



Tales from the Tavern

For Friends of the King and Queen Courthouse Tavern Museum
and Members of the King and Queen County Historical Society

2022 Volume 1



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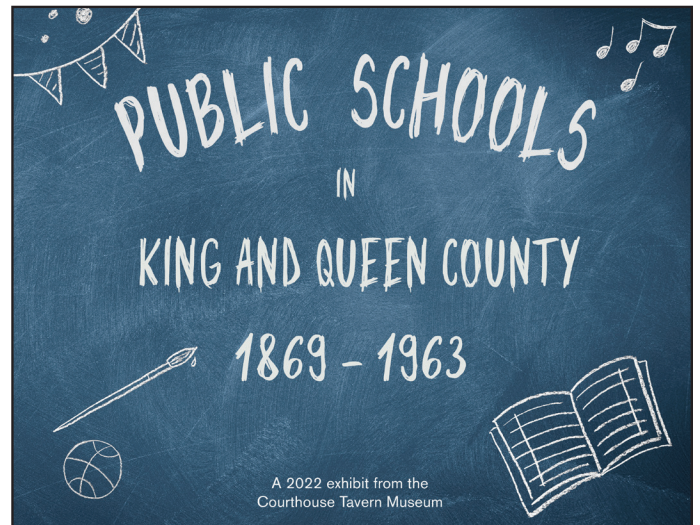
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The Museum Is Open! The Courthouse Tavern Museum is excited to be opened after being closed for two years due to Covid-19! Our hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. every Friday, and on Saturdays thru September 3. The remainder of the year we will be open only on Fridays. We will also open by appointment with 5 days notice.

Historical Society Meetings Are Now In-Person!

On April 24 the King & Queen County Historical Society met in person after two years. The program "Public Schools in King and Queen County - 1869-1963" told the story of the 74 schools throughout the county during that time with an introduction by former educator and Museum Council Chair Linda Barnes and a video with commentary by those who attended the early schools. Afterwards the attendees were invited to the Tavern to visit the new exhibit by the same name. On display are drawings, photographs and artifacts; student and teacher remembrances; descriptions and images of the seven Rosenwald schools in the county, and teacher duties. The video may be viewed at the Tavern.



New Exhibits

The Museum opened with 3 new exhibits. In addition to the signature early public school exhibit already noted, the Museum has created the Newington Exhibit courtesy of Mr. Frank Hurst the owner of Newington. This historic place, the birthplace of Carter Braxton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, is on the Virginia Landmarks Register

Next Historical Society Meeting - Sunday, July 24, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Chief Anne Richardson of the Rappahannock Tribe will address the Society on "The History of the Rappahannock Tribe in King and Queen County." The presentation will be held at the Rappahannock Tribe Cultural Center, 5036 Indian Neck Road, Indian Neck, VA 23148. Today the Tribe owns a fraction of their ancestral homelands, and the Cultural Center serves as its meeting place. On March 25, 1983 the Tribe was officially recognized as an historical tribe of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Chief Richardson was sworn in as Chief in 1998.

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and the National Register of Historic Places. Artifacts displayed include the remnants of over 55 wine bottles with the Braxton bottle seal, a rare William Roger's Bowl, and an unusual stone dating from the Braxton era. A sketch of Carter Braxton, a drawing of the original Newington residence, and an image of the stone storage building reconstructed by Mr. Hurst are also included. The third exhibit, Bedtime Stories, focuses on a mother's long ago end-of-day routine with her baby: the child was given a bottle and put to bed in fresh cloth diapers under a hand embroidered baby blanket, listening to its mother's voice reading a story and saying a prayer.

Historical Society Awards Scholarships

by Biddy Walker

The King & Queen County Historical Society annually offers a \$2000 scholarship to each of two new graduates of King & Queen Central High School for the first year in a college, university, or technical school. The Historical Society is proud to announce the 2022 recipients: Mr. Aidan Imsande and Ms. Keyera Harvey. Mr. Imsande will attend Rappahannock Community College and pursue studies toward a degree in engineering. Ms. Harvey will attend Norfolk State University and pursue a degree in exercise science in preparation for a career in athletic training and physical therapy.



Mr. Aidan Imsande



Ms. Keyera Harvey

Museum Hosts Central High Students

by Linda Barnes

What goes on behind the scenes to keep a museum operating? This was the question posed to Victor Camara and Joe Smith at the beginning of their four-week project with the Courthouse Tavern Museum. In early April, the Museum Council had approved a request from Dr. Rob Wright of King and Queen County Public Schools to provide a work-study experience for the two Central High School seniors.

Working under the direction of Council members, the

young men learned about the artifacts and archives held by the Museum, how they are accessioned, as well as the more mundane, but necessary work, such as sweeping exhibit areas and pulling weeds in the flower bed. They assisted with locating artifacts and matching them to accession numbers which is a very important part of Museum operations.

The young men knew very little of the upper end of the county, so on the last day of the experience, they were given a guided tour of that part of the county. They were taken along less traveled roads to the King and Queen-Caroline Counties' line. They were amazed at the distance from King's Store near the Caroline County line to the Museum at King and Queen Courthouse.



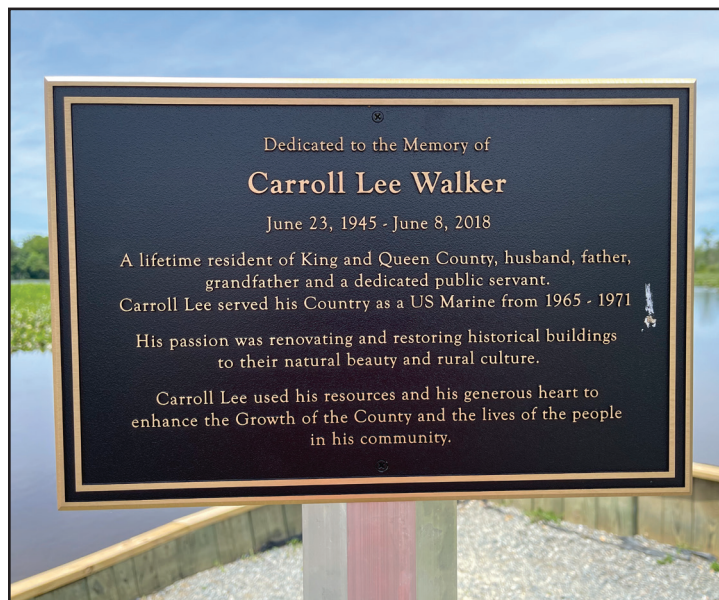
Victor Camara and Joe Smith

The Museum Council was happy to work with Central High School to provide this opportunity for these students.

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Historical Society Honors Patron Carroll Lee Walker

Historical Society Board member Ellen White worked with the Walker family to create a plaque to honor the accomplishments of Carroll Lee Walker in renovating and restoring historical buildings in the county and promoting community within the county. It was placed at the boat ramp he built as a space for the public to freely access the Mattaponi River at Walkerton on the location of the old Taylor & Cauldwell canning factory.



Plaque located in Walkerton on the boat ramp on Mattaponi River

It reads:

Dedicated to the Memory of Carroll Lee Walker, June 23, 1945-June 8, 2018. A lifetime resident of King and Queen County, husband, father, grandfather and dedicated public servant, Carroll Lee served his Country as a US Marine from 1965-1971. His passion was renovating and restoring historical buildings to their natural beauty and rural culture. Carroll Lee used his resources and his generous heart to enhance the Growth of the County and the lives of the people in his community.



Unique swing span 1936 Walkerton Bridge preserved when current bridge was built

He was a dedicated patron of the King & Queen County Historical Society and is greatly missed.

Groups Visit

The Museum Council welcomes group visits. There has been a lot of interest in the Museum over the past months, especially in the new Public School Exhibit. Members of the Colonial Dames, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the King & Queen County Women's Club have visited.

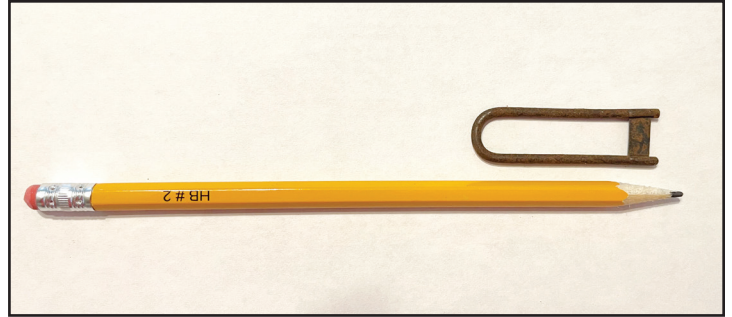


Women's Club Visits.

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Then and Now - Pencil Sharpeners

Wooden lead pencils were first sharpened with knives. Pencil sharpeners were invented in the mid-19th century to create sharp points. Many varieties of hand cranked and small manual sharpeners have been patented over the years. Electric versions are now available. Today most people type on phones and computers and use mechanical pencils rather than the wooden leaded pencils of yesteryear. However, there are still wooden pencils and cosmetic pencils are still used and need sharpening. Today, you can purchase a book on *How To Sharpen Pencils* by David Rees and even visit The Paul A. Johnson Pencil Sharpener Museum in Ohio. The Historical Society has recently received an unusual pencil sharpener that appears to cut much like a knife, as seen in the attached photograph. If you have any information, we would certainly appreciate receiving it.



Pencil sharpener recently received.

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