



# “Along the Gooney”

Browntown Community Center Association

## March, 2025

Vol. 33 No. 03 Editors: Jackie Hodgkiss [Jackie.BCCA@gmail.com](mailto:Jackie.BCCA@gmail.com) & Tom Lacombe [tomlacombe@comcast.net](mailto:tomlacombe@comcast.net)

### **BCCA Board of Directors - 2025**

President	Martha Buracker	540-671-6349
Vice. Pres.	Mary McKinney	540-635-4725
Secretary	Kristin Pence	540-230-1155
Treasurer	Nancy McDermott	703-975-8668
Trustees	Allan Brockway	540 635-7783
	Denny Pennington	540 635-5568
	Wes Deavers	540-631-0016

- Mar. 09<sup>th</sup> Sunday Daylight Saving Time
- Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> Mon. BCCA Public Meeting 7:30p.m.
- Mar. 14 & 15 BCCA yard Sale Fri & Sat 9:00-3:00
- Mar. 20<sup>th</sup> First day of Spring
- Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> Deadline for April newsletter

### **Browntown Baptist Church**

12 Browntown Road  
Bentonville, VA 22610

Pastor: Sherman Kaipha Brown

Worship Service @ 11 a.m. Fellowship @ 12 p.m.

Check out Browntown Baptist Church’s new website:

- Watch/listen to sermons
- Send in a prayer request
- Log on to Bible Study every Wednesday night
- Read about the history of our church
- See calendar of events

Much appreciation to church member Tracy Abbott for his hard work on our website. Stay tuned for more updates. Below is the link.

[browntownbaptistva@gmail.com](mailto:browntownbaptistva@gmail.com)

### **Cool Spring Church of God**

Pastor: Jeff Fletcher

Sunday School at 9:30 and Worship at 10:30.

### **Limeton Community Church**

9 Limeton Main St. Bentonville, VA

Pastor Lorne Fyfe

SS at 10 and service at 11

IZAAK WALTON

Please mark your calendars for an upcoming community service project. On March 9th at 1 pm, we will have the opportunity to join with other community members to pick up trash along Happy Creek. We will meet next to the tractor display in the Rural King parking lot. Vests, pickers and trash bags will be provided. Please wear all terrain gear, wear a good pair of gloves, and bring a water bottle. If you need further information, do not hesitate to contact me at [nrwoodworks@msn.com](mailto:nrwoodworks@msn.com). Come join the Happy Creek Gang—all committed to keeping the Happy Creek ,well, happy. Also, please consider joining us for the Brown Town Road clean-up ahead of the Redbud Festival. This will occur on Sunday afternoon April 13th, again at 1:00 PM.. Bill Lacy, Warren County Izaak Walton League Anti litter coordinator

### **BCCA eMAIL LIST**

If you would like to add your name and email to our BCCA email list, please send your name and email address to Jackie:  
[Jackie.bcca@gmail.com](mailto:Jackie.bcca@gmail.com)

All notices and/or information is sent out as a “Blind copy”, so no one sees your email address. Newsletters are always available on the BCCA web page. I also send a PDF file to all on our BCCA List.

### Obituaries

**Holly Diane Brown**, 73, of Winchester, VA, passed away on February 15, 2025, at Winchester Medical Center. Holly was born in 1951 in Front Royal, VA, the daughter of the late Lennis W. (Booty) Brown Jr. and June Huff Brown. She was a graduate of Warren County High School and went on to earn her bachelor's degree in education from James Madison University. She worked as a teacher at Randolph Macon Academy where she made quite an impact on several of her students. Holly was a former Miss Warren County. She was known for being a sweet person with a really big heart. Holly is survived by her sons, Nathaniel A. Hast and Brandon S. Hast; grandchildren, Hawthorne, Foster and Athena; and her brother, Todd Brown. Along with her parents, Holly is preceded in death by her daughter, Melissa Austin, and her brother, Lenny Brown.

**Robert E. Badger**, 86, of Browntown, passed away peacefully at his home on January 31, 2025. Mr. Badger was born August 28, 1938 in South Bend, Indiana, son of the late Harry T. and Marjorie Lamar Badger. Mr. Badger was a U.S. Air Force veteran and graduated from the Air Force Academy, Class of 1960. He was a 32nd Degree Free Master Mason and a member of Unity Masonic Lodge No. 146 AF &AM in Front Royal. He retired after many dedicated years from the Department of Justice. He married the love of his life, Liliane, on March 6, 1979 and together they had a love like no other. "Din ist my granus hertz – You are the love of my life." Also surviving are three sons, Bruno Olivieri of Quebec, Canada, Robert E. Badger, Jr. of Lexington, Massachusetts and Michele Felice Olivieri of Ponte Vedra, Florida; and four grandchildren. Mr. Badger was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Jerry Badger.

## O.J. Rudacille Gen. Mdse.

Check us out on Facebook for  
Browntown History

Phone 540-636-2149

*Serving Browntown since 1884*



Hours: Mon-Sat 9 to 5  
Sunday Noon to 4

### Deadline for April News: Mar.28th

Make A Note: Patsy Pennington is the person to contact if you need to use the Center. Patsy's number is 540-635-5568

### *Leave Home A few minutes Earlier Please Slow Down, Enjoy the Ride*

Remember, our roads aren't designed for the amount of traffic they carry these days. I'm sure many of you have been going down the road and find an oncoming vehicle **across the center line**.  
**Watch out for Tractors Hauling Hay**

### Beer Cans Make Money for the BCCA

About 20 years ago we started recycling aluminum beer and soda cans at OJ's. The cans can be dropped off at the corn crib and when we have a truck load **Bruce Colton** takes them on to Zuckerman's, and brings back about \$20. We don't take pet food cans as the folks at the recycling center have to refuse any that aren't clean, which creates more work for our volunteer. Before Bruce took over, **George Updike**, 1931 – 2019, hauled the cans to town for us.

## GOONEY VALLEY HISTORY CLUB THERE IS STILL TIME TO GET YOUR 2025 HISTORIC BROWNTOWN CALENDAR

GET YOURS AT TOM'S STORE or GLEN MANOR VINEYARDS BEFORE WE SELL  
OUT.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE TO READ MORE STORIES ABOUT  
THE HISTORY OF OUR VALLEY AND ITS PEOPLE:

<https://gooneyvalleyhistoryclub.com>



### COON HUNTING- Circa 1919

These men and boys, with their hunting dogs and guns, are about to set out on a "Coon Hunt". This photo was taken next to the Gooney Lodge footbridge. In 1919 the Lodge had its own kennels and was a center for local hunters. Coon (short for "Raccoon") hunting was popular in our area during the early 20th century. Raccoons were hunted for both their meat and fur, almost always with specially bred dogs called Coon Hounds. Raccoons will often travel miles across the ridges and hollows in search of food. Coon hunters took advantage of these habits by releasing their dogs in these areas and allowing them to range about while they followed them. Once the dogs detected a raccoon's scent they would bark or bawl, making "hound music" until they tracked it to the tree in which it had found refuge. It was then said to be "treed". A good hound would sit or stand at the base of the tree and bark until the hunter(s) arrived. The hunters would then search the tree with their lights, often relying on their ability to detect the yellow reflection of the raccoon's eyes. If the raccoon season was open, the hunter would typically dispatch the raccoon by shooting it. When it fell from the tree, the dogs would immediately attack the raccoon and shake it vigorously unless they are restrained by a leash. The dogs would be petted and congratulated by their owners and then led well away from the tree to begin the hunt for another raccoon. Typically, the dogs could not simply be "called" off a tree but instead had to be led away.



**BROWNTOWN  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
SPRING YARD SALE**

**March 14 & 15**

**9 am - 3 pm**

96 Browntown Rd

Browntown, VA

Toys

Antiques

Clothes

Furniture

Books

Jewelry

Sports Gear

Collectibles

*Two Rooms Full! Kitchen Open!*

**SEE YOU THERE!**

# Browntown Redbud Festival

Celebrate the beauty of spring!! Enjoy a day filled with fun, entertainment, and community spirit.

**Date:** April 26

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Browntown Community Center &  
Browntown Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

## **Event Highlights:**

Crafters & Artisans

Face Painting

Live Music -- **Ryan Jewel** (Bring a chair!)

Silent Auction (Ends at 2:30 PM)

Duck Race (1:00 PM - Tickets available onsite)

Antique Car Show (At the church)

Great Food & Refreshments

C&C Frozen Treats Truck

Redbud Seedlings for Sale

An easy stroll between venues, with the Browntown  
Museum in between!

**Free Admission & Parking**

Come out and enjoy a wonderful day with  
family and friends!

For more information, visit our website:

<https://browntowncommunity.com>

or contact us: [browntownbowls@gmail.com](mailto:browntownbowls@gmail.com)



## MARCH, 2025 UPDATE - THE BEARR GROUP "KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE"

THE BEARR GROUP IS NOW ONLINE at [BEARRGroup.com](http://BEARRGroup.com)

Facebook: BEARR Group Instagram: @bearr\_group Twitter: @bearr\_group

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### 911 REFLECTIVE SIGNS -- HAVE YOU GOT YOURS YET?

**3512** *These signs are invaluable to first-responders trying to find your house in an emergency.*

**Cost: \$25 (payable on delivery)**

Order yours at [BEARRGroup.com](http://BEARRGroup.com) or email Chris Lewis at [chris@BEARRGroup.com](mailto:chris@BEARRGroup.com) or call 540-538-9928.

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### LATEST UPDATE ON THE PROVISION OF BROADBAND AND EMERGENCY SERVICES IN SOUTH WARREN

A public forum hosted by Supervisor Cheryl Cullers and Dr. Kristen Pence, Chair of the Warren County School Board, drew a large crowd on Sunday, February 23, as residents raised concerns about property reassessments, emergency services, broadband expansion, and school funding. County officials, law enforcement, and representatives from All Points Broadband were present to provide updates and to answer questions.

**Fortunately, a video is available** on the Royal Examiner website that provides you with an excellent opportunity to see and hear what went on.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU VIEW AT LEAST THE FIRST AND LAST PART OF THIS VIDEO RE BROADBAND AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TO HEAR ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION AND THE FUTURE PLANS FOR OUR AREA.

Click on the following link to go to the Royal Examiner report. You will need to scroll down the page to find the actual video: [public\\_forum-royalexaminer](http://public_forum-royalexaminer)

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### **“Old Rudacille Place”**

Mary McKinney passed along this photo a couple weeks ago. This house was on the south side of the intersection of William Vincent, the old Robinson Rd., and Bentonville Rd., near Fred Hurt’s brick springhouse, which still stands. If I am not mistaken the house on the far side of the road, off in the distance, was the Mathews house, where Jerry Mathews once lived. Today Travis Boothe’s house would be on that piece of land.