



Voice of the Saponi

December 2023

Issue 168

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 November articles are due October 20th) Deadline at 4 p.m.

You may email articles to crrichardson@haliwa-saponi.com or feel free to mail them to :

Haliwa-Saponi Tribe
Attn: Newsletter Editor
PO Box 99
Hollister NC 27844
(252) 586-4017 ext.221



Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe's



Annual Awards Ceremony

The Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe's Annual Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex.

Nomination forms will be available at the Tribal Office from November 1, 2023, through December 1, 2023. Tickets for the ceremony will go on sale on December 15, 2023. Tickets are \$20.00 each, and only 100 tickets will be sold. If you have questions, please call Dr. Joseph O. Richardson at 252-883-5258.

Upcoming Dates and Meetings

- **December -Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Meeting to be announced.**
- **December 18- Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Council Meeting held at the Chief W. R Richardson Tribal Government Complex at 6:30 p. m.**
- **Committee Meetings**
- Finance Committee meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m. at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex. Committee Chair: Karen Franco.
- 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: Rev. Michael Richardson.
- Princess Committee Meetings are held the 1st Monday of each month at the Chief W. R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex at 7:00 p.m. Committee Chair: Angela 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 6:00 p. m. at the Old Council House. Committee Chair: Roena Daniel.
- 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 Bissionnette.
- Education Committee meeting 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 Government Complex Building. Committee Chair: Montenia Lynch.
- By-Laws Review committee meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chief W.R. Richardson Complex. Committee Chair: Attorney Joshua Richardson

Secretary Pamela Cashwell Visits Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Leaders

The purpose of the tribal consultation meetings is to provide an opportunity for the Secretary to meet with tribal leaders, to get feedback from the tribes, regarding their needs and concerns. Additionally, the meetings are designed to provide information about the work of the Secretary, the programs and services provided by the North Carolina Department of Administration (DOA) and the NC Commission of Indian Affairs, which is housed within the NC Department of Administration. Secretary Cashwell has held Tribal Consultation meetings with the Coharie, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, Occaneechi Band of The Saponi, Sappony, the Waccamaw — Siouan. Meetings are pending with the Eastern Band of the Cherokee and the Meherrin Tribes. Additionally, the Secretary plans to hold meetings with four urban Indian Associations.

Governor Roy Cooper appointed Pamela Brewington Cashwell Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Administration in April 2021.

As DOA Secretary, Cashwell oversees the state agency whose mission is to serve as a business manager for the state of North Carolina and a voice for underserved communities through its advocacy programs and boards and commissions.

DOA is a statewide administrator, managing government operations spanning from building construction, purchasing, and contracting and state vehicles to mail services, surplus and state properties. The agency also provides facility maintenance services as well as programs for North Carolina's diverse populations. Cashwell is the first American Indian woman to head a state cabinet department in the state's history.

Prior to her appointment as DOA Secretary, Cashwell served as Senior Policy Advisor and Chief Deputy Secretary for Professional Standards, Policy, and Planning at the NC Department of Public Safety. Before joining DPS, Cashwell was the Assistant Director at the State Ethics Commission. She has 10 years of federal government service as a trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division and the Office of Justice Programs at the U.S. Dept. of Justice, as well as at the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Virginia.

Attending the meeting on Tuesday, October 1⁷th was the Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Council, which includes Dr. Ogletree Richardson, Chief, Dr. Marvin Richardson, Vice Chief, Gideon Lee, Chairman, Angela G Richardson, Vice Chairman. Council women: Karen Franco, Treasurer, LaDonna Richardson, and Valerie Richardson. Sunshine Richardson and Alfred Richardson who represent the tribe on the NC Commission of Indian Affairs. Gregory A. Richardson, Executive Director, of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs and his staff, Maria Richardson, Workforce Program Director, Pamela Brewington, Low Income Energy Assistant Program Director and Karen Franco, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program Advocate. Tribal staff attending the meeting were Gary Lynch, Acting Tribal Administrator, Lyndell Lynch, Administrative Assistant. Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Chief Dr.



Ogletree Richardson stated, "I am so happy that Secretary Cashwell came to visit us to share information on valuable resources for our tribe."

Pictured in the photo left to right: Sunshine Richardson, Pamela Brewington, LaDonna Richardson, Angela Richardson, Gideon Lee, Secretary Pamela Cashwell, Gregory Richardson, Valerie Richardson, Chief Dr. Ogletree Richardson, Vice Chief Dr. Marvin Richardson, Karen Franco, and Maria Richardson.



What a great morning with some great people!!!

Today we assembled the train that I was able to donate to the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe and the great community of Hollister!!! About a year ago, this awesome train was given to me, so I wanted to find a place where it could be enjoyed and used for the benefit of the community... I chose Hollister and the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe because I felt it would attract people from all around which would give them the opportunity to promote their heritage and grow the local economy.....

Thank you to the Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Council and the citizens of Hollister for allowing us to make this happen!!!

Thank you to those who took their time today to assist in putting this together!!! I look forward to seeing it chugging along with kids smiling and laughing!!!

Unity makes Community!!! Together we ABSOLUTELY get things done!!!



Special Thanks to Tracy Story



Veterans Day Dinner Gala a Huge Success!

On Saturday, November 11, 2023, the Haliwa-Saponi Veterans Committee sponsored our second annual Veterans Day event at the Rev. C. H. Richardson building where attendees feasted on a wonderful meal provided by Donalvon's Smoke-N-Soul Lancaster while seated amidst beautifully decorated tables and walls compliments of Lindell Lynch with the help of Committee members, family, and friends. The night began with opening remarks by Veterans Memorial Chairwoman, Jewel Bissonnette as well as welcome remarks by Vice Chief Dr. Marvin Richardson.

Following these remarks, came the presentation of the tribal staff, carried by Mrs. Senora Lynch (widow of honored tribal Veteran, Mr. Dalton Lynch (Specialist 5, US Army Medic). The presentation of the American flag, carried by Sergeant First Class (SFC) Dana Lynch followed, and then the Tribal Flag carried by Mr. Michael Richardson. Mrs. Senora Lynch spoke on behalf of her late husband and how much this occasion meant to her and to Dalton's family. Following her speech, a representative from Merck Pharmaceuticals presented the Veterans Memorial Committee members with a plaque to the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe to honor all Tribal Veterans who have served. Our Guest Speaker, Mrs. Sylvia (Evans) Richardson (Spec 4, US Army) provided an entertaining speech about her long line of military ancestors, her experience as a small-town girl from Hollister going off to serve in the military, while also relating the family and spiritual references that got her through that difficult time. Cheyenne Daniel entertained us with a hoop dance as Marcus Mills accompanied on the hand drum. A cake-cutting ceremony followed whereby Mrs. Sylvia Richardson offered the first slice to the oldest veteran present, Mr. Masager (Tom) Richardson, who then passed the cake on to the youngest veteran present, SFC Dana Lynch. Chairwoman Jewel Bissonnette updated attendees on the progress made towards the future Tribal Veterans Memorial, including the completion of the order for the Granite Monument portion of the memorial to be delivered around May 2024, while reminding guests that the Veterans Memorial Committee is still selling engraved brick pavers as a fundraiser and taking donations and pledges. Throughout the night, photos were provided by Mrs. Canitra Spruill, and music was provided by DJ Jordan Richardson as we closed out the night with dancing and celebration.

On behalf of the Haliwa-Saponi Veterans Memorial Committee, I want to thank the Tribal Council, the tribal staff, all attendees, all those listed above, and my fellow Veterans Memorial Committee members: Rev. Al Cooper, Jr., Morris Richardson, Jimmie Silver, Arnold Lynch, and Kim Silver. And last, but certainly not least, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge my other (better) half, Mr. Michael Bissonnette (Lieutenant Colonel, USMC, Retired) for his hard work and dedication in compiling the many old and new submissions to the video slide show honoring our tribal veterans. Until next year! Pi:la'huk

Jewel (McGee) Bissonnette

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Happy Anniversary to
Earl & Carolyn Richardson
On December 31, 2023

Happy 25th Anniversary to
Charles A. (Chucky) & Angie Lynch
On November 28, 2023

Happy 40th Anniversary to
Pete & Chanta Richardson
On November 26th 2023

Happy Anniversary to
Patrick & Meagan Richardson
On December 29th, 2023





MRS. INDIGENOUS NORTH CAROLINA

2023-2024

Hi, my name is Amy Marie Silver. I am the daughter of Bernard and Niketa Richardson and the granddaughter of the late Chief Jessie and Bertha Richardson and the late Percy and Mamie Lee Richardson. On October 28th, I was crowned Mrs. Indigenous NC in the very first Miss Indigenous NC Pageant. This was the first time for me being in a pageant since NCNAYO days, but it was all together exciting to be amongst an awesome group from Tiny Miss to our Mrs.

The Miss Indigenous Pageant is formulated to represent all tribes across this great state of NC from our tiniest little girls to our eldest grandmothers. This is to promote our native ladies to be proud of who you are and to bring unity amongst our tribes. We have come a long way as a culture, and we need to stand fast in letting others know that we are still here. Next year hopefully more little ones, young ladies, and elders will participate in next year's pageant even more from other all tribes in NC. There's nothing like the beauty of our Native American Heritage.

My reign is dedicated to my family and my tribe, and I intend to make it good this time around. We all make mistakes but it's up to us when given a second chance to take it for what it is worth and make good of it.

During my reign I intend to focus on our younger generation because they are our future and they need to have the knowledge of knowing about our people, traditions and what it means to be Native. Be an example especially to our young native ladies. To be respectful of themselves, carry themselves with dignity and pride. To never let anyone make you feel any less because we are all at the end of the day no better than the other. We all have our struggles, but it takes you to be strong, resilient to get through them. We see too many when it comes to MMIW, and we need to be more mindful and tentative when it comes to our young ones.

To all of those that have given me a congratulations and words of encouragement, I thank you and I will continue to make you proud!

Forever Grateful,

Amy Silver

MISS HALIWA-SAPONI PRINCESS

2023-2024



Naha'-pipi! Good Day! I'm Alana Nakai Lynch your Miss Haliwa-Saponi Princess 2023-2024. In the month of October – November, I attended the Lumbee Powwow held in Pembroke, NC and the Meherrin Powwow, where I proudly represented our people. Also, I had the chance to meet the new royalty of the tribes of North Carolina. Also, I was able to attend the Indigenous People's Day. I had the chance to dance and socialize, and have fun. This weekend I will be traveling to the Museum of Natural Science in Raleigh. Throughout October– November I have had the joy to represent and share with other Indigenous people.



Pilahuk!; Thank you

JUNIOR MISS HALIWA

2023-2024



Good day! My name is Keyara Hedgepeth and I am currently serving as your Jr. Miss Haliwa- Saponi 2023-2024.

This month I had the opportunity to travel to UNC Charlotte to represent "our" people at the UNC powwow and I also attended the Veterans Gala on November 11 to show respect and honor to all who has served and continue to serve our country. I am scheduled to visit our tribal school to read to our young ones and discuss bullying. We live in a world where society rewards humiliating and demeaning others and I want to be a

light letting my peers know we do not have to conform to society but stand out and against bullying. Every opportunity that I have to be the change I want to see I make it a priority. As the holidays approach I challenge each of you to remember those in need, find ways to give back, and encourage someone who may be down and out. As we count our blessings I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a peaceful holiday season.



Jr. Miss Haliwa Saponi: Keyara La'Shae
252-670-0311
Be The Change You Want to See

ARFD RHG JR Miss Haliwa Saponi

Thanksgiving Meal Giveback
Attitude of Gratitude

November 19, 2023

Arcola Fire Department
FROM 12:00PM - 2:00PM
Be the reason someone smiles this Thanksgiving
Delivering Hot Thanksgiving meals to people in the local area.
For More Information
Contact Glenn Pulley, Mrs. Lori Silver or
Keyara/ Jessica Hedgepeth
252-536-8846



New to the Community



Sweetgrass Tribal Nutrition is a locally owned Native American Smoothie and Goods Shop located at:

157 Gibbs Avenue

Hollister, NC 27844

252-629-1448

Facebook- Sweetgrass TribalNutrition

Serving a wide variety of nutritional smoothies and herbal tea products, high protein waffles, natural soaps, smudging supplies, crafts handmade by locals, jewelry, T-shirts, and more.



UNITED TRIBES OF NORTH CAROLINA

2024 United Tribes Scholarship Awards

Hattie J. Campbell

C/O United Tribes of North Carolina

Attention: Hattie J. Campbell/Waccamaw Siouan

Tribe P.O. Box 69

Bolton, NC 28423

American Indian Tribes and Organizations, Title VII Indian Education Program Coordinators, NC University Financial Aid Offices, High School Guidance Departments, and Community College Financial Aid Offices

United Tribes of North Carolina believes in promoting educational opportunities for American Indian Students. Since the creation of the United Tribes Scholarship Award, over \$120,500 has been awarded to deserving students pursuing higher education degrees. We are proud to continue this worthwhile tradition.

Applications must be **RECEIVED** by **FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024**

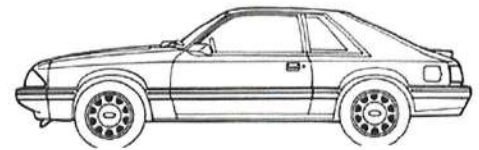
If you have questions, please call Hattie Campbell, Coordinator, United Tribes Scholarship Awards Committee by phone at (910) 646-1817 or (910) 641-1476 or via Email at camplink34@gmail.com

Applications are available at the tribal office

IN MEMORY OF'S



*Gone But Not Forgotten
Linwood Silver
Jan. 1949- Dec. 24*



*We love and miss you dearly.
Love, Regina, your daughters & grandchildren.*

*Happy "Heavenly " Birthday
To Jesse McGee (Dec. 11, 1925- July 29, 2023)
and*



Melody McGee Kizer (Dec. 13, 1965- Aug. 10, 2020)

*Although you both seem far away, you're never far apart,
And a part of you lives on in us, FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS.
We love and miss you so, Pam, Jewel, Deke, Keith, our spouses, kids,
grandkids, and great- grands*



Happy Belated Birthdays

*Carlean Blair- Nov. 19-1933
Willard Blair (D)- Nov. 30-1918
Susan Johnston- Nov. 18-1959
Melody Maboe- Nov. 18-2023*

*Jessica Richardson- Nov. 02
Deitrick Richardson- Nov.14
Ethyn Richardson- Nov.17*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU !!!!!

If you would like your name or a loved ones name to be published please email Carol Richardson at crrichardson@haliwa-saponi.com, mail or bring by the office. If you do not submit your birthday or a loved one, we can not publish it in the next month's newsletter.

- December 1-Kimeka W. Savage,
- December 3-Jackie Rayne Richardson, Council woman Ladonna E. Richardson, Brenda D. Lynch, Jennifer Richardson Faust
- December 6-Henley Richardson, Londyn Richardson
- December 9-John D. Hedgepeth (D)
- December 10-Mattie Richardson, Jennifer Spresser
- December 11-Jesse McGee (D), Zollie Richardson, Pete Richardson
- December 12-Edith L. Richardson, Rebecca Chatel
- December 13- Melody McGee Kizer (D)
- December 14- Frank Mills
- December 15-Leon Richardson Jr., Wendalyn "Niki" Richardson (D)
- December 16- Meagan Richardson
- December 17-Robert L. Richardson (D)
- December 18- Regina Mills, Drucilla Miller
- December 22- Patrick Krivosh, Hazel Rose Kizer
- December 23- Angel C. Richardson-Silver, Daisy Mills (D)
- December 25- Ashley N. Demery
- December 26-Marson Richardson, Callen Portillo
- December 27-Talitha Quay Richardson
- December 30- Korey James Carter



BIRTHDAYS ARE GOOD
FOR YOUR HEALTH.
STUDIES SHOW THAT
PEOPLE WHO HAVE
MORE BIRTHDAYS
LIVE THE LONGEST.



Please Announce

Any Haliwa-Saponi Tribal enrolled young ladies currently in the 11th grade is eligible to run for the Miss Haliwa-Saponi Princess 2024-2025.

Letters were mailed to tribal enrolled young ladies currently in the 11th grade. However, *several letters were returned due to having the wrong address.* If you did not receive a letter and would like the opportunity to represent your tribe, contact the tribal office.

The package will provide the requirements and due dates to complete the application process. Call or go to the tribal office and request a packet, (252)586-4017. Packets are due December 29, 2023.

As a potential candidate for Miss Haliwa-Saponi 2024-2025, the Princess Committee will continue planning for a safe and successful year.



Haliwa-Saponi Seniors Attend Conference

On Friday November 3, 2023, the Haliwa-Saponi Senior Citizens Group attended the North Carolina Indian Senior Citizens Coalition Conference in Clinton, North Carolina. The conference included workshops, a banquet and a Princess pageant. The theme for this year's conference was "Building Our Future - Adjusting to Change". Workshops were presented by Blue-Cross Blue Shield on Medicare and healthcare insurance and by our own Reverend Al Cooper on the importance of exercise with audience participation. During the banquet we were entertained by the contestants of the 2023 Ms. North Carolina Indian Senior Citizen pageant. There were four contestants this year. The Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe was well represented by Sylvia Johnson who did an amazing job representing the Tribe. Even though Sylvia did not win this coveted title she was a winner in our view. A good time was had by all.



Halifax County Presents American Indian Heritage Month Proclamation

On Monday November 6, 2023, the Haliwa-Saponi Senior Citizens Group, Tribal Council members and others from the Tribe travelled to the town of Halifax for the regular Commission meeting of Halifax County. In this meeting, Chairman Vernon Bryant, allowed our own commissioner Chenoa Richardson Davis the opportunity to present to our Chief, Dr. Ogletree Richardson a proclamation declaring November as American Indian Heritage Month in Halifax County. The Chief and Vice Chief, Dr. Marvin Richardson, were given the opportunity to speak and give thanks for this prestigious proclamation.



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Thank You For Your Service



Coretta "Faye" Richardson- Campbell is the granddaughter of late Mr. Arch H. Richardson (Bud) & daughter of late Peggy J. Richardson. Faye has been serving in the U.S. Army for nearly 20 years as a Medical Service Corps Officer. Thank you for your service!