



# Voice of the Saponi



April 2026

Issue 195

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  
P.O. Box 99

**THE TRIBAL OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON**  
**APRIL 3, 2026**  
**IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY**  
**APRIL 17, 2026**  
**IN OBSERVANCE OF HALIWA-SAPONI DAY**

### Upcoming Meetings

- April - Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Meeting TBA
- April 20- Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Council Meeting will be at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex at 6:30p.m.
- Committee Meetings
- Finance Committee meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.  
Committee Chair: Rev. Michael Richardson.
- Federal Recognition Committee meetings are being held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.  
Committee Chair: Earl Evans.
- 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 on the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.  
Committee Chair: Sylvia Richardson.
- Pow-Wow Planning meetings are held on 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 first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Old Council House.  
Committee Chair: Rev. Al Cooper.
- Veteran's Memorial meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.  
Committee Chair: Sylvia Richardson.
- Education Committee meetings are held on 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 being held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.  
Committee Chair: Ameila K. Oxendine.
- By-laws Review Committee meetings are held on 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 on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Building.  
Committee Chair: Karen Harley.
- Fundraiser Committee meetings are being held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.  
Committee Chair: Tyler Richardson.
- Personnel Committee meetings are PRN (As Needed).  
Committee Chair: Earl Evans.
- Awards Committee meetings are PRN (As Needed).  
Committee Chair: Karen Harley.
- Finance Long Range Committee meetings are PRN (As Needed).  
Committee Chair: Rev. Michael Richardson.



## Unity Conference Beauties

Chief Ogletree Richardson, Miss Haliwa-Saponi Amilia Berrun, and Senior Miss Haliwa-Saponi Judy Richardson proudly represented the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe at the North Carolina United Tribes Annual Unity Conference in Raleigh. The conference brings together Tribal leaders, representatives, and citizens from across the state to strengthen partnerships, celebrate Native culture, and discuss issues impacting Native communities throughout North Carolina.



## 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 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 Tasha Silver, Housing Coordinator, phone # 252-248-3750.**

## Volunteering Opportunities

### Food Box Distribution

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at Mount Bethel Baptist Church from 9:30-11:30 AM

For Questions, please contact Regina Mills at [crmills@haliwa-saponi.gov](mailto:crmills@haliwa-saponi.gov)

Volunteers Needed to help bring out and load food boxes into cars for pickup. Please contact Regina if you are interested and let her know your availability!

Dr. B. Ogletree Richardson  
Chief

Dr. Marvin Richardson  
Vice-Chief

Tribal Council

Gideon Lee, Chair  
Earl Evans, Vice-Chair  
Tyler Richardson, Secretary  
Rev. Micheal Richardson, Treasurer  
Karen Lynch-Harley  
Amelia K. Oxendine  
Angela Richardson  
Charles Richardson Jr.  
Sylvia Richardson

**Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe**  
39021 Hwy 561 · P.O. Box 99  
Hollister, North Carolina 27844  
Phone : (252) 248-3746 · Fax : (252) 586-1047  
Email : kthomas@haliwa-saponi.org



Mesheila Lynch  
Tribal Administrator

**\*\*\*\*Updated for Re-release: March 23, 2026\*\*\*\***

**Request for Proposal (RFP): Lawncare Maintenance Services**

Issued by: Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe

Address: 39021 NC-561, Hollister, NC 27844

**Primary Contact:** Keller Thomas, Project Coordinator

**Email:** kthomas@haliwa-saponi.org | Phone: (252) 248-3753.

Issue Date: March 23, 2026

**Submission Deadline:** April 15, 2026, by 5:00 PM EST

**Anticipated Award:** April 27, 2026

**Background & Purpose**

The Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe seeks a qualified lawncare service provider to maintain tribal grounds across designated properties. This procurement is funded under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA)—HUD’s Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) program—and must comply with 24 CFR part 1000 (NAHASDA regulations), Uniform Guidance (2 CFR part 200), and related federal requirements. High-quality maintenance supports safety, accessibility, and the appearance of facilities used by citizens and visitors.

**Scope of Work**

The selected contractor will provide comprehensive outdoor maintenance services, including:

- Mowing and edging all turf areas (**Approximately 25 Acres**)\*
- Trimming around trees, fences, buildings, and obstacles
- Weed control in lawn and landscaped areas.
- Seeding and turf repair (as needed/approved)
- Fertilization and pest control (as needed/approved)
- Leaf and debris removal
- Seasonal clean-ups (spring and fall)
- Optional: Irrigation system maintenance (inspection, minor adjustments)

**Service Standards (to be finalized at award):**

- Mowing cadence: weekly in growing season; biweekly in shoulder seasons
- Grass height tolerance: target 3–4 inches maximum
- Response time for service calls: within 48 hours

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\*25 Acres is the provided estimate. Upon contract selection, total area will be agreed upon by both parties

- Fertilization/weed control intervals: as proposed and approved.
- Leaf/debris removal: routine and after storms

**Contract Term & Start Date**

- Initial Term: Twelve (12) months from the award date
- Renewals: Up to two (2) one-year renewals based on performance and funding availability
- Target Start: May 1, 2026 (or as mutually agreed)

**Site Visit**

A non-mandatory site walkthrough may be scheduled upon request. Contact the Project Coordinator to arrange date/time and meeting location.

**Contractor Qualifications**

- Demonstrated experience with multi-site lawncare operations.
- Adequate staffing, equipment, and scheduling capacity to meet standards.
- Proven safety practices and supervisory oversight
- Ability to meet the insurance requirements listed below.

**Insurance Requirements**

- Commercial General Liability: at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence
- Workers' Compensation: as required by North Carolina law.
- Automobile Liability: for all vehicles used on tribal property.

Contractor must furnish certificates of insurance prior to contract execution and maintain coverage through the contract term(s).

**Proposal Requirements**

Proposers must include:

1. Company background and experience
2. List of similar contracts completed (scope, term, client)
3. Proposed schedule and frequency of services (seasonal plan)
4. Pricing structure (e.g., monthly, per visit, per acre; include any surcharges)
5. Proof of insurance and licenses
6. References: contact information for at least three (3) clients
7. Indian Preference Declaration (complete if applicable):
  - The Offeror is an Indian-owned economic enterprise (attach documentation of Indian ownership/control as defined in 24 CFR part 1000).
  - The Offeror is an Indian organization (attach documentation of organizational status).

The Offeror is not an Indian organization or an Indian-owned economic enterprise.

**Pricing Table (Example format)**

Service Description	Unit Price (\$)	Quantity/Unit	Total Cost (\$)
Mowing & Edging	\$X per acre	25 acres × # of visits	\$X
Weed Control	\$X per application	X applications	\$X
Seasonal Cleanup	\$X per event	2 events (spring/fall)	\$X
Fertilization	\$X per application	(On Request)	\$X
Debris Removal	\$X per load	(On Request)	\$X

*(Proposers may add lines and explanatory notes.)*

**Evaluation Criteria & Weights**

All evaluation factors are published below and will be used to score proposals:

- Experience & Qualifications – 30%
- Cost Effectiveness – 40%
- Quality of References – 20%
- Responsiveness to the RFP – 10%

Compliance note: Publishing all factors and using a competitive proposal method supports full and open competition and meets Uniform Guidance solicitation standards (2 CFR 200.319) and formal procurement via proposals (2 CFR 200.320).

**Federal Compliance (Uniform Guidance)**

This procurement will be conducted in accordance with the Tribe’s written procurement procedures and Uniform Guidance (2 CFR part 200), including Subpart D – Procurement Standards and applicable contract provisions in Appendix II. Solicitations will provide full and open competition, exclude spec-writers from competing, avoid geographic preferences (unless expressly authorized), and include clear technical requirements and all evaluation factors.

**Indian Preference (NAHASDA; 24 CFR § 1000.52)**

Applicability. Because this procurement is funded under NAHASDA, the Tribe will apply tribal employment and contract preference laws adopted by the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe to the extent applicable. In the absence of tribal employment and contract preference laws, the Tribe will, to the greatest extent feasible, give preference in the award of contracts to Indian organizations and Indian-owned economic enterprises, consistent with Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

\*25 Acres is the provided estimate. Upon contract selection, total area will be agreed upon by both parties

**Methods for Providing Preference (HUD-recognized):**

1. Certification to HUD that the Tribe's procurement policies provide Indian preference consistent with Section 7(b) (an Indian preference policy previously approved by HUD meets this requirement); or
2. Advertise for bids or proposals limited to qualified Indian organizations and Indian-owned economic enterprises; or
3. Two-Stage Preference Procedure:
  - o Stage 1: Invite/solicit Indian-owned economic enterprises to submit a statement of intent for a bid/RFP limited to Indian-owned firms.
  - o Stage 2: If more than one qualified Indian enterprise responds, advertise for bids/proposals limited to Indian organizations/Indian-owned enterprises.

Insufficient Responses. If the selected method yields fewer than two responsible, qualified Indian organizations/enterprises submitting a statement of intent, bid, or proposal at a reasonable cost, the Tribe will either: (i) readvertise using any method above; or (ii) readvertise without limitation to Indian organizations/enterprises; or (iii) if one approvable bid/proposal is received, request Area ONAP review/approval to award to the single bidder/offeree in accordance with 2 CFR 200.318–200.327.

Definitions & Documentation. The Tribe will use HUD's definitions of Indian organization and Indian-owned economic enterprise (24 CFR part 1000) and will maintain records demonstrating the implementation of Indian preference (solicitation lists, outreach, two-stage procedures, ONAP correspondence) as part of the procurement file.

Notice to Offerors. Offerors are advised that Indian preference applies to this procurement and should submit qualifying documentation with their proposals.

Affirmative Steps (Small/Minority/Women/Veteran/LSA Firms) – 2 CFR 200.321  
The Tribe will take affirmative steps to assure participation by small businesses, minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms when possible, including: listing target firms on solicitation lists; soliciting target firms when eligible; dividing requirements where feasible; establishing delivery schedules encouraging participation; using SBA/MBDA assistance; and requiring prime contractors to apply these steps for subcontracts. Documentation will be retained.

Required Federal Contract Provisions (Appendix II to 2 CFR part 200)  
The contract must include the following, as applicable:

1. Administrative Remedies (*contracts over the Simplified Acquisition Threshold*)—remedies for breach/violation with sanctions.
2. Termination for Cause or Convenience (*contracts over \$10,000*)—manner, effect, and basis for settlement.
3. EEO Clause (41 CFR 60-1.4(b)) (*only if the contract qualifies as a federally assisted construction contract*).
4. Labor Standards (Davis-Bacon, Copeland Anti-Kickback, Contract Work Hours) (*only if construction is required by program*).
5. Clean Air Act / Federal Water Pollution Control Act (*contracts > \$150,000*)—insert compliance clauses if applicable.
6. Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (*awards > \$100,000*)—insert certification language.

Model insertion for contract section:

“Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of Appendix II to 2 CFR part 200, including Administrative Remedies (if over the Simplified Acquisition Threshold), Termination for Cause or Convenience (if over \$10,000), EEO clause (if this contract meets the definition of a federally assisted construction contract), Clean Air Act / Federal Water Pollution Control Act (if total value exceeds \$150,000), and Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (if award exceeds \$100,000), each incorporated by reference.”

#### **Debarment & Suspension (SAM.gov) – 2 CFR part 180**

By submitting a proposal, Offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from federal no procurement transactions. Prior to award, the Tribe will verify Offeror status in SAM.gov (Exclusions) and reserves the right to reject proposals from excluded parties.

#### **Recordkeeping & Oversight**

The Tribe will maintain procurement records detailing the method, contract type, selection or rejection, basis for price, and documentation of affirmative steps and Indian preference procedures. Oversight will ensure contractor performance meets the terms, conditions, and specifications of the contract.

#### **Submission Instructions**

Deadline: April 15, 2026, by 5:00 PM EST (late proposals will not be accepted).

Hardcopy: Submit to Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe, Administration, 39021 NC-561, Hollister, NC 27844.

Labeling: Sealed envelope labeled “Lawncare RFP – DO NOT OPEN.”

Electronic (optional): PDF via email to [kthomas@haliwa-saponi.org](mailto:kthomas@haliwa-saponi.org) with subject line

“Lawncare RFP.”

Questions: Submit by April 6, 2026, 5:00 PM EST; responses issued by April 10, 2026.

#### **Terms & Conditions**

The awarded contractor must enter into a formal agreement with the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe covering payment terms, performance standards, termination clauses, liability coverage, federal contract provisions (Appendix II), SAM debarment/suspension certification, Indian Preference procedures (24 CFR § 1000.52), and all other required compliance statements.

#### *Tribal Rights*

The Haliwa Saponi Indian Tribe reserves the right to: (1) reject any/all proposals; (2) waive minor irregularities; (3) request clarifications; (4) negotiate scope and price with the highest-ranked proposer; and (5) award based on best value and compliance.

# Sigma Omicron Epsilon, Inc.

## ROSE Scholarship

In Memory of  
Cabrina Lynne Cummings

**Award Amount \$1,000**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
JUNE 30, 2026**

First-year female student enrolling at  
East Carolina University  
North Carolina State University  
University of North Carolina at  
Pembroke

For more information, or to download a copy  
of the application, please visit our website:  
<https://sigmaomicronepsilon.org/scholarship>

Reaching Others through Service and Education



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

If you would like your name or a loved one's name to be published, please email Carol Richardson [crrichardson@haliwasaponi.com](mailto:crrichardson@haliwasaponi.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 Calls Accepted.

April 1- Exson Richardson  
April 2- Brian Hedgepeth, Shirley Carter, Jeanette Richardson  
April 4- Jack Arthur Lynch, Daniel Lynch, Caleb H. Evans  
April 5- Kimberly Jackson  
April 6- Therbert Richardson (D)  
April 7- Johnnie Green (D), Gary Lynch, Cheyenne Daniel, Jessica Hedgepeth  
April 8- Carol R. Richardson, Alozo Sage  
April 9- Chelsy Lynch, Nita Lynch  
April 14- Kurtty Richardson  
April 15- TakLena Evans  
April 16- Kara Richardson  
April 18 - Hermenia Silver, Marshall Ray Wilson (D)  
April 19- Adam DeLaMora  
April 20- Jearmane Richardson Jr., Gemma Marie Lynch, Marai DeLaMora  
April 23- Chief W.R. Richardson (D)  
April 22- Tanya Wilson  
April 24- Boyd Lynch  
April 25- Garry Green  
April 27- Luca Lynch (D)  
April 29- Ta'Layla Richardson  
April 30- Toquar Daniel, Johnny D. Richardson (D), Alejandro DeLaMora



## **BELATED BIRTHDAYS**

Kaya Danielle Smith- March 6, 2026  
Helen Daniel Smith- March 15, 2026

Heavenly Happy Birthday  
Remembering Cory Mills 4/1987-9/2009  
Cory you are missed everyday and loved so much.  
Sending you a heavenly happy birthday!!!!  
Love Mom (Annette) Family & Friends



## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Happy 8th Anniversary to  
Kenneth & Heather Smith  
On March 5, 2026



Happy 71st Anniversary to  
Johnnie & Irene Richardson on April 9, 2026  
We Love you, your children, grandchildren & great grandchildren

STAMP  
HERE



Haliwa-Saponi Tribe  
P. O. Box 99  
Hollister, N.C. 27844

What's Inside This Month?

**Page 2 -Unity  
Conference Beauties,  
Grants & Loans,  
Volunteers Needed**

**Page 3-7- Job Opening**

**Page 8- Scholarship  
FYI**

**Page 8- Birthdays,  
Special Birthdays &  
Anniversaries**

Place Address Label Here

**SAVE THE DATE**  
AL AND CELIE RICHARDSON  
FAMILY REUNION

 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2026

 12PM - ?

 TBD



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