

## CCCRA Newsletter Dec 2016

CCCRA SIGNS HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LEASE WITH COUNTY! Clay County Commissioners agreed to sign a 40-year lease with CCCRA. This long-term lease will enable us to approach foundations for financial support for the courthouse preservation project. Since CCCRA does not own the building, foundations have been unwilling to donate money to CCCRA for the project. This will no longer be a deterrent.

THANK YOU FOR A TERRIFIC 2016! Whether you volunteered to raise funds for the Historic Courthouse preservation project, taught students at the Cherokee Homestead Exhibit, planted and maintained plants on the square, helped establish our Endowment Fund, participated at the summer concerts or made a donation to CCCRA, YOU helped to make 2016 successful! Thank you.

REPAIR WORK IS BEING DONE ALONG TOWN CREEK AND THE QUANASSEE PATH: Thanks to a grant from the Conservation Fund, we are replacing gravel along the trail and repairing the bank along Town Creek that was eroded during last December's heavy rains. New trees and shrubs will be planted to replace those lost due to erosion, thanks to Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition, which partnered with us for this project.

QUANASSEE PATH T-SHIRTS MAKE NICE GIFTS AND CAN BE PURCHASED FROM CHINQUAPINS! Rob and Holly Tiger have offered to stock the QP t-shirts during the winter months, with proceeds from any sales helping to support the Cherokee Festival and children's educational programs provided at the Cherokee Homestead Exhibit. There is an array of colors and sizes which come in both short and long sleeves. Give a shirt to a friend or family member and help promote Hayesville and the Quanassee Path at the same time.

NEW TRAIL IS BEING ADDED AT JACKRABBIT: The connector trail between Jackrabbit Campground and the trail head is under construction. This new trail will provide a safer access to the Jackrabbit Trails for people staying at the campground. This addition to the trail system should make Jackrabbit even more inviting for mountain bikers and hikers.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017: Your 2017 Board, including new members Marsha Christy, Paul Price and Vickie Ware, is fast at work planning for the coming year. Summer Concerts are being scheduled, the Cherokee Heritage Festival is scheduled for September 16 and work will continue on the preservation of the Historic Courthouse. The next phase will address repairs to the exterior of the courthouse, to include a new roof; steeple, soffit and fascia repairs, and painting of exterior wood surfaces. CCCRA's newly signed long-term lease for the courthouse will enable us to pursue funding from foundations to support preservation efforts.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS UNDERWAY: There is still time to pay your 2017 membership dues and reap the reward of using it for a 2016 tax deduction. For those of you who have already paid, your "Thank You" containing the appropriate tax deduction information will be coming to you soon in the mail. Your donation helps to fund various CCCRA projects and activities throughout the year. Your support is invaluable. Membership Levels:

\$20 Single – One year

\$250 Single – Lifetime

\$30 Household – One year

\$400 Household – Lifetime

\$50 Business – One year (Names will appear on CCCRA newsletters throughout the year.)

Mail to: CCCRA PO Box 1533, Hayesville, NC 28904 or through PayPal on the website at [cccra-nc.org](http://cccra-nc.org)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE PLANNING MEETING COMING IN JANUARY: If you are interested in helping build our membership numbers, Susanne Hanson would love to hear from you. Please call her at [828-389-1181](tel:828-389-1181) to let her know of your interest. She will notify you of the meeting date, time and location. Who do you think would be interested in being a part of what's happening with the courthouse preservation project? Or who might like to help at the summer concerts? Or who might like to welcome visitors to our community at the Cherokee Heritage Festival?

ARE YOU CONSIDERING AN END-OF-YEAR GIFT TO A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION? Since CCCRA is a non-profit organization which encourages you to designate how your donation is to be used, we urge you to consider making a tax deductible donation to CCCRA before the end of the year. You may specify if you would like your donation to support the Historic Courthouse preservation project, Cherokee cultural activities, summer concerts, CCCRA Endowment Fund, Trails and Greenways or general operating expenses. Your donation may be sent to CCCRA, PO Box 1533, Hayesville, NC 28904 or through PayPal on the website at [cccra-nc.org](http://cccra-nc.org). Your receipt will be in the form of a "Thank You" from CCCRA, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

*Thank you to the following businesses for their support of CCCRA in 2017:*

*Clay Farmers Store      Highway 69 Storage      Nichols & Nichols*

*Signs Fast                      Tiger's/Chinquapins*

Wishing you and your family much joy at this time of the year,

CCCRA Board of Directors