**Cherokee storytellers to rekindle ancient tales**

CHEROKEE, N.C. - From May 22 through Sept. 5, visitors to Cherokee can again spend evenings around a roaring bonfire with tribal storytellers who spin tales of days gone by. The bonfires are held 7-9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and every evening from June 29 through July 4. Admission is free and marshmallows for roasting are provided.

Clad in 17th-century period dress, storytellers recount myths and mysteries passed down through the ages as well as tell the history of the Cherokee people. Guests learn Cherokee survival skills and experience traditional native dance. The events are held at Oconaluftee Islands Park, adjacent to the Island Indian Art Market (across road from the KFC on the corner of Tsali Boulevard and U.S. 441).

For information: 1-800-438-1601 or travel@nc-cherokee.com, or contact Frieda Huskey at 828-359-6492 or friehusk@nc-cherokee.com.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is a sovereign nation with more than 15,000 enrolled members and is the only federally recognized Native American tribe in North Carolina. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians makes its home on the 56,600-acre Qualla Boundary in five Western North Carolina counties about an hour west of Asheville and at the entrance to Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

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