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Community members presenting draft Constitution for review

SCOTT MCKIE B.P.
ONE FEATHER STAFF

After discussing the possibility of a Constitution for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians at a community meeting in the Yellowhill Community in April 2017, a group started meeting to draft one. Just about a year later, the group has a document to present to the EBCI tribal members for their review and comment. They have also established a website, http://sgadugi.org/february-2018-draft-constitution/, where the draft can be viewed.

The Tribe has voted on proposed Constitutions several times in recent history. One of the votes was on Aug. 28, 1984, and according to documents from the BIA, it was “duly rejected by a vote of 737 for and 1,144 against and 1 ballot found spoiled or mutilated in an election in which at least 30 percent of the 3,853 members entitled to vote cast their ballot...”

Fifteen years later, in October 1999, EBCI tribal members headed to the polls and rejected a proposed Constitution by an overwhelming margin of 1,299 votes against to 547 votes for. That draft failed in each of the voting townships.

Lloyd Arneach Jr., an EBCI tribal member from the Yellowhill Community, spoke of how the current draft of the Constitution came to be. “A group discussion on a Constitutional for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians was initiated by a community member request at a regularly scheduled Yellowhill Community Club meeting in April 2017. The group has increased to include other communities and has been open to anyone interested in participating.”

He noted the group meets on Monday evenings from 6 – 8pm at the Shaw Blanton EOC Building in Cherokee. Arneach said a final draft of the proposed Constitution will be ready for the July regular session of Tribal Council, and they are hoping to have a vote for adoption by the people on Wednesday, Oct. 3 which is Heritage Day/Children’s Day at the Cherokee Indian Fair.

Former Yellowhill Rep. Anita Lossiah has worked with the group and said they began their work by referencing various documents. “We started out with the current Charter and Governing Document, the constitution draft created by the Constitution Committee established by a resolution from the Junaluska Leadership Council, and the constitution draft from Chief Lambert. We have additionally referenced the U.S. Constitution, the Indian Civil Rights Act, the Indian Reorganization Act, the Cherokee Code, and have additionally consulted subject matter experts.”

Lossiah said the proposed Constitution includes some interesting changes to the current tribal governmental structure. “The main changes are the addition of individual rights, three equal but separate branches of government, and term limits for Tribal Council.”

Currently, under the Charter and Governing Document, there is no mention of a Judicial Branch of the EBCI tribal government. The current Judicial Branch was established by Ord. No. 29 which was passed by Tribal Council on April 1, 2000.

On the changes to the group’s proposed Constitution, Arneach said, “The main changes are the addition of individual rights, the formal recognition of three equal but separate branches of government, staggered terms for Tribal Council, and the provisions for term limits for all leaders of each branch of government. It defines Grand Council, impeachment procedures, and provides for voter recalls.”

Lossiah said the establishment of a Constitution is of the utmost importance. “The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is at a pivotal point in history. Rarely has a community made such strides of improving the well-being and lifestyles of their members as we have seen over the past 21 years due to gaming. Unfortunately, this has brought new problems, but this has also brought many new opportunities for our members and communities.”

She added, “Additionally, with this newly-acquired revenue comes additional responsibilities. It is the duty of our elected officials to redistribute these gaming proceeds and other acquired funding to best meet the needs of our members and communities. How well is this being done? How well are the rights of our members and communities being protected? Are we putting the money where it is needed most or least? How are we holding the tribal government accountable?”

Lossiah said the current Charter and Governing Document lacks “vital items” such as limiting government, establishing a governmental structure that is fair to all, and outlining individual rights and protections. “Upon review of this document, it became quickly evident that many additions were needed.”

Arneach said the proposed Constitution has been years in the making. “This draft Constitution is an organic document built from the foundational work done by many others before us. This draft is a culmination of these earlier works plus new ideas that best address our current governing needs as established by the people and for the people.”

Carmaleta Monteith, an EBCI tribal elder from the Yellowhill Community, noted, “I took great interest in volunteering to join like-minded community members when the opportunity presented itself to focus on creating a governing document for our Tribe. As long as I can remember, there has been controversy as to whether or not we have an appropriate document to govern our people. Another factor that impacted me was living in a community where unsettling and emotionally-charged incidents led to the subsequent inability for our tribal leaders to conduct business as usual.”

She added, “The work that we have done has created a framework where all tribal members can have input in how we want to be governed.
It is hoped that tribal members will respond to the appeal for input by reading and responding to the articles in the One Feather and going to the website sgadugi.org to comment."

Lossiah also stressed the need for public input on the document. "This document should be the supreme law of the Tribe, the source of all governmental power, and established by the people. All enrolled members should be a part of this process whether they live on or off tribal trust property. This is the only way to establish a document by the people for the people. Individual community discussions are still underway, and drafts can be viewed and commented upon online at sgadugi.org. All comments, concerns, and recommendations are wanted and needed."

Lossiah concluded with, "It is time, way past time, to adopt a Constitution that meets the needs of our members and communities. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is the driving economic engine of western North Carolina. We need to step up to the duties and responsibilities we have today. We need to better protect our members and communities, better protect our financial investments in this region, and above all better protect our Cherokee culture from eradication. This must start with the establishment of a new Constitution."

The Preamble for the draft Constitution reads as follows, "We, the Principal People, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, acknowledging the Creator, being determined to hold fast to our ancestral homelands and natural resources; and, in order to establish justice, ensure tranquility and promote our culture, education, language and common welfare and secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of liberty, do establish this Constitution of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Herein we do acknowledge the 1875 Lloyd Welch Constitution, Chapter 207 of the 1887 North Carolina State Charter, and the 1986 Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Charter and Governing Document and declare that this Constitution supersedes these and all other previous governing documents."

A Governing Documents Review Committee was convened in 2010 with the passage of Res. No. 271 (2010) which stated that the group was "to research the governing documents of the Tribe, to clarify the role and function of the branches of our tribal government..."

The group released a 64-page report in June 2011 that outlined its findings which included several recommendations including, "The Charter and Governing Document needs to be expanded and enhanced under constitutional principles, which must include an independent court system and protection of the civil rights of tribal members."

The opening page of their report speaks to the Charter and states, "A long-standing controversy has troubled the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians community almost 25 years regarding the validity of the Tribe's Charter and Governing document (the "Charter"). Although addressed by a 1993 Tribal Council-authorized investigation by a committee made up of Tribal Council and community members, criticism of the

View the draft Constitution online at: http://sgadugi.org

Charter as invalid continues to persistently arise in Tribal Council proceedings."

After researching the validity of the Charter, the Review Committee reported, "The 1986 amendments have been repeatedly challenged by tribal members for failing to have been legally ratified. In 1993, the Eastern Band Tribal Council approved the creation of an investigating committee to look into any deficiencies in the referendum election through which the Charter and Governing Document was approved. The Committee, authorized under Resolution No. 1, of that year concluded that Chapter 207 was in effect at the time of the 1986 referendum and its provisions were not followed, therefore, invalidating approval of the Charter and Governing Document."

The Review Committee came to a different conclusion and reported, "The Committee does not agree that the referendum to approve the 1986 Charter and Governing Document was invalid because a Grand Council was not called and a two-year period of deliberation was not provided. The Committee does conclude, however, that the number of registered votes cast to approve the 1986 changes to the EBCI governing document did not meet the 25 percent approval requirement set by Tribal Council for that election."

A report from the EBCI Election Board, obtained by the One Feather, states that a total of 1,044 people voted in the above-mentioned referendum vote held on Oct. 8, 1986 which represented 12.5 percent of the eligible voters.

The Review Committee examined several governing documents including the Loyd Welch Constitution (note: although commonly spelled Lloyd, all instances in the report refer to it as Loyd). "...in 1868, they convened, in a Grand Council at Cheoah near what is now the Snowbird community, to prepare an organizing document. This first expression of Eastern Cherokee self-governance is the earliest of three documents contained in what is referred to as the 'Loyd Welch Constitution'. The 1868 document was expanded and revised through amendment in 1870 by the people assembled at Qualla Town, near present-day Cherokee, North Carolina. Loyd Welch was Principal Chief when the governing document was finally rewritten and adopted in 1875 at the Cheoah Council Grounds."

After the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against the Tribe in the 1886 court case The Cherokee Trust Funds, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians v. the United States and Cherokee Nation, commonly called the Cherokee Nation West, 117 U.S. 288, "the Court commented on the Eastern Band's constitutional documents, refusing its authority to organize under a constitutional system," the report states.

The Tribe took action according to the report, "Unable to hold property and without legal protection, the Eastern Band then turned to the state legislature obtaining a corporate charter from North Carolina in 1889, Chapter 211, North Carolina Private Session Laws, amended in 1897 as Chapter 207. Once it achieved status as a North Carolina corporation, the Eastern Cherokees could finally own land and take title to the Qualla Boundary in 1897."

The state charter stood as the governing document, having been amended a few times, until 1986 when the current Charter and Governing Document was installed.
Tribe added to Southwestern Commission

SCOTT MCKIE B.P.
ONE FEATHER STAFF

A group consisting of governmental entities and leaders from the seven westernmost counties in North Carolina now includes the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The Southwestern Commission added the Tribe to its list of members during a meeting at the Chestnut Tree Inn in Cherokee on the evening of Monday, March 26.

The organization, officially known as the Southwestern North Carolina Planning and Economic Development Commission, includes Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties, and now the Qualla Boundary and tribal trust lands of the Tribe.

“We think this is a very appropriate thing to do,” Cal Stiles, a Cherokee County Commissioner who serves on the Southwestern Foundation’s Board of Directors, said as the motion was made during Monday’s meeting to include the Tribe in the organization. “There has been a lot of work on this, and we’d like to make this change to add them to our organization.”

The move to add the Tribe was approved unanimously.

Following the vote, Principal Chief Richard G. Sneed spoke, “I think this is just a tremendous opportunity for the Tribe but also for the organization...the Tribe is a driving economic force, and it’s true we employ a lot of people in the region.”

During Monday’s meeting, many issues were discussed from housing needs in the region to economic development opportunities. Chief Sneed touched on those issues in his statement, “It’s interesting to hear a lot of the comments about housing. We have the same sort of discussions in our meetings all the time. So, clearly the issues that we face are the same issues that we’re facing in the region, and I believe we’re stronger together and that if we work together we can find solutions to all of these.”

He concluded by saying, “Thank you for this opportunity, and it’s good to have a seat at the table.”

Rich Price, Mountain West Partnership board chairman, was the guest speaker at Monday’s event, and he touched on the need for cooperation within the area. “Our county communities are not mutually-exclusive. They are very dependent on each other.”

He commented that the idea is to share ideas to solve problems as a region. Of the Commission’s work he noted, “It is proving to be very collaborative.”

The Southwestern Commission was formed in 1965. Information from the Commission’s website states, “Initially, the driving factor behind this movement was money. Between 1965 and 1975, state legislatures and the U.S. Congress created thousands of grant-in-aid programs totaling billions of dollars in funds available to local governments. Funds were appropriated for water supplies, sewer systems, housing, solid waste, emergency medicine, juvenile delinquency, recreation, health care, law enforcement, economic development, job training, senior citizens services and a plethora of other purposes. Local governments needed state and federal aid. State and federal legislators desired to prevent duplication and mismanagement of the local projects and services they funded, while state and federal auditors demanded that the grants be administered properly. Of the hundreds of conditions imposed on grants, the most universal were (and remain today) the requirements that applicants demonstrate partnership, economy-of-scale, regionalism, efficiency, leveraging, intergovernmental cooperation and written proof that a high priority was (is) placed on engaging in joint ventures with neighboring local units.”
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Local bail bondsman pleads guilty to forced labor

PHILLIP S. ARMACHAIN SR., 50, an EBCI tribal member, has pleaded guilty to a felony charge of forced labor (https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/1589). According to court documents, he entered the plea on Jan. 29 in U.S. District Court to count five as outlined in a Dec. 5, 2017 Second Superseding Bill of Indictment.

According to a factual basis in the case, entered in federal court on Jan. 23, “In or about November 2016, an adult female identified herein as AB was being held in the Cherokee Tribal Detention Facility following her arrest for Cherokee Tribal Court charges. She contacted the defendant and he agreed to post bond for her.”

According to the factual basis, Armachain Sr. secured AB’s release from jail and then drove her to his home. “Once inside his house, the defendant started kissing AB and removing her clothes. He informed her that if she would have sex with him he would forgive the fee she owed him for having executed the bond. AB was very familiar with bond procedures and feared that if she did not have intercourse with the defendant he would surrender her back into custody. AB thereby felt pressured to engage in actions that she otherwise would not have done. Therefore, in order to ensure that the defendant would not surrender her back into custody, and to have the fee forgiven, she engaged in sexual intercourse with the defendant.”

The charge has a maximum sentence of 20 years and a $250,000 fine, but the plea agreement states that the Applicable Sentencing Guideline range agreed upon is 30 to 37 months. An official date of sentencing has not been set by press time.

The Second Superseding Bill of Indictment alleged that Armachain Sr. engaged in a sexual act with a minor between the age of 12 and 16.

The minor’s mother was also named in the Indictment along with Armachain Sr. and was charged with three counts of Sexual Abuse of a Minor or Ward. The One Feather does not report the names of victims of sexual abuse so the mother’s name is omitted from this report to protect the identity of the minor.

The mother pleaded guilty to one count of misprision of felony in January which is defined as someone “having knowledge of the actual commission of a felony cognizable by a court of the United States, conceals and does not as soon as possible make known the same to some judge or other person in civil or military authority...” The charge carries a maximum sentence of three years in prison.

Armachain Sr. was originally arrested by federal officials on May 10, 2017 after being named in a criminal complaint alleging the charges of forced labor and sexual abuse of a minor in Indian Country.

The Complaint alleged, “The Cherokee Indian Police Department (CIPD) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have learned that enrolled members of the EBCI doing business with Armachain are sending their per capita casino distribution checks to Armachain as collateral for personal loans and to repay bond fees. Additionally, three women have disclosed that they participated in sexual intercourse or other sexual acts with Armachain in return for their bond fees or to have their personal loans from Armachain paid.”

It continued, “Armachain is also known to loan money at an interest rate of one hundred percent.” The Complaint further alleged that Armachain instructed individuals to change the address to which their EBCI per capita distribution was sent to his Post Office box, and it is went on to allege that he “requests power of attorney from the loan recipients in order to cash the per capita checks”.

According to the Complaint, over 300 checks, totaling over 150 EBCI tribal members, were mailed to his Post Office box in the year 2015.
What to know about the ‘Gathering Rule’

EBCI members gathering sochan in the park... next year

With the passage of Resolution 6 (2017) (https://theonefeather.com/2017/10/tribe-to-fund-ea-for-sochan-gathering-in-park/), the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians tribal leadership committed funding to complete the required actions as outlined in 36 CRF 2.6 – ‘Gathering of plants or plant parts by federally recognized Indian tribes.’ The regulation authorizes the gathering of plants or plant parts by enrolled tribal members in accordance with a plant gathering agreement and permit or where specifically authorized by federal statute or treaty.

**Step 1, Initiating a Plant Gathering Agreement.** was completed in September 2016 with a letter to Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) Superintendent Cassius Cash that detailed: 1) how the EBCI is traditionally associated with the GSMNP; 2) an explanation of the traditional purposes of which the gathering activity will relate; and 3) a description of the gathering and removal activity that the Tribe wants to conduct, including a list of plants or plant parts that tribal members wish to gather and method of removal.

**Step 2, ‘Establishing a Plant Gathering Agreement’ and Step 3, ‘Environmental Assessment’** are going to completed in unison over the next 10 months. The Environmental Assessment (EA) is a requirement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that is initiated when a federal agency develops a proposal to take a major federal action on federal lands or lands in trust (https://www.epa.gov/nepa/national-environmental-policy-act-review-process). The EA determines whether or not a federal action has the potential to cause significant environmental effects. If the agency determines that the action will not have significant environmental impacts, the agency will issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). This FONSI is an absolute requirement that demonstrates that permitted enrolled EBCI member harvesting of sochan will not have an adverse impact on the areas of harvest as determined by the EA in the GSMNP. Tribal officials will then use information generated from the EA to formulate an agreement with the GSMNP.

To be clear for the public, it is still illegal for EBCI tribal members to enter the GSMNP to gather plants or plant parts at this time. The EA to execute the plant gathering regulation will be conducted over the next year. During that time, the EBCI Natural Resources Department will also be working on developing the permitting system, monitoring protocols, remedies for noncompliance of a permit, and other key components. The goal is to begin permitting a set number of EBCI tribal members for sochan gathering in the GSMNP by next spring.

Laws and policies of the GSMNP can be found at this website: https://www.nps.gov/grsm/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm and are listed in CFP 36 Chapter 1.

Info: EBCI Natural Resources Department 359-6110 - EBCI Natural Resources Dept.
The Cherokee Braves 2017 varsity football team has been nominated for a WNC Sports Award which will be presented at the 57th Annual banquet to be held Sunday, May 6 at the Omni Grove Park Inn in Asheville. The team is nominated for the Skyland Automotive Group Division II Male Team – Major Sport award along with Christ School football, Mountain Heritage basketball, Mountain Heritage football, and Murphy football.

Tye Mintz, a Braves senior who has committed to play football next season at Kennesaw State University, has been nominated for the Merrill Lynch/Keller Ferrell Division II Male Athlete – Major Sport award for his performance in football and basketball this past season. He has also been nominated for the Young Transportation Division II Male Athlete of the Year award and is a finalist for one of the 15 scholarships that will be awarded at $1,500 each per the Darlene and John McNabb Scholarship program.

For the football season, he helped lead the Braves to their first state championship. Along the way, he completed 105 of 178 passes for 2,040 yards and 18 touchdowns and rushed 164 times for 1,704 yards and 33 touchdowns. Some of the accolades he received this past year include: Shrine Bowl roster, Smoky Mountain Conference Back of the Year, Smoky Mountain All-Conference team, 1A State Championship Game Most Valuable Player, and Associated Press All-State. On the basketball court, he had 288 points, 169 rebounds, 33 assists, and 34 steals for the season. He was named to the Big Smoky Mountain All-Conference team, the Blue-White All-Star game roster, and the North Carolina Basketball Coaches Association All-District...
Shelby Wolfe, a Lady Braves senior who has committed to play basketball next season at Gardner-Webb University, has been nominated for the Blue Ridge X-Ray Female Athlete Academic Award. A four-year member of the Lady Braves basketball team, she had 216, 119 rebounds, and 25 steals this past season as she was named to the Big Smoky Mountain All-Conference team and the Blue-White All-Star game roster.

Shay Tisho, an EBCI tribal member at Smoky Mountain High School, has been nominated for the Jan & Lary Schulhof Division I Female Athlete – Major Sport award. She is also included in a nomination the entire Smoky Mountain girls basketball team received for the Home Trust Bank Division I Female Team – Major Sport award. The Mountain Six Conference Player of the Year, she averaged over 15 points and 9 rebounds per game for the season.

Will Paul, an EBCI tribal member at Swain County High School, has been nominated for the White & Williams Division II Male Athlete – Olympic Sport award. He won the 1A state wrestling title at 220lbs. this season which he ended with a record of 24-3.

Other Smoky Mountain Conference nominees include:
• Jessica Beckner (Murphy), basketball and volleyball, Wells Fargo Division II Female Athlete – Major Sport and Apollo Flame Division II Female Athlete of the Year
• Abigail Knight (Robbinsville), softball, Wells Fargo Division II Female Athlete – Major Sport
• Emma Pindur (Swain Co.), track & field, Carole Martin/Northwestern Mutual Division II Female Athlete – Olympic Sport and Apollo Flame Division II Female Athlete of the Year
• Murphy girls basketball team, Homewood Suites Division II Female Team – Major Sport
• Payne Anderson (Robbinsville), wrestling, White & Williams Division II Male Athlete – Olympic Sport
• Kade Millsaps (Robbinsville), wrestling, White & Williams Division II Male Athlete – Olympic Sport
• Robbinsville wrestling, EmergyOrtho Blue Ridge Division II Male Team – Olympic Sport
• Josh Cottrell (Hayesville), basketball, Merrill Lynch/Keller Ferrell Division II Male Athlete – Major Sport
• Joey Curry (Murphy), baseball and football, Merrill Lynch/Keller Ferrell Division II Male Athlete – Major Sport and Young Transportation Division II Male Athlete of the Year
• Katelyn Jones (Murphy), football and soccer, Blue Ridge X-Ray Female Athlete Academic Award
• Murphy girls basketball team, Homewood Suites Division II Female Team – Major Sport
• Payne Anderson (Robbinsville), wrestling, White & Williams Division II Male Athlete – Olympic Sport
• Kade Millsaps (Robbinsville), wrestling, White & Williams Division II Male Athlete – Olympic Sport
• Robbinsville wrestling, EmergyOrtho Blue Ridge Division II Male Team – Olympic Sport
• Josh Cottrell (Hayesville), basketball, Merrill Lynch/Keller Ferrell Division II Male Athlete – Major Sport
• Joey Curry (Murphy), baseball and football, Merrill Lynch/Keller Ferrell Division II Male Athlete – Major Sport and Young Transportation Division II Male Athlete of the Year
• Katelyn Jones (Murphy), football and soccer, Blue Ridge X-Ray Female Athlete Academic Award

QB: Tye Mintz, a Braves senior who has committed to play football next season at Kennesaw State University, has been nominated for the Merrill Lynch/Keller Ferrell Division II Male Athlete – Major Sport award for his performance in football and basketball this past season. He has also been nominated for the Young Transportation Division II Male Athlete of the Year award and is a finalist for one of the 15 scholarships that will be awarded at $1,500 each per the Darlene and John McNabb Scholarship program.
In what one organizer dubbed one of the most successful NAYO tournaments yet, a team representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians took second place in the weekend-long event held in Cherokee. The Dream Team, consisting of EBCI tribal members from several area high schools, took the runner-up trophy in the 15-17 girls division in the tournament.

They lost 59-44 to the Rainmakers, representing the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, in the championship game held at the Charles George Memorial Arena on the evening of Saturday, March 31.

Timiyah Brown, a senior member of the Lady Braves basketball team, played on the Dream Team during the tournament. “I think we played hard, and the championship game was really intense,” she noted.

One of the unique aspects of the Dream Team was that it brought back together girls that used to play on the same teams growing up. “I love playing with them. We used to play together when we were little in travel league and AAU, and it was fun playing with them again.”

Saturday’s game was a little emotional for Brown who was playing in her last game in the Charles George Memorial Arena, a venue she has spent the last four years playing in as a Lady Brave. “It’s bittersweet. It’s sad.”

Raylen Bark, a sophomore member of the Lady Braves, played with Brown on the Dream Team, and she was also happy to get to play with some of the other girls. “It’s always great coming back to play together. We grew up playing together. All through travel league, we’d always play together, and now that we’re older, we all go to different high schools. It’s a great feeling to just get back with the old team.”

On the tournament, she commented, “We played really well I thought especially since we haven’t played together in forever. It was a really great experience to get out there with them.”

The Silky Smooth Skins team, representing the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, took third place in the 15-17 boys division. The championship game of that division pitted two teams from the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and in the end, 1 Family defeated IPONNA 85-69 to take the title.

Both of the finals of the 12-14 girls and 12-14 boys divisions pitted teams from the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians against each other. In the girls final, Chaos defeated Team Hustle 64-57 to win the championship, and in the boys final, Tune Squad hit a three-point shot at the buzzer to win the title 65-62 over War Party.

Over 60 teams from four federally recognized tribes participated in this year’s NAYO tournament including 14 teams from the EBCI.

Peaches Squirrel, Cherokee Recreation Dept., was one of the organizers of the tournament. “It’s been one of the biggest NAYO
Cherokee Runners complete grueling races

Several members of the Cherokee Runners have completed grueling races in the past month. Jimmy Oocumma and Chad Cooper, both EBCI tribal members, finished the Fontandango race at the Fontana Village Resort on Saturday, March 3. The race began in 2016 and, as of this year, only four runners had completed the 50-mile run. Runners participated in a 10-mile loop for either a 50-mile run, a 50k which is 30 miles, or a 10-miler.

Cooper finished the 50k in 6 hours and 46.55 minutes, a personal best that put him 10th in the field of 24. Oocumma finished the 50-mile race in 10 hours and 4.58 minutes putting him third in a field of 26. This grueling race covered steep climbs and rolling hills thru the scenic area around the Resort.

Two weeks later, the native runners attacked the Blackrock run known as the "Assault". This strenuous run, held in Sylva’s Pinnacle Park, covers a 7-mile stretch and has a 2,770 feet accent to the top of Blackrock. This is the eighth year for the run with proceeds from entry fees going to the “Shop with a Cop” program in Jackson County. Conditions were rigorous, wet, cold, and rocky.

Seth Holling, Cherokee Runner, finished 13th with a time of 1:32:33. Oocumma finished 14th with a time of 1:32:37, and Cooper finished 17th with a time of 1:33:28, all from a field of 105 runners. The challenge of the race is to finish in under 101 minutes for the coveted prize of a belt buckle. Cooper and Oocumma both earned their third buckles.

- Sharon Bradley

ASSAULT: Several members of the Cherokee Runners group took on the “Assault” run several weeks ago. Held in Sylva’s Pinnacle Park, covers a 7-mile stretch and has a 2,770 feet accent to the top of Blackrock. Shown (left-right) are - Canyon Woodard, overall winner from Franklin; Seth Holling, James Oocumma, and Chad Cooper, all from Cherokee; and Mark Rollins from Clyde.

NAYO: Cherokee girls take second, from page 10

tournaments that we’ve had. We had 67 teams, and it went great. Everything stayed on time, and there was great competition in all divisions.”

She said the event is truly an intertribal affair. “We have a national NAYO Board, and we have a meeting every October where all five tribes come together including: Poarch Creek, Mississippi Choctaws, Seminoles, Iroquois, and Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The tournament rotates every year. We make sure that we go over rules to see if anything needs to be changed to make sure that everything runs smoothly at each tournament.”

Big Cove Rep. Richard French, who also serves as the Tribal Council Recreation Committee chairman, handed out awards on the night. He said the tournament is a great way to bring tribal nations together. “With all of the different tribes we have at this tournament, it goes to show the strength and unity that we have as one people, and I think the more that we can keep doing things like this and building those relationships with other tribes will help us all.”
McCoy tackles BADWATER 50, earns buckle

SCOTT MCKIE B.P.
ONE FEATHER STAFF

Kallup McCoy, an EBCI tribal member, went to the beach recently and came back with a belt buckle. But, to earn that buckle he had to complete a 51.4 mile run most of which was on a wet beach.

“The battle is won in the mind.” said McCoy who completed the BADWATER Cape Fear race on Bald Head Island on Saturday, March 17. “We’re our own worst enemies in anything that we do. When we say, ‘I can’t do that’ it is pretty much just us saying ‘I’m not willing to try.’”

The race was brutal with the first 12 miles being on the roads around Bald Head Island and the last 39 being on the beach. Running on the sand turned into running through some water later in the day as high tide came in. He finished the race in 13 hours and 40 minutes.

“I got to the point to where I could hardly take another step, but you have to have those tools in your toolbox and tell yourself just to slow down and figure out what to do next,” he commented. “First things first, I need to get some water. I’ve got to get some nutrition. I need to get some sodium in my body. It’s just a metaphor for my recovery. That’s why I do it – to defeat the inner man.”

McCoy, founder of the RezHOPE Recovery and Consulting group, celebrated his one-year anniversary of sobriety on Wednesday, March 28. He reflected that day and thought back to one year before when he was sitting in the Swain County Jail. “My recovery has given me so much. It’s been a total transformation for sure – a rejuvenation of the soul.”

Katelynn Ledford, McCoy’s girlfriend, accompanied him to the BADWATER race to offer her support. “It was intense. I saw a lot of other people that had signed up for the 51.4 mile race quit by the 32-mile point and took a medal for the 50K.”

At the 32-mile point, McCoy almost ran out of time to qualify to continue on for the 51.4 mile mark. But, the same day as the race, EBCI Beloved Man Jerry Wolfe was laid to rest with a service and funeral and McCoy had dedicated his race that day to honor the tribal elder and hero. There was no stopping that day for McCoy.

“Jerry was really excited about Kallup doing the Trail of Tears run,” said Ledford. “so, I thought that was a really awesome way to honor him.”

Ledford said McCoy is getting stronger each day. “At each of these races, I watch him grow. It teaches me and helps me with the little things for me to overcome because he is doing amazing things.”

She saw his struggle during the BADWATER race, “It is a good way to make the connection with your own life. If you really put your mind to it and you push yourself, then you can do it. I think it’s so important to have support whether it be in recovery or another situation, having support from your community and the people that you surround yourself with is important.”

By the end of the race, McCoy said he was just exhausted. “I was so tired I couldn’t even cry.”

His next big challenge is the Ironman 70.3 Florida event scheduled for Sunday, April 8 at Lake Eva Park in Haines City, Fla. That race consists of a 1.2 mile swim, a 56-mile bike ride, and a 13.1 mile run.

Photo contributed by Katelynn Ledford
BADWATER: Kallup McCoy II (right), an EBCI tribal member, is shown after he finished the BADWATER Cape Fear 51.4 mile race recently at Bald Head Island.
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The Cherokee One Feather wants to be your voice and your source for information relevant to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and those who are interested in our culture, history, and lifestyle. We love sharing your opinions, views, and public service information. Please submit your letters, releases, and articles to Robert Jumper, One Feather Editor, at robejump@nc-cherokee.com or bring them by our offices at the Ginger Lynn Welch Complex. To send them via snail mail, our address is PO Box 501, Cherokee, NC 28719. Happy writing!
Dedicated to education, learning

CHS principal earns doctorate in education degree

SCOTT MCKIE B.P.
ONE FEATHER STAFF

The principal of Cherokee High School recently hit the pinnacle of educational achievement, but she is by no means finished with her education and learning. Debora Foerst defended her disquisition successfully on Wednesday, March 21 and will have her doctorate in education (EdD) degree conferred upon her from Western Carolina University in May.

"A disquisition is a little different than a dissertation because it’s an action research where we address a problem of practice within our own settings and then study it,” she noted. “I want to give a shout out to my students, staff, and co-workers at Cherokee High School. I’ve had nothing but encouragement the entire way. I feel so supported. It’s been heartwarming.”

Foerst’s disquisition research focused on chronic absenteeism. She worked with Wendy Hannah, Valley Springs Middle School assistant principal, on the project. Collaboration with peers is encouraged through a program called NIC (Networked Improvement Communities).

“You can do more together than you can do by yourself,” said Foerst who started the program in 2015. She said that originally, they looked at graduate rates and drop-out rates and how to improve both, but eventually moved into looking specifically at chronic absenteeism.

“Chronic absenteeism is something that is often overlooked, and it is something that definitely leads to dropping out or possibly not graduating on time,” she noted. "Absenteeism is an issue that we struggle with here, and chronic absenteeism is defined as when a student is absent 10 percent or more of the school year.”

She said it is important to look beyond general statistics when dealing with chronic absenteeism. Foerst looked at this year’s Cherokee High School ninth graders. "Last year, as a cohort, their attendance rate was over 90 percent, but what that hid was that there were 27 of them who were chronically absent. So that average, that mean, can hide that. You have to break it down and really look at it. So, 27 of those students were chronically-absent, and of those 11 were chronically-absent the year before."

Chronic absenteeism includes both excused and unexcused absences. Foerst said that the Department of Education has previously encouraged schools to only look at truancy (unexcused absences). "But, when they’re missing, it doesn’t matter if it’s excused or not. It doesn’t matter why they’re missing when you look at the fact that they’re missing class. They’re missing the lectures. They’re missing the activities."

Foerst said it is important to squelch the behavior early as it can affect not only performance in high school but also beyond. “If they have developed this chronic absenteeism habit, then it’s hard to get that turned out. So, what we wanted to do was get it turned around now.”

To achieve that goal, she and Hannah developed a mentor program for ninth graders that they implemented at their respective schools. “We started it as a pilot program with just a few students and staff members who agreed to serve as mentors. Then, we followed the student’s behavior, attendance, and academic performance throughout the process of the mentoring program. It’s still going here. The mentoring program is still going, and we hope to continue it, sustain it, and expand it to other grades.”

Due to the mentoring program, all of the areas they looked at improved said Foerst. "We didn’t see improvement in every single student, which was disappointing because we had hoped that all students would improve, but as a whole, the attendance rates increased, academic performance increased, and behavioral referrals decreased."

A lifelong resident of the Qualla Boundary and a graduate of Cherokee High School, Foerst has dedicated her life to the education of Cherokee youth. Following high school, she earned an associate’s degree of applied science in business administration from Haywood Community College, a bachelor’s of science degree in English education from Western Carolina University, a master’s of arts degree in English from Western Carolina Universi-
Dedicated to education, learning, Foerst said she was glad that she started her post-high school educational pursuits at a community college. “Coming from a small school and small town and going to a larger university, it’s not easy, and the community college was a really good step for me and it helped me to transition between high school and the university.”

Having served as principal at Cherokee High School since 2014, she began her tenure at the school in 2000 when she served as the GEAR UP coordinator. The following year, she moved into the classroom to teach language arts at Cherokee Middle, and in 2007, she moved to the high school where she taught English II, English III, Journalism, and Publications.

Foerst encourages everyone to keep learning and follow educational pursuits. “Not only does it help us in our jobs, it helps us become better employees. I feel like I’m a better principal because I went through this program. But, it also makes us better people because it expands our scope and it expands our minds.”

She related she will never be finished with her education. “I know my family is all worried about what degree I’m going to find next. I firmly believe in never stop learning. I love education or I wouldn’t be here. I loved high school. I loved each step of the way. I love learning.”
Museum offering Cherokee Stamped Pottery Workshop

The Museum of the Cherokee Indian will offer a two-day workshop on making stamped pottery on Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21. Tammy Beane, of Collinsville, Ala., will teach how to make traditional Cherokee stamped pottery.

The cost for the two-day workshop is $25 for EBCI tribal members. Both days will begin at 9am and run until 4pm in the Art Studio of the Ken Blankenship Education and Research Wing of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. The entrance to the Art Studio is at the back gate of the Cherokee Indian Fairgrounds. Beginners and advanced potters are welcome.

The workshop will cover the history of stamped pottery, which began almost 3,000 years ago in the southern Appalachians. Participants will learn to make large bowls that are hand coiled and stamped. The workshop is sponsored by the North Carolina Arts Council and the Museum of the Cherokee Indian.

Beane taught pottery workshops at the Museum from 2002-06, helping to revitalize Cherokee pottery. She makes museum-quality reproductions of southeastern pots from the earliest time of fiber-tempered pottery through the effigy pots of the Mississippian period through today, and reproduces the work of many southeastern tribes. Her pots are sought after by museums because they reproduce original pots with accurate details.

Participants in the workshop will receive copies of an article about Eva Catolster and her pottery methods in 1908. She was one of the last people in the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to make pots using the stamped technique. She was also the daughter of Yonaguska. During the 20th century, many Cherokee women made pots in the Catawba style because this was popular with tourists. In the early 21st century, Cherokee potters became interested in learning about their older, more traditional style of pottery.

The class size is limited to fifteen people. Sign up at the Museum Store and pay $25 to be registered for the workshop. You can call and pay by credit card at 828-497-3481 ext. 1000.

- Museum of the Cherokee Indian
Purple Warriors shining spotlight on Epilepsy

The Purple Warrior Foundation, founded in 2013 by former Miss Cherokee Taylor Wilnoty, started as an avenue to help educate EBCI tribal members about Epilepsy. She made it her platform to bring awareness and education to the Tribe and fight the stigma against those who may suffer from this disease.

“I spent most of my life taking care of my older brother who had Epilepsy,” she said. “When he passed away in 2009 due to a brain aneurysm, my whole world was shattered. I turned a lot of my sadness and grief into passion so I created the Purple Warrior Foundation and have found an amazing group of people to share this passion with.”

The Foundation is comprised of eight EBCI tribal members including: Chavella Taylor, Cory Blankenship, Jade Peone, Jimmy Burns, Shelby Parker, Sheyahshe Littledave, Dawson Wilnoty, and Taylor Wilnoty.

The Purple Warrior Foundation is working to become a non-profit foundation with the goal to provide education to the local community and funds for families that may need extra help related to treating Epilepsy.

“I’m hoping through our Foundation we educate people about this disease and how it affects the lives of those who live with it,” Taylor Wilnoty stated. “We want to help families living on the Qualla Boundary that may have someone living with epilepsy and one day be able to offer funds for medical expenses or gas for routine doctors’ visits.”

Info: Purple Warrior Foundation on Facebook or email: purplewarriorfoundation@gmail.com

- Purple Warrior Foundation

Harrah’s Cherokee employees have volunteered 27,056 hours this year

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once stated that, “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’” While some may be searching for the answers on how to live out this posed question, employees at Harrah’s Cherokee Casinos remain unwavering in their efforts to cultivate a positive environment and give back to the local communities in which they live and work through acts of volunteerism and monetary donations.

For quarter one of 2018, employees at Harrah’s Cherokee Casinos made a strong start to the year by accumulating a total of 27,056 service hours through the companies’ employee community outreach program, HERO (Harrah’s Employees Reaching Out). HERO focuses on the Caesars Code of Commitment to make the communities healthy and more vibrant places, and creates opportunity for employees to volunteer at local organizations including the Tsali Care Center, PAW’s Animal Shelter, Haywood Waterways, AWAKE and Valley River Humane Society.

In addition to their volunteer efforts, Harrah’s Cherokee Casinos also donated a share of $23,500 in cash and services to non-profit organizations in Western North Carolina including the Community Table, Industrial Opportunities Incorporated, Haywood Habitat for Humanity, Richie’s Alliance for Autism and REACH of Macon County.

“When it comes to community outreach, our employees never hesitate to become involved.” said Jo Ray, Regional Vice President of Community Relations & Employee Wellness at Harrah’s Cherokee. “Their willingness to volunteer their spare time to selflessly help others is truly inspiring. I’m so proud of our employees for their volunteer efforts this quarter, and look forward to the great work they will continue to do throughout the year.”

- Harrah’s Cherokee Casino
Grow a Row looking for participants

Grow a Row, a giving and learning garden project sponsored by the Office of the Principal Chief and Legend Weaver Studios, is looking for individuals, youth groups, churches, community clubs, etc. to plant, harvest, and donate the bounty of a garden to those in need. Groups will work with their peers to make a difference in their community while learning gardening basics and the importance of community service. Groups are welcome to participate at any stage in the Grow a Row project from garden planning and planting to harvesting and donating to local participating agencies.

To commit to the project, email legendweaverstudios@gmail.com or check out the group’s Facebook page. Participating groups or individuals will sign a Group Commitment or Agreement outlining involvement and time commitment.

Info: Cherokee Grow a Row Facebook page or Spring Garden Fair Facebook page

- Cherokee Grow a Row

Smoky Mountain Senior games

The Smoky Mountain Senior games will be held April 23 – May 24. Registration is currently ongoing and will continue until April 6 at 4:30pm. The cost to register is $15, and registration forms are available at the Birdtown Gym, Jackson County Senior Center, or at the Jackson County Recreation Centers in Cullowhee or Cashiers/Glenville. Events include: basketball shooting, billiards, bocce, bowling, Cornhole, croquet, cycling, football throw, golf, hand and foot, horseshoes, shuffleboard, softball throw, table tennis, pickleball, swimming, and track and field events. Info: Janell Rattler, Birdtown Gym, 359-6895, or Jackson County Senior Center 586-5494

- Janell Rattler, Birdtown Gym

EBCI alcohol referendum information

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians will hold a referendum on Thursday, May 31. The question asked will be: “To allow ABC permits to be issued to allow retail sales of alcoholic beverage on Tribal trust land at a Tribally-owned package store and ABC store.” Voter registration will close on Tuesday, May 1. You may begin to request your absentee ballot immediately. Absentee requests will be accepted through Wednesday, May 16. Absentee ballots must be received by the EBCI Board of Elections no later than Monday, May 21 at 4pm. Info: Board of Elections 359-6361

- EBCI Board of Elections

Eastern Band Community Foundation announces Bill Taylor Scholarship

Applications for the Bill Taylor Scholarship are now being accepted by the Eastern Band Community Foundation. This scholarship is available to all EBCI tribal members or their immediate family members who study Business/Business-related curricula. The deadline to apply is June 1.

Awards are based on students meeting various eligibility requirements detailed on the NCCF website www.nccommunityfoundation.org. Applications can also be downloaded on this site under “Qualla Reservation”. For further information contact Norma Moss at normahmoss@gmail.com

The Eastern Band Community Foundation is an affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation. In addition to the website, like us on Facebook, follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter @NCCF for more information on the North Carolina Community Foundation.

- Eastern Band Community Foundation

Jones-Bowman Leadership Award Program accepting applications

The Jones-Bowman Leadership Award Program is currently recruiting EBCI tribal members who are undergraduate college students to participate in its 2018-2019 program. Undergraduate students with a minimum GPA of 2.75 enrolled in at least six credit hours per semester are eligible to apply by the deadline of 5pm on Monday, April 2.

The culturally-based leadership program gives students opportunities to develop strong leadership abilities and serve successfully in leadership roles. With the help of mentors, participants develop individual leadership plans, volunteer in their communities, and complete a group service project during a yearlong fellowship.

To obtain an application form stop by the Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute located at the Cherokee Boys Club in the former Family Support building across from the garage between the hours of 8am – 4:30pm.

Info: Alicia Jacobs alicjaco@nc-cherokee.com, 359-5544

- Jones-Bowman Leadership Award Program

Per Capita Loan deadlines for upcoming cycle

The EBCI Office of Budget & Finance is about to begin a new cycle of loan assistance for EBCI tribal members for the months of April – September. If you wish to begin receiving loan assistance in the month of April, you must submit a new application to the Finance Office. Applications will be accepted March 19-23, and the new application forms are available at the Finance Office and online at www.ebci.com/government/per-capita-loans/. Applications submitted on forms from previous cycles will not be accepted.

Following is the deadline schedule with check release dates in parentheses: April 16-20 (May 11). No applications accepted in May. June 18-22 (July 13), July 16-20 (Aug. 10). Aug. 20-24 (Sept. 7)

- EBCI Secretary of Treasury

Cory Blankenship
Fred B. Lunsford - Final Excerpt

Editor’s note: The One Feather solicited stories from our community’s veterans. Our intent is to honor them through their own words and remind everyone of the sacrifice of our armed forces and their families. After putting the call out, we received a call from Mr. Lunsford, who is a World War 2 veteran. He wanted to share his veteran’s story and told me that he wrote a book about his life which included his veteran’s story. He proceeded to give us permission to recount his story via excerpts from his book. You will find below the final excerpt in a series from “Glory in the Mountains as The Sound of Many Waters” by Mr. Fred B. Lunsford, a veteran of the United States Army.

Southern France and Germany

We left the First Army and went to Southern France and joined the Seventh Army. We crossed the Rhine River at Worms, Germany, and pushed our way all the way to Pennsburg, Germany, right on the Austrian border at the foot of the Alps Mountains. We were traveling in the tractor-trailer rig loaded with tires, and met a road full of German soldiers. They scared me out of my wits. The only weapons we had were our primary weapons. We both had thirty caliber carbines, and I had a side arm, a 45-caliber pistol. When they got closer, we discovered that the leader was a German officer who had a white handkerchief tied on stick waving it. They were surrendering to us. We directed them to a POW Concentration Camp a few miles down the road. Pennsburg was a beautiful place where we could see the towering snowcapped Alp Mountains piercing the majestic blue sky. The fresh, cold streams were flowing in the dense forest nearby filled with the brown trout. There were lush green fields dotted with farmhouses with beautiful cattle and horses grazing, and herds of deer could be seen late in the evening along the edges of the fields. May 7, 1945, things were going as usual. My department was on the front line had run out of gas and we were loading him up. Our First Sergeant came running out yelling that Germany had surrendered. Our work immediately slowed down. There was no fighting and the battle was over.

Some have asked me if I ever saw General George Patton in person. My encounter with this famous person was not exactly a pleasant one. We had crossed the Rhine River on a pontoon bridge at Worms and we camped some distance in Germany. The engineers on the front line had run out of gas for welding. We had no gas either, so one other man and myself took a truck and went several miles back to pick up some at a depot. We got on the Autobahn, the famous German super highway that was comparable to our interstates today. We acquired our cargo and were on our way back. trying to get back before dark, but a fan belt broke on our truck. We always carried a spare one, so we proceeded to fix it. We had just finished the job and were fixing to get on our way when we saw a command car coming down the big four-lane highway. I saw stars on the front of it, and I knew it was a General. A big rough looking man got out. It was General Patton. We came to attention and saluted him. We were standing at attention and he stormed out. “What are you doing stopped here?” I said, “We broke a fan belt, Sir.” He then replied, “It is funny to me that things always happen at a beer joint: We had not even noticed that there was a German beer joint nearby. I just reached over and picked up the broken fan belt and held it up. He said, “As you were soldiers,” and he got in his car and went on. We breathed a sigh of relief and went on our way.

We spent a few days at Pennsburg after peace was signed and then loaded all of our stuff up and headed back to Shorndorf, Germany...I arrived at Marble by bus on September 2 at 6:00 am from Fort Bragg, N.C. I had sent my wife a telegram from New York telling her I would be home in a few days. The message said, “August 20, 1945-Arrived in New York, will see you in a week or so.” I got off the bus, put my old duffel bag on my back, and started walking the four miles to our Vengeance Creek home. I had a first cousin that lived about one-half of a mile from Marble who had a pulpwood truck. I stopped at his house and he took me to where the school buses turned around about one-fourth mile from my home. My brother, Hoyt, who was 11 years younger than myself, was waiting on the school bus. He went running up the hill to tell them that I was coming. My wife had spent the night there waiting for me to arrive. She came running over the top of the hill. I saw her coming and I threw down my duffle bag and ran to meet her. What a reunion it was.

Editor’s Note: The Cherokee One Feather would like to thank Mr. Lunsford for permission to recount his veterans’ corner story and also for his military service.

Churches and Other Non-profit Organizations

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OBITUARIES

Steven Darrell Ledford
Steven Darrell Ledford, 38, of Cherokee, passed away Friday, March 23, 2018. A native of Cherokee, he was the son of Gail and Daniel Johnson of Cherokee.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Ruth Ledford Long; and grandfather, James Alvin Long.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his sister, Sandra Robbins of Bryson City; two nieces, Blayne Bowman, Viktor Robbins; one great niece, Aubrey Haynie; grandmother, Annie Jumper Arch; and various other aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 27 at Bethabara Baptist Church.

Steven will be taken to the church at 5pm Monday by Crisp Funeral Home to await the hour of service.

Jim Newcomer
Jim Newcomer, age 42, passed away on March 22, 2018 at his residence in Cashiers. Jim was born in Cherokee, and was an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

He was the eldest son of John and Shirley Newcomer. He attended Blue Ridge School in Glenville and was self-employed.

He enjoyed working on cars, camping, hunting, fishing and just generally being outdoors. He was a family man that enjoyed life and spending time with his children. He was a wonderful man that had a heart of gold and will be deeply missed by all that knew him.

He is survived by his fiancée, Ashley Graham; five children, Warren, Samantha, John, Sawyer, and Eli Newcomer; one step-son, Ryan Boot; one brother, Phillip Newcomer; two nephews, Andrew Masters and Yona Newcomer; one niece, Saphira Newcomer; seven uncles, Buford, Tom, Gilbert, and Jerry Smith, and Bud, David and Robert Newcomer; five aunts, Janice Faus, Corky Swayney, Alice Caley, Kathleen Smith, and Carolyn Newcomer; and numerous cousins also survive.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, John R. Newcomer Jr. and Shirley A. Smith; his grandparents, Buford and Eleanor Smith and Mr. and Mrs. John R. Newcomer Sr.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, March 27 from 12 - 2pm at Long House Funeral Home with funeral services to follow at 2pm. Pastor Dan Conseen will officiate. Burial will follow at the Smith Family Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Carmen Welch, Warren Newcomer, Auston Young, Delbert Ward, Ryan Boot and Matt Whattenberger.

Sadie Sue Jackson
Sadie Sue Jackson, 75, of Whittier, passed away on Monday, March 26, 2018 at Mission Hospital in Asheville.

She is survived by her children, Charlene Jackson Otter and Bill Jackson; grandchildren, Paige Jackson Stamper, Me-Li Jackson, Michael Otter, Kerry Hawk Otter; two great grandchildren, Sean Stamper, and Penelope Stamper; seven uncles, Buford, Tom, Gilbert, and Jerry Smith, and Bud, David and Robert Newcomer; five aunts, Janice Faus, Corky Swayney, Alice Caley, Kathleen Smith, and Carolyn Newcomer; and numerous cousins also survive.

Sadie was preceded in death by her parents, Jack C. Jackson and Mary Queen Jackson; one son, Charles Dennis Green; brothers, Walter, Boyd, Johnny, and Jack Jackson; and sisters, Naomi Kanott, Lucille “Mackie” Abrams, and Edith Bradley.

Funeral services were held on Friday, March 30 at the Acquoni Baptist Church. Pastors Jim Parks and James “Bo” Parris officiated. Burial followed at the Jackson Cemetery.

Long House Funeral Home assisted the Jackson family.

Mary Jane (Janie) McMillan
Mary Jane McMillan, age 71 of Bryson City, went home to be with the Lord on March 29, 2018.

She was the daughter of the late Ted and Irene Cole of Whittier.

She is survived by her husband, Herman James McMillan of Bryson City; son, Derek Mason of Bryson City; and one granddaughter, Samantha Deanne Mason.

She is also survived by three sisters, Nancy Salias, Ellen Rogers, Della Cole; and two brothers, Nelson Cole and Perry Cole.

Funeral Services were held on Saturday, March 31 at Crisp Funeral Home Chapel. Revs. Perry Cole and Jim Frady officiated with burial in Union Hill Cemetery. Pallbearers were Mathew Rogers, Jeff, Casey, Eddie, and Travis Sizemore, and Mark Rogers.

So, as he let go of the mic, he said, “All you really need is One Feather” and then he just walked off the stage.

CHEROKEE ONE FEATHER. GET YOURS TODAY. 359-6261
KRISTINA HYATT, RDH
NATIVE AMERICAN TOOTH FAIRY

In late February, I traveled to Oklahoma as the Native American ToothFairy for my Dreamstarter Project. I was very grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with my former P.E. Coach, Scott Robison, who is the community health director at Wewoka Indian Health Center, and Kandice Lowry, RN, BSN, the school wellness nurse, to reach nearly 1,600 students with oral health education. We visited several schools including: Justice, Sasakwa, Konawa, Northwood in Seminole, Varnum, Wetumka, and Butner.

As the Native American ToothFairy, I spoke with the students about the importance of oral health. Each participating student received a goodie bag filled with a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, coloring book and crayons. They also received a brushing chart as a tool to help remind them to brush their teeth twice a day. In an effort to encourage our youth to make good choices and stay away from drugs, I educated the older students about the effects of drugs and alcohol on the mouth. They were shown pictures of meth mouth and learned about young people who had to get dentures as a result of drug abuse.

During the presentations, I also encourage them to visit the dentist regularly. Far too often, teachers tell me about a child in their class who is suffering from a toothache. In some instances, that child will come up to me during my presentation and show me the tooth that is hurting them. It is heartbreaking to hear a child ask how they are supposed to brush their teeth if they don’t have a toothbrush. I was glad to be able to provide that particular little girl with the tools she needs to have a healthy smile.

When you have families living in poverty and worried about where their next meal is going to come from, the last thing on their mind is making sure their child has a toothbrush. Believe it or not, a toothbrush is a luxury for some families.

I would like to acknowledge the individuals and organizations that helped make this educational outreach possible. Thank you to Running Strong for American Indian Youth Foundation for supporting my Dreamstarter project. America’s ToothFairy: National Children’s Oral Health Foundation provided toothbrushes and educational materials, and the Wewoka Indian Health Center and Kenda Lowe provided toothpaste, floss, coloring books and crayons. With your help, children were given the basic tools they need to keep their smile healthy!

When I was a little girl, Coach Robison was my coach, and he has always been an inspirational person in my life. I really enjoyed spending the week with his family and his students. I am grateful that he continues to make a difference in the lives of his students by helping them realize their potential and simply believing in their ability to do great things. He was also my jump rope coach back in the day, so it was definitely a treat and brought back fond memories seeing his kids at jump rope practice.

My family and I also traveled to Tahlequah, Okla. to visit the Cherokee Nation Immersion School and meet with fellow Dreamstarter, Brian Barlow. Unfortunately, I woke up feeling very ill. My family delivered the oral health products on my behalf. They were so excited to tell me about a little girl they met who told them that she has never had a cavity. She also said her dad has never had a cavity, either! I am very grateful to my family for their support and help on this trip! A special thank you to my son for being such a good baby, my mom for taking good care of him, Vik for driving and Reyna for being our navigator while in Oklahoma.

Jill Malmgren, my Dreamstarter project mentor and executive director of America’s ToothFairy, and I visited Wheelhouse Foundation Studio in Charlotte on March 12 to record my part of the oral health video. It was such a fun experience being in front of a camera as the Native American ToothFairy. I was really nervous at first, but Jill and the Wheelhouse Media team were great coaches. I am confident that the video will make a difference in the lives of Native American children across the country by motivating them to take care of their teeth.

I am always accepting oral health product donations for children, such as toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss. Please contact me 736-5196 or kristinalyatt@gmail.com if you are interested in donating or would like to schedule a presentation.
Representing all the people

ROBERT JUMPER
ONE FEATHER EDITOR

I have heard Tribal Council and community members discuss the possibility of one person, one vote in tribal government for many years. It is a topic of discussion because current law requires a census of the people to determine populations of each township or community on the Boundary to determine the weight or percentage of power each Tribal Council member has in voting decisions.

The current law puts it this way, “A tribal census. for the purposes of determining the weight of the votes to be cast by each Tribal Council member, shall be conducted prior to the 1981 tribal election and prior to the election each ten years thereafter to determine the number of enrolled tribal members residing in each township” (Section 19, Charter and Governing Document of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians).

Currently, the weights each Council representative has is as follows: Woltown, 12 percent for each rep.; Birdtown, 12 percent for each rep.; Yellowhill, 7 percent for each rep.; Big Cove, 7 percent for each rep.; Painttown, 6 percent for each rep.; and Snowbird/Cherokee County, 6 percent each rep. This percentage split is supposed to accurately represent the population based on the people living in or claiming genealogical connection to a specific community. One of the outstanding issues the Tribe is currently facing is that we have not had a census to determine community populations within communities for many years.

Some say that we haven’t had a true census since the law was created. But, we have assuredly had elections long since the last valid (or recognized) census took place. The Tribe will ultimately have to decide on a solution for the current lack of compliance with the Charter regarding holding elections without a valid census.

One thought came to mind about the weighted vote and its necessity, or lack thereof. What if we made all Council seats accountable to the entire Tribe? While we would certainly want equal representation of communities on Tribal Council, wouldn’t it make sense to tie a Tribe-wide vote to those seeking seats?

One possible way to engage all the Tribe in selection of Tribal Council members could look like this: a primary would be held (just as we have always done) in which the communities would vote only for their top four candidates to run in the general election; once the communities selected their top four, there would be a general election in which all tribal members voted for two candidates from each community. So, regardless of which community you live in, you would get to vote for candidates in each community during the election. At the end of the election, you would still have two members of each community serving, but they will have been chosen from the entire Tribe, not just a single community. This would reduce the importance of a census. I would think you could work with the Enrollment Office, who must know where we all are anyway (check mailing addresses, etc.).

Currently, Tribal Council members are elected by individual communities, but the Council representatives are charged will the care of all tribal members. That must be challenging for a candidate or Council representative, because what is good for the Tribe isn’t always popular with an individual community.

If all tribal members were involved in the selection process, I believe that we could finally get to that “one person, one vote” concept. Since all Tribal Council representatives would ultimately be chosen by most of the Tribe, the weighted vote wouldn’t carry as much weight.

It has been suggested in the past that it would be beneficial to have “at-large” Tribal Council representatives to address the rights of tribal members who do not live on the Qualla Boundary. One of the concerns with at-large representation has been the weighted vote. With a high percentage of tribal members living off-Boundary, two at-large representatives could potentially have substantial influence on tribal law. A “one person, one vote” representation...
Facebook Weekly Question Responses

Note: The following comments were made on the Cherokee One Feather Facebook page to our weekly question: *Do you think Tribal Council Representatives should be able to abstain from voting on an issue without explaining their reason?*

**Shell Nelson:** They should explain whenever they abstain from a vote. After all, we didn’t vote them in to abstain from any issue. If they abstain, then we should know why as knowing why eliminates any sense of a violation of our trust in voting them in. Not explaining an abstention from a vote can be interpreted as having something to hide or as being improperly educated or uninformed as to the issue up for a vote. Explaining why one is abstaining from a vote clarifies a politician’s position and promotes integral honesty to their constituents.

**Blanche Vickers:** They should have to explain their reason; after all, they are supposed to be taking care of business.

**Keri Brady:** They should have to explain their reason for abstaining from a vote - plain and simple!

**Driver Blythe:** If they can’t give a reason for a yes, no, or not wanting to give any input, they shouldn’t even have their seat. You’re getting paid 85k and you were selected by your community to represent, not be a wimp.

**Orion Holmberg:** Of course they should explain.

**Debi Lemmond Bourgeois:** I don’t think they should be able to abstain. Everyone has an opinion on what and how they feel. It’s either yes for or no against! I think they abstain because they don’t want to make voters mad.

**Ashley Sessions:** Yes! If they have to abstain due to conflict of interest, then it’s acceptable. However, I don’t feel that any of them should ever just ride the fence and not vote up or down because they are afraid of what someone might think. They are in there to vote on very important issues!

**Karen Wood Alley:** No! What is their job? They must represent the people by voting. They are afraid of getting on the wrong side of folks mostly in power. They should not be allowed to abstain - period.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**Tribe should capitalize on Cherokee Bottled Water enterprise**

Isn’t it ironic how tribal leaders, and members alike, still seem to struggle with ideas of ways that would best benefit our Tribe when it comes to diversification of our business interest?

Especially when we’re sitting right on top, (and own) what could be, with a little work, a multibillion dollar a year business.

Who? When? Why? What did you say? That’s right, the Cherokee Bottled Water Company. How so? According to the recent article in Time magazine, “Our Thirsty Planet” (March 19, 2018) this place we call home (Mother Earth) is fast running out of clean, drinkable water. And, countries where water is in short supply pay high dollar for a cool drink of water.

Furthermore, what’s the first thing needed in every natural disaster? That’s right! Water! Good old “right off the lizard’s back” Cherokee Bottled Water. Or, at least it could be. The Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) has a multibillion dollar a year budget. For guess what? Right again! Water! And, guess who qualifies first for these contracts when proper steps are taken? Surprise! Minority suppliers! Better yet, a Native American-owned supplier comes before other minorities. Wow! Crazy huh?

Now, let’s talk gaming. With the right sales pitch (which I am great at) (hint), all tribes would probably love to have their tribal labels on their bottled water (labels and water did by us), brought to them by another tribe (us) rather than spend money with non-native suppliers, right?

I think my point has been made. We have and own the potential to move into the multimillion dollar arena. We’re just not using it.

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**EDITORIAL:** One man, one vote; from page 23

...scenario would make having at-large representatives more reasonable.

There is much work to be done regarding our law. Tribal Code is still being looked at for consistency and conflicting language. A draft constitution is making its way in front of us to be considered for replacing existing governing documents. The ideas I have suggested are just a few of many that we should seriously consider as we move forward with creating solid law to guide this generation and the next. It is important that you participate in the discussion and the process. Government should be representative of all the people. It is up to us to create the structure we want to live under. The unity we seek is dependent on the actions we take.

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**SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather ELECTIONS:** Mary “Missy” Crowe (standing), an EBCI tribal member from the Yellowhill Community, shows election-related documents she’s gathered over the past several decades to Robert Jumper, One Feather editor, during a recent sit-down discussion on election issues she wished to comment on. The entire interview can be viewed online at theonefeather.com.

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Benefits/Fundraisers

NDN Taco Fundraiser for Aaliyah Voss. April 6 from 10:30am – 1pm at Yellowhill Activity Center. All proceeds will go to help with travel and fees for AAU Lady Royals 4th grade 9U basketball team. Frybread w/chili and cheese $7 and tacos $8, drink included. Call-in orders can be made and will be ready for pick-up. No deliveries. Info: Charla 269-8647

Big Y Community Old-fashioned Bingo Fundraiser. April 7 at 6pm at Big Y Community Building. Concessions will be available. Everyone is welcome.

Upcoming Turkey Shoots at Jesse Welch Turkey Shoot Facility in the Big Cove Community. April 7 at 5pm, benefit for Josilynn Driver’s senior trip; April 14 at 5pm, benefit for Alyxandra Armachain’s class trip. Good prizes, good fun, good benefits. All are welcome.

Church Events

Revival. Starts April 8 at 6pm at Old Antioch Baptist Church. Weeknights at 7pm. Rev. Patrick Odell will be preaching. Everyone is welcome.

Cultural Events

Cherokee Language Class. Wednesdays April 4, 11, and 18 from 6-8pm at Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in Vonore, Tenn. The cost of the class is $50 for all four evenings, and the class will be taught by Gil Jackson and Lou Jackson, both EBCI tribal members. Info: Museum (423) 884-6246, seqmus@tds.net

Symposium commemorating the Cherokee Removal. April 11 from 8am – 4:30pm at Western Carolina University Center Grand Room. The symposium is entitled “Cherokee Challenges & Tribulations: Exploring Scholarship, Memory, & Commemoration” and will commemorate the Cherokee Removal and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act. This event, which is free and open to the public, is hosted by Western Carolina University, WCU College of Arts and Sciences, WCU Dept. of History, National Trail of Tears Association, and the North Carolina Trail of Tears Association. Speakers include: Jack Baker, Mike Wrenn, Dr. Ben Steere, Dr. Brett Riggs, and more. Info: Dr. Susan Abram (828) 227-2735, smabram@wcu.edu; Dr. Anne Rogers (828) 349-1341, rogers@wcu.edu

Cherokee Stamped Pottery Workshop. April 20-21 from 9am - 4pm at Art Studio of the Ken Blankenship Education and Research Wing of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Tammy Beane, of Collinsville, Ala., will teach how to make traditional Cherokee stamped pottery. The cost for the two-day work-shop is $25 for EBCI tribal members. The work-shop will cover the history of stamped pottery, and participants will learn to make large bowls that are hand-coiled and stamped. For information and to register: Museum of the Cherokee Indian 497-3481, ext. 1000, or you can sign up in person at the Museum store

Cherokee Heritage Day. April 21 from 10am – 4pm at Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Blowgun (weather depending), woodpecker shell carving, feather capes to view, kid’s games, GIS story map of historical events from 1700-1840 by Lamar Marshall (1pm), storytelling (2pm), music and dance (3pm). Info: 497-3481

Free Syllabary Class. Every Thursday through April 26 from 7-8pm at Cherokee Choices conference room. Limited slots available. This is for EBCI tribal members ages 10 and up only. This is not a Cherokee language class. Info: Tara McCoy 359-5542

Cherokee Syllabary and Intro to Cherokee Class. Every Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-6:30pm at the 3200 Acre Tract Community Center at 1000 Old Bryson City Road in Whittier. Everyone is welcome. Info: https://www.facebook.com/3200-Acre-Tract-Community-Center-1589774257745245/
and participate. The group is especially in need of tenors, bass, and sopranos. Info: Frela Beck 736-4181, Teressa Sweet 736-1256, or Mary Wachacha 788-1196

Disposals of unserviceable U.S. Flag Ceremony. April 7 at 6pm at American Legion Steve Youngdeer Post #143. All veterans and immediate family members, as well as family members of deceased veterans are invited. Info: Chaplain Charlie McCullough (828) 226-3140

Native Youth Fabric Design Sessions. April 10-11 from 1 – 4pm and April 23 from 5 – 8pm at EBCI Extension Office. Learn about different fabrics. Create a custom fabric design that represents Cherokee culture. Designs will be sent to Durham and made into an actual piece of fabric to use in creating clothing for the Kananesgi Fashion Show in August. Sewing classes will be offered this summer. Info: Sally Dixon, EBCI Extension Office, 359-6936

Joy Harjo to participate in Visiting Writer Series at UNC Asheville. April 12 from 7-8:30pm at UNC Asheville’s Lipsinsky Hall Auditorium. Harjo, a member of the Mvskoke Nation, has won the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers Circle of the Americas. This event, part of UNC Asheville’s Visiting Writers Series and the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Series, is free and open to everyone. Info: (828) 251-6853, events@unca.edu

Kindergarten Registration for Swain County Schools. April 17 from 8am – 12pm at West Elementary and April 19 from 8am – 12pm at East Elementary. It is imperative to attend registration day as the number of expected students is used to calculate the number of needed teachers. Appointments for Kindergarten registration may be made by calling the school secretaries or Katrina Turbyfill 488-2110, kturbyfill@swain-mail.org

Third Annual Spring Garden Fair. April 20-21 at Cherokee Indian Fairgrounds. Friday from 12-6pm and Saturday from 9am – 2pm. Plants, seeds, yard art, tools, education. Sponsored by Office of the Principal Chief. The American Legion Steve Youngdeer Post 143 Auxiliary will host the Good Thyme Café. This event is free and open to the public. Info: legendweaverstudios@gmail.com

K-9 Public Demonstration. April 24 at 6pm at Cherokee Indian Fairgrounds. A public demonstration featuring working K-9 teams will be presented. The event is being co-sponsored by the EBCI Natural Resources Enforcement Department, the Cherokee Fire Department, and the American Police Canine Association.

Kananesgi Pottery Festival. April 28 from 10am – 4pm at Cherokee Indian Fairgrounds. Storytelling, vendors selling pottery, and presenters on Cherokee pottery. NAIWA will prepare food for sale. Admission is free.

2nd Annual Joey Parker Memorial Ride. April 28. This ride, for SxSs, ATVs, UTVs, and dirt bikes, will be held through the backcountry trails of the Qualla Boundary in memory of Joey Parker. Info: www.joeparkermemorial.com


Spring Sobriety Campout. May 10-13 at Yogi in the Smokies Campground on Big Cove Road in Cherokee. AA, NA, Al-anon speakers; Talking Circles; marathon meeting; sobriety pow wow; fun and fellowship. Pre-registration $40 per person (children under 12 are free). $45 at the gate. Info: Herb 506-8563, firesidecircle@yahoo.com

Remember the Removal Riders send-off ceremony. June 1 at 5pm at Kituwah Mound. Food catered by Granny’s Kitchen.

Swain Arts Center Summer Arts Camp. June 18-21. Activities will include Cherokee storytelling, arts and crafts instruction from Cherokee artisans, and field trips to significant
historical and cultural sites in Swain County. Spaces available for 25 students who have completed grades 3-5. The camp is funded in part by a grant from RTCAR (Revitalization of Traditional Cherokee Artisan Resources) and the Cherokee Preservation Foundation. Registration will be open until May 19 or until the spaces are filled. There is a $25 fee for the camp. To register, www.swain.k12.nc.us. Info: Rachel Lackey, Swain Arts Center director, 488-7843, rlackey@swainmail.org

myFutureNC Listening Session. July 12 from 2 – 5pm at Cherokee Central Schools. myFutureNC, a statewide education commission focusing on educational attainment for all North Carolinians, is holding a series of listening sessions to hear from communities about what they perceive as their region’s economic strengths and identify the education opportunities that are most needed to capitalize on those strengths. This session will focus on Native perspective and will include Dr. Beverly Payne and Yona Wade from the Qualla Education Collaborative. Info and RSVP at: https://www.myfuturenc.org/listening_sessions/

Health and Sports Events

Archery at Big Y Gym. Each Tuesday at 6pm. All shooters are welcome. Deino and Allen, both certified instructors, will be assisting.

Upcoming Pow Wows for April 6-8

Note: This list of pow wows was compiled by One Feather staff. The One Feather does not endorse any of these dances. It is simply a listing of ones occurring throughout the continent. Please call before traveling.

7th Annual Indiana University Traditional Pow Wow. April 7 at Dunn Meadow in Bloomington, Ind. MC: Dylan Prescott. Host Northern Drum: War Paint. Host Southern Drum: Cozad. Info: (812) 855-4814, fnecc@indiana.edu


Enumclaw School District 23rd Annual Pow Wow. April 6 at Enumclaw High School in Enumclaw, Wash. MC: Grant Timentwa. Host Drum: Young Society. Info: Jen Leatham (360) 802-7745, Jennifer_leatham@enumclaw.wednet.edu

31st Annual Fresno State Pow Wow. April 6-8 at O’Neill Park in Fresno, Calif. MC: Frankie Williams. Host Northern Drum: Young Eagle Creek. Host Southern Drum: So-Ex Style. Info: Jeannette Jimenez monolove10@mail.fresnostate.edu, Carmen Esqueda cpesqueda@mail.fresnostate.edu, Aaliyah Thomas aaliyah2@mail.fresnostate.edu

40th Anniversary AICA Homecoming Pow Wow. April 6-7 at Foothills Equestrian and Nature Center in Tryon, NC. MC: Barry Rogers. Head Southern Singer: Matthew Horse. Info: Bryan Barnes (803) 569-8420, 3dbbdb@bellsouth.net


BYU Cedartree Memorial Competition Pow Wow. April 6-7 at BYU Wilkinson Student Center in Provo, Utah. MC: Dennis Bowen Sr. Host Drum: Battle Rock. Info: Wilkinson Student Center (801) 422-4313

Native American Youth Summit and Still Standing Pow Wow. April 7 at Fresno City College in Fresno, Calif. MC: Bobby Whitebird. Host Northern Drum: Indian Hill. Host Southern Drum: Hummingbird. Info: Tawny Lavell (559) 760-5802, tlavell@northforkerchearia-nsn.gov

AILYC 22nd Annual Spring Pow Wow. April 7 at McCurtain County Sports Complex in Broken Bow, Okla. MC: Tim Talchief. Host Northern Drum: Nick Hamilton & Thunder Boys. Host Southern Drum: Otter Trail. Info: Martha Battles (580) 584-9603 ext. 4320, MOBattles@bbisd.org


American Indian Council 2018 Spring Pow Wow. April 7-8 at Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds in...
Info: UWPowwow@gmail.com

ISO Spring Pow Wow. April 7-8 at Mesa Community College in Mesa, Ariz. MC: Edmond Tate Nevaquaya. Host Northern Drum: Young Bear. Host Southern Drum: Wild Band of Comanches. Info: Yvonne Dinehdeal (480) 461-7931, mesacc.pw@gmail.com

NCIPA 26th Annual Spring Contest Pow Wow and Indian Art Market. April 7-8 at Northside Aztlan Community Center in Fort Collins, Colo. Info: Jan or Karla (970) 498-0290, ncipa.pw@gmail.com

Community Club Meetings
Big Y Community Club meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm at the Big Y Community Building. For information on renting the building for your special occasion, call Brianna Lambert 788-3308.
The rental fee is $75 and $25 will be returned after cleaning.

Big Y Archery Club meets every Tuesday at 7:30pm at the Big Y Community Club Building. Indoor targets and 3D game targets available. This is free of charge to all and everyone is welcome. Instruction is available.

Support Groups/Meetings
Cherokee Diabetes Talking Circle. This group, for community members with diabetes or pre-diabetes and their family and friends, meets at Tsali Manor on the third Thursday of each month from 12-1pm. Info: Nilofer Couture, MPH, RD, LDN, CDE, 497-9163 ext. 6459 or nilofer.Couture@cherokeehospital.org

AA and NA meetings in Cherokee. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA): Tuesdays at 7pm at Cherokee Indian Hospital (CIH), Saturdays at 10am at CIH conference room
Narcotics Anonymous (NA): Mondays at 8pm at CIH, Thursdays at 8pm at CIH, Fridays at 7pm at CIH

Analenisgi Recovery Center weekly schedule for Fall/Winter 2017/18
NOTE: All classes/groups are open to all Analenisgi clients. Support groups marked with ** are open to the community.

Mondays
Safety WRAP: 9-10am
Cherokee Culture: 11:15am - 12:30pm
Still Waters: 2-3pm

**Family Support: 5-6pm

Tuesdays
Native Plants: 8:30-10:30am
Employment Skills: (second and fourth Tuesdays 11am -1pm)
Taming Salolis (Squirrels): 11am – 12pm
Emotions: 1-2pm
**Self-esteem: 2-3pm
**Life Recovery: 3-4pm

Wednesdays
Safety WRAP: 9-10am
Strong Hearts Women’s Group: 11am – 12pm
Healthy Boundaries: 1-2:30pm
Creative Writing: 2-3pm
**Family Support: 5-6pm
**Agape LGBT Group: 5:45-6:45pm

Cherokee Cancer Support Group meets the first Thursday of each month at Betty’s Place at 40 Goose Creek Road. A pot luck is held at 5:30pm, and the meeting is open to all. Betty’s Place is also open Monday – Friday 10am – 2pm and provides counseling and support services to cancer patients that may include supplies, travel, and meals. Info: 497-0788

cherokee one feather/na tsalagi soquo ugidahli, week of april 5-11, 2018
FOR RENT
2BR, 1 bath mobile home. Quiet park in Ela, no pets. References/ background check required. $450/month, $450/deposit. 488-8752. UFN

FOR SALE
LAND FOR SALE – Blackrock Creek Community; Great home sites and acreage available 15 minutes from Harrah’s casino. 1.6 to 9 acre tracts just outside the Reservation in Jackson County, NC. Seller financing available at great terms. Contact Bruce Nelson (954) 232-8375. 5/24pd

FOR SALE – Waterfront or view improved building sites, by owner, state road, gated, sites cut, well, electric, three bedroom, septic in, dock, southern exposure, private. (828) 788-6879. 4/19pd

SERVICES
Tax Preparation by Sandi – Can save you time and money. Monday thru Saturday 9am – 7pm. Located on Olivet Church Road. 507-5045. 4/12

Law Office of Shira Hedgepeth, Tribal Legal Advocate, For representation, call (828) 585-5044 or email shira@legal-decisions.com. Find us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/legaldecisions. 3/29pd

Oocumma’s Law Mowing Services. Attention all businesses and home-owners – are you looking for a reliable company to mow grass for a reasonable price? If so, please call for a free estimate at 508-5183. Licensed and insured. TERO-certified. 4/19pd

SEEKING
SEEKING Building or Vacant land for immediate leasing along - Casino Trail, Paint Town Road and Tsalagi Road (Downtown Cherokee.) For interest, please contact (954) 205-5092. 3/29

FREE
FREE - Four male Carolina pups. Two brown, two brown-white paints. Intelligent, four months old, easily trainable. Free to good, loving homes. Wonderful dogs. Contact Skyhawk (828) 837-1549.

YARD SALES
Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7 at 50 Bryson St. in Bryson City. Rockers, fans, ladders, all kinds of tools, antiques, cast iron, knives, new windows, electric wheelchair, assorted milk glass, weller pottery, oil lamps, and more. Info: 488-8951

Cherokee Central Schools Position Openings

- Part-time Security - High school diploma or GED required. Shift varies.
- Cultural Program Coordinator - Master's degree preferred: Bachelor's degree required in Business or office related field. Work experience in business office management organization and related technical skill areas. Must have experience with budgets and grant writing. Must be sociable when dealing with the community. Experience with Cherokee Language and Culture preferred.
- School Psychologist - Minimum requirement of a Master's Degree in psychology and have at least three year's experience working in a school setting. Must hold state license to practice school psychology.
- Volleyball Coach - Must have HS diploma or GED; and must have previous successful experience.
- Middle School Special Education Teacher (Dreamcatchers-Autism Class) - Must have valid NC Teaching license.

Applicants who have retired from EBCI or other affiliated entities must wait a period of 6 months before applying for employment. Applicants who have accepted the Early Retirement Incentive Plan (ERIP) from EBCI or affiliated entity must: wait 3 years before applying for employment.

APPLY ONLINE at: https://phl.applitrack.com/cherokeecentral/onlineapp or visit www.ccs-nc.org for more information.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A little woolgathering is OK. But don’t let that dreamy state linger beyond midweek, when you’ll want to be ready to take on new workplace responsibilities.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Love rules the week for single Bovines seeking romance. Attached pairs also find new joy in their relationships. Friday should bring news about a business opportunity.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Home becomes the center of a new social whirl, as you show your talent for hosting great parties. You can expect to impress a lot of people who’ve never seen this side of you.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The Moon Child might have to raise those powers of persuasion a notch to get a still-wary colleague to agree to go along. Finding more facts to back up your position helps.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Hold off trying to fix the blame for an apparent mishandling of a work situation. A full investigation could reveal surprising facts on how and why it really happened.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your ability to find details others might overlook gives you an advantage in assessing a possibly too-good-to-be-true offer. A trusted colleague has advice.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Expect to be called on once again to act as peacemaker in a long-simmering dispute that suddenly flares up. Offer advice, but be careful to stay out of the fray.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your organizational skills help you line up your priorities so that you get things done without added pressure. The weekend could hold a special surprise.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) New ventures are favored. But don’t launch yours before rechecking all facts and sources. Also, be sure you can rely on support from certain people.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don’t be pushed into renegotiating an agreement, even though it might help avoid a potential impasse. Get legal advice before you sign or agree to anything.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Helping others is what Aquarians do so well. But this time, someone wants to help you. Expect to hear some news that will both surprise and delight you.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Things go so swimmingly that you’re tempted to take on more tasks. Best advice: Finish what you have now, then enjoy a well-earned relaxing weekend.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your understanding of human nature helps you make wise decisions that are appreciated by all. You would make a fine judge.
It’s a Match!
You and Harrah’s Cherokee Casino Resort have liked each other.

EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS
For deadlines and applications call 339-6388. Indian Preference does apply. A current job application must be submitted. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of a Tribal application.

POSITIONS OPEN
*Please attach all required documents*
*eg: Driver’s license, Enrollment, Diplomas, Certificates*

Closing Monday, April 09, 2018
1. Driver (Multiple) – Transit – Administration (L4 $23,616 - $29,520)
2. Recreation Aide (Part-time) – Cherokee Life – CERS (L3 $10.33 - $12.91 per hour)
4. Finance Manager – Qualia Boundary HS/EHS – PHHS (L12 $49,200 - $61,500)
5. Youth Development Professional – Snowbird Youth Center – Snowbird/Cherokee County Services (L3 $21,484 - $26,855)

Closing Friday, April 13, 2018
1. Education Tutor Grades 4-6 - Graham County Indian Education - Snowbird/Cherokee County Services (L4 $23,616 - $29,520)
2. Public Safety Communications Manager - Public Safety - Operations (L12 $49,200 - $61,500)
3. Assistant Education Coordinator - Emergency Medical Services - Operations (L9 $37,474 - $46,843)
4. Early Childhood Language Specialist Assistant – Kituwah Academy – CERS (L5 $25,830 - $32,288)
5. Early Childhood Language Specialist Assistant (Part-Time) – Kituwah Academy – CERS (L5 $12.42 - $15.52 per hour)

Open Positions

Download Applications and Job Descriptions and Apply Online at: www.cbsi.com/jobs
EMPLOYMENT

CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL

AUTHORITY has the following jobs available:

Residential Treatment Center Manager - Snowbird Residential Treatment Center

Optometrist

Pedodontist

PTR Registered Nurse - Snowbird Residential Treatment Center

RN – Tsali Care Center (2 Positions)

Emergency Hire RN – Inpatient

Dental Assistant II

Dentist – Satellite Clinics Cherokee County & Snowbird

Dentist

Certified Nursing Assistant – Tsali Care (11 Positions)

LPN – Tsali Care

LPN- Behavioral Health

RN MDS Coordinator – Tsali Care

PTI Registration Receptionist Clerk

Emergency Hire - Supply Warehouse

Supply Warehouse Technician

Payroll Officer

Kitchen Supervisor - Snowbird Residential Treatment Center

Clinical Staff Pharmacist

To apply, visit careers.cherokee-hospital.org. If you have questions, contact the Cherokee Indian Hospital HR department at 828-497-9163. These positions will close April 12, 2018 at 4:00pm. Indian preference does apply. 4/12pd

The EBCI Natural Resource Department is looking for an individual to join our team as a paid intern for summer 2018. The ideal candidate has interest/experience working with underground storage tanks. Please email resumes and any questions to Derek Tahquette at: johntahq@nc-cherokee.com. 4/12pd

LEGAL NOTICES

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina

In the Matter of the Estate of Amy Autumn Crowe

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below. Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Christopher McMillan, 49 Vinson Drive, P.O. Box 684, Bryson City, NC 28713. 4/26pd

In the Matter of the Estate of Earl McMillan

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below. Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina

In the Matter of the Estate of Edna Locust Hornbuckle

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below. Date to submit claims: 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

EBCI THE CHEROKEE COURT

Cherokee, NC

FILE NO: 17-SP-047

JONAH BIDDIX

v.

KAMI ESQUIVEL

TO: KAMI ESQUIVEL

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is MINOR NAME CHANGE. You are required to make defense to this pleading not later than April 24, 2018 said date being 40 days from the first date of this publication, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. This is the 15th day of March 2018.

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Cherokee, North Carolina

Estate File No. EST 18-019

Estate File No.: EST 13-002; EST 11-023;

EST 11-006; EST 10-051;

EST 12-049; EST 12-053

In the Matter of the Estates of:

Mildred Messer Cisneros,

Clarence James Deck,

(d. 11-23-2012)

(d. 3-8-2011)

Arnulfo Luis Librado, Jr.,

(d. 12-11-2010)

Elsie Marie Johnson,

(d. 7-29-2010)

Margaret Ann Adams,

(d. 7-22-2012)

Beatrice Edith Maney Carver,

(d. 8-6-2012)

All persons, firms, or corporations having outstanding claims or interest in these estates are hereby notified of a hearing to settle the above named estates at the following date and time or be barred from making any further claims against the estate.

EBCI Justice Center

April 26, 2018 at 1:30 PM

4/19pd

4/26pd
In the Matter of the Estate of Christy Lou Wachacha

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against this estate are notified to exhibit them to the fiduciary(s) listed on or before the date listed or be barred from their recovery.

Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the appointed fiduciary(s) listed below.

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

Gail M. Wachacha, P.O. Box 1028, 86 Hilda Queen Road, Cherokee, NC 28719. 4/26pd

BIDS, RFPs, etc.

Requests for Proposals
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Cherokee Department of Transportation
680 Acquoni Road
Cherokee, North Carolina 28719
Phone: (828) 359-6530

Bridge Inspections
The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians CDOT Office is requesting sealed Qualification Proposals (NCDOT Qualified Contractors) for Licensed Bridge Inspection Services. The deadline for submitting Proposals will be April 20, 2018 at 10am.

Please be advised that all TERO rules and regulations, Tribal procurement policies, applicable state and federal rules, regulations and laws shall apply to the performance of any work awarded pursuant to this solicitation and to the procurement of work solicited through this advertisement.

You may request the full request for qualifications and proposal requirements for proposals through the CDOT Office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact CDOT at (828)-359-6530. 4/5pd

New enrollees of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

This is a list of new enrollees of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians who were officially enrolled between October 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018, who, unless otherwise prohibited by Tribal law, are eligible to receive a per capita distribution of distributable net gaming revenue for the period of October 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018. This list is being published according to Cherokee Code Section 16C-4.

Ruby Bernadette Abiseid
Danna Anderson
Grayden Lake Anderson
Bentley Whiplash Arch
Journie Lyla-Raenice Armachain
Khaleesi Majesta Arneach
Yajaira Brynlee Bernal
Aniya Rose Blankenship
Harlyn U No La Boyd
Haze Bradley
Chase Clell Brady
Journey Ky Buchanan
Harrison Douglas Burrell
Emalyn Donna-Frances Cagle
Athena Maria Caro
Keynan Azael Castillo
Zadie Beth Chekelelee
Orianna Akiko Clark
Sophia Elise Coggins
Mechelen Wren Cooper
Azrael Elizabeth Corbin
Lucas Alexander Corral
Dawson Russell Cox
Alexander Kane Crowe
Florence Everly Agaluha Crowe
Loshi Marie Crowe
Melody Joelene Cuevas
Nage Renner Damas
Alyssa Brianna Driver
Lorraine Joy Driver
Logan Anthony Edwards
Silas Michael Edwards
Adalyn Rose Eller
Rylan Eli Erickson
Renna Kate Fleetwood
Winona Faith Fleetwood
Carter Thomas Frady
Sophia Danielle Frady
Finley Cade French
Gabriela Jane French
Jeremiah David French
Shaylee Jade Fuller
Skylar Rae Gutsche
Lillian Carmella Hampton
John Andrew Helsel
Mason Philip Helsel
Connor August Herring
Lucille Lemon Hodge
Maximus Ray Lee Hogsed
Ceejay Maki Hornbuckle
Madalynn Avery Hulgan
Mason Junior Huskey
Akira Leanne Jackson
Amiya Lea Jackson
Cannon Theo Jackson
Kingston Delreco Jackson
Nygel Lavon James
Kalaina Rayne Jenkins
Benny Eugene John
Camdynn Ilana Skyler Johnson
Jude Elliott Johnson
Ariana Grace Jones
Makeyla Jade Kerbow
Ethan Kristofer Korkowski
Hayden Lillian Ledford
Jules Acie Lefell
Nevaeh Rose Littlejohn
Hypatia Brooklyn Long
Elston Earl-James Mahkee
Ernest James Maney
Owen Niall Maney
Helena Irene Martin
Blake Corbin Mashburn
Alex Xavier Mata-Lopez
Julie Schalene McCall
Emmaline Marie McCoy
Mercedes Jordan Rose McGuire
Samuel Ray McMillan
Major Knight Mead
Maleke Knowledge Mead
Chris Omar Montoya Martin
Harper Bryant Elex Murphy
Payton Lee Murphy
Alina Mae Nelson
Xavier Kyrie Owens-Rodriguez
Remalyn Ember Palmer
Jex Rhiker Panther
McKyan Si Mi Yv Ni Panther
Ohnalise Timbi Panther
Samantha Michelle Paz
Colby Brez Phillips
Brayden Cole Pollard
Ryleigh Kita Postoak
Victoria Rayne Presnell
Tripp Lewis Blanton Pruitt
Anjell Aliya-Marie Queen
Brayah Wa-Du-Li-Si Reed
Daelynn Kadence Rickman
Felixa Cloud Rickman
Meleah Dawson Rickman
Naomi Alyssa Kay Rivera
Isabella Marie Rodriguez
Jacoby Odali Sampson
Samuel Randall Sampson
Savannah Grey Saunooke
Adahy Runningwolfe Sequoyah
Camrigh Jane Sequoyah
Aarika Jade Shell
Brylee Anne Sherrill
Augustus Jameson Shuler
U-Wo-Du-Hi Aladdis Silva
Elias David Abdel Smith
Ella Jean Smith
Elliot Smith
Harold Eugene Smith, III
Kale Hewitt Smith
Grayson James Sneed
Kamiah Anique Stewart
Axel Zane Sutton
Izzabeth Jozii Taylor
Kayson Darrell Taylor
Makinna Aries Taylor
Nori Luck Taylor
Bryan Haze Teensatekie
Everleigh Faith Thompson
Evelyn Violet Thuemler
Gemma Maribeth Toineeta
Delilah Janiece Townsend
Eleston Lynn Tucker
JayJay Lorraine Turner
Michael Patrick Valles
Jonathan Axe Hayes Wachacha
Braxley Nirvana Welch
Kainen Abraham Whitecotton
James Randall Wildcat
Serenity Theia Wolfe
Liam Joseph Yates
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--Sergel Gubarev, 2017 graduate

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