

# Add cookie recipe to holiday tradition

Downtown Edenton's homes and shops are sprinkled with twinkling lights, greenery and merriment as the town prepares for its annual Candlelight Tour. Christmas carols fill the air and just the right touch of chill adds the perfect setting.



**CHERYL ORR**

Several guests have commented that visiting our town and staying at the Inn is just like living in a Hallmark Christmas movie. We all know it's

a little more work than those whimsical Christmas tales depict, and thanks to all the tireless volunteers and workers in our town the beauty of this magical season comes together each year.

Many of the Candlelight Tour events involve Christmas sweets and of course the Christmas cookie. Christmas cookies have been shared as gifts since medieval Europe when the spice trade brought new and exotic dried fruits and spices from around the world and families made pastries and cookies showcasing these treats as gifts for neighbors and loved ones for special holidays.

Gingerbread was a favorite and the first known gingerbread men date back to Queen Elizabeth I. Cut-out cookies became popular in England from a tradition in the Church of England called

**EDENTON EPICUREAN**

### Cranberry White Chocolate Chunk Cookies

Makes 48

**INGREDIENTS**

- 4 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cups unsalted butter, softened to room temperature
- 1 ½ cups packed light brown sugar
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 large eggs, at room temperature
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 12 ounces white chocolate, coarsely chopped, plus more for drizzling
- 1 ½ cup dried cranberries
- 1 ½ cups chopped pecans


**PREPARATION**

Whisk the flour, baking soda, cornstarch, cinnamon and salt together in a medium bowl. Set aside.

In a large bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, beat the butter and both sugars together on medium speed until smooth and creamy. Add the egg and vanilla and beat until combined, scraping sides and bottom of bowl.

Add the dry ingredients and mix on low until combined. Add the chocolate, dried cranberries and pecans until combined. Cover and chill the dough 1-2 hours in the refrigerator and allow to sit at room temperature for at least 30 minutes before baking.

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line baking sheets with parchment paper.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Cranberry White Chocolate Chunk Cookies**

Roll dough into balls and place 3 inches apart on baking sheets. Bake for 12 minutes or until lightly browned on the sides. The centers will look very soft.

Allow cookies to cool on the baking sheet for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely. While the cookies are still warm press in more chocolate chunks, dried cranberries and pecans.

Melt 6 ounces of white chocolate in a double boiler or in a microwave-safe bowl on low. Drizzle cooled cookies with melted white chocolate.

Note: Cookies stay fresh covered at room temperature for up to one week. You can make the cookie dough and chill it in the refrigerator for up to four days. Allow to come to room temperature then continue with step 4. Baked cookies freeze well for up to three months. Unbaked cookie dough balls freeze well for up to three months. Bake frozen cookie dough balls for an extra minute, no need to thaw.

"mumming" where Christmas stories were performed using cookies and food. Colonial Dutch also used cut-out cookies as window decorations, and Germans used cut-out cookies to decorate their trees.

Today Christmas cookies are common treats in Europe and the United States, whether rolled and cut out, shaped into balls, sliced from logs of dough, dropped by spoonfuls,

stamped or pressed. Sugar cookie cut-outs decoratively iced or sprinkled with colorful sugar are a holiday staple. Decorating a gingerbread house is always a fun treat for children of all ages, and I look forward to my yearly stop at Vidant Chowan Hospital for a house and cookie demonstration to add a little festive diversion from chemo treatments.

As part of the Candlelight

Tour weekend, my Cookie cooking class also highlights the gingerbread house and other Christmas cookie recipes, including the one I have shared this week.

It's always nice to try a new cookie, and I hope you add this easy drop cookie recipe to your holiday baking this year. Enjoy!

*Cheryl Orr is the owner of the Cotton Gin Inn.*

# Pets of the Week



Otis is a low-rider who is housetrained. He is good with other dogs and kids.



Sage is a quiet boy, who likes bring held.

The Tri-County Animal Shelter and Adoption Center is on Icaria Road in Tyner and can be reached by calling 252-221-9514.

*Let The Season Begin...*

**Christmas trees have arrived!**

all in store

**Christmas decor**

**30% off**

live greenery excluded

Deck the halls, walls, doors, tables and more with wreaths, garland, table centerpieces and decor for a fresh and festive holiday.



**930 Virginia Road, Edenton**  
**252-482-1100**

# Library extends its hours for tour

Happy Candlelight Christmas Tour Week! This year the Candlelight Tour will be focused around Pembroke Circle so it's going to be on "our side of town."

The Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library will have extended hours to provide support for the event as usual. As the signs out front say: "Clean Restrooms, Friendly Faces."

The most important fact I've learned from the previous six Christmas Tours is to not park on Water Street in front of the library. I have seen at least two fender benders each year from people backing out in front of the Chamber offices. I know this is inconvenient, but save your vehicle!

My mother and I had a successful evening of DVD shopping and the library now has Outlander Season 4 and This Is Us Season 3. I ran up to Elizabeth City on the day that Game of Thrones Season 8 came out - it should be ready to check out this week. We will circulate two copies of GOT Season 8 due to demand.

In a quick library business note: Our Large Print book vendor is sending us books in large clumps and well past their street date. I am not happy about this and I will start advocating to have this fixed. In other library news: every year Library Journal awards a Best Small Library in the Country Award. I will be submitting the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library for this award in 2020. This is the absolute best library in the country and our community deserves this recognition.

**Children's Non-Fiction**  
Who Is Ruth Bader Ginsburg?

**Young Adults**  
Children of Virtue and Vengeance - Tomi Adeyemi

**Fiction**  
Beating Around the Bush - M.C. Beaton; Blitzed - Alexa Martin; The Lost Causes of Bleak Creek - Rhett McLaughlin & Link Neal; The Problem with Mumur Lee - Connie May Fowler; Spy - Danielle Steel; Sword of Kings - Bernard Cornwell;

## CHECK IT OUT!

- Under Occupation - Alan Furst
- Books on CD**  
The Nickel Boys - Colson Whitehead; The Rise of Magicks - Nora Roberts
- Non-Fiction**  
Blowout - Rachel Maddow; The Pioneer Woman Cooks: The New Frontier - Ree Drumond; She Came to Slay: The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman - Erica Armstrong Dunbar; The World Almanac 2020
- Large Print**  
The 19th Christmas - James Patterson  
Bloody Genius - John Sandford  
Child's Play - Danielle Steel  
A Christmas Haven - Cindy Woodsmall  
Death in Focus - Anne

- Perry  
Final Option - Clive Cussler  
The Institute - Stephen King  
The Greater Journey - David McCullough  
The Guardians - John Grisham  
Kiss the Girls and Make Them Cry - Mary Higgins Clark  
Magic Gun - Max Brand  
Met Her Match - Jude Deveraux  
More to Life - ReSonda Tate Billingsley  
A Mrs. Miracle Christmas - Debbie Macomber  
The Nickel Boys - Colson Whitehead  
Right Beside You - Mary Monroe  
Rough Seas - Sherryl Woods  
Smoke Screen - Terri Blackstock  
A Snowy Little Christmas - Fern Michaels, Tara Sheets,

- Kate Clayborn  
Synapse - Steven James  
The Titanic Secret - Clive Cussler  
Wyoming Heart - Diana Palmer  
DVDs  
Outlander - Season 4; This Is Us - Season 3



**THE DAILY ADVANCE**  
**PERQUIMANS WEEKLY** CHOWAN HERALD

will have early deadlines for newspapers publishing near Christmas and New Year's. Please consult with your advertising sales representative or our Customer Care associates at 252-335-0841 and let us help you with a schedule for your holiday advertising.

**Our offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.**



**Pictures with Santa**

*Kids bring your list & Parents bring your cameras!*

**SATURDAYS**  
**10 AM - 12 PM**

**NOVEMBER 30**  
**DEC 7, 14, 21**



**KELLOGG**  
Building Trust for Over 70 Years

**BUILDING MATERIALS • HOME CENTER**

409 West Queen Street • Edenton  
**252-482-2135**  
KELLOGGSUPPLYCO.COM