

Clay County Progress

Farmers Market festival in Hayesville

Thursday, June 18, 2009 10:42 AM CDT

The Land Trust for the Little Tennessee is partnering with the Mountain Valley Farmers Market by hosting a festival in downtown Hayesville 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Saturday, June 27. In addition to this event, on Saturday, July 25, LTLT will hold its first annual “Local Food Gala” in Franklin. This is a fund-raising event which will include an open-air evening of music and entertainment with a multi-course dinner prepared by local chefs using exclusively foods grown locally. The first luscious bite of a fresh strawberry, the crispness of lettuce straight from the garden to the salad bowl—these early rewards are full of the promise of more to come as the season progresses. Not only do local foods reward our sense of taste, but locally produced food nourishes and strengthens our families and communities, sustains our mountain farming traditions and protects our natural resources through productive land conservation practices.

The Land Trust for the Little Tennessee is directly aligning with local production with the intention of bringing awareness to: the value of local food; the need for continued farmland preservation; and the social and economic sustainability of our rural communities.

Please join LTLT in supporting your local growers—buy from their farms, their stands, their booths at the farmers market and purchase tickets to attend the Local Food Gala to support LTLT in conserving productive land to keep farmland available for future generations. Gala tickets are available for local sale at the Web site: www.ltlf.org.

LTLT thanks local growers for their support and enthusiasm for our local food gala and recognizes their sponsors: United Community Bank; Macon Bank; RBC Bank; Farm Bureau in Clay, Jackson and Swain Counties; the Smoky Mountain News; Sylva Herald; and Macon Printing.

Since 1999 the Franklin based Land Trust for the Little Tennessee has conserved over 12,000 acres including 1,000 acres on working farms in Macon and Cherokee Counties. LTLT serves the six far western counties of North Carolina including Clay, Jackson, Macon, Swain, Graham and Cherokee.

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