



Photo • David Smart

Crowd fills Beal Center for research discussion

Dr. Jane Eastman and Dr. Brett Riggs from Western Carolina's Department of Anthropology and Sociology presented a program at the Beal Center on Thursday, March 2, focusing on the role astronomical observation played in the lives of indigenous people of western North Carolina. The Watauga Mounds site, in Macon County, was the focus of study pointing to a keen knowledge of astronomy and how it relates to other Cherokee village sites, especially those with council house mounds. The event was sponsored by Clay County Communities Revitalization Association, the Beal Center and Western Carolina University. Clay County Communities Revitalization Association hopes to bring more programs like this to the Beal Center through its Cherokee Heritage component, according to a board member.