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Editor, Tulsa World

Dear Editor:

I hope Cherokees remember the Cherokee Nation Constitutional Crisis of the late 1990s when Joe Byrd was Chief. (I served on the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court during that period.) The Bill John Baker administration is going down a similar dangerous path.

Financial statements, contracts and more were (and are now) being kept from the Tribal Council and Cherokee citizens. No one knew what was happening within our government then or now.

Today, we have the same group of power-hungry individuals in power at the Cherokee Nation. The elimination of the free Tribal newspaper, the removal of oversight by the Cherokee Nation Gaming Commission on money in the casinos and the attempt to gut the laws providing citizens access to financial and contract information is unacceptable.

The Cherokee Nation Attorney General's recent statements that "the Cherokee Nation remains a model for openness, transparency and citizen access" letter is political whitewash designed to lull Cherokee voters into a trance.

Be aware. Be awake!

Nothing good is coming out of Tahlequah in the Baker Administration.

Sincerely,



Philip H. Viles, Jr.