



# Voice of the Saponi



February 2025

Issue 182

If you would like to submit an article to us, please remember they are due on the 20th of each month prior to the month. (Ex December articles are November 20th).

**Deadline**

**4 p.m.**

You may email articles to [crrichardson@haliwa-saponi.com](mailto:crrichardson@haliwa-saponi.com) or feel free to mail them to :

Haliwa-Saponi Tribe

Attn: Newsletter Editor

PO Box 99

Hollister NC 27844



"Hold on to what is good, Even if it's a handful of earth. Hold on to what you believe, Even if it's a tree that stands by itself. Hold on to

what you must do, Even if it's a long way from here. Hold on to your life, Even if it's easier to let go."

## Upcoming Dates and Meetings

February 14- Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Meeting will be at the Multi-Purpose Building at 6:30.

February 17 - Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Council Meeting will be at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex at 6:30.

### Committee Meetings

Finance Committee meetings are held the 2nd Friday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Rev. Michael Richardson.

Federal Recognition Committee meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Chief Dr. B. Ogletree Richardson.

Enrollment Committee meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p. m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Angela Richardson.

Princess Committee meetings are held the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Ladonna E. Richardson.

Pow-Wow Planning meetings are held the 4th Monday night of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Vice Chief Dr. Marty Richardson.

Haliwa-Saponi Senior Citizens Organization meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p. m. at the Old Council House.

Committee Chair: Rev. Al Cooper.

Veteran's Memorial meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Jewel Bissonnette.

Education Committee meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Angela Richardson.

Election Committee meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Montenia Lynch.

By-laws Review Committee meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Attorney Joshua Richardson.

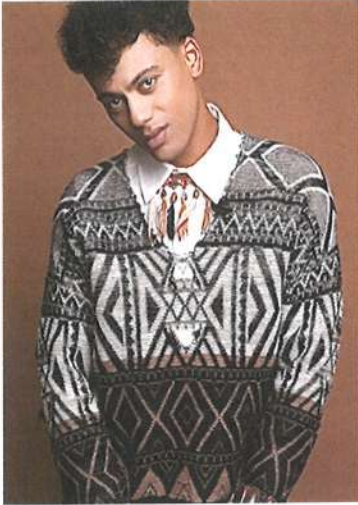
Boys & Girls Club meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Open

Fundraiser Committee meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Committee Chair: Tyler Richardson.

## Exclusive Interview: Sky Lakota-Lynch on Broadway, Heritage, and Staying Gold



“ I got the cover of Vanity Teen  ” says Sky Lakota-Lynch on his Facebook page .

One of the questions they asked was:

“I understand you are quite proud of your heritage, can you please tell us a bit more about that and how that’s influenced you as an artist or a human?”

Sky’s reply was: “ I’m half Indigenous (Haliwa-Saponi). I carry my family’s culture in my heart with everything I do, but mostly I am fighting to break the box that Native actors have been in for hundreds of years, and what a Native person can look like in the commercial eye

To read the entire interview go to:

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/f9ee2ec2/gmFzoPnRmU6bTXUNdYfVDg?u=https://www.vanityteen.com/exclusive-interview-sky-lakota-lynch-on-broadway-heritage-and-staying-gold/>

Photographer: Nicole Wilson@nicolewilsonphotography

Stylists: Kyrie Thompson @nokyp Dwayne Williams @1waynestar

## Brooke Mills Simpson Guest Artist for Detroit Orchestra Symphony



Brooke was asked to perform with the Detroit Orchestra Symphony in Detroit, MI conducted by the incredible Steve Hackman. The auditorium was packed as they did a mixture of classical and modern tunes. Brooke’s mom and Aunt Lynda were able to fly out for the concert.

Brooke will be joining Steve Hackman again as he will be conducting an orchestra in San Diego, CA and in Michigan in March 2025



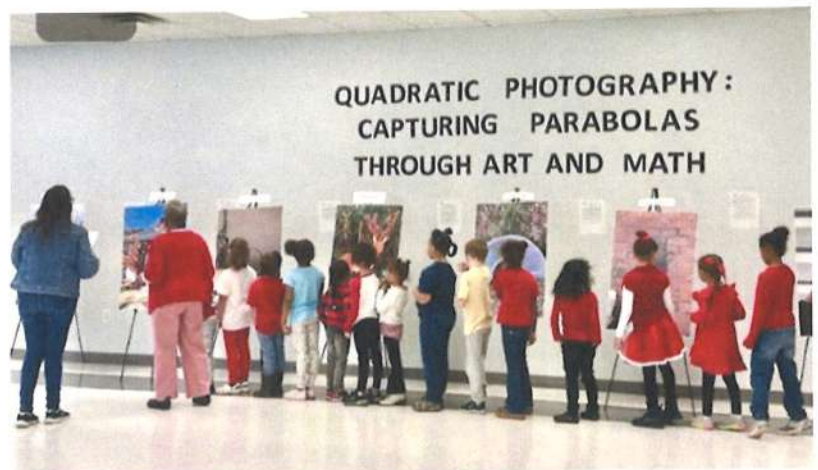
**You may hear some of the video clips if you visit Brooke’s Fan Page on Facebook.**

Steve Hackman, Conductor with Jimille, Brooke and Lynda)

# Haliwa-Saponi Tribal School News!



"Shoutout to our amazing 11th graders for their incredible work on the Native American History Project! They dove deep into learning about the cultural significance of Dream Catchers and even crafted their own beautiful designs"



## Creative Learning...

Lake Gaston Gazette newspaper features Haliwa-Saponi Tribal School Juniors Math II students who mastered Quadratics through Art with help of their teacher Eddie Castronuevo."

## Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Gym..... Working Out In 2025

Seniors getting active in our local gym and exercise room on Capps Farm Road. The gym is located inside the multipurpose building and currently open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:00am-11:30am. It's not all about losing weight, it's about keeping active to promote health.



## **"Buffaloe to Compete in Kyokushin Karate Championships in LA"**

Christian Buffaloe, local Kyokushin Karate instructor, has been invited by the International Kyokushin Karate Organization in Japan to compete in the "2025 Kyokushin Karate USWC Championships" in Los Angeles on February 2nd.

This tournament also serves as a qualifier for entry into the "Kyokushin Karate World Weight Category Championships" in Tokyo, Japan in April. This elite championships is held once every 4 years and features the top Kyokushin Karate fighters in the world in 4 Weight divisions. Buffaloe represents the USA, North Carolina, & Virginia in this elite event.

Buffaloe is currently coached by his father/instructor, Sensei Kenny Buffaloe, the North Carolina Representative of Kyokushin Karate.

Christian Buffaloe is a two time Kyokushin Karate United States men's champion winning in 2020 & 2023. He is a favorite in this year's Championships in Los Angeles on February 2nd. Winning the top 3 places in LA secures entry into the "World Weight Category Championships" in April in Tokyo, Japan.

Christian Buffaloe will be featured on WITN TV 7(an N.B.C. affiliate ) on January on the Sports segment of the 6 & 11 o'clock news. He will do several Kyokushin Karate demonstrations and be interviewed about his upcoming participation in the "Kyokushin Karate USWC Championships" in Little Tokyo in February.



For more information on Kyokushin Karate and area training classes, call or text : (252) 589-4281

Christian Buffaloe (on right in photo), local Kyokushin Karate instructor, will compete in the Japan sponsored "2025 Kyokushin Karate USWC Championships" in Los Angeles on February 2nd. This year's tournament serves as a qualifier for entry into the prestigious "Kyokushin Karate World Weight Category Championships" in Tokyo, Japan in April. This full contact event is held once every 4 years featuring the world's top Kyokushin fighters in bareknuckle competition.



## Housing Updates

We are excited to announce that the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe has signed a contract with Awe Home Repair and Construction to have new windows, doors, and storm doors installed at Tomahawk Meadows Apartments. The contractor will start as early as February 2025. The electricity at Tomahawk Meadow will also be upgraded by adding ceiling fans with lights in all bedrooms and living rooms through a different contractor. We are also upgrading all apartments, as they become vacant, with new wall colors, new bathroom vanities, and new stoves and refrigerators, just to name a few items.

Five home repair jobs have been sent out for bids and are due by January 31, 2025. Bids will be opened the following Tuesday. The facilities maintenance supervisor assessed (4) emergency repair applicants' homes. We are getting quotes to get them repaired.

Gary Lynch

Housing Director

## Grants & Loans



The Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe has partnered with USDA Rural Development to bring housing resources to the tribal community.

### **What does this program do?**

Also known as the Section 504 Home Repair program, this provides loans to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve or modernize their homes or grants to elderly very-low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards.

### **Who may apply for this program?**

To qualify, you must:

- Be the homeowner and occupy the house.
- Be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere.
- Have a household income that does not exceed the very low limit by county.
- For grants, be age 62 or older.

### **How may funds be used?**

Loans may be used to repair, improve, or modernize homes or remove health and safety hazards.

Grants must be used to remove health and safety hazards.

### **How much money can I get?**

The maximum loan is \$40,000.

The maximum grant is \$10,000.

Loans and grants can be combined for up to \$50,000 in assistance.

### **What are the terms of the loan or grant?**

Loans are termed for 20 years.

Loan interest rate is fixed at 1%.

A full-time service is required if the total outstanding balance on Section 504 loans is greater than \$25,000.

Grants have a lifetime limit of \$10,000.

Grants must be repaid if the property is sold in less than 3 years.

### **Is there a deadline to apply?**

Applications for this program are accepted through your local office year-round.

### **How long does an application take?**

Approval times depend on funding availability in your area. Talk to a home loan specialist in your area for help with the application.

### **What governs this program?**

The Housing Act of 1949 as amended, 7 CFR Part 3550

HB-1-3550 - Direct Single Family Housing Loans and Grants Field Office Handbook

### **Why does USDA Rural Development do this?**

Helping people stay in their own home and keeping it in good repair helps families and their communities.

Homeownership helps families and individuals build savings over time. It strengthens communities and helps many kinds of businesses that support the local economy.

### **Who can answer questions and how do I get started?**

Applications are accepted for this program at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex. For more information on how to apply, contact Tosha Silver, Housing Coordinator, phone # 252-248-3750.



We are excited to announce another offering of our Sustainable Agriculture Certificate Program. This program is free of charge and open to anyone that has an interest in sustainable agriculture for our region. The program consists of 10 weekly sessions beginning in March. We are trying to get the word out about this offering so if you would, please distribute this information to your networks or anyone you feel may be interested. Thank you in advance.



## 2025 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

10-Week Certificate Program  
Focusing on Sustainable  
Agriculture and Agribusiness  
Concepts.

**Join Us:**  
**Tuesday Evenings Beginning:**  
**March 11, 2025 | 6-7:30 pm**

Weekly workshops at the UNCP  
Thomas Entrepreneurship Hub | Lobby  
202 Main Street | Pembroke, NC

**Weekly Attendance Required**



**Register Here**



This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Accessibility Resource Center, Oxendine Administrative Building, Room 110, or call 910.521.6625.

Kind regards,

**Loren Chavis-Waldrop**

KBR Program Assistant- Thomas Entrepreneurship Hub



Email: [Loren.Chavis-Waldrop@uncp.edu](mailto:Loren.Chavis-Waldrop@uncp.edu)

Shared Email: [Ag@uncp.edu](mailto:Ag@uncp.edu)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUT TO KAMRYN A.  
SILVER**



*Birthday Shout out please to*

*Kamryn A. Silver on Feb. 27, he turns the big 11.*

*With love from Dad & Mom Robin & Pamela Silver*

**Fifty!**  
*...and looking  
Fabulous*

*Cateshia Silver Feb 20*

*Turning the big 50*

*We want to wish our daughter Cateshia a very happy  
and blessed 50th birthday*

*we love you very much Your family dad mom Kiowa, Jordan, Chloe,  
Leilani and Milton*

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Happy 43rd Anniversary to Leon & Edith Richardson

on February 26, 2025.

With love from your favorite niece Pamela R. Silver and Family.

Happy 47th Anniversary to Ray and Pam (McGee) Spresser

on February 17th, 2025

The best thing you can hold onto is each other.

May you both be blessed

with love, joy and happiness that lasts a lifetime!

Love, your McGee Family



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

If you would like your name or a loved one's name to be published, please email Carol Richardson [errichardson@haliwa-saponi.com](mailto:errichardson@haliwa-saponi.com), mail, or bring by the office. If you do not submit your birthday or a loved one, we cannot publish it in our newsletter. No Call Ins Accepted

February 1-Ammie Everette (Richardson), Nathan Richardson,

February 2-Iris Evans, Johnathan Silver (D), Jaylavern Lawson

February 4-Kelvin Evans, Stephon Wilson (D)

February 5-Dream Mikel Lynch,

February 7-Tremayne Lynch,

February 8-Phyllis Dale, Alvin "Tonto" Richardson (D), Chanta Richardson

February 10-Timaree Cherry, Ethan Pilluden, Joann Richardson

February 11-Tony Morning Star Richardson,

February 12-Olivia Sky Richardson, Linwood Evans, Cameron Richardson,

February 14-Shamar Cherry, Holly McGee (D), Diane Evans, David Evans, Wendy Richardson,

February 15-Renwick O. Richardson, Timothy L. Richardson, Kevin S. Rudd, Vessa Silver,

February 16-Thomas E. Richardson, Tiffany A. Richardson,

February 17-Johnathan Richardson,

February 18- Shadymon Brinkley, Pernell Brinkley,

February 20-Mamie F. Richardson (D),

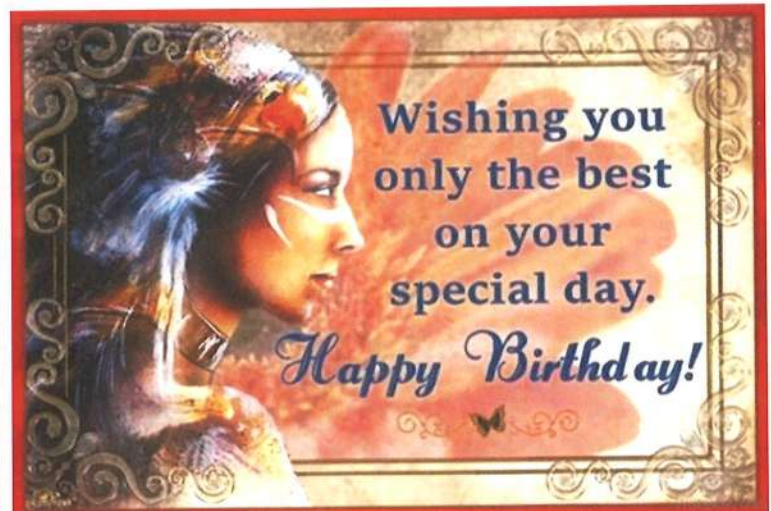
February 21-Amelia D. Lynch,

February 22- Michelle Richardson

February 26-Salvador DeLaMora, Jaylen Richardson,

February 27- Regina Silver

February 28-Michael Richardson,





Haliwa-Saponi Tribe

P. O. Box 99

Hollister, N.C. 27844

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What's Inside This Month?

Page 2 -Sky-Lakota Lynch & Brooke Mills Simpson

Page 3- Haliwa-Saponi Tribal School News!! & Tribal Gym Workout

Page 4- Buffalo To Compete

Page 5- Housing Updates

Page 6- Home Repair Grants & Loans

Page 7- Agriculture Certification

Page 8- Special Birthdays & Anniversaries

Page 9- Birthdays

**HALF A PAGE IF POSSIBLE DUE TO THE COST OF POSTAGE**

Place Address Label Here

*60th Annual Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe*

*"Blooming of the Dogwood" Powwow*

2025 Powwow Program Booklet

Ad Sales are Now Open!

All ads are due by March 1, 2025. However, if you place your ad before February 15, 2025 there will be \$25 off ad!



Here are the business ads price list:

Full page \$750  
Half page \$525  
1/4 page \$325  
1/8 page \$225  
Business card size \$100

Here are the memorial ads price list:

Full page \$300  
Half page \$200  
1/4 page \$150  
1/8 page \$75



Please contact

A. Kay Oxendine for all of your ad needs at

252-586-4017 or by email

[aoxendine@haliwa-saponi.com](mailto:aoxendine@haliwa-saponi.com)