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GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE TRIBE:

Chief Panther asks if anyone has any prayers to ask for.

Chief Panther states that they are attempting to get Medicare for her daughter, Mary Lynn to help with the cost of treatment. She is still having seizures. She is in great need of all of our prayers.

Ariel is doing well but still needs more surgery.

Joyce Spirit Wind thanks everyone for all of their prayers during her illness.

Please keep Pam Sandusky in your prayers.

Please keep Jan Hicks and her son Austin Hicks in your prayers. Pray that they also find a way to help themselves. She was the SeCCI secretary for seven years.

Tar asks for everyone to pray to Creator to help us to fulfill our mission and to also raise up leadership. We need people who have a genuine interest and love of this tribe so that we can continue in the future. But we have to start training people now to assume those positions of leadership ten to twenty years down the road. We have to do that now. We need to find people that have that true heart. So, we need to pray to Creator to send us those people.

Chief Panther states that we need younger people.

PRESENTATIONS

There are not presentations at this time.

Lee passes around a card for everyone to sign for Anne.

Chief Panther asks if there is anything else. As there is nothing else Chief Panther declares the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by *Joyce Spirit Wind Bugaiski* to Chief Panther for approval.



Blue Heron Medicine Lodge Member Attends Cherokee Language Immersion Class

By Lee Spotted Pony Billingsley

The Language Immersion class at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian in Cherokee, NC, turned out to be nine days of total Cherokee! We used no books, notes, or English. We had two teachers, Bo, the official teacher, & Yogshi, a Cherokee speaking elder. Between the two of them we learned not so much "how to speak Cherokee", but rather, "how Cherokees speak".

Using no books or notes was a way of getting the language into our heads. Bo said we would be dreaming in Cherokee after 2 days. He was right! Once it took me quite awhile to figure out why "AHYELI" did not fit into my crossword puzzle clue for "in the middle".

The sessions were intense and all Cherokee. At lunch we all ate together and the lessons continued at the table. We played "Yahtzee" in Cherokee.

We got to know the town of Cherokee beyond the casino and tourist shops. Anne and I had a great motel room for a great price right on the river with a private balcony. We would sit there in the evenings, listen to the river and go over what I had learned in class that day.

Talk to the people behind the counters a little and they will let you know where the "good stuff" is, pieces by local artists, the best books, and the authentic clothing. Visit the casino, you don't have to gamble, & see the fantastic art they display there. Take your lawn chair into the river on a hot day and sit in the shade with your book in your hand & your feet in the water. Find out which restaurant has the best squash (1) the Indian buffet (2) THE BEST fry bread anywhere (3) or where you can order your cappuccino in Cherokee (4)

One day the class visited the Indian Village & talked, in Cherokee as much as possible, with the people in the craft booths. They, indeed everyone we met, seemed pleased we were taking the time to learn the language. And make sure you see the blow gun demonstration!

The trip was awesome both as a learning experience & as a vacation. What I learned of the Cherokee language helped me understand the thinking behind the words & made learning more of the language so much easier. What we learned of the town of Cherokee was that we spent time among the most generous and open people anywhere. We are proud to walk with the Cherokees, the ANIYVWIYA, the Real People.

Spotted Pony

