little Miss Contestants Arrive * All
parade Entries Begin arriving
1:30PM Junior Miss Contestants Arrive *Float
Judging Begins
2:00PM Miss Cherokee Contestants Arrive
2:30PM All Entries inline and ready
3:00PM Parade Begins PARADE BEGINS
5:00PM Gates Open
5 - 8PM Basket Making: Lauren and Ed Goings
6:00PM Welcome Ceremonies/ Color Guard
6:05PM Opening Prayer
6:10PM National Anthem (Cherokee)
6:15PM Introduction of Tribal Leaders
6:25PM Grand Marshall Recognition
6:30PM Introduction of Royalty
7:00PM Miss Cherokee Pageant
9:00PM Dulaney Band
11:00PM Gates Close

CHILDREN'S DAY (OCT 7) WEDNESDAY

8:00AM Gates Open – Contest registration
begins
9:00AM Baby Crawling Contest begins
9-12PM Pottery bead necklace making
9-10am(Special Needs only) 10-12 Everyone
9:15AM Program Booths Open
9:30AM Special Needs Bracelet Giveaway
10:00AM FREE ride bracelet giveaway, Spe-
cial Needs Rides Only (10-12)-Bounce House
Opens 10-6
10:15AM Longest Hair Contest Begins
10:30AM Train Ride Begins
11:00AM Lunch
11:15AM Princess Tea Party
11:45AM Balloon Twisting
12:00PM Aniyvwiyah Analisisgi FREE Rides

Begin
12:15PM Community Frybread Toss Contest
1:00PM Kids mechanical bull 1 – 5 pm
1:30PM Youth Stickball, ball up at 2pm
2:30PM Pre-teen Stickball, ball up at 3pm
3:00PM Balloon Twisting
3-6PM Pottery demonstration: Kat Neff,
Woodcarving: Frank Dunn
4:30PM Men's Stickball, ball up 5pm
5:30PM Men's Stickball, ball up 6pm
7:00PM Junior Miss Cherokee
8:00PM Little Miss Cherokee
9:00PM Carbon Harry
10:30PM Children's Lip Sync (ages 8-17)
12:00AM Gates Close

ELDER'S DAY (OCT. 8) THURSDAY

8:00AM Gates Open, Breakfast – Cornhole
registration begins
9:00AM Cornhole begins
10:00AM Chief's gifts, Field events: disc golf,
football throw, softball throw
10AM - 12PM Carving Club Class
11:00AM Lunch & door prizes
11:30AM Traditional Fashion Show
1:00PM Senior Miss Cherokee SR.
1:30PM Elder's Stickball, ball up 2pm
2:30PM Mars Hill Cloggers
3:00PM Pre-teen Stickball, ball up 3:30pm
3-6PM Pottery Demonstration: Kat Neff
4:30PM Men's Stickball, ball up 5pm
5:30PM Men's Stickball, ball up 6pm
7:00PM Teen Miss Cherokee
9:00PM Cherokee Idol
11:00PM Gates Close

VETERAN'S DAY (OCT. 9) FRIDAY

7:00AM Mogadishu Mile Run Registration –
register at Cherokee High School
7:45AM Mogadishu Mile Run Begins
8:00AM Gates Open
8:30AM Veterans Breakfast
9:00AM Presentation of Colors & Race Awards
– Vendor Engagement Begins
10:00AM Door Prizes Begin
10AM-12PM Arrowhead Making Class: Ed
Goings & Davy Arch
11:00AM Lunch
12:00PM Opening Ceremony
12:10PM Welcome/ Introductions of EBCI
Department of Military

12:20PM Tribal Officials Welcome
12:25PM Principal Chief Hicks Welcome
12:30PM NCDMVA Secretary Jocelyn Mitnaul
Malette, Guest Speaker
1:30PM Military Demonstrations
2:00PM Chiefs Gifts and EBCI DMVA Gifts,
Closing remarks
2:00PM Youth Stickball, ball up 2:30 pm
2:30PM Endurance Race
3:00PM Pre-teen Stickball, ball up 3:30pm
3-6PM Basket Making: Faye Junaluska, Bead-
work: Sharon McCoy
3:30PM Grenade Toss
4:00PM Men's Stickball, ball up 4:30pm
5:00PM Men's Stickball, ball up 5:30pm
7:30PM Quiz Bowl
9:00PM Kayla McKinney
10:30PM Brayden Rumfelt
12:00AM Gates Close

COMMUNITY DAY (OCT. 10) SATURDAY

8:00AM Gates Open – Registration for Archery
and Blowgun
8:30AM Arrow & Dart Competition Begins
(Men & Women)
9:30AM Wood Chopping, presented by Big Y
10:30AM Lid Toss, presented by Snowbird
11:30AM Frybread Eating Contest, presented
by Yellowhill
12:00PM Axe throwing, presented by Wolfstown
12:30PM Dancing/ Arm Wrestling, presented
by Big Cove
1:00PM Marbles, presented by Birdtown
1:00PM Youth Stickball, ball up 1:30pm
1:30PM Fish game, presented by Painttown
2:00PM Teen Stickball, ball up 2:30pm
2:30PM Cultural Obstacle Course
3:00PM Men's Stickball, ball up 3:30pm
3-6PM Traditional Craft Demonstration: Faye
Junaluska and Sharon McCoy
4:00PM Men's Stickball, ball up 4:30pm
5:30PM Kiss the Pig
6:15PM Greasy Pig
6:30PM Community BINGO
7:30PM Biggest Auntie Earring Contest
8:00PM Baline Bailey, Keetoowah band Artist
9:00PM Dylan Scott
10:30PM Fireworks
11:00PM Don Burnstick, Cree Comedian
12:00AM Gates Close

COMMENTARY

Are you voting in the midterm elections?

By **ROBERT JUMPER**

Tutiya (Snowbird) and Clyde, N.C.

“A sachem is a Wampanoag leader. In the early part of the 17th century Qusamequin (Yellow Feather) was the supreme sachem or ‘Massasoit’ of the Wampanoag. He or she was the consummate diplomat to his own and other nations, guided by a council of hand-picked advisors.

Each Wampanoag village had a sachem and a council of advisors made up of clan leaders who reported to the Massasoit but remained otherwise independent. The sachem was also responsible for village order and welfare and collected surplus food and other supplies to be redistributed among the needy. The settling of disputes, or peacekeeping, was a matter left to a council of elders.

Sound familiar? This early model of executive, legislative, and judicial branches of leadership was mirrored in the governing practices of tribes throughout the Algonquin and Iroquois regions and ultimately influenced the framework for the democracy we know today as the United States of America.”

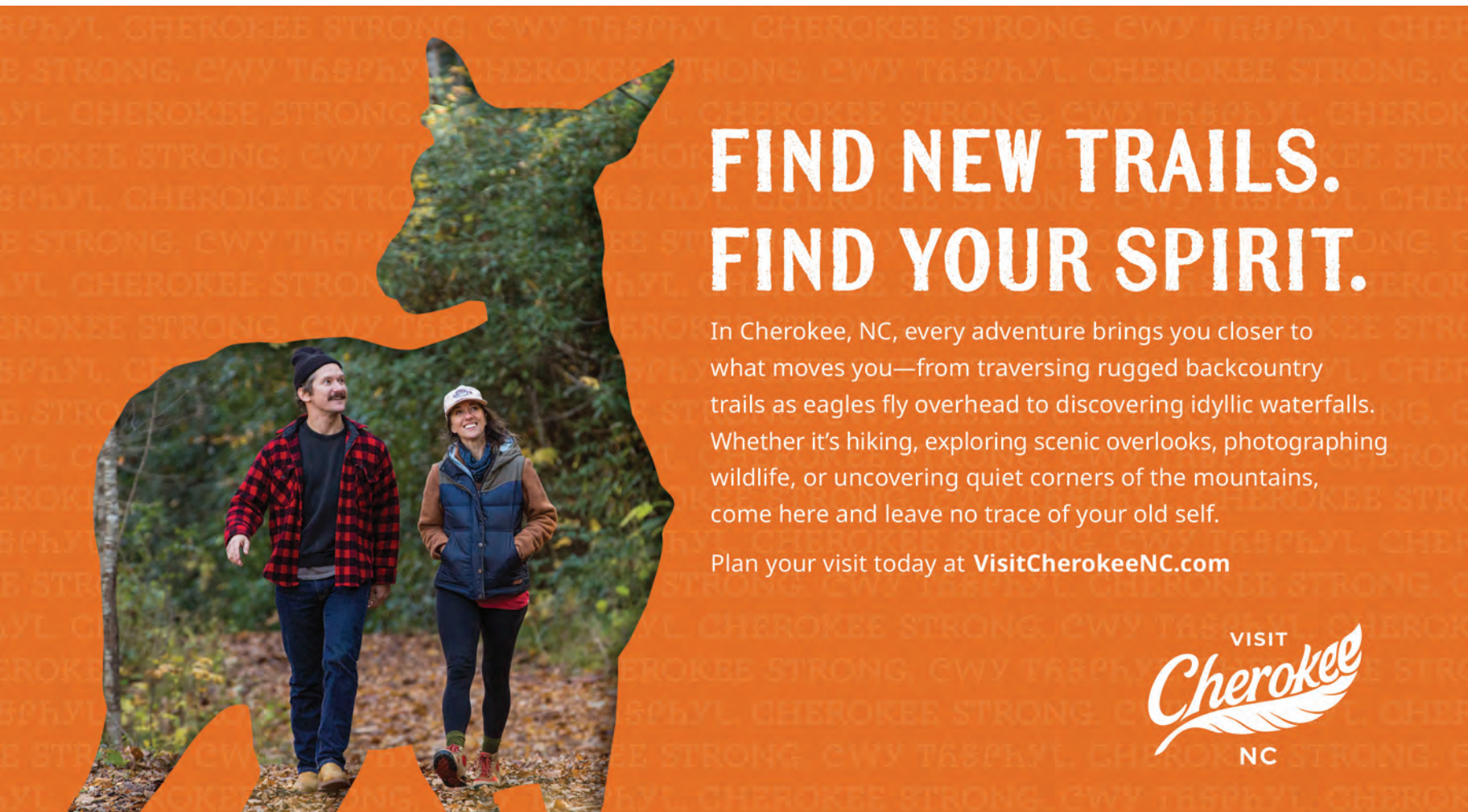
The above was written by Pau-

la Peters, Mashpee Wampanoag, historian and journalist. She wrote it for inclusion in an education initiative for the National Museum of the American Indian.

The concepts of representative republics predate European contact. As Ms. Peters points out, at least some of the colonial concepts of government came from observing the relationships within and among the tribal nations. We knew, as indigenous peoples, the power of unity and the desperate need to select, from our peoples, the wise and the learned to not only lead the communities, but to show our strength to the leaders of other nations, assess the intentions of those nations, and negotiate, peaceably, if possible, a path of mutual benefit and sus-

tainability.

Every week, One Feather publishes a listing of all the legislation proposed or under consideration by the Congress of the United States that might impact Indian Country. We understand that what the federal government does with those pieces of legislation has the potential to impact our way of life either positively or negatively. One dramatic example of how that works in recent years is the passage of federal recognition for the Lumbee group. Beyond the economic ramifications, this legislation set a precedent in nation-to-nation recognition that affects the identity and sovereignty of long-established tribes. How does all that relate to you and me voting in the midterm



FIND NEW TRAILS. FIND YOUR SPIRIT.

In Cherokee, NC, every adventure brings you closer to what moves you—from traversing rugged backcountry trails as eagles fly overhead to discovering idyllic waterfalls. Whether it's hiking, exploring scenic overlooks, photographing wildlife, or uncovering quiet corners of the mountains, come here and leave no trace of your old self.

Plan your visit today at VisitCherokeeNC.com

VISIT
Cherokee
NC

for federal, state, and municipal elections? Because every single congressman who cast a vote for or against Lumbee recognition was an elected official. The North Carolina representatives who supported the recognition were elected by people who have citizenship and residency in North Carolina, like us. And dual citizenship in the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the United States allows us to have a say in who we will have to negotiate with in the future.

From federal recognition to state gaming compacts to county to tribe mutual aid agreements, we must interact with government entities. When I say, “we must”, I really mean, “we have a right to...” as tribal members and as dual citizens of these governments. We sometimes intermingle the terms

“citizenship” and “race” when talking about our alignment or allegiance. I think we do so, at least in part, because in our culture and in our governing document, we discuss our identity by using the ambiguous word “membership”.

The word “race”, as defined by Merriam-Webster, is “any one of the groups that humans are often divided into based on physical traits regarded as common among people of shared ancestry”. One of the ways that we do that as Eastern Band members is using blood quantum to identify who among us belongs. The word “citizen” is defined as “a native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection from it”. To a large extent, that is what we have done by first living under a constitution,

then the Charter, and subsequent Cherokee Code. The meaning of the word “member” is simply “one of the individuals composing a group”.

Many of us are passionate about legislation presented for consideration by our Dinilawigi (Tribal Council). Much of what is decided through resolutions and ordinances has a visible impact on how we live, what freedoms we enjoy, or restrictions we must endure. Those decisions matter to us. But those are not the only decisions in law that matter or should matter to us. We can strategize a path to gain the support of others through electing people to office who share our mindsets, our passions, and our commitment to nature, culture, people, and peace. Had we done a better job of that in past elections, maybe we would have seen more positive progress in the outcomes of tribal initiatives because of our relationships at the federal, state, and municipal levels. To that end, we must participate in those midterm elections, or any other opportunity to influence the governance of those nations we interact with.

Ms. Peters continues in her article: “By the mid-1700s, it was the Iroquois League governance based on the concept of unity achieved by their Great Law of Peace that got the attention of colonial leaders bent on independence from the mother country. In 1744, it was explained to colonial representatives gathered in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, by the Iroquois leader Canas-

satego this way: ‘Our wise forefathers established Union and Amity between the Five Nations. This has made us formidable; this has given us great Weight and Authority with our neighboring Nations. We are a powerful Confederacy; and by your observing the same methods our wise forefathers have taken, you will acquire such Strength and power. Therefore, whatever befalls, never fall out with one another.’”

A word for those who say voting doesn’t matter. I am not a big gambler. I am realistic about my chances of winning the lottery. I understand the odds are so great that it is very likely I will never “hit the jackpot”. But that doesn’t stop me from buying a lottery ticket. I can never get out of my head those corny commercials for the Publishers’ Clearinghouse sweepstakes. Their tagline was “You can’t win if you don’t enter.” Sure, there is a chance your vote won’t have a visible impact. But your lack of voting is a guarantee that you will have no impact at all.

“Every election impacts Indian Country. Every election matters. Every Native vote counts. Increasing Native representation in the election process is key to growing our political power. Each civic role plays a significant part in creating a better future for the next generation. With the youngest Native voters now entering the political process, the Native vote will continue to create and inspire change.” (nativevote.org).



**104.9 FM
WFSC
1050 AM**

**The Smokies
classic hits
station**

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

EBCI Tribal ABC Commission
(828) 788-4261

COMMENTARY

Personal reflections on addiction

By SHANNON WHITE
Alderson, Wyo.

I wrote this poem after reading the testimony of the guy who turned me on to my ruin, what got me 21 years of my life locked up. I can blame only myself. I hope people learn from my mistakes and know there is hope out there. I'm grateful I got sat down when I did because I would have been the next one gone.

There is no one to blame for an addict's actions. It's our burden to carry and know that we don't

mean to hurt our loved ones, but our addiction is powerful and so real that we only think about ourselves.

I pray that when people read this and hear my story, they see that it is not worth it. And what happened to me can happen to anyone.

One pill, one shot, and it could take someone's life, and it's really not worth the time and heartache. I pray for everyone who is fighting the fight against addiction.

The Addict in Me

People judge, yet they don't know who I am.

They wonder why I am the way I am.

They think I don't care and do not have a heart.

They don't see the pain inside of me and what I feel daily.

I wonder if they see the hacks and the scars,
and think she's just another junkie addict, or

Do they see someone that needs help?

What do they see?

I know when I look at myself, I see a woman who is looking to kill the pain.

I see the person who is wondering where they can get their next fix. Who has what I want? Who will come through?

I have my fix now...my ruin, my heartache.

It's the bite, the prick of the sun and its heaven.

It's the free-falling, the nodding, the wonderful feeling, the release.

I come back down; I'm no longer flying high,

So, I look for it again and again. I don't think of what it could do to

me.

I don't think, "This could be my last one."

That I could die and never see my loved ones again.

Who is to blame?

It is mine. The addict's fault.

I'm the one who chose to do that next shot,

Chasing that high, the awesome feeling.

It is my choice; no one puts it in my hand.

No one put a gun to my head and said, "Do this."

I am the one to blame. I chose to do this to myself.

No one is to blame but the addict in me.

White is a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. FIND YOUR SPIRIT.

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

Plan your visit today at VisitCherokeeNC.com



114TH CHEROKEE
INDIAN FAIR

OCT 6-10

CHEROKEE FALL
ROD RUN

OCT 16-17

WNC TRUCK SHOW

OCT 24

SCARE-O-KEE
TRICK OR TREAT EVENT

OCT 29

QUALLA-WEEN

OCT 1-31



FALL INTO A GREAT DEAL



2021 Ford Ranger XLT

Stock #: T9819A

\$29,894

2018 Ford F-150 Platinum

STOCK #: T9778B

\$34,574

2021 Ram 1500 Classic

Warlock

Stock #:T9751E

\$33,749

2024 Ford Expedition

Platinum

Stock #: 4703A

\$64,794



Dustin Shuler
Assistant Sales Manager



Greg Jamison
Sales Consultant/ Fleet Specialist



Justin Varley
Sales Consultant



Hollie Johnson
Finance Manager



Service Team

**ALL MAKES, ALL MODELS,
WE SERVICE THEM ALL!**



**ALL INSURANCE WELCOME.
WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.**

CONTACT US



828-586-0900



www.AndyShawFord.com



1231 E Main St Sylva NC

September report from Aniwodihi (Painttown) Rep. Michael Stamper



Hello everyone,

This is my Council Report for the month of September.

As a reminder, October is Annual Council Month. October brings a variety of events and activities for residents and visitors alike. As we welcome an increased number of visitors to our community, I ask for your patience as ongoing road construction projects may cause traffic delays and longer travel times throughout the area.

As always, my report follows the standard format below.

Project Updates

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings and Grand Openings

- Evidence Building Grand Opening - Oct. 15 at 1 p.m.
- Nvdayeli Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Oct. 20 at 1 p.m.
- Big Cove Fire Station #3 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Oct. 22 at 2 p.m.

Ordinances Under Consideration

Ordinances that have been passed, withdrawn, or defeated will not appear on this list.

1. Ordinance Establishing an Elk

Hunting Season

2. Ordinance Amending Chapter 19-7 of the Cherokee Code Regarding Public Nuisances
3. Ordinance Amending Spousal Inheritance Provisions in the Absence of a Will
4. Ordinance Establishing a Committee on Aging and Disability within the Cherokee Code

Work Sessions

Upcoming Work Sessions

Oct. 15

- 9 a.m. – Tabled Resolution 294: Disbursement of TABCC Funds
- 10 a.m. – Tabled Ordinance 251: Amendment to Cherokee Code Chapter 28 Regarding Spousal Inheritance of Possessory Holdings
- 11 a.m. – Tabled Ordinance 212: Public Nuisance Ordinance Regarding Animals

- 1 p.m. – Golf Board

- 2 p.m. – Tabled Ordinance 252: Establishing the Committee on Aging and Disability

Oct. 21

- 1 p.m. – Cherokee Language Program

Monthly Update for Readers

This month's update focuses on the upcoming Fall Festival. While our community enjoys many events throughout the year, I believe we can all agree that the Fall Festival holds a special place at the heart of our culture and community. It is one of the most anticipated events of the year, bringing people together to celebrate our traditions, reconnect with one another, and create lasting memories.

For this article, I would like to highlight the many programs, departments, volunteers, and individuals whose efforts are essential

to making the week-long festivities possible. Much of the work happens behind the scenes, and it is important to recognize the dedication required to ensure the festival runs smoothly and successfully each year.

To fully appreciate what it takes to organize an event of this scale, we must recognize the many people and programs that work together as a team. The success of the Fall Festival is the result of year-round planning, coordination, and commitment.

The Cherokee Indian Fair Committee meets regularly throughout the year, not only to prepare for the upcoming festival but also to evaluate the previous year's event. One of the committee's most important meetings takes place after the festival concludes. During this review process, members discuss both the successes and the challenges experienced throughout the week. Questions such as "What worked well?" "What obstacles did we face?" and "How can we improve next year's festival?" help guide future planning and decision-making.

This process requires a tremendous amount of time, effort, and dedication from every committee member. As EBCI members, we are often our own toughest critics because we care deeply about preserving and improving our traditions. For that reason, I want to personally thank everyone who contributes their time and energy to ensuring that residents and visitors alike have a memorable and enjoyable experience at the Fall Festival.

While most attendees see only the published schedule of events and choose which activities they would like to attend, there is an enormous amount of preparation

required for each event. Careful planning, effective leadership, and coordination across multiple departments are necessary to ensure that events begin on time, operate safely, and provide a positive experience for everyone involved.

Before discussing this year's schedule, I would like to recognize some of the many programs and organizations that play a vital role in the festival's success. These include the Cherokee Welcome Center, Destination Marketing, EBCI Communications, EBCI Sanitation, Cherokee Tribal EMS, Cherokee Police Department, EBCI Cooperative Extension Office, Deer Clan Productions, EBCI Facilities Management, EBCI Tribal Construction, Tsali Manor Senior Center, Cherokee One Feather, EBCI PHHS, Cherokee Fire Department, Steve Youngdeer American Legion Post 143, the EBCI Pageant Board, the players representing their respective Indian Ball teams, and the communities that dedicate their time and resources to creating the community booths enjoyed by festival attendees.

This list is far from complete, and I am certain there are many others who deserve recognition. My goal is simply to provide an overview of the vast network of people, departments, organizations, and volunteers who work together to create a successful and memorable festival. As we enter this year's celebration, I encourage all of us to do so with a spirit of appreciation for those who make it possible.

Day 1: Fair Week "Stick Off"

The first day of the festival kicks off the week's activities with stick-ball games beginning at 3:30 p.m. at Unity Field. These games showcase one of our most treasured traditions and provide an opportunity for

community members and visitors alike to witness the athleticism, skill, and cultural significance of the sport.

I would once again like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the players who participate. Your dedication honors our ancestors, strengthens our communities, and helps ensure that these traditions are passed on to future generations. Through your commitment, our culture continues to thrive, and for that we are all grateful.

Day 2: Parade Day

The official opening day of the 114th Cherokee Indian Fair begins with one of the most recognizable and anticipated traditions of the week, the Cherokee Indian Fair Parade. The parade brings together tribal programs, community organizations, schools, public safety agencies, local businesses, and families in a celebration that showcases the pride and spirit of our people. The festivities continue throughout the evening with welcoming ceremonies, cultural demonstrations, entertainment, and activities for attendees of all ages. The parade serves as a reminder of the strong sense of community that makes the Fair such a special event each year.

As the Fair officially opens, visitors have the opportunity to enjoy the many attractions that make Fair Week a treasured tradition. Exhibits, arts and crafts, cultural displays, competitions, entertainment, and carnival activities continue throughout the grounds. This day offers families an opportunity to explore the various booths and exhibits while supporting the talented artists, craftspeople, and organizations that help preserve and promote Cherokee culture. The Fair is not only a celebration of who we are today but also a reflection of the traditions and values that have been

passed down through generations.

Day 3: Children's Day

Children's Day is always one of the most exciting days of the Fair as the focus turns to our youngest tribal members. The day's activities include special competitions, educational opportunities, cultural demonstrations, and hands-on activities designed specifically for children. From the Baby Crawling Contest to pottery and necklace-making classes, the schedule encourages participation while providing opportunities for children to learn about Cherokee traditions in fun and meaningful ways. Children's Day represents an investment in the future of our tribe by creating experiences that help our youth develop pride in their culture and heritage.

Day 4: Elders Day

Elders Day is an opportunity to honor those who have dedicated their lives to preserving our traditions, values, language, and history. Our elders have served as teachers, leaders, caregivers, and storytellers, helping ensure that Cherokee culture continues to thrive from one generation to the next.

The day includes activities and programming designed specifically to celebrate their contributions, including fellowship opportunities, cultural demonstrations, competitions, traditional fashion showcases, and special recognitions. Most importantly, it provides a chance for us to express our gratitude to those who have carried the responsibility of preserving our heritage and strengthening our communities throughout their lives.

As we celebrate Elders Day, I encourage everyone to take a moment to thank the elders in their lives. Their wisdom, guidance, and leadership continue to shape our communities and inspire future

generations.

Day 5: Veterans Day

Veterans Day is dedicated to recognizing the brave men and women who have answered the call to serve our nation through military service. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians has a proud history of military service, and this day provides an opportunity to honor the sacrifices and achievements of our veterans and their families.

The day's events begin with the Mogadishu Mile and continue with a veterans breakfast, presentation of colors, recognition ceremonies, competitions, cultural activities, and educational demonstrations. These activities not only celebrate the service of our veterans but also help educate younger generations about the sacrifices made to protect the freedoms we enjoy today. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to those who have served. Their courage, commitment, and selflessness embody the values of service and sacrifice that continue to strengthen our community. Veterans Day stands as an important reminder that the freedoms we enjoy have been protected through the dedication of those willing to serve something greater than themselves.

The evening concludes with live entertainment, including a performance by American Idol finalist Braden Rumpf, providing an exciting end to another meaningful day of celebration and recognition.

Day 6: Community Day

The final day of Fair Week is Community Day, a celebration of the bonds that unite us as Cherokee people. Community Day features friendly competitions between communities, traditional games, cultural activities, demonstrations, food contests, and entertainment that bring together participants from across the Qualla Boundary.

Activities such as arrow and dart competitions, wood chopping, axe throwing, dancing, arm wrestling, lid tossing, marbles, fish game, and the frybread eating contest hosted by each community.

Community Day serves as a fitting conclusion to a week dedicated to culture, family, tradition, and fellowship. It reminds us that while the Fair lasts only a few days each year, the values it celebrates remain with us year-round. The week concludes with major entertainment performances, including Blaine Bailey and country music artist Dylan Scott, providing an exciting finish to another memorable Cherokee Indian Fair.

Closing Thoughts

As Fair Week approaches, I encourage everyone to take a moment to appreciate not only the events themselves but also the countless individuals who work behind the scenes to make them possible. From planning committees and tribal programs to volunteers, performers, athletes, craftspeople, public safety personnel, and community members, every person plays a role in creating an event that reflects the best of who we are as Cherokee people.

The Cherokee Indian Fair is more than a festival. It is a celebration of our culture, our traditions, our communities, and our future. I hope everyone takes the opportunity to participate, support one another, and make memories that will last for years to come. Happy Fair Week, and I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Michael Stamper

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

A Close Call

Part 3 of 8

By Lamont H. Fuchs, Ed.D.

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

HE SAVED YOU!

Everyone can identify and know what you are talking about with these statements. These examples are universal life experiences.

I can assure you I heard many of those stories after being in a ministry for downed bikers for several years. So many reports include statements like If that nurse had not been there driving along the same road on vacation, or if I had crashed ten more feet down the road, or if we had left just one minute before. If I had not looked

in my rear-view mirror at that very moment...IF, IF, IF... and I believe every Word from those survivors. Some stories I can explain as God's providence, but others were absolute miracles. I see miracles all the time, and I never take away from God what no one can explain. Western North Carolina is a type of Mecca for motorcycle riders from all over the United States. Being so popular, it is also "Accident Central." Mission Memorial Hospital in Asheville, N.C., is one of the Southeast's biggest and best trauma centers. The reason there are so many accidents in western North Carolina is simple. The area is some of the most beautiful country in the world. Because of all the beautiful mountains and twisty roads, people come from around the United States to challenge their skills. They ride Deal's Gap and the Dragon's

Tail, the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Rattler, Rabbit Skin, Cherohala Skyway, and many other named stretches of road that bikers love to ride and test their skills or sadly search their limits. Usually, nine guys come to the area from some flatland country called Florida or Pennsylvania. Eight go back home to work and family. The other rider is laid up in Mission Hospital, wondering that big question. WHY ME?

Far too many people have looked up at the ceiling in pain with that question on their minds. Fortunately, they are the ones who did not suffer the worst. A minister never wants to become morbid about it, but instead, they must stay compassionate for those who are hurt. Never become numb to the constant presence of those who face tribulation and need to call on a Savior who can help with His

divine grace and mercy.

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

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

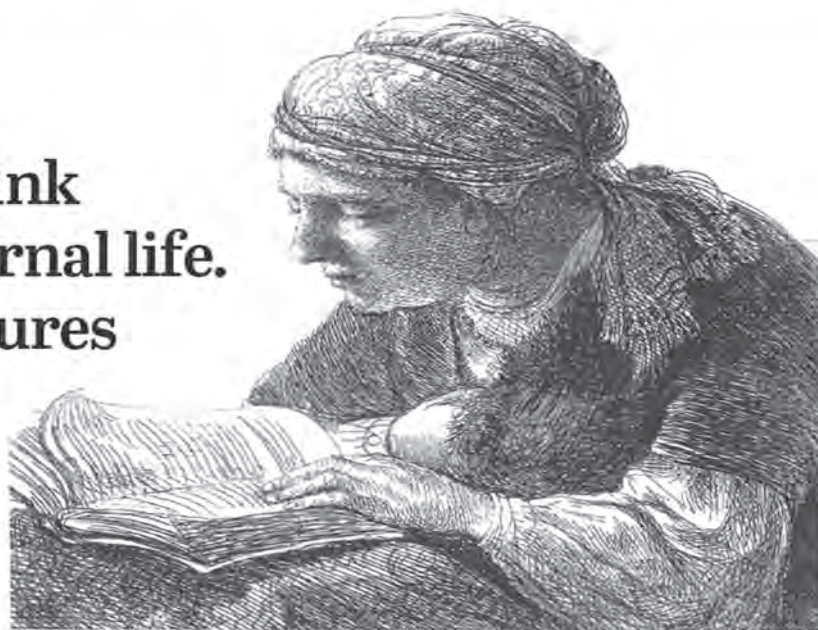


THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about Me...

JOHN 5:39 

"Woman Reading" by Rembrandt (1634)

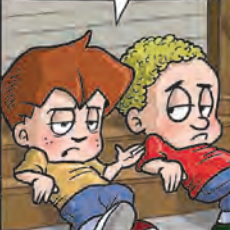


Amber Waves

I GIVE UP. I THINK WE'VE DONE JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING THERE IS TO DO AROUND HERE.



I'M SO BORED. WE NEED TO DRUM UP SOME EXCITEMENT AROUND HERE.



MOM, I SAY YOU STOP FIDDLING ABOUT, GO GET YOUR WALLET AND TAKE US TO TOWN PRONTO.



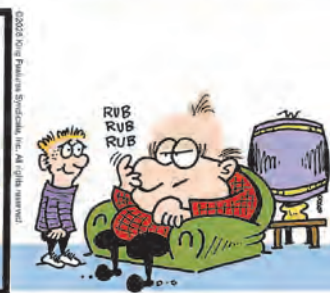
OK, TOO MUCH EXCITEMENT!!



TIGER



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Word is different. 2. Hat is larger. 3. Slice is different. 4. Hat is larger. 5. Back of stool is added. 6. Mouth is different.

by BUD BLAKE

by Jeff Pickering

by Dave T. Phipps

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Use a squeegee
- ACLU concerns
- Oodles
- Valhalla VIP
- Jima
- Slightly
- Reveals by accident
- California valley
- LAX and JFK overseer
- Bad spell
- Playful sea critter
- Young bloke
- Used to be
- Skewered Thai recipe
- Beach robes
- Four Corners st.
- Gearwheel tooth
- Barrett or Jaffe
- Pond floater
- Unclothed
- Long lunch?
- Tier
- Teapot feature
- Binge
- Hiatus
- Galley gear
- Legendary gossip columnist

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31			32			
33				34			35			
			36			37				
38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

- Vicinity
- Soul, to Sartre
- Eager
- Drudge
- PX patrons
- Trawler gear
- Final notice
- Clock reading
- Swizzle
- Horse-drawn carriage
- Klutz
- Revolving tray
- Witty one
- Bando of baseball
- "Exodus"
- Em halves
- Ticked off
- Candy sold in twos
- Soak (up)
- Breaking point
- Taxi
- Impose
- Eggy drinks
- Demolishes
- Daytime drama
- Rid of rind
- Sweet sandwich
- Rock's Hendrix
- Donate
- Bickering
- Profs' degrees
- Trail the pack
- "Sheesh!"

DOWN

- Wild canine
- Concept
- Pocket bread
- Up to
- Massachusetts cape
- Fine, to NASA
- Compass dir.
- Blue

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Invisible Man"?
- GEOGRAPHY: In which country is the Topkapi Palace located?
- ASTRONOMY: How long is a year on the planet Mars?
- MOVIES: What is the name of the sea witch in the animated film "The Little Mermaid"?
- ANATOMY: What is the average lifespan of a red blood cell?
- MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MMI?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What are the three secondary colors in traditional color theory?
- TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom features the Bluth family?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of jellyfish commonly called?
- GAMES: How many squares are on a checkerboard?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31			32			
33				34			35			
			36			37				
38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

Weekly SUDOKU

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31			32			
33				34			35			
			36			37				
38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

- H.G. Wells; 2. Istanbul, Turkey; 3. 687 Earth days; 4. Ursula; 5. 120 days; 6. 2,001; 7. Orange, green and purple; 8. "Arrested Development"; 9. A smack; 10. 64

Trivia Test Answers

Benefits/Fundraisers

Turkey Shoots at the Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in Kolanyvi (Big Cove) in Cherokee, N.C. Good food, good fun, great - Oct. 17 at 5 p.m., Annual Jesse Welch Memorial Turkey Shoot, sponsored by family. Delicious Indian dinners made by the family will be available for purchase.

EBCI Community Events

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

Cherokee Warriors Mogadishu Mile, Operation Gothic Serpent Remembrance Run. Oct. 9 at 7 a.m. at the Cherokee High School Football Field 86 Elk Crossing Ln., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. 2-mile combat warrior obstacle course. Open to Veterans, Active Duty Military, National Guard and Reserve, Native American Warriors, First responders, Community Members. Registration deadline Oct. 7. Info: (828) 359-6184 or email samuball@ebci-nsn.gov

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

436-7318 or smokieslife.org

Sam Lambert 1st Annual Golf Tournament. Oct. 11 at 9 a.m. at the Sequoyah National Golf Club at 79 Cahon's Mt. Rd., Whittier, N.C. 28789. Join us for a day of golf, fellowship and community support while helping provide educational scholarships for the children of EBCI Veterans. Info: (828)359-6184 or email samuball@ebci-nsn.gov

Cherokee Youth Council Community Event. Oct. 17 from 4 p.m. – 7p.m. at Whitewater Landing on Whitewater Dr., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. Traditional games and social dancing, bring a grocery bag of cleaned recyclables in exchange for some swag.

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

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

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

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

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

GWY Dhwōy Jlo'ldo' TS **tsalagi aniwonisgi didandadisi iga (Cherokee Speakers Memorial Day)** ceremony. Nov 24 at 10 a.m. at the Cherokee Speakers Place. Join to honor and remember the Cherokee speakers

whose voices, wisdom, and dedication have helped preserve and sustain language for future generations.

EBCI Community Regular Meetings

NAIWA (North American Indian Women's Association, Inc.) Cherokee Chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the West Senior Center in Cherokee, N.C. Eligibility for membership: any American Indian or Alaska Native or Canadian First Nations woman, 18 years of age or older, who is officially identified as a member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe/Nation. The meetings contain information on purpose and further aims. All who meet the eligibility

CHEROKEE PET OF THE WEEK

Ganasav hia svdodagwasdi asuyagida

SO'Hi AD RVLLo'J D'wyl



Jojo lives in Whittier, N.C. with human, Brittany Ward.



Sponsored by:

CHEROKEE
ANIMAL CARE CLINIC

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

are invited to attend.

Cherokee Cultural/Historic Events

Campfire and Stories. Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. at the Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center 121 Schoolhouse Rd., Robbinsville, N.C. 28776. Bo Taylor, EBCI Tribal Member, will be the storyteller for this day event, which will kick off the Harvest Festival weekend. No admission fee, there will be hot dogs, hot chocolate and drinks for sale. Info: (828) 479-3364

Cherokee Heritage Day. Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m at New Echota State Historic Site 1211

Chatsworth Hwy NE., Calhoun, Ga. 30701. Cherokee Language Repertory Choir, Cherokee Artist Demonstrations, Cherokee Vendors, Ranger Demonstrations, Food Vendors, raffle and silent auction. Info: (706) 624-1321

6th Annual Cherokee Winter Social. Jan. 30, 2027 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Peaches Squirrel Sports and Recreation Complex 1212 Birdtown Rd., Cherokee, N.C. 28719. MC: Catcuce Tiger. Everyone welcome. Traditional dress encouraged. All Cherokee Dance groups welcome, bring your rattles

see **EVENTS** next page



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) An upcoming trip could create some problems with your schedule, unless you tie up as many loose ends as possible before you head out the door. Ask a friend or colleague to help you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Being eager to start a new project is fine. However, moving ahead without knowing what will actually be expected of you could cause a problem down the line. Ask some questions.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Getting through some recent challenges in good shape might give you a false sense of security. Don't relax your guard. You need to be prepared for what else could happen.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Caution is still advised, even though you think you're as prepared as you need to be. Keep in mind that change is in your aspect, and you should expect the unexpected.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The Lion's gift of persuasion helps you get your points across, even to some of your most-negative naysayers in the workplace. Meanwhile, an old friend might seek you out for some advice.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Being sure of your convictions is fine, but leave some room for dissenting opinions. You might learn something that could help you avoid a possible problem later on.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Getting good legal advice on what your rights actually are is the first step toward resolving a pesky problem so that it doesn't reemerge at a later date. Good luck!

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Longtime relationships work well this week, whether they're personal or professional. It's also a good time to invite new friends and colleagues into your life.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is a good week to conduct research and uncover compelling facts that can back you up on your new venture when you most need it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Change is an important factor in your aspect this week and could affect something that you might have thought was immune to any sort of adjustment or "alteration."

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Being asked to share someone's deeply personal confidence might be flattering, but accepting could be unwise. Decline gracefully but firmly.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) As wise as you are, you could still be misled by someone who seems to be sincere but might not be. Take more time to assess the situation before making any commitments.

BORN THIS WEEK: You like to face challenges that others might try to avoid, and by so doing, you set an example of courage for all.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Insurance premium holiday

Here's an early holiday gift for 457,000 veterans — three months of no payments due on their life insurance policies.

Those veterans who have policies under the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program (VGLI) will not have to make their payments in November, December and January, freeing up that cash over the holidays.

The policies under the VGLI program can be a good deal and carry over after a veteran leaves the service, as long as they keep making the payments.

The policies themselves range from \$10,000 to \$500,000. Here are two examples of the monthly premium amounts: A \$200,000 policy for a 30-year-old veteran is \$16 and a \$250,000 policy for a 55-year-old veteran is \$125 per month.

Are you eligible for VGLI? There are varying requirements, but at the top of the list is whether you had Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) while you were active duty AND you're within one year and 120 days of being released from an active duty period that ran for 31 days or more. Then if you sign up within 240 days, you don't have to prove you're in good health. After that 240 days, you need to prove it.

Check the complete details at www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/vgli for information on eligibility, premiums, changing beneficiaries and more.

For all the information on the premium holiday, see www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/vgli_premium_holiday_faqs.asp. It covers important facts like how to handle it if you have auto pay for the premium or if the payments come out of your disability compensation pay. If you've paid in advance you'll have the opportunity to get a refund or have a credit applied to your account. One note: You won't be eligible for the premium holiday if either you cancel your coverage or it lapses on or before Oct. 31, 2026.

Keep an eye on your mail and email for notification about the premium holiday.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



Training a dog to be nonreactive

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My 1-year-old, mixed breed rescue dog "Shelly" barks at every noise and tries to lunge away from me when he sees another dog. He's skittish around certain people, and can be unpredictable when more than a few people are in the house — sometimes he's relaxed, sometimes he barks furiously. I know he needs more than basic obedience training, but where do I start? — Jethro H., Dallas

DEAR JETHRO: Talk to Shelly's veterinarian first. They can recommend specific professional training, socialization techniques, and can also prescribe medication to calm your dog. A calm dog is easier to work with, so any training will be more effective.

With rescue dogs, it can be difficult to imagine what their life was like before they ended up at a shelter. The shelter experience itself can be stressful. Building a daily routine for Shelly — always feeding, walking and training at the same time — helps reassure him that you are not abandoning him. He's part of your family and always will be.

Keep working on basic commands while you research trainers in your area. Keep a notebook (or the note app on your phone) with you and write down Shelly's behaviors during specific events, like encountering another dog, other people or wildlife. Note what situations trigger reactivity, and avoid those setups until they can be addressed in training.

One-on-one training costs more, but may be the best option at first so that Shelly gets constant attention and correction. After each training session, reinforce the new commands by working with your dog every day. Commit to continual reinforcement for the rest of Shelly's life.

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

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

EVENTS: From page 39

and drums. Nikki's Frybread will be set up. Info: CherokeeWinter-Social@gmail.com

Dinilawigi (Tribal Council) Meetings

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

Parks & Rec Committee. Oct. 8 at 1 p.m.

Annual Council. Oct. 12 at 8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Roads Commission. Oct. 19 at 9 a.m.

Timber Committee. Oct. 19 at

10:30 a.m.

Planning Board. Oct. 19 at 1 p.m.

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

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

Pow Wow Listings

38th Annual He Sapa Wacipi Na Oskate (Black Hills Pow Wow and Celebration). Oct. 9-11 at the Summit Arena in Rapid City, S.D. Emcees: Ruben Little Head, Dr. Whitney Rencountre II. Info: <https://www.blackhillspowwow.com>

Snow Mountain Pow Wow. Oct. 9-11 at Las Vegas Snow Mountain Pow Wow Grounds in Las Vegas, Nev. MC: Bart Powau-kee. Host Northern Drum: Battle Lake. Host Southern Drum: Cozad. Info: <https://lvpaiutetribel.com/pow-wow>

Wadatika Reservation Day Pow Wow. Oct. 9-11 in Burns, Ore. Emcees: Thomas Mornin-gowl, Calos Calica. Host Drum: Spring Creek. Info: BPTPowWow@burnspaiute-nsn.gov

Berkeley's 34th Annual Indigenous Peoples Day Pow Wow & Indian Market. Oct. 10 at M.L. King Civic Center Park in Berkeley, Calif. Emcees: Randy Pico, Aurora Mamea. Host Northern Drum: All Nations. Host Southern Drum: So Ex Style. Info: <https://ipdpowwow.org>

Honoring Native Nations

Gourd Dance. Oct. 11 at Santa Fe Plaza in Santa Fe, N.M. MC: James Edwards. Head Singer: Ed Pacheco. Info: <https://santafeindigenoucenter.org/events/>

4th Annual Honoring Native Nations Pow Wow. Oct. 12 at Santa Fe Plaza in Santa Fe, N.M. Info: <https://santafeindigenoucenter.org/events/>

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 Mc-Millan (828) 788-5410

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

Life@WesternCarolina. each

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

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

Western N.C. and Beyond Events

David Arthur Smith to present his new book, "Letters from the Qualla Boundary: William C. McCarthy's Reports as Special Agent to the Eastern Cherokees, 1875-1876". Oct. 8 at 6 p.m. at City Lights Bookstore 3 E. Jackson St Ste 1, Sylva, N.C. 28779. The letters provide a rare, first-hand account of the complex relationship between the United States government and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in western North Carolina. Serving as a federal Special Indian Agent, McCarthy was tasked with assessing living conditions, preventing unauthorized land sales to white settlers, and supporting agricultural, educational, and economic development among the Cherokee who had remained in the East after the Trail of Tears. Info: (828) 586-9499

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

Flag Retirement Ceremo-

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

2nd annual Pink Platoon 5K

run/walk. Oct. 10 at 9 a.m. final registration at the Charles George VA Medical Center 1100 Tunnel Rd., Asheville, N.C. 28805. The Western North Carolina VA Health

Care System in commitment to the countless people impacted by breast cancer, the event is dedicated to fostering health, solidarity and hope for the community. Participants are encouraged to show their support by wearing their brightest pink attire — tutus especially welcome. The event is family-friendly, community-focused and free of cost, welcoming participants of all ages. In addition to the 5K, a resource fair will offer VA and community resources supporting wellness, education and awareness. Race participants can sign up for the race at: runsignup.com/Race/NC/Asheville/PinkPlatoon5K

Pistol Creek, Catch of the

Day. Oct. 10 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Sam Houston Schoolhouse

3663 Old Sam Houston School Rd, Maryville, Tenn. 37804. Bring a lawn chair. Info: (865) 983-1550

Call for Entries – Quilt Show.

Oct. 16 the morning of at Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center 121 Schoolhouse Rd., Robbinsville, N.C. 28771. All types of quilts and fiber arts can be on display. To win viewers choice award, quilt must be made by the person(s) entering it. The exhibit will open as well as voting on the quilts, Saturday, Oct. 17. Rules and entry forms are available now for download from the website: StecoahValleyCenter.com/festivals. Info: (828) 479-3364

25th Annual Storytelling**Festival & Liars Competition.**

Oct. 16 and Oct. 17 starting at 6:30 p. m. at Hagood Mill Historic Site 138 Hagood Mill Rd., Pickens, S.C. 29671. Friday Night Frights & Ghost Stories kicks off the weekend on Friday. The festival continues Saturday, October 17, with a full day of stories, laughter, folklore, and tall tales. Want to compete? Email kim@visithagoodmill.org to sign up for the Liar's Competition. Info: (864) 898-2936

Cherohala Skyway Festival.

Oct. 24 from 10a.m. – 5 p.m. by the Charles Hall Museum 122 Bank St., Tellico Plains, Tenn. 37385. Special Josh Graves music tribute. Free admission. Hand-made items from many talented crafters and artisans. Vendors offer everything from paintings and photographs, pottery, floral arrangements, wood crafts and turnings, doll clothes, dolls, toys, jewelry, candles, soap, and decorative accessories. Lots of kids activities. Food trucks onsite. Info: (423)253-8000

Forest Bathing Guided Walk.

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

Halloween Trick or Treat

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

Grandma Gatewood's Walk.

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

Aunt Liddy Monologue.

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

Regal Raptors & Short-eared

see **EVENTS** next page



HAVE YOU VISITED ANY
PUBLIC HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
PROGRAMS IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS?



**WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM YOU!**

Pick up and return paper surveys at any PHHS program

HELP US IMPROVE THE CARE & SERVICES YOU COUNT ON!

To Complete the Survey by Phone, Call (828) 359-1539.
We will read the survey to you and record your response



Para solicitar una encuesta en español, envíe un correo electrónico a joskins@ebci-nsn.gov

EVENTS: From page 41

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

Cherokee Community Clubs

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

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

Tsisqwohi (Birdtown) Community meets the second Monday of each month at the community

building; potluck at 5:30 p.m., meeting at 6 p.m. Info: Chair Joey Owle (828) 508-2869

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

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

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

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

Wayohi (Wolftown) Community meets the first Tuesday of each month at the community building; potluck at 5:30 p.m., 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

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Lot (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which king wanted to see miracles when the arrested Jesus was before him? *Pilate, Shishak, Herod, Solomon*
3. From Judges 3, who was the left-handed Benjamite who killed Eglon? *Geshem, Agag, Ehud, Joram*
4. How many beasts rising out of the sea did Daniel have a dream about? *4, 7, 13, 20*
5. From Judges 1:6, which king had his thumbs and toes cut off? *David, Adoni-Bezek, Josiah, Herod*
6. Whose biblical name meant “messenger”? *Aaron, Moses, Samuel, Malachi*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Herod, 3) Ehud, 4) Four, 5) Adoni-Bezek, 6) Malachi

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit WilsonCasey'ssubscribersiteatwww.patreon.com/triviaguy.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



Moments in time

• On Oct. 19, 1216, England's King John (younger brother to Richard the Lionhearted) died of dysentery at Newark Castle during a civil war with his barons and was succeeded by his 9-year-old son, Henry III, just over a week later. The boy was crowned with a simple golden band belonging to his mother because the royal crown had been lost.

• On Oct. 20, 1910, the cork-centered baseball, invented and patented by Benjamin F. Shibe, executive director and part owner of the Philadelphia Athletics, made its debut in the World Series between the Athletics and the Chicago Cubs.

• On Oct. 21, 1867, the Medicine Lodge Treaty was signed. Consisting of three treaties following talks attended by more than 5,000 prominent chiefs and warriors near Medicine Lodge, Kansas, its aim was to bring peace by relocating Native Americans to reservations in Indian Territory.

• On Oct. 22, 2018, actress Selma Blair revealed that she'd been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. In her book “Mean Baby: A Memoir of Growing Up,” Blair recounted how the announcement by doctors, after years of incorrectly attributed symptoms, “felt like giving birth” and gave her an overwhelming sense of relief.

• On Oct. 23, 1947, Gerty and Carl Cori became the first spouses to win a joint Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, for their discovery of how the body breaks down, builds up and stores glycogen as an energy source.

• On Oct. 24, 1901, her 63rd birthday, widowed American schoolteacher Annie Edson Taylor became the first person to survive a plunge over Niagara Falls in a barrel, accompanied by her lucky heart-shaped pillow. Sadly, while she wrote a memoir and briefly earned money talking about her experience, she ended up dying penniless and in poor health at age 82.

• On Oct. 25, 1920, Greece's King Alexander died at age 27 from wounds he received after a Barbary macaque attacked and bit him several times a few weeks earlier, as he walked on the grounds outside the castle with his dog. The monkey had first gone after the dog, and the king had stepped in to separate the animals.

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.



Pillbugs



These creatures are not insects; they are actually tiny crustaceans that have adapted to living on land. They have gills, and are closely related to lobsters, shrimp, and crayfish. They are usually less than ½ an inch long and are dark grey with seven pairs of legs. They can roll into a ball when disturbed, hence their common name “roly-polies.” They are experts at converting decaying organic matter, so you can gently relocate them to your compost pile.

– Brenda Weaver

Source: missouribotanicalgarden.org

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

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. Wednes-

day 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

see **EVENTS** next page

Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- In ancient Egyptian mummification, onions were sometimes used to fill body cavities, even serving on occasion as false eyes.

- About 90% of all harvested olives are turned into olive oil.

- Fijian war chief Ratu Udre Udre holds the rather dubious distinction of being the most active cannibal in recorded history, with a reported consumption of between 872 and 999 people during his lifetime.

- Teenagers naturally experience a biological shift that causes them to fall asleep later than adults.

- The red poinsettia originated in Mexico and is named after Joel Roberts Poinsett, the first United States ambassador to Mexico in the early 19th century.

- Shells and stones on the ritual blades used by the Aztecs symbolized the faces of the gods for which the hearts of sacrificed individuals were intended, with such rituals claiming between 10,000-15,000 people per year.

- Sheep only have teeth in their lower jaw and use a hard upper palate to break down food.

- Every second, the sun delivers about 173,000 terawatts of energy to Earth, which is more than 10,000 times the amount of power used by humans.

- Although English is the country's most widely spoken language, the United States has never designated an official language at the federal level, though some states have at their level.

- The video game industry consistently brings in more money than Hollywood.

- Long before the Nazis adopted it, the swastika was an ancient religious symbol associated with good fortune, spirituality and prosperity. Versions of it have appeared across India, China, Greece and other ancient civilizations for centuries.

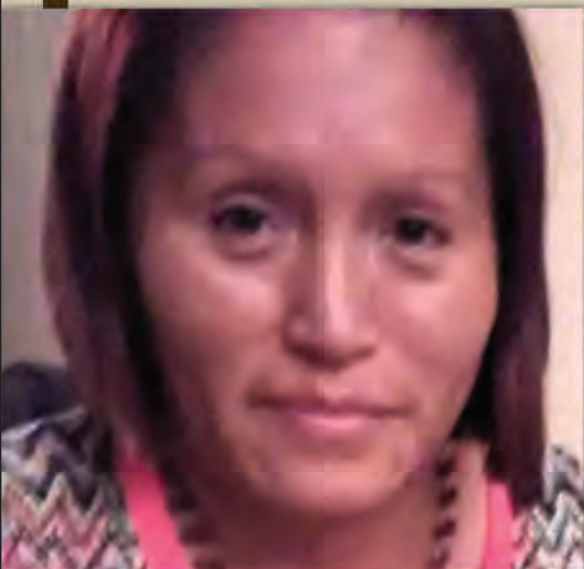
- Basketball shorts were short until 1984, when Michael Jordan petitioned the NBA for longer ones.

Thought for the Day: "Civilizations should be measured by the degree of diversity attained and the degree of unity retained." — *W.H. Auden*

© 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

MISSING PERSON

GWY 𐏊𐏆𐏐 𐏐𐏐𐏐𐏐
CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER • TSALAGI SOQUO UGIDAHLI



Bernadell Jean Tsosie

Tribal Affiliation: San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation

Female Age: 46

Height: 5'15" **Weight:** 120 lbs

Hair: Brown **Eyes:** Brown

Date of last contact: Sept. 15, 2020

Last known location: Whiteriver, Ariz.

Circumstances of Disappearance: Bernadell Jean Tsosie was last seen walking away from the house, in a pink sweater and red sweatpants. She did not take her phone or any of her possessions.

If anyone has seen or has information concerning Bernadell Tsosie, contact Special Agent Tara Grays, Bureau of Indian Affairs-Fort Apache Agency (928) 338-5371.

EVENTS: From page 43

Evening 6:30 p.m. Info: (828) 507-2271

Cherokee Baptist Church.

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

Cherokee Bible Church.

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

Cherokee Church of Christ.

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

Cherokee Church of God.

21 Church of God Drive. Sunday Service 3 p.m. Thursday Service 6:30 p.m. Pastor Marty Pressley

Cherokee Church of the Nazarene.

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

Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church.

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

Cherokee United Methodist Church.

Hwy 19 – Soco Road. Sunday Church Service 11 a.m. Wednesday dinner at 6 p.m.

followed by Bible Study. Pastor – Rev. Beverly Parker-Reece

Cherokee Wesleyan Church.

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

Christian Acts Church at the

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

Echota Baptist Church.

1274 Birdtown Road. Sunday School:

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

Ela Baptist Church.

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

Embassy Christian Center

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

embassytv.net Tuesday Night Bible Study 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Will Chambliss, Thursday Night Women's Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Brenda Miller-Chambliss (828) 835-2359 or embassymedia-group@gmail.com

Goose Creek Baptist Church.

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

Grace Bible Church.

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

Grace Community Church

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

Grace Fellowship Church.

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

Jesus is the Light Full Gospel Ministries.

1921 US 441 N. Sunday service 10 a.m. Thursday service 7 p.m. Pastor Margie Hall 736-9383

Living Waters Lutheran

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

Macedonia Baptist Church.

1181 Wolfetown Rd. Sunday School

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

10 a.m., Sunday Morning Worship
11a.m., Sunday Evening Worship
6pm, Wednesday Evening Bible
Study 6pm. Pastor Bro. Dan Con-
seen, 497-1611, mbccherokee@
outlook.com, Website: www.mace-
doniabaptistcherokee.church

Newsong Church. 3548 Wolfe-
town 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 Ser-
vice 9:45am.

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

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

**Rock Creek Missionary Bap-
tist Church.** 240 Sherrill Rd.,
Bryson City, N.C. Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday morning worship
service 11 a.m., Sunday evening
service 6 p.m., Wednesday evening
service 6 p.m. Pastor Rev. Ned

Welch. Check our FB Page “Rock
Creek Baptist Church” for the
latest updates.

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

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

Shoal Creek Baptist Church.
184 Shoal Creek Church Loop
Rd., Whittier, NC 28789. Sunday
Continental Breakfast 9:30 a.m.,
Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday
Worship Service 11 a.m., Wednes-
day 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., Whitti-
er, N.C. 28789. Sunday worship
service 10 a.m. Rev. Beverly Park-
er-Reece

Wilmot Baptist Church. Thom-
as 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) sing-
ing, 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. Wednes-
day 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**

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

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**

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee, North Carolina
Estate File No. EST 26-073

Notice to Creditors and Debtors of:

CLARA SAUNOOKE

All persons, and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS
FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

David Saunooke
1927 S.Gail Ln.
Anaheim, CA. 92802

10/14

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

Notice to Qualified Professionals

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Handicapped & Elderly Living
Program (H.E.L.P.) 145 Tsali Man-
or St. Cherokee N.C. 28719
Phone 828-359-6638

The Handicapped and Elderly Living Program (H.E.L.P.) is seeking qualified contractors and professionals who specialize in

general residential rehabilitation and repair for residential properties. Work to be performed may include:

Removal and installation of metal or shingled roofs

Removal and installation of storm doors, doors and window

Service, removal, and installation of HVAC

Service and installation of electrical generators

Service, removal, and installation of propane heater & tank/line sets

Service, removal and installation of electrical

Service, removal and installation of plumbing

Removal and installation of kitchen cabinets

Removal and installation of flooring

Rough and finish carpentry

Construction of universally acceptable ramps and decks

Sheetrock repair

Lawn maintenance services

Pest control

Locksmith

Qualified contactors and professionals will be expected to start work upon issuance of a contract. Several contractors and professionals will be selected for work. Selections will be based on qualifications. The H.E.L.P. Program reserves the right to reject any and all submissions.

The work to be performed under this RFQ is subject to TERO guidelines. TERO certified vendors will be given preference. Qualification packages should include a W-9, tribal business license, proof of insurance, and any applicable licenses or certifications. Deliver sealed proposals to the H.E.L.P. Program office.

Contact Shyreece Williams,
shyrwill1@nc-chokeee.com with

questions or comments at 828-359-6638. **10/7**

EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS

EMERGENCY

MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Assignment of a Name for a New Road

NOTICE is hereby given that the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Emergency Management Office at its 9-1-1 Committee meeting held on October 1, 2026 resolved pursuant to EBCI Code of Ordinances Chapter 136A ARTICLE II - UNIFORM STREET ADDRESS AND ROAD NAMING

SYSTEM (Ord. No. 332-A, 10-26-1998) that a certain new road in the Wolfetown Big Y Community be assigned the street name as

detailed below:

*The newly established Road on Wrights Creek Road between Sarah Jones Road and Reed Drive shall be assigned the name Red-bird Road along with its eventual continuation.

Inquiries or appeals to this action can be made to Donald Wolfe Jr at the Emergency Operations Center located at 282 Seven Clans Lane, Cherokee, NC 28719 during normal business hours. Contact information Office (828) 359-6433 Work Cell (828) 788-254.

10/14

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the District Water Metering Project will be received, by Cherokee Water Programs, Eastern



Employment Opportunities

Now Hiring for Our Spa!

Mandara Spa at Harrah's Cherokee

**Hair Stylist
Nail Tech
Spa Attendants**

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

Band of Cherokee Indians, at the office of the 1840 Paint Town Road, Cherokee, NC 28719, until 10:30 PM local time on November 5, 2026, at which time the Bids will be accepted and opened in accordance with Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) Policy.

The Project consists of installing five concrete vaults that have been pre-assembled with pressure reducing valves, flow meters and check valves as required for each location. The vaults will be installed along existing water mains that vary in size from 8-inches to 12-inch ductile iron pipe. One flow meter will be delivered and swapped out at an existing booster pump station. The scope of the project will excavation, include all dewatering, cutting in new pipe, installation of isolation valves, pavement restoration, and any necessary tools or equipment required to complete the jobs according to the specifications. All materials will be the responsibility of the contractor.

The allotted time for construction is 210 calendar days. Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis, as indicated in the Bid Form.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: LJA Engineer-

ing, 1111 North Northshore Drive, Suite N800 Knoxville, TN 37919 Phone: 865-328-3141; Vickie Wilhite vwilhite@lja.com Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM local time, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Electronic copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office, during the hours indicated above, Attention: Vickie Wilhite 1111 North Northshore Drive, Suite N800, Knoxville, TN 37919. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

A pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 AM local time on October 28th, 2026, via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Bid security is not required. Bidders shall provide proof of qualifications to perform the Work as described in the Instructions to Bidders.

10/14

BIDS

Please be advised that Qualla Enterprises LLC, an Equal Opportunity Employer, is soliciting Licensed General Contractors for the project, "Dispensary Dab Lounge". The work will consist of constructing a new lounge and commercial kitchen area within the existing dispensary.

A mandatory Pre-bid will be held October 27th at 8 am. Pre-bid meeting will be located at 91 Bingo Loop Rd Cherokee NC 28719 in the conference room. Be advised that all attendees must be 21 years of age or older.

For more information, contact Charles Bryson at 828-788-5494.

10/14

NOTICE

The EBCI Cannabis Control Board is proposing administrative rules pursuant to Cherokee Code 17A-3 and 150-4. Amendments to Title 17A of the Cherokee Administrative Regulations are proposed to limit the total number of hemp retail licenses available, and reserving some such licenses for EBCI enrolled members only. Written comments may be mailed to the EBCI CCB at Attn: EBCI CCB, P.O. Box 549, Cherokee NC 28719 or emailed to info@ebci-ccb.org. The period for public comment is 30 days from the pub-

lication of this notice. **10/7**

NOTICE

The EBCI Cannabis Control Board is proposing the amendment of administrative rules pursuant to Cherokee Code 17A-3 and 150-4. Amendments to Title 17A of the Cherokee Administrative Regulations are proposed to update the Tribe's USDA-approved hemp cultivation plan to meet USDA-imposed requirements. Written comments may be mailed to the EBCI CCB at Attn: EBCI CCB, P.O. Box 549, Cherokee NC 28719 or emailed to info@ebci-ccb.org. The period for public comment is 30 days from the publication of this notice. **10/7**

INVITATION TO BID

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. Pioneer Apartments-(5) Units

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 **10/14**

JOIN OUR TEAM



WE ARE HIRING

Open Positions

- Processing Supervisor
- Propagation Technician I



Apply Online
www.quallallc.com/careers



More Information
828.589.8285

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

*See the list of persons
banished by the EBCI:
[theonefeather.com/
ebci-banishment-list/](http://theonefeather.com/ebci-banishment-list/)*



**CHEROKEE INDIAN
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

OPEN POSITIONS



NEW POSITIONS

Residential Technician – Female – Part Time without Benefits
Tribal Option Care Manage Specialty Lead – RN Preferred
RN Supervisor – Tsali Care Center
EVS Technician
Medication Assisted Treatment Program Supervisor
Dishwasher
Certified Coder

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, Adult Outpatient)
Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor – Kanvwotiyi
Behavioral Health Consultant Supervisor
Behavioral Health RN - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Grant Coordinator
Qualified Mental Health Professional

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 Technologist
Medical Lab Technician
Phlebotomist – Part Time with Benefits

MEDICAL

Psychiatrist
Physician and IM Rural Track Director

NURSING

Registered Nurse Emergency Department – Temporary
RN Emergency Department – \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
License Practical Nurse – Primary Care - \$5,000 Hiring Bonus
Clinical Care Manager – Float \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
Clinical Care Manager - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus
RN Inpatient – Nights - PTI
Telemetry Nursing Assistant – PTI
Nurse Resident/Intern
Specialty Services Registered Nurse - \$10,000 Hiring Bonus

NUTRITION

Clinical Dietitian
Clinical Dietitian - Temporary

Radiology

Radiology Technologist I

TRIBAL OPTION

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

TSALI CARE

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

CHOOSE CIHA FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

CHEROKEEHOSPITAL.ORG/CAREERS

828.497.9163 EXT. 6343



Job Opportunities



Closing Sunday, October 11, 2026

1. **Electrician Assistant/Generator Maintenance – Facility Management – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
2. **PT Paramedic (Multiple) – EMS – Operations (L11 \$20.39 - \$25.49 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
3. **Field Technician I – Water & Sewer – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)**
4. **Compliance Clerk – Water & Sewer – Operations (L9 \$17.27 - \$21.59 per hour)**
5. **Utility Worker – Tribal Construction – Operations (L7 \$16.61 - \$20.77 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
6. **Financial Analyst (Qualla Boundary HS/EHS) – Budget & Finance – Treasury (L15 \$61,776 - \$77,230)**

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 - \$37.14 per hour)**
7. **Mental Health Therapist – Child Advocacy – Public Health and Human Services (L14 \$55,806 - \$69,763)**
8. **Driver (Cherokee County) – Transit – Operations (L8 \$16.94 - \$21.18 per hour) SAFETY SENSITIVE**
9. **Air Quality Specialist – Environmental & Natural Resources – Operations (L12 \$22.26 - \$27.83 per hour)**

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

Call us (828) 359-6388

www.ebci.com/jobs



Cherokee Cinemas & More has the following job opportunities

POSITION: Manager – Full-Time (Exempt)

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

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

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

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

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



Cherokee Central Schools Job Openings

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

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

JV Girls Head Basketball Coach

Special Education Severe and Profound Teacher

K-6 Special Education Teacher Assistant (Multiple)- Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathway exam for a reading/writing and mathematics.

K-6 Self-Contained Teacher Assistant - Must have 48 Completed College Hours or submit ParaPathway exam for a reading/writing and mathematics.

7-8 Special Education (Inclusion) Teacher

Cherokee Language Instructor / Teacher

Student Supervisory Support and Language Specialist

Part Time Food Service Worker

Substitute Teacher

AM Custodian

PM Custodian

JOB FAIR

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

OCTOBER 8
10am - 3pm

OCTOBER 22
1pm - 5pm

Located in the Employment
Office on the Second Floor



Harrah's
CHEROKEE
CASINO RESORT

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

GO SOLAR

Solar energy is the new and fast way to help homes and businesses offset their electrical cost. Reduce your energy costs by 75% to 90%. Savings on your energy cost will pay for the cost of installation in a few years! Every system comes with a battery backup, for when the power goes out, you will still have power for your utilities.

Interested call Cherokee Solar Systems (828) 788-5776

Tribal member owned and operated, licensed company.



Your #1
STATION FOR CLASSIC COUNTRY

TRAD O

12:30-1pm Weekdays

Scan The QR Code To Download Our Mobile App!





CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

PRIMARY CARE PHONE NUMBERS

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

hAGVP (Ni hi tsa tse li)
"It belongs to you."

Eagle Clinic

Dr. Mahar:
(828)497-3476

Dr. Houser:
(828)497-3727

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

Dr. Winchester:
(828)497-3576

Dr. Brown:
(828)497-3576

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

Seven Clans Clinic

Dr. Jones:
(828)497-3475

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

Dr.Givens:
(828)497-3552

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

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

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

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

Satellite Clinics

Snowbird

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

Cherokee County Clinic

June Hensley
(FNP)828-837-4312

DCC

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



EVERY APPOINTMENT MATTERS, SHOW UP FOR YOUR HEALTH

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

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

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

Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. The new Cullowhee Precinct Election Day voting location will be Western Carolina University Health and Human Sciences Building at 4121 Little Savannah Rd., Cullowhee. Election Day voting will cease to occur at the Cullowhee Recreation Center.

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

- Skyland Service Center, 876 Skyland Dr.-Suite 1, Sylva
- Cashiers Rec Center, 355 Frank Allen Rd, Sylva
- Cullowhee Rec Center, 88 Cullowhee Mtn. Rd., Cullowhee
- Qualla Community Building, 181 Shoal Creek Church Loop Rd, Whittier
- WCU Health & Human Sciences Building, 4121 Little Savannah Rd., Cullowhee

Hours of operation are M-F 8:00am-7:30pm; and Saturdays, October 24 and 31, 8:00am-3:00pm.

Absentee ballots will be mailed to voters who have requested them beginning September 4, 2026. A voter can fill out an absentee ballot request at votebyemail.ncsbe.gov, or by filling out a request form provided by the board of elections. The request must be received through the website or by the Jackson County Board of Elections by 5 p.m. October 20, 2026.

In the general election, voters will select candidates for the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, N.C. General Assembly, state and local judges, district attorney, and county offices. A Statewide Referendum proposing amendments to the N.C. Constitution will also be on the ballot.

The voter registration deadline for this election is 5 p.m. Friday, October 9, 2026. Eligible individuals who are not registered by that deadline may register and vote at any early voting site during the early voting period. New registrants will be required to provide documentation of their residence.

Voters voting in person are entitled to assistance by an election official, or, if assistance is needed due to disability or illiteracy, by a qualified person of their choice. Voting sites are accessible to all voters. Curbside voting is available for voters who are not able to enter voting sites without physical assistance because of age or physical disability. Questions? Call the Jackson County Board of Elections Office at 828.586.7538 or send an email to ElectionsInfo@JacksonNC.org.

Bill Thompson, Chairman
Jackson County Board of Elections

10/7 Paid Political Notice

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


John Herrin
Swain County Board of Elections

10/7 Paid Political Notice

"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"





Cherokee Indian Housing Division to Launch Tribal Housing Choice Voucher Pilot Program

CHEROKEE, NC – September 25, 2026 – The Cherokee Indian Housing Division (CIHD) of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians will launch a Tribal Housing Choice Voucher pilot program to expand affordable housing opportunities for enrolled members. Applications for the program will open October 1, 2026, with 40 vouchers available for award.

Program Overview

The Housing Choice Voucher program will provide rental assistance to eligible low-income Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, enabling them to rent housing in the private market while receiving subsidies from the Tribe. This initiative aligns with CIHD's mission to create a centralized, productive housing delivery system that addresses the diverse housing needs of Tribal members, including rental assistance, homeownership opportunities, and housing rehabilitation.

Eligibility

While specific criteria will be detailed in the application materials, eligibility is expected to include:

- Enrollment as a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
- Meeting HUD income guidelines (80% of area median income)
- Meeting other program requirements outlined in the application package

Application Process

- Application opens: October 1, 2026
- Number of vouchers: 40
- Application method: Available via the Cherokee Indian Housing Division main office.
- Selection process: Will be announced in accordance with CIHD's selection guidelines
- Application close: TBD

About CIHD

The Cherokee Indian Housing Division serves as the Tribe's official housing information clearinghouse, coordinating housing services, and delivering programs such as affordable rental housing, homeownership assistance, and rehabilitation projects. For more information, visit the Cherokee Indian Housing Division website at ebci.gov/cherokee-indian-housing-division or contact the CIHD main office.



Birth announcement

Waylon Driver Conseen was born at Harris Regional Hospital in Sylva, N.C. on Tuesday, Sept. 22 to Carrie Conseen and Antonio Lorenzo. Waylon was 6lb 15 oz and 20 inches at birth.



New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood Perfect Attendance

The following students and teachers at New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood had perfect attendance for the month of September. They are shown, left to right, including: L-R: SOᎠᎠᎠ-Abigail Long, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Oliver Neadeau, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Livingston Lane, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Cassian Hemphill, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Lennox Welch, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Macy Thompson, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Ani Bynum, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Daryn Lambert, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Olive Crowe, ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Hailee Lossiah, and ᎠᎠᎠᎠ-Truett Teesateskie. (Photo courtesy of New Kituwah Academy Early Childhood)



<<

CHS Homecoming

The Cherokee High School (CHS) homecoming was held during halftime of the varsity Tsalagi Anitsvyasdi (Cherokee Braves) game vs the Hayesville Yellowjackets at Ray Kinsland Stadium in Cherokee, N.C., on the evening of Friday, Oct. 2. Shown, left to right, are Briann Teesateskie, CHS Homecoming Maid of Honor; Noah Dossett, CHS Homecoming Boys Court; Oaklynn Arch and Gunner Bird, First Grade Attendants; Livia Crowe, CHS Homecoming Queen; Kingston Welch, CHS Homecoming King; Kyla Keel-Aguilera, CHS Homecoming Girls Court; and Kyson Jenkins, CHS Homecoming Prince. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photo)

QUALLA-WEEN

OCTOBER CHEROKEE, NC



Legendary Fears: The Sgili (Ghost) Hunt

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

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



Legendary Fears: Spearfinger's Awakening

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

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



Fear as a Teacher Exhibit

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

October 1 - 31



Shape Shifters

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

DIY activities

Oct 30, 9am - 3pm

DIY activities & Open Air Market

Oct 31, 9am - 3pm

Costume Contest Kids - Teens - Adults

Oct 31, 11am - 1pm



Cherokee Art Heist

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

October 30 & 31, 9am - 3 pm

quallaween.com

