



# Division of CERS

## Community, Education & Recreation Services

### 2025 May Newsletter



#### Cherokee Youth Center- 828-359-8113

- Kindergarten Registration will be on May 20th and 22nd at 5:30pm at CYC.
- We will be participating in the Darkness of Hope Day in Snowbird on May 1st.
- This past month we held a spring dance for K-2nd graders and it was a blast.
- We currently have two open positions for hiring.



#### Higher Education - 828-359-6650

- Our amazing staff processed 159 phone calls, 111 Fall applicants, 76 purchase orders and 114 invoices this month.
- We will start senior meetings for all new freshman in May.
- We had 30 applicants for the Summer Youth Program.
- We have Internship positions now available for the summer months. Call 359-6650 for more information.



#### Cherokee Recreation - 828-359-6890

- Our program had 188 participants in Senior Games this year.
- We participated in Special Olympic athletic programs hosted at Swain High school and Smoky Mtn High in track field and bowling. Our goal is to bring back Special Olympics at Cherokee Central next spring.
- Our program sponsored 8 teams to participate in NAYO in Hollywood Florida this month.
- We celebrated the life of Peaches Squirrel as we worked along side her for over 20 years.
- Football and Cheer signups are happening now until May 30th. Applications available at the PSSRC (Birdtown Gym).



#### Senior Citizens Center - 828-359-6860

- The Nantahala Foundation Grant has come to an end. It supplemented our funding for meals on wheels and provided mileage for volunteers.
- The second trip meeting took place for our trip to the Bahamas in August.
- The new 15 passenger high top Ford Transit van is here and we will be taking many day trips in it!
- The Social Work Supervisor position is vacant and will be posted soon.
- We are looking at upgrades for the kitchen to bring us into the 2020's!
- In the month of April our staff prepared 2,122 homebound meals and hosted 1250 elders at congregate.

#### KPEP - 828-359-6401

- Our staff translated 15 translation requests, executive statements, 3 list of rooms for tribal programs, casino requests, headings for a cookbook and many other translations.
- Our staff completed some history on the council house and other area sites this month.
- Speakers Consortium was April 28th and we hosted some speakers from Cherokee Nation and UKB.
- Our CLMAP students presented at the WCU Cherokee Language Symposium this past month as well.
- CLMAP students also practiced assessments this month.



#### Qualla Boundary Head Start- 828-359-6590

- We currently have many vacant positions open for hiring. These include: 9 Head start positions and 12 early head start positions, 1 Education Coach, 2 support staff positions. Apply at EBCI.GOV! We can train you!
- We are currently bringing on many contract workers and summer staff.
- May 5-9th is Teacher Appreciation Week! Help us celebrate our Teachers and Staff!
- We are also working on recruitment videos and job fair days for the community.
- Other projects we are working on include Rally for Recovery, Autism Awareness Events, and many more.

#### Cherokee Fitness Complex- 828-359-6494

- The pool area proposal was presented and approved by planning board. The next step is to get Tribal Council approval to move forward with the project.
- Our application has been updated and we are implementing the changes with members.
- We were approved to install new software in the complex. We are currently working on the 3rd party billing section now and will begin the importing soon.
- There are new signs and rules up in all areas of the complex for clarification of rules for members.
- We currently have 2,120 members.

#### HELP Program - 828-359-6638

- Our staff completed 184 Service calls for water, heat and electrical emergencies, 17 home repairs this month.
- Our office has recieved 345 applications for mowing and 42 for plowing services. Doctors notes are still needed for those under 70 years of age.

#### New Kituwah Academy - 828-359-6401

- We are currently hiring in multiple positions. Please see EBCI.GOV for job descriptions.
- We hosted a family easter night, egg hunts, and a few of our staff participated in the Week of the Young Child event.
- Our students got to go to Dollywood, the NC Arboretum and the ramp patch this past month.
- We had a few upgrades to our building over spring break. These include new flooring throughout the hallway and new window tint installed on windows.



Upcoming events include:  
Culture Fair on May 1st  
Teacher Appreciation Week - May 5-9th  
EOG testing-May 12-15th  
Elementary Students Awards - May 22nd  
6th grade graduation-May 23 at 10:30am at CYC

#### Qualla Public Library - 828-359-3725

- The library had 160 people use computers, 75 use the printer, 31 check out books, hosted 14 meetings and got 165 new books entered into the system.
- We also launched a new mom/baby language class this past month and had great feedback from the community.
- We also hosted a few events for the community including a tea party, earth day event, dancing with Giga, National Book day Giveaway and reading time with NKA kids.
- We are currently working on the creation of our makers space which will allow us to host many cultural craft classes, language classes, 3D printing, cricket projects and much more.