

TACC Mission Statement

To promote business, enhance economic and community development, and serve as a catalyst for improving the overall quality of life in the community and region.

918-456-3742 • www.tahlequahchamber.com

CHAMBER connection



VOLUME 2, NO. 3 • March 2019

 LEADERSHIP
TAHLEQUAH

 DUCKS FOR
SALE!

CONTACT A LEADERSHIP CLASS XIII MEMBER
OR CALL 918-456-3742

1 FOR \$5 OR 5 FOR \$20

OPIOD EPIDEMIC RESPONSE



Learn about the risks of prescription opioids, and how opioid use is impacting your community.

Help us prevent future addiction to these drugs that can become deadly when misused.

OSU Medicine physicians, residents and staff will be on hand to provide information.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

TAHLEQUAH

July 22-28 | Cherokee County Community Bldg.

 CENTER FOR
Wellness & Recovery
AT OSU MEDICINE

Funding for this event was made available by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through a cooperative agreement with the Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Prevention Section. The views expressed in written materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.



KEEP TAHLEQUAH BEAUTIFUL 2019

City-Wide Beautification Project



APRIL 13, 2019

9:00 a.m. Check In | 10:00 a.m. Group Picture

Registration Deadline: April 8th
To Register: www.tahlequahchamber.com
Volunteer t-shirts first come first serve

Message from the President

Tons of trash get dumped on our land or littered along the roads every year including plastic and glass bottles, cans, plastic bags, food wrappers, boxes and other types of litter and garbage – detracting from the natural beauty of our community and surrounding area. On Saturday, April 13, area residents, businesses, groups and organizations will come together to clean-up and beautify the area through the My Tahlequah – Keep Tahlequah Beautiful Spring event and City/County Free Dump Day.

Groups and individuals may begin checking in for the My Tahlequah clean-up event at 9 a.m. on April 13 under the big tent set up in Norris Park. A group photo and video will be shot at 10 a.m. in Norris Park featuring all participants involved in the My Tahlequah – Keep Tahlequah Beautiful event. As soon as the photo is taken, participants will begin their clean-up projects.

My Tahlequah is a community development program of the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce originated to make the city and county a better and more beautiful place to live, work and play. Although we host a Spring and Fall Beautification event, the My Tahlequah Committee will begin to place focus on litter control, encouraging code enforcement, establishing a litter educational program for children, and creating other beautification projects in the future.

A goal of My Tahlequah is to create a mindset that a clean and beautiful city provides a beneficial impression to our residents, visitors and commuters, and potential new residents,

investors and new businesses. Quality of life has a major impact on where people choose to live, work and play. The way our community presents itself has a great deal to do with location choices made by potential business investors and residents.

Individuals are encouraged to join up with family, friends, community groups or businesses to create teams to participate in the cleanup effort. In addition, if individuals or teams have a specific project they want to address, we simply ask that they register this project with us during My Tahlequah volunteer signup. Volunteer and project signup may be done online at www.TahlequahChamber.com or by calling Alicia or Gabby at the Chamber of Commerce, 918-456-3742.

My Tahlequah Keep Tahlequah Beautiful Schedule

Individual/Group Check-In
9:00 – 10:00 a.m Norris Park

Keep Tahlequah Beautiful Kick-off

10:00 a.m. Norris Park
(Opening Ceremony/Group
Photo & Video)

**My Tahlequah
Trash & Recycling Drop-Off**
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Tahlequah Area Chamber

Only trash picked up during the My Tahlequah event may be dropped off in front of the Tahlequah Area Chamber located at 123 E. Delaware St. In addition, we will be accepting only the following recycling items from homes or business at this location, including: paper, plastics, aluminum and steel cans, and cardboard.



CINDY L. MORRIS, PRESIDENT
TAHLEQUAH AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FREE DUMP DAY – CITY OF TAHLEQUAH

In addition, free dump day is offered by the City of Tahlequah Solid Waste on April 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the dump located at 1851 N. Douglas Blvd. Free dump day gives residents an opportunity to discard their waste that's not easily thrown away in a common trashcan. Acceptable items include: pol-

lutants like auto fluids, solvents, oil-based paints, cleaners, pesticides, poisons and all types of batteries. Residents can also dump E-waste, computers, TVs, fluorescent bulbs, smoke alarms and tractor tires. The tire dropoffs exclude tire dealers and tires with rims. Residents cannot dump rocks, dirt or brush or appliances with Freon.

This event is sponsored by the City of Tahlequah Solid Waste, Storm Water Management, Cherokee Nation Environmental programs and the Solid Waste Research Institute of N.E. Oklahoma.

FREE DUMP DAY – CHEROKEE COUNTY

The Cherokee County transfer stations will host its free dump day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at each of its stations located in Hulbert, Moody and Keys. The county transfer stations will not accept tires, wet paint, brush, rocks or limbs.

For more information on the City's services call 918-456-8332 or County at 918-458-6573. To volunteer for the My Tahlequah event, log on to the volunteer portal at TahlequahChamber.com or call the Chamber at 918-456-3742.





A.M. LIVE
Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce
Business Networking Event

Join Us

Wake Up with the 3 C's

Coffee | Conversation | Connection

April 12, 2019 | 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
The Oasis Health Food Store
111 N. Muskogee Ave., Tahlequah

Remember to bring your business cards!

Thank you to our sponsor!
The Oasis Health Food Store

TAHLEQUAH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Presents

LEGISLATIVE FOCUS

WHEN: MAY 3, 2019
TIME: 7:45 A.M.-9:00 A.M.
LOCATION: NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY UNIVERSITY CENTER
ADDRESS: 612 N. GRAND AVE., TAHLÉQUAH, OK 74464

Sponsored by:

NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Registration is a MUST for these events
register at www.tahlequahchamber.com or call 918-456-3742



UPCOMING A.M. LIVE

APRIL

4 | 12 | 2019

Oasis Health Food Store
111 N. Muskogee Ave., Tahlequah

MAY

5 | 10 | 2019

CBD Plus USA
3040 S. Muskogee Ave., STE 106, Tahlequah

JUNE

6 | 14 | 2019

Newk's Eatery
3361 Cherokee Springs Drive, Tahlequah



Hart
Funeral Home

Tahlequah's Top Choice
for locally operated, family
oriented, personalized service.

Our Family Serving Your Family Since 1964

www.hartfuneralhome.net
918-456-8823 | 1506 N. Grand



Brian Kester
Managing Funeral Director

M|I|A

Managing for Innovation and Action

Featured Speaker:
Michelle Prine



Let's Get Social!
Social Media Marketing
ADVANCED COURSE

THIS CLASS IS A PART 2 OF THE ORIGINAL SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING COURSE!

Learn how to leverage social media for your business create awareness, increase engagement, showcase your products and services, and attract MORE customers through Social Media.

Join us for a step by step, interactive and fun program on how social media can take your business to the next level.

Date: Tuesday May 14, 2019
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Location: Indian Capital Technology Center
240 Vo-Tech Dr, Tahlequah, OK
Cost: Chamber Member \$15
 Non-Chamber Member \$25

**Please bring laptop/tablet, etc. to participate in "hands on" approach to social media

Registration Information:
Online: www.tahlequahchamber.com
Phone: 918-456-3742

Registration Deadline is May 13, 2019

HOSPITALITY & CUSTOMER SERVICE WORKSHOP

"Delivering an Exceptional Customer Experience"

The key to any successful business is a satisfied customer that becomes a loyal consumer. How do you create this you might ask? You create this by providing an experience that they will never forget. This new fun and interactive Customer Service training will take participants way beyond just making the sale. We will learn the importance of asking the right questions, going the extra mile that will put a smile on their face and how your attention will create an experience that keep them coming back and asking for you when they do.

APRIL 9TH
8:30-11:00

Cherokee Nation EMS Building
22114 S Bald Hill Rd., Tahlequah



Chris A. Welch

Chris is a speaker, trainer, business owner and executive coach that has worked with organizations all over the United States. He cultivated his craft over the last 10 years, while working with his own Cherokee Nation and is now looking to inspire others to pursue what they never thought could be possible. As a sought-after speaker and trainer for conferences and workshops, he is inspired to reach those who want to take their potential, careers and lives to the next levels. His fun, passionate, and interactive style will leave you ready take on the next step in your master plan for success.

REGISTRATION FOR THIS
FREE EVENT AT
WWW.TAHLEQUAHCHAMBER.COM

M|I|A

Managing for Innovation and Action

Featured Speaker:
Michelle Prine



Let's Get Social!
Social Media Marketing

Are you ready? It's time for you to share your business with the world.
Where, How and When?
 Learn how to leverage social media for your business create awareness, increase engagement, showcase your products and services, and attract MORE customers through Social Media. Join us for a step by step, interactive and fun program on how social media can take your business to the next level.

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2019
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Location: Indian Capital Technology Center
240 Vo-Tech Dr, Tahlequah, OK
Cost: Chamber Members \$15
 Non-Chamber Members \$25

**Class is limited to 20 to allow for an interactive and hands-on social media experience.

**Please bring laptop/tablet, etc. to participate in "hands on" approach to social media

Registration Information:
Online: www.tahlequahchamber.com
Phone: 918-456-3742

Registration Deadline is May 13, 2019

Five Star Friday has kicked off in full swing! We were so excited to highlight a few of our wonderful chamber members including Go Ye Village, Rollie Pollie, and JD Young. The Communications Committee founded Five Star Friday to highlight local businesses who provide outstanding customer service and products. The idea is to spotlight a local business by giving them a positive review on social media outlets such as Facebook, Yelp, Google, etc. Make sure to participate next Friday and give your favorite local business a 5-Star shout out!



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING!!!

Special thanks to all who attended Chamber hosted events this past month and to the sponsoring companies.

A.M. LIVE

Thank you to J.D. Young Copy Zone for hosting A.M. Live in March!



Have you attended one yet? You should! It is a great event where you can reconnect with customers, friends and business acquaintances, meet new businesses to the area, and new member investors in the Chamber. A.M. Live is held on the 2nd Friday of each month at a Chamber member location. See the A.M. Live ad to find out the upcoming and future locations. We hit 44 attendees in March with numerous new business owners and first-time attendees joining us. You are cordially invited to join us to build your business by connecting with others – Coffee + Conversation = Connections!



LEGISLATIVE FOCUS

Thank you, Northeastern Health System, for sponsoring & hosting the second 2019 Legislative Focus breakfast.

The second event was held on March 1st hosted by Northeastern Health System at the Armory Municipal Center. Join us on April 5th at the Restaurant of the Cherokees beginning at 7:45 a.m. State legislators join us to answer questions on legislative priorities, take questions from the audience and have time for one-one-one discussion with you, the people.

MIA Series



Are you Missing in Action? Join us for our MIA (Managing for Innovation and Action) Series throughout the year. We have at least one seminar per month scheduled after April. However, in April we will host four seminars including: Hospitality & Customer Service, Let's Get Social (basics), Let's Get Social (advanced) and Leading & Managing Through the Generations! There is more information within this newsletter.

Women In Business Breakfast

Thank you, Cherokee Nation for sponsoring & TSET for presenting at the second 2019 Women In Business breakfast.



The second event was held on March 6th at the Armory Municipal Center. It focused on Wellness in the Workplace and included some easy ways to improve your way of life! Join us on June 12th at the Armory beginning at 7:45 a.m. The program will focus on Loving Your Inner Introvert/Extrovert. Trust us, you don't want to miss this one!

State of Community

State of the Community is a city-wide event, bringing community leaders, business owners and local residents together to hear key community leaders speak of the past, present and future of Tahlequah. Speakers for the event include Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Bill John Baker; City of Tahlequah Mayor, Jason Nichols, Northeastern State University President, Dr. Steve Turner and Chief of the United Keetoowah Band, Joe Bunch.



LEADERSHIP TAHLEQUAH

Visits the State Capitol



Senator Dewayne Pemberton speaks with the class about the issues facing the State Government right now.



The Leadership Class XXII poses for a class picture outside the Governor's Mansion pool house.



The Leadership Class attends the NORA reception at the Governor's Mansion and listens to Johnnie Earp serving as the President of Northeast Oklahoma Regional Alliance.



The Leadership Class enjoys dinner at Bricktown Brewery for some downtime during the Oklahoma City Trip.

LEADERSHIP TAHLEQUAH

Visits the State Capitol



Former Mayor of Oklahoma City, Mick Cornett explains to the class the difference the MAPS program made to Bricktown.



Leadership Class XXII poses for a picture with Former Mayor of Oklahoma City Mick Cornett after being hosted by the State Chamber.



Class member Hayden Sharp and Champion Marty Hainzinger discuss the incredible architecture of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce building.

Wage and Hour Division (WHD)

Business News

Department of Labor Issues New Overtime Proposal

The Department of Labor (DOL) just released its long-awaited rewrite of the controversial overtime rule, which more than doubled the salary threshold from the current level of \$23,660 to \$47,476 per year. The DOL's rewrite of the rule offers a commonsense approach proposing a salary increase of \$35,308 per year.

The Department of Labor's revisions to the rule reflect a thoughtful review process including a Request For Information and a nationwide series of listening sessions allowing the regulated community and stakeholders to offer input on this important federal regulation. The National Restaurant Association supports the Department's common sense approach to salary increases and the absence of a provision for automatic adjustments.

We are continuing to review the proposed rule and will provide a more in-depth analysis in the days to come.

The NPRM includes:

The proposal increases the minimum salary required for an employee to qualify for exemption from the currently-enforced level of \$455 to \$679 per week (equivalent to \$35,308 per year).

The proposal increases the total annual compensation requirement for "highly compensated employees" (HCE) from the currently-enforced level of \$100,000 to \$147,414 per year.

A commitment to periodic review to update the salary threshold. An

update would continue to require notice-and-comment rulemaking.

Allowing employers to use non-discretionary bonuses and incentive payments (including commissions) that are paid annually or more frequently to satisfy up to 10 percent of the standard salary level.

No changes to the job duties test.

No automatic adjustments to the salary threshold.

No changes overtime protections for: police officers; fire fighters; paramedics, nurses, laborers including: non-management production-line employees; non-management employees in maintenance, construction and similar occupations such as carpenters, electricians, mechanics, plumbers, iron workers, craftsmen, operating engineers, longshoremen, and construction workers

No changes to the job duties test.

No automatic adjustments to the salary threshold.

The Department will consider all timely comments in developing a final rule.

Disclaimer: This proposed regulation has been submitted to the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) for publication, and is currently pending placement on public inspection at the OFR and publication in the Federal Register. This version of the proposed regulations may vary slightly from the published document if minor technical or formatting changes are made during the OFR review process. Only the version published in the Federal Register is the official proposed regulation. The public will have 60 days to comment on the proposed regulation; the comment period will begin on the date of publication in the Federal Register.



Renita Dick

Affordable Health Insurance

- Small Businesses
- Individuals
- Life Insurance



2 Sisters Financial, 110 Spring St., Tahlequah
918-456-6331

Financial Services

- 403(b) Plan
- Retirement & 401(k)
- Investment strategies
- Estate planning
- Insurance & Annuity Products

TAHLEQUAH AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

GOLF TOURNAMENT



FOUR MAN SCRAMBLE

JUNE 7, 2019

CHEROKEE SPRINGS
GOLF COURSE



BJ BAKER
TRIAL ATTORNEY



WWW.BJBAKER-LAW.COM • 918-456-5016

Member Investor Renewals

Thank you to our member investors for their continued belief and support of the important work of the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce. We recognize and thank each member who re-invested in our business association between February 21 – March 21.

A&B Distributors, Inc.
Action Floors
Backwoods Food Manufacturing
Beta Sigma Phi Delta Kappa
Chapter #4417
Cherokee Nation Home Health Services
Donn Baker – Attorney At Law
First Baptist Church of Tahlequah
Lake Region Electric Co-Op Masters, Jim & Letitia

Moore, Jerry
My Friends & Me Inc.
New Life Worship Center
One Source Water, LLC
OSU-CHS Center for Rural Health
Reasor's
Rose Furniture
Sharpe's Department Store of Tahlequah
TTCU Federal Credit Unit
Wiseman, Laura & Joseph



TALEQUAH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Safe, Reliable Affordable Electric
918-772-2526
www.lrecok.coop

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our new Chamber member investors! Please join us in welcoming them by patronizing their business for your personal and professional needs.

Member Investment made between February 21, 2019 – March 21, 2019

BAILEY LAW, PLC
Serving clients in the counties of Cherokee and Muskogee, Oklahoma, and beyond

Bailey Law, PLC
(918) 456-6113
205 West Shawnee, Tahlequah
<http://oktaxlaw.com/>



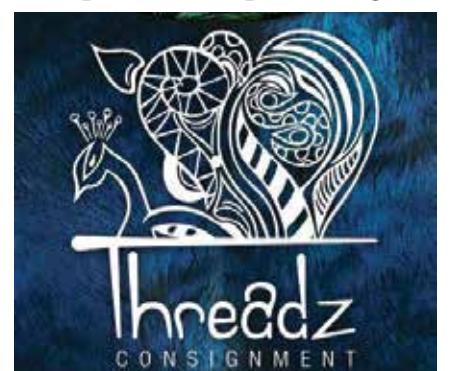
Opifex Solutions
(918) 718-4598
6516 N Main, Peggs
<http://www.opifex.solutions>



Page Firearms Training
(918) 708-1575
108 E Monroe, Tahlequah
<http://pagefirearmtrainingllc.com/>



Soroptimist International
(918) 772-2260
<http://www.soroptimist.org>



Threadz Consignment
(918) 864-2035
108 S Muskogee Ave
www.facebook.com/Threadz-Consignment

Individuals
 Combs, Sara • Gibson, Fred
 Uzzo, Dr. John PhD, CPA

The American Indian Resource Center, Inc. would like to thank all donors who helped make The Wild Onion Dinner and Silent Auction a success

Audra Conner, MaryKay Consultant
 Arrowhead-Thunderbird Resort
 Baker's Furniture
 Benny's Fine Electric Tattoo
 Cashmere Lane
 Cherokee Nation Businesses
 Cherokee Nation Gift Shop
 Cherokee Nation Tribal Council
 Echota Arts

Green Country Theater
 Newk's Eatery
 Petsense
 Tahlequah Daily Press
 The Branch
 Thunderbowl
 Tulsa Symphony Orchestra
 Tulsa Zoo
 Walmart



TAHLEQUAH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Board of Directors Spotlight



GRANT LLOYD
LLOYD LEGAL



ARIELLE BARNETT
BANK OF CHEROKEE COUNTY

CHAMBER SUBMITS SLATE OF BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



The Nominating Committee of the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce has submitted a Slate of Board of Director Candidates to serve a 3-year term from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022.

New Candidates

Ryan Tinsley, Property Solutions Real Estate Company/Remax Select

Sara Combs, Individual

Incumbents:

Freddie Ferrell, Insurance Professional of Oklahoma
Michael Stopp, Individual

In accordance with our bylaws, the TACC shall publish this slate of candidates filling expiring Director positions and provide our members the right of petition.

(In accordance to Article III-Board of Directors, Section 6 – Selection and Election of Directors)

Right of Petition: Additional director candidates can be formally nominated by a petition bearing the genuine signature of at least twenty-five (25) qualified Chamber members. Such petition shall be filed with the nominating committee within ten (10 days) after the Nominating Committee's publication (deadline - April 17). The Nominating Committee is the final authority as to the authenticity of the petition(s).

Determination: If no petition is filed within the designated period, all nominations shall be closed and the Nominating Committee's slate of candidates shall be declared elected by the Board of Directors at their regular May board meeting and the newly elected directors will take office on July 1.

If an authenticated petition presents additional candidates, the names of all candidates shall be arranged on a ballot in alphabetical order. The Board of Directors will be instructed to vote for the number of candidate required to fill expiring terms; ballots with more nominees marked than necessary will be discarded.

2018-19 Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is the governing, policy-making body of the Chamber. Its members represent the business and professional leadership of the Tahlequah area. The Board of Directors assumes financial and legal responsibility for all Chamber activities and duties. In addition, they set the vision, mission and strategic direction of the chamber.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rusty Clark, Chairman
(Cherokee Co. Election Board)
Steven Wright, Vice Chairman
(Century 21-Wright Real Estate)
Jessie Hughes, Treasurer
(Jessie Hughes Accounting)
Todd Mutzig, Past Chair (Meigs Jewelry)
Sue Catron, Secretary (Individual)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Arielle Barnett, Bank of Cherokee County
Jim Berry, Northeastern Health System
Marcus Brunner, NEO Health
Dower Combs, Premier Consulting Partners
Freddie Ferrell, Insurance Professionals of Oklahoma
Grant Lloyd, Lloyd Legal PLLC
Genny Maiden, Terrapin Peak Bed, Breakfast & Beyond
Denisse Ramos, The Kickin' Taco
Russell Sain, Individual
Rian Cragar, Main Street Association
Michael Stopp, Individual
Jill Taylor, Cherokee Nation

Board of Directors – Chair Appointments (non-voting)

Kelly Callaway, First State Bank
Joshua Poindexter, Cherokee Nation
Ryan Tinsley, Property Solutions Real Estate Company

Board of Directors – Associates (non-voting)

Mary Bower, Northeastern State University
Stephen Highers, City of Tahlequah
Anna Knight, Cherokee Nation
Cindy Morris, Chamber President

STAFF

Cindy Morris, President
Gena McPhail, Tourism Director
Kelley Robertson, Finance Manager
Alicia McDowell, Member Engagement Coordinator
Clare Reynolds, Marketing Specialist
Caitlin Felts, Marketing Specialist
Matt Dorr, Business Development Coordinator/VISTA



Managing For Innovation and Action

Leading & Managing Through the Generations

With the most diverse workforce in history and a future that will see 75% of them be "Millennials" by 2025, Generational Leadership is as important today as it's ever been. This fun and interactive session will lay waste to stereotypes, give the participants the knowledge to understand the experiences of the generations, and find common ground to select the right approaches to leading and managing your TEAM to success.



Chris A. Welch

Chris is a speaker, trainer, business owner and executive coach that has worked with organizations all over the United States. He cultivated his craft over the last 10 years, while working with his own Cherokee Nation and is now looking to inspire others to pursue what they never thought could be possible. As a sought-after speaker and trainer for conferences and workshops, he is inspired to reach those who want to take their potential, careers and lives to the next levels. His fun, passionate, and interactive style will leave you ready take on the next step in your master plan for success.

April 25th | 8:30-10:00 a.m.

ICTC Tahlequah

240 Vo-Tech Dr., Tahlequah

\$15 Chamber Members \$25 Non Members

TAHLEQUAH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Women In Business Breakfast



JUNE 12, 2019

7:45 AM - 9:00 AM
ARMORY MUNICIPAL CENTER



Red Fern Festival April 26th and 27th

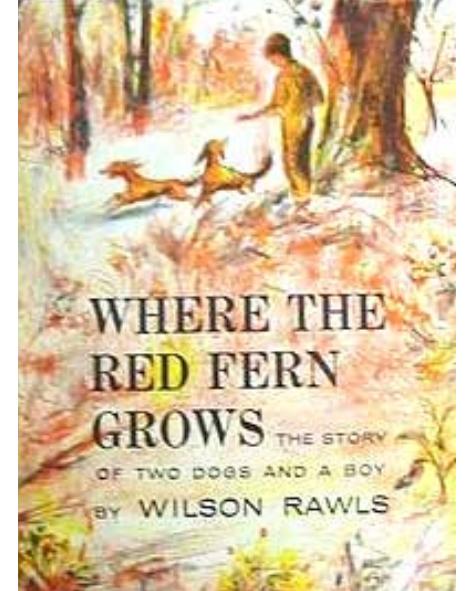
As sure as the dogwoods bloom, springtime guarantees visitors to Tahlequah's Red Fern Festival, fun for all ages. The two-day event - which includes live music, coon dog field trials, a car show, vintage fly-in, Miss Red Fern Pageant, duck race, chili and barbecue cook-off - is arguably the most popular annual occurrence and is celebrating the 13th year in 2019.

Events begin Friday with vendors opening their trucks at 12 o'clock in the afternoon, followed by inflatables are set up for kids in Norris Park from 4-7 p.m., live music starts at 8 p.m. under the Morgan Street Pavilion across from Norris Park.

Saturday, visitors are encouraged to attend the Fly-In at the Tahlequah City Airport at 8 a.m. The Tulsa Warbirds, as well as private planes, will be flying in for an air show and stopping by for a closer look inside their aircraft! Beginning at 11 a.m. visitors can walk the streets lined with food vendors or attend the Barbecue and Chili Cook-Off located in the NSU Jazz Lab parking lot (beginning at 11 a.m.). Next door, inside the NSU Jazz Lab, the Miss Red Fern pageant will be taking place at 1 p.m. which showcases the personality, charm, and character of the youth of Cherokee County.

Classic car aficionados and gear heads won't want to miss the car show, which also takes place on Saturday. The show has grown exponentially over the past few years, and includes dozens of categories, including rat rods, Mustangs, and muscle cars. This event takes place on Water Street with prizes being awarded at 2 p.m.

Guests are encouraged to watch the screening of "Where the Red Fern Grows" at the Tahlequah Public Library on Saturday. The 2003 version of the movie will be shown at 10 a.m. and the 1974 version will be shown at 2 p.m. After viewing the movies hunters and animal lovers



won't want to miss the Hound Dog Field Trials, which take place in Sequoyah City Park. Visitors should have no trouble finding the event, just listen for the sound of baying coon dogs.

Leadership Tahlequah will also be playing a role in the festival as they put on the annual Duck Race. Visitors and community members can purchase their ducks at the tent located at the corner of Muskogee and Morgan street, and there will be prizes awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. The funds raised for this event will go towards the Sweetwater Foundation benefiting children in the Cherokee County area receiving cancer treatment. Following the Duck Race Doc Fell and Co, and Ragland will be performing at 5 p.m. at the Morgan Street Pavilion.

We welcome all visitors and community members to Tahlequah for the Red Fern Festival on April 26th and 27th. We hope you enjoy your stay and have an opportunity to participate in all the great things we have to offer. For more information about the weekend, you can find schedules and maps on www.redfernestival.com.

Tourism Update

You know that things are getting crazy busy when you are unable to remember what month it is!! I cannot believe that we are already at the end of March!

The phones have been ringing off the wall and emails coming in by the dozen! Groups are scheduling trips, families are scheduling parties and reunions! It is obvious that Tahlequah is a bright spot on the map and people are excited to visit and explore all that the Tahlequah area has to offer! The increase in the visibility of Tahlequah is relevant by the significant increase in revenue from the hotel/motel tax collection. The increase was considerably large, in comparison to February of 2018. We are ecstatic to see this growth and looking forward to watch it continue.

With the local events, in our near future, we are excited to promote Tahlequah and make the love for our town CONTAGIOUS! We have noticed a continual spike in interest for the Illinois River information and also Lake Tenkiller. It is interesting to see the primary age of interest has changed and the largest interested age group is 55-64. With this information in place, we are focusing our advertising interests to reach the current demographics.

We find that 60% more of our visitors are women, so that percentage really has not varied too drastically. Studies show that the highest rate of interest (in this audience) is still the lifestyles/hobbies with a food enthusiast interest and secondly, lifestyles/hobbies with a "pet lovers" interest. Fortunately, we are able to receive these valuable analytics and use these statistics for the spring and summer seasons.

What makes Tahlequah so special? What brings people back time and time again? Tahlequah is so fortunate to be nestled between the majestic Illinois River and the activity-filled Lake Tenkiller. The river and lakes are great draws, but the people of the Tahlequah area make the experience EXTRA special. The warmth of the Tahlequah culture and heritage draw people to return and create memories to last a lifetime!

The Chamber's Tourism Department is so excited for spring and summer of 2019! We are looking forward to promoting Tahlequah and attracting new visitors, groups, families and conferences! You can always visit our website www.tourtahlequah.com for more information on upcoming events and activities. And, as always, please feel free to stop in and visit with us at any time!! And remember, YOU are who makes Tahlequah the AMAZING city that it is!



GENA MCPHAIL,
TOURISM DIRECTOR



Breaking New Ground in Tahlequah

Tru by Hilton is coming to Cherokee Springs Plaza. Please join us for the groundbreaking ceremony.

April 8 | 1:00 p.m.

3457 Cherokee Springs Road | Tahlequah, OK 74464

Promise Hotels **trū** **ROSS GROUP**

Meet our Staff

Kelley Robertson
Financial Director

Kelley Robertson began her career with the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce in the early 2000's. After taking a break, Robertson returned to the chamber in 2016 and has served as the financial director. Robertson's main duties in the office are taking care of membership finances, payroll, and facilitating insurance and employee benefits.



KELLEY ROBERTSON

cial Olympics group, an avid Outlaws mom, team manager of the Stingrays Boys and Girls Club Swim Team, and a frequent volunteer for Special Olympics fundraiser and team events.

Robertson loves visiting both Disney World and Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida. These theme parks are among her top places to vacation. Robertson is also a self-proclaimed Parrothead, which is a term used to describe Jimmy Buffet fans.



ATTENTION

Hay Cutting/Baling Opportunity

The Tahlequah Industrial Authority (TIA) is accepting bids for cutting, baling and removal of hay from the TIA Park (80 acres) and Tahlequah Municipal Airport (70 acres) until Tuesday, April 16, 2019. Recipient awarded the bid must provide a copy of certification of \$1 million liability insurance coverage by May 1, 2019.

Bids must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 16, 2019 to: Purchasing Agent, City of Tahlequah, 111 S. Cherokee Ave., Tahlequah, OK 74464. Bid envelope must be sealed and clearly marked with TIA HAY BID 2019.

All bids received will be opened during the regular TIA meeting on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Tahlequah City Hall in the City Council Room. The Tahlequah Industrial Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Land may be viewed at any time during the bidding process at the following locations.

* Tahlequah Industrial Park – 591 Main Parkway, Tahlequah
* Tahlequah Airport – 2100 Airport Parkway, Tahlequah



CONTACT US

FOR MORE INFO

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TAHLEQUAH INDUSTRIAL AUTHORITY
PHONE: 918/456-3742
EMAIL: Cindy@tahlequahchamber.com

TAHLEQUAH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ambassador Spotlight



JENNIFER YERTON
FARMERS INSURANCE AGENCY



SUZANNE MYERS
CENTURY 21 WRIGHT REAL ESTATE

Truly | HISTORICAL

This page is from the Tahlequah Arrow dated Saturday, April 13, 1918. This was just 7 months before the end of WW1. The country was strong in their war effort and through these articles a person can see how Tahlequah banded together, helping through the Red Cross and rationing with wheat and flour.

There may be balm in Gilead, but there are no cheap cures.

Concert ships will never make an excellent return from America to Europe.

Consider the progress of the American Red Cross, but so thoroughly over-taxed itself.

Stand fast with a brave heart! Our support reaches the men in the battle line.

A woman never pays more attention to her husband's talk unless he talks about the war.

Possible the most forward-moving capital city of Russia is executing one of those strategists.

General Persov is in no hurry to command them, but there will not be many of command.

When a German aviator has orders to kill women and children he obeys them to the letter, according to the original Hugo Denes.

From the amount of horses required by Hindenburg, according to his own account, it is evident that he accepted as patriotic to every one's old service, horses and hats.

Concert lasting four hours is in progress. The German aviator is accepted as patriotic to every one's old service, horses and hats.

You still have some meat by German submarine. And yet others are not reporting work to the Germans.

The average man seldom knows all that other men think he knows, but he is not the only one who is not sure of what he is not supposed to know.

The German generals are before the public, but the German soldiers are not. The German soldiers are never seen in public.

Germany's Great War. Germans are not reporting work to the Germans.

Leaders are not reporting work to the Germans.



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LORIE TRENTHAM, APRN-CNP

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