



Callao Hometown Community Association

NEWSLETTER

Christmas in Callao 2024 - "Toys on Parade"

The Callao Hometown Community Association (CHCA) and the Callao Volunteer Fire Department sponsored "Christmas in Callao 2024" with the parade theme "Toys on Parade." Events included: a Christmas Bazaar at the Callao Firehouse; an Auto and Truck display at Primis Bank parking lot; Visits with Santa, Buddy the Elf, the Polar Express Conductor and the 'Christmas Tree'; Live Nativity, Community Choral sing and the Crab Pot Tree lighting.



"Toys on Parade" float by Cralle Insurance Agency, Inc.

By all accounts, "Christmas in Callao," held on December 8, 2024, was a huge success. It was a full day filled with many fun community events.

The Christmas Bazaar had over two dozen local vendors this year, offering many wonderful locally made items to help get our Christmas shopping started early. CHCA had a booth at the bazaar, and for the first time, sold "Christmas in Callao" sweatshirts and long-

sleeved T-shirts featuring the Crab Pot Tree. They were a big hit. CHCA also had other items for sale to support our cause: hats; cards; ornaments; baked items; cups; and notecards. The park design was on display and we accepted donations to help build the park. Thank you to all who visited our booth to help raise funds for our organization and for the park.

CHCA sponsored a Christmas craft for the children to make either a candy cane or reindeer ornament. The children got to visit with Santa, the Polar Express Conductor, and Buddy the Elf, --all of whom were the highlight on a float in the parade. The iconic inflatable

"Christmas Tree" and the "Grinch" even made an appearance in the parade, as well. (cont. pg 5)



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Burnt Chimneys

Burnt Chimneys: A Revolutionary War Historic Site in Virginia's Northern Neck

The Northern Neck of Virginia, a region known for its picturesque landscapes and rich historical legacy, is home to one of the state's lesser-known, yet historically significant, sites: Burnt Chimneys. This unique location holds a pivotal connection to the American Revolutionary War and serves as a testament to the sacrifices and resilience of those who lived through one of the most transformative periods in American history.

The Legacy of Burnt Chimneys

Burnt Chimneys, located in the Northern Neck of Virginia, is a historic site that traces its origins to the turbulent years of the American Revolution. While its name might evoke thoughts of fire and destruction, it is, in fact, a place where history was shaped by resistance, struggle, and the determination of local patriots fighting for independence.



The name "Burnt Chimneys" is believed to have derived from an incident during the Revolutionary War. During the conflict, British troops occupied parts of Virginia, leaving destruction in their wake. Local legends tell of a patriot's home in the area being burned to the ground by British forces, with only the chimney remaining as a stark reminder of the violence of war. Though the specific structure is lost to history, the name "Burnt Chimneys" lives on as a symbol of both the physical and emotional scars left by the conflict.

A Strategic Location in the Revolutionary War

The Northern Neck, positioned between the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers, played a crucial role in Virginia's involvement in the



Revolutionary War. This region was not only a place of agriculture and trade but also one of strategic importance. The waterways made the area vulnerable to British naval forces, and control over these waters was vital for both sides.

Burnt Chimneys became an important site for local patriots. While the region may not have been a center of major battles, it was home to key figures in the fight for independence. These figures included soldiers, militia leaders, and members of the Virginia Assembly, all of whom contributed to the larger struggle against British rule.

Local militias, often made up of farmers and everyday citizens, defended the region from British incursions. They used their intimate knowledge of the terrain to conduct guerrilla warfare tactics against the British forces. The Northern Neck was also home to numerous secretive meetings and planning sessions among the patriots, who worked together to organize resistance efforts. (cont. pg 3)

Burnt Chimneys and the Role of Local Patriots

One of the most notable aspects of Burnt Chimneys' Revolutionary War history is the role of local patriots who risked their lives to support the cause of independence. Many of these individuals were everyday citizens, farmers, and artisans who lived in the Northern Neck and found themselves thrust into the larger conflict of the war. They served in militias, supplied vital resources to the Continental Army, and provided intelligence on British movements.

Among the key figures associated with the Burnt Chimneys area during the Revolutionary War were members of prominent Virginia families who played a significant role in the political and military landscape of the time. These families—such as the Ball and Carter families—helped shape the course of Virginia's involvement in the Revolution, providing both leadership and material support for the cause of independence.

The struggle in the Northern Neck was not without personal cost. British raids often targeted civilian homes, with Burnt Chimneys being one of many areas to experience direct destruction. Homes were burned, crops destroyed, and families displaced as a result of British retaliation. In many ways, the Northern Neck became a microcosm of the war's impact on rural Virginia, where the ideals of liberty and independence were fought for at great personal sacrifice.

Burnt Chimneys Today: A Historic Site to Explore

Today, Burnt Chimneys serves as a quiet reminder of the sacrifice and determination of those who lived



through the American Revolution in Virginia's Northern Neck. Though much of the area's physical infrastructure from the Revolutionary era has been lost to time, the landscape remains largely untouched and still bears the marks of the past.

The site is part of the broader collection of Revolutionary War-era landmarks in Virginia, which include preserved homes, historical markers, and protected battlefields. Visitors to the Northern Neck can explore the region's natural beauty while learning about its historical significance, particularly the struggles faced by those who fought for independence during the 18th century.

Local efforts to preserve Burnt Chimneys and its surrounding area have grown in recent years, with the goal of creating a more accessible and informative site for future generations. The community is actively engaged in researching the area's history, uncovering documents, artifacts, and oral histories to create a deeper understanding of Burnt Chimneys' role in the larger narrative of the Revolutionary War.

A Lasting Legacy

The legacy of Burnt Chimneys lives on in the hearts of those who remember the sacrifices made by the patriots of the Northern Neck. From the devastation wrought by British troops to the resilience of the local militias, Burnt Chimneys stands as a symbol of the challenges faced during the Revolutionary War and the enduring spirit of the American people.

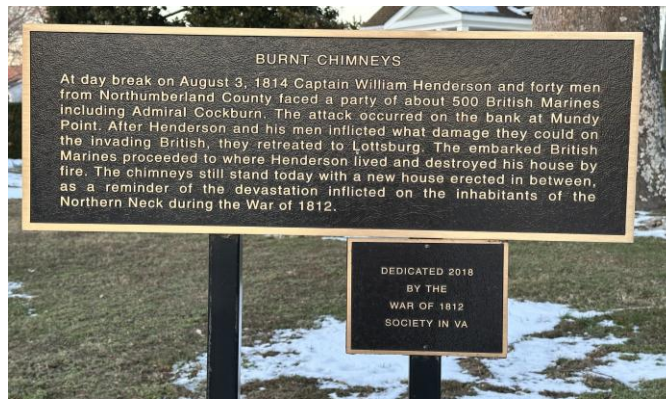
As one of the more understated Revolutionary War historic sites in Virginia, Burnt Chimneys may not be a household name, but its story is integral to the broader narrative of the fight for independence. The history of this small community, its people, and their contributions to the cause of liberty reflect the greater struggle that shaped the nation. Burnt Chimneys remains a lasting tribute to the courage of those who, in the face of adversity, helped secure the freedoms we enjoy today.

(cont. on pg. 4)

Historic Site in Callao - Burnt Chimneys (from pg. 3)

Conclusion

Burnt Chimneys, in Virginia's Northern Neck, may not be one of the most well-known Revolutionary War sites, but its significance is undeniable. From the burning of homes by British forces to the quiet resistance of local militias, this area holds a rich history of sacrifice, resilience, and patriotism. As the site continues to be preserved and remembered, it serves as a powerful reminder of the legacy of the Revolutionary War and the many unsung heroes who fought for the ideals of freedom and independence.



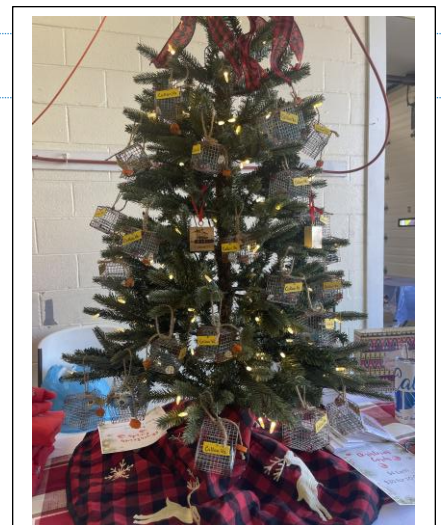
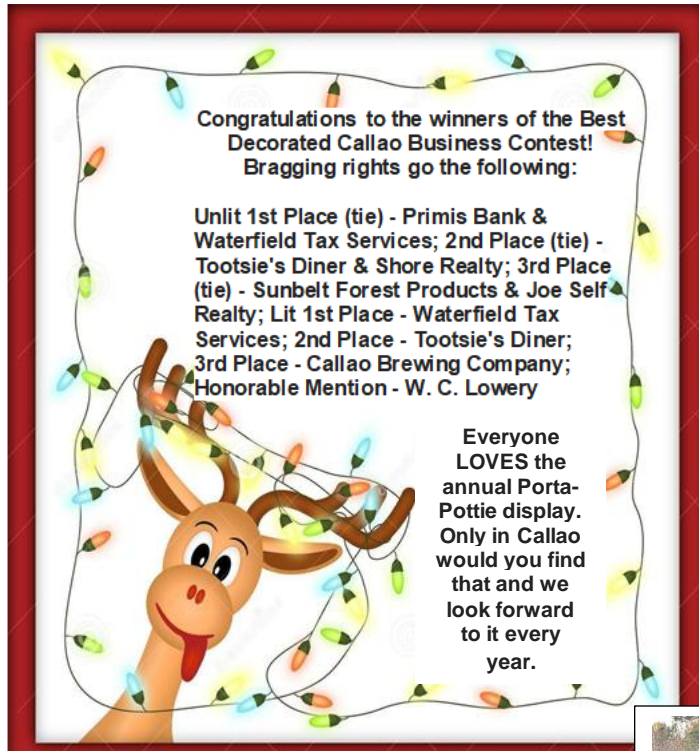
Historic Marker dedicated 2018 by the War of 1812 Society in Virginia reads:

“At day break on August 3, 1814, Captain William Henderson and forty men from Northumberland County faced a party of about 500 British Marines including Admiral Cockburn. The attack occurred on the bank of Mundy Point. After Henderson and his men inflicted what damage they could on the invading British, they retreated to Lottsburg. The embarked British Marines proceeded to where Henderson lived and destroyed his house by fire. The chimneys still stand today with a new house erected in between, as a reminder of the devastation inflicted on the inhabitants of the Northern Neck during the War of 1812.”

Metal Art Northern Neck Ginger Ale Can Installed



Christmas in Callao (cont.)





Annual Live Nativity



Christmas Bazaar Vendors



Callao Crab Pot Tree



Christian Gathering Church



Callao Volunteer Fire Department

Callao Brewery Installs Brick Oven

Callao Brewery LLC has installed a Hybrid Brick Oven and is now able to serve the community of Callao and surrounding areas with fresh hot pizza along with its tasty beverages. The pizza oven was a labor of love to install. After many hurdles and challenges, including: waiting for the oven to arrive; building out the back of the oven; installing a special pipe for exhaust; and having the Callao Brewery logo etched into the steel around the oven opening, they were finally able to see this achievement come to fruition.

The pizza oven is a hybrid oven and operates with propane and wood. It can get up to and hold temperatures up to 750° F. Callao Brewery makes fresh dough and fresh pizza sauce, prepping up to 40 pounds of dough per day. Owner Roger Hale said their trusted team member, Jeff Gorder, has worked hard putting it all together. Mr. Gorder says they are working towards making up to 80 pizzas per day and plan to offer take out in the near future. Feedback from the public has been great.

Owners Roger Hale and James Adams have created a family friendly environment where you can bring your kids, eat pizza, drink homemade Eddie Rootbeer or 360 Ginger Ale, and play games. They also offer live entertainment, Bingo, Trivia nights and Karaoke. The Eddie Rootbeer was inspired by Roger's brother and is carried by Hughlett Tavern, the ChuckWagon in Warsaw, and UniTeas. The 360 Ginger Ale is made with fresh ginger, sugar cane instead of corn syrup, and is delicious. Adult beverages include craft beers, including the "Choozy Mother" brand they acquired from the Isley Brewery in Richmond and age in whisky barrels. They rebranded it to the "Boozy Mother." Come out and see what the local gem of a brewery has to offer.



Fresh "Cheesy Mother" Pizza hot out of the new brick oven at Callao Brewery



Roger Hale and James Adams.

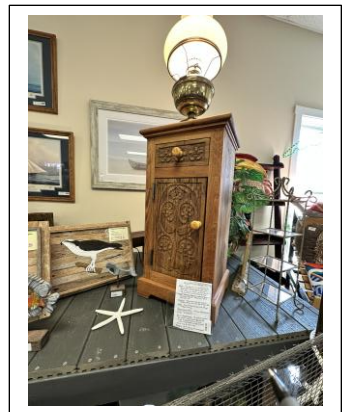


MOSAICS CONSIGNMENTS & GIFTS

Proprietor Jane Pruitt Woodle reopened Mosaics Consignments & Gifts in Callao last year. She offers Home Décor, Furniture, Consignments and art work. Home décor includes lamps, mirrors, glassware and artisan objects. Jane Woodle said her favorite thing to sell is furniture. She also enjoys the home décor, because, as she says, “home décor is what makes the furniture look good.”

Mosaics also carries Made in Virginia products such as Artisan Candles made by local artisan, Mary Hayes; Ronda's Seashell Angel Crafts; Chincoteague nuts; and new art work. Quality Designs by Chubby is featured in the shop with custom benches, plant stands, and tables, some of which have the “live edge” look. Custom stains include: Ebony; Black Walnut; Golden Pecan; and Early American. Additionally, John Trescott nautical artwork is featured in Mosaics. Other art work includes pieces curated by Lynn Friel Limited Editions, a distributor for art work including hand-colored etchings from Italy, the United Kingdom, and the US.

Come in and check out the unique items offered at Mosaics. You will find a warm and welcoming atmosphere with jazz music playing and pleasing displays. Ms. Woodle has a knack for great presentation of items and you will find them pleasant and appealing.

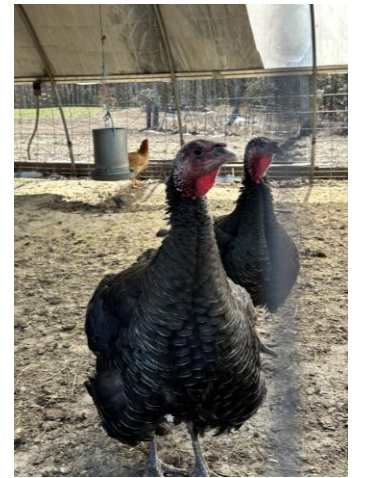


AMISH COMMUNITY UPDATE

Wintertime for Woodland Acres Greenhouse is a time for preparation and renewal. They are currently getting their greenhouses ready for the springtime. The Esh family is planting hundreds of seedlings of vegetables and flowers to get ready for early planting. They have started cold weather plants including several varieties of broccoli, cabbage and lettuce to include: Imperial Broccoli; Thunderhead cabbage; and Bibb Lettuce, to name a few.

Along with the vegetable plants, Woodland Acres Greenhouses is growing many types of flowers again this winter, to be prepared for the upcoming spring planting. Flower varieties so far, include geraniums, impatiens, scopia, and petunias. They work hard to produce beautiful flowers and plan to have a lovely selection, especially in time for early planting and definitely for Mother's Day. New this year, they are also growing Knockout Roses. They will have at least five colors of roses from which to select and plan to have them ready for springtime planting and Mother's Day, as well. Of course, another spring favorite will be having plenty of herbs, which their customers look forward to each year.

Woodland Acres Greenhouse is also getting ready for their roadside stand on Route 202 held on Saturdays. Their greenhouses are located at their homestead at 1475 Fruit Plain Road, Callao. Ben Esh and his son are also available for construction work. Stay tuned, with over 45 families now in the Amish Community in the Northern Neck, Community, it will be interesting to see what's next.



LeCakes

LeCakes is a local bakery in Callao that offers specialized cakes and cinnamon buns to order. To place your order, contact Baker/Cake Artist, Cynthia T. Johnson, or Manager Jerome Johnson at (804) 724-0846. Website: www.lecakebydesign.com



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