

Callao Hometown Community Association

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**SANTA VISITS
CALLAO 2019**

The New Bay Transit bus stop in Callao, Virginia now has a new look. Transparencies featuring the "B. F. Lewis patent" for the crabpot installed on the inside walls of the structure educate travelers on the history of the crabpot and its origins in Callao.

Visitor Center to get New Murals

Douglas Lemke, property owner of the building which houses the Northumberland Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center in Callao, has commissioned two murals by the same mural artist participating with the Revitalization Project in Callao. The property was originally a Movie Theater. With that history in mind, Mr. Lemke requested the artist use a “movie marquis” theme to announce the Visitor Center. The proposed renderings are shown below.

Mr. Lemke, who purchased the property with his brother to have a permanent place to house the Chamber of Commerce, is looking for memorabilia and pictures of the building from the time when it was a theater. They want to put the pictures and memorabilia on display at the Visitor Center, along with the original movie projector, reels and the player piano. Mr. Lemke says his favorite part of Callao is being associated with the

Chamber of Commerce. They have recently printed the **2019-2020 Official Guide to Northumberland County**. Mr. Lemke has been affiliated with the Chamber for 25 years and says this experience has “been remarkable.”

He is a retired U.S. Air force officer and is pleased he and his wife, Sharon, answered a Van Land Realty ad in the **Washington Post** to purchase land in Northumberland County in 1983. They liked the proximity of the area to Norfolk, Virginia and Washington DC. Since then, they’ve made their home in Reedville. The Lemkes enjoy living in Reedville. Also owning property in Callao affords Mr. Lemke the opportunity to interact with members of the community on both ends of the county. The Business District of Callao is fortunate to have them as valuable members of our community.

If you have pictures or memorabilia of the Callao Movie Hall, please contact Douglas Lemke at dalemke@va.metrocast.net



Callao Murals - Revitalization



“Callao Visitors Center”

Callao Murals - Revitalization



This mural would measure approximately 15 x 15 feet. Movie theater with a little bit of a 3D effect. So the marquee looks as if standing out above painted doors.



MOSAIC

If you have not had an opportunity to shop the unique store in Callao called “Mosaic Consignments & Gifts, LLC,” you are really missing out. Mosaic is a wonderful combination of consignment, collectibles and new gift items that offers the chance to find some one-of-a-kind treasures. The business owner, Jane Pruitt Woodle, opened the shop here four years ago after a tip from a friend said what a great place Callao would be to move her shop. The Callao location is her third location and opened in February 2014. Ms. Woodle also helped run the Northumberland Chamber of Commerce (housed in the same building) for two years, but stepped back to run her shop full-time when business picked up with Mosaic.

Mosaic carries artwork and crafts from local artisans and craftsmen. They also carry “Virginia’s Finest” items of Virginia made products such as peanuts, preserves, pickles, seafood soups, mixes, and many other delicious items worth checking out. Some of

the most unique items Mosaic carries are the artisan pieces made by David Butt. Some of these pieces include beautiful river tables and bowls made from unusual wood with unique characteristics. Mosaic also has a beautiful Remington, “The Old Dragoons,” which is looking for a forever home.

Jane Woodle says she enjoys operating her shop in Callao. She says being in a small town reminds her of being in “Mayberry.” She says the nicest part is she has the most wonderful clients. She says, “Don’t pass up shopping at a consignment shop or local gift shop. You might miss out on finding something that is unique, special and one-of-a-kind.” So, whether you are visiting the area or just want to add something special to your home, Mosaic offers a chance to purchase something unusual. They are open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 am – 5 pm; Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm, Sundays by chance.



ABILITIES AROUND WELLNESS CENTER

The residents of Callao, Virginia and surrounding areas have access to excellent Physical Therapy and related services right here in Callao. The owner and Physical Therapist, Merthia Haynie, D.P.T. opened the practice five years ago so the local residents would be able to receive quality physical therapy and related services without having to travel to Richmond or other far away areas.

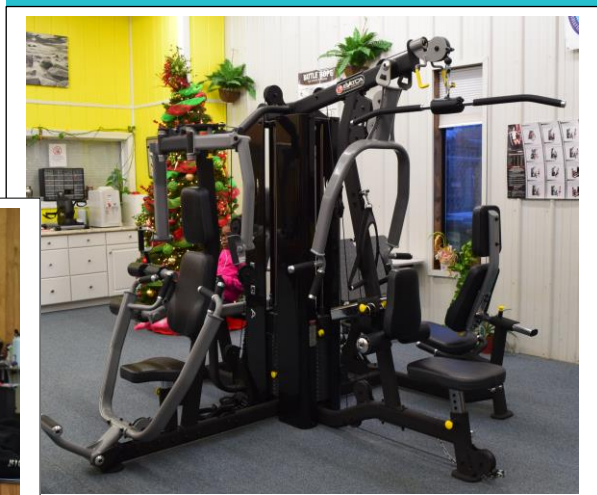
Ms. Haynie, who did her undergraduate studies at Hampton University and Physical Therapy graduate studies with the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, believes in providing a “family atmosphere” for the patients, and for the employees, as well. Abilities Around also provides internship opportunities for local students so they do not have to leave the area to complete their internships. Ms. Haynie says she enjoys getting to know her patients and has met some

fascinating individuals. She says she has met so many different people over the years--from NASA engineers to boat owners traveling through the area on their way to far away places. She indicates how rewarding it is to see the progress the patients she sees at Abilities Around make during their treatment. In fact,, Ms. Haynie says what she enjoys most is helping her patients improve and seeing the progress the patients can make with their medical issues from when they first begin their program until they complete their treatment, .

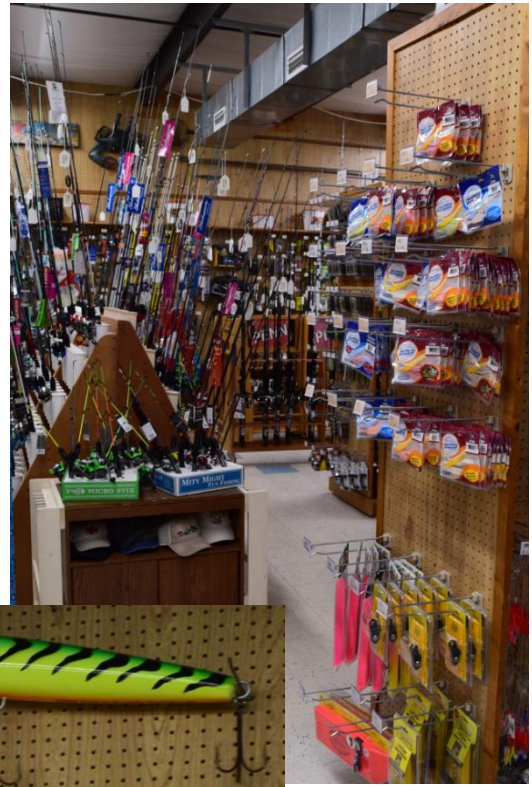
Since Merthia Haynie was “born and raised” in Northumberland County herself, along with providing quality Physical therapy services to local patients, the fact that Abilities Around provides employment opportunities for local residents is also an added bonus. Abilities Around employees approximately 30 full and part time employee. Ms.

Haynie also takes pride in providing not only internships to local high school and college students, but also volunteer opportunities to students exploring this field. She credits having an excellent mentor herself when she was in college, and feels students benefit from being encouraged to see if this field is a good fit for them.

Abilities Around Wellness Center is a thriving Physical Therapy practice that offers a wide range of services including: Orthopedics; lymphedema, stroke rehab, therapeutic massage, Parkinson's program, senior classes and much more. They offer fun exercise classes available through memberships or can be taken per class. For more information or calendar of upcoming events, go on line at www.abilitiesapwc.com. Abilities Around Wellness Center is a valued member of the Callao Business Community.



R.W.'s Sports



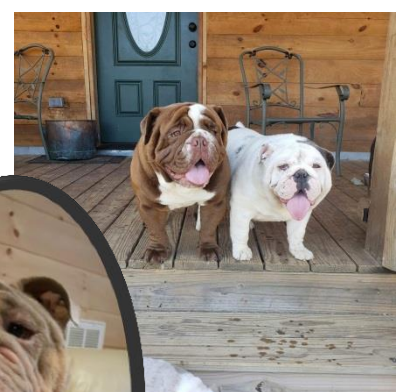
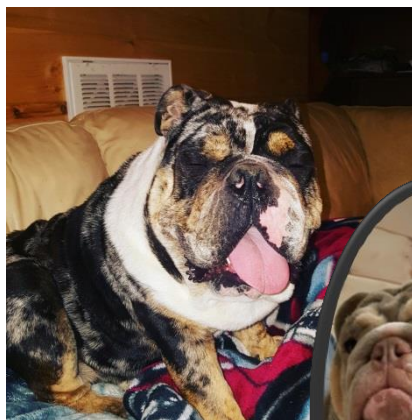
R.W.'s Sports, located on the hill just outside the business district of Callao, is a fun filled sporting goods store that offers a large variety of fishing, hunting and sporting goods items and supplies. They also sell a wide variety of river themed gift items and accoutrements to stock your river cottage. The proprietor, Ricky Thomas, started the business

with his dad in 1991. Since then it has grown into the special and unique destination location that it is today. R.W.'s Sports carries locally made umbrella rigs and "Made in Virginia" items, as well. Mr. Thomas says he tries to have it all in his store, so it is the "one-stop shop" for everything sporting goods. Bucktails is his best seller for

fishing lures. The favorite hunting for the area seems to be deer hunting, since the best selling ammo is for deer hunting (with the largest deer tagged so far this year being a 10 pointer). Whether you are an avid hunter, love fishing, or you just want a unique gift that represents life near the river, check out R.W. Sports in Callao. Winter hours starting in January: M-F 8 am-5 pm and Sat 8 am-12 pm.

Northern Neck Bulldogs,

located on Owl Town Road in Callao and owned by Julie and Danny Dunaway, Sr., is a breeder of quality English bulldogs. These adorable canines have short legs, large heads, short snouts, sleep a lot and have a non-aggressive temperament. The NNK Bulldog kennel currently has four sires and four dames with great blood lines. They have the following: merle; tri-color; parti color; lilac; lilac tri-color; and lilac merle. For information or to see when their next litter of puppies will be ready for adoption, go on-line: www.northernneckbulldogs.com.



A VERY "NAUTI" CHRISTMAS



Decorated Business Winners

Best Decorated Business (Lighted)

- 1st RW's Sport Shop
- 2nd Mosaic Consignments & Gifts
Banes Upholstery
Callao Supermarket
- 3rd Waterfield Tax Service
Callao Fire Department
Callao Coffee House
- Honorable Mention
Northumberland Motel

Best Decorated Business (Unlighted)

- 1st Banes Upholstery
- 2nd RW's Sport Shop
Callao Supermarket
WC Lowery
- 3rd Blue Ridge Wood Products
McKenney Insurance
- Honorable Mention
Joe Self Realty
Callao Fire Department
RR Beasley

Best "NAUTI" Decorated Business

- RW's Sport Shop
- Callao Supermarket
- Mosaic Consignments & Gifts
- Banes Upholstery
- WC Lowery

The theme for this year's Christmas in Callao event was "A Very 'Nauti' Christmas, playing on our river heritage. The "nauti" (i.e. "nautical") theme was a big hit. The local businesses really got into the spirit with their "nauti" decorations, with skiing Santa and skiing reindeer, holiday decorated boats, crab pot packages, and bushel barrel Christmas trees, turning up all over Callao. They looked great. The Mundy Point ladies (hosted by Betty Cralle) also made Christmas wreaths adorned with oyster shells which decorated businesses throughout the business district. Businesses also had open houses with special holiday sales.

Sponsored by the Callao Hometown Community Assoc., Callao Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary, residents and visitors enjoyed a day packed with fun holiday events. Events included: a Christmas Bazaar with booths of local vendors at the Callao Firehouse; an Antique Car,

Truck and Tractor Show displayed at the SonaBank parking lot; a Visit with Santa and his workshop making an oyster shell angel ornament at the Community Room at VCB; the Christmas Parade Down Main Street of Callao, the Live Nativity, Crabpot Tree Lighting & Carol Singing by the Henderson Methodist Church choir and friends at the lot across from the Car Wash. The evening concluded with hot chocolate, cider, cookies and Christmas Fellowship at the Callao Firehouse, which was also attended by Wayne Evelhoch, the grandson of B. F. Lewis (Callao inventor of the crab pot). A Very "Nauti" Christmas was another successful hometown holiday celebration in Callao! A special "thank you" goes out to all who helped.



CHCA UPDATE

The **Callao Hometown Community Association, Inc.** has been working very hard in 2019 to promote the history of Callao and surrounding areas, as well as, encouraging support and patronage of the businesses in the business district of Callao. CHCA is researching and applying for various grants to help with the marketing and strategic planning of Callao. We have a proposed site for our “LOVE” sign and are prepared to seek the tourism grant to fund it once a design has been determined. We will be working on a design in the upcoming new year. The group also continues to pursue funding to attain land so we will eventually have a park. This has proven to be a difficult task, but one in which CHCA will continue to

diligently pursue.

In the fall of 2019, CHCA held its first annual “Callao Crab Crawl and Fun Run” as a 10k fundraiser. We were pleased with the event for our first attempt and appreciate all of the businesses and individuals who sponsored the event. We hope to grow the 10k fundraiser to make it even bigger and better in the future.

Other CHCA fundraising activities in 2019 included crabpot ornament sales and the donations received from business and individuals to help with Christmas in Callao. We appreciate all of the businesses and individuals who supported these activities and also those who contributed to the Christmas in Callao event. Proceeds helped

with funding decorations and supplies to support the holiday hometown event to make it special.

CHCA held its annual meeting in October 2019. The meeting was well attended. Our president, Lisa Dietz reflected on CHCA accomplishments during the year and gathered input from the public on what they would like to achieve in 2020.

In reflecting over the past year, it is important to note CHCA continues to work closely with the revitalization management team. Businesses are beginning the façade improvement process and hopefully 2020 will usher in the lighting, signage, and sidewalks installation. For more information about CHCA, contact our president, Lisa Deitz at (804) 529-6265. You can also like CHCA on Facebook.

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