

GREETINGS to all



As board members of The FRIENDS OF HISTORIC HALIFAX, we look forward to the new year of 2022 with the possibility of more events. Currently the historic site has scheduled:

- Saturday April 9 PRELUDE TO LIBERTY 10am-4pm: Living history activates from the Revolutionary War period
- Tuesday April 22 HALIFAX RESOLVES DAY 10am-4pm: Celebration of the 246th anniversary of the Halifax Resolves.

Over the past two years, a 10-year VISION plan for the Historic Site and the Town of Halifax was developed by leadership of several groups and organizations. Halifax grew up as a river town and one of the goals is to consolidate and embrace the river front with the historic site. In 2026, America will celebrate the 250th year of independence and the initial celebration will be in Halifax on April 12th **2024**. There will be commemorative activities throughout America and North Carolina until December **2026**.

The Town of Halifax has already initiated a project of redoing the sidewalks with commemorative bricks. For \$50 per brick, you can have it engraved with several lines of scrip honoring a relative or whatever else. Please participate by emailing town officials at operations@historichalifax.com.

We are pleased to spread the good news that Historic Halifax received substantial funding in the new state budget. A total of \$200,000 is dedicated for acquisition and development of the land between the visitor's site that is currently occupied by the old Andrew Jackson School and \$50,000 is dedicated for an African American Museum to supplement the Freedom Road Trail along the river. Another \$5.2 million will support a renovation of the visitor's center and the completing of the renovation at the WR Davie House. Finally, the historic site will receive an Assistant Manager's position. Our thanks to Representative Michael Wray for his leadership and support for these projects in Halifax and others in our county..

The Friends of Historic Halifax is a nonprofit, support group for the historic site. In the past, we have made contributions to the purchase of the flagpole, sponsored lectures and events, supported development of a traveling exhibit on freedom, provide funds for maintenance of the grounds. Our focus project is the landscaping of the WR Davie house grounds that will include boxwoods, brick walkways, privacy hedges, gardens and an event space which can be utilized by the public for events. William Richardson Davie lived in Halifax from 1785-1805 during which time he was a military officer, a statesman, a peace envoy to France, and the father of the first state university, UNC-CH. A baby sapling from the original Davie Popular on the campus of UNC-CH will be planted on the grounds soon.

Your membership and other contributions will enable us to continue to enable this historic site and more importantly, tell the stories of freedom that took place here. History happened here in Halifax County, North Carolina. This site is an important tourism attraction which impacts our local economy.

Put April 12th on your calendar, this year and every year, as we continue to commemorate the contribution of North Carolina to the fight for independence. The historic site is open so put on your mask, come visit, and learn about the history of Halifax. Ask about ways to volunteer and become involved.

Thank you for your support.

Karen Vaughan, Chair of Board of Directors

Board of Directors:

Larry Armstrong, Kathy White(secretary), Joyce Tillery, Bentley Mohorn, Ada Shields, Suzann Anderson, Napoleon Hill (vicechair), Chris Lehman (treasurer), Jim Small, Al Richardson

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