"Along the Gooney"

Browntown Community Center Association

February, 2025

Vol. 33 No. 02 Editors: Jackie Hodgkiss Jackie.BCCA@gmail.com & Tom Lacombe tomlacombe@comcast.net

BCCA Board of Directors - 2025

President	Martha Buracker	540-671-6349
Vice. Pres.	Mary McKinney	540-635-4725
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	Denny Pennington	540 635-5568
	Wes Deavers	540-631-0016

Feb. 2nd Sun. Ground Hog Day
Feb. 8th Sat. Chili Cook Off BBC Fellowship Hall
Feb. 14th Friday St.Valentine's Day
Feb. 10th Mon. BCCA Public Meeting 7:30p.m.
Feb. 17th President's Day
Feb. 27th Deadline for March 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

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

2024 Snow Flakes Memories of Loved ones.

I apologize to the Mathews family for omitting the family loved ones names printed in Jan. newsletter.
Jackie Hodgkiss

Name		Sponsor
Jerry	Mathews	Daris & Ricky Mathews
Kenneth	Mathews	Daris & Ricky Mathews
Mildred	Mathews	Daris & Ricky Mathews
Jerry	Mathews	Louise Mathews
Kenneth	Mathews	Louise Mathews
Mildred	Mathews	Louise Mathews

Can't believe it is 2025 . . . . and it's already February. BCCA is always looking for volunteers for many of our future events. Many of our volunteers have reached that age where they can no longer volunteer. Browntown is a very special place and the Community Center needs your help. Please call Martha Buracker to add your name to the volunteer list.

BROWNTOWN's "*Along the Gooney*"

The Browntown newsletter is published each month and we are looking for a volunteer to compile the 8 page newsletter and save it as a PDF file so we can publish it to the BCCA list and arrange National Media to mail out 25 to 30 paper copies.
The one qualification is that you must be proficient in Microsoft Word. Articles and events are sent to you by email.
Please call Jackie or Tom if you are interested.
Jackie 540 636-3588
I am willing to sit with you to teach the process. Tom usually does pages 2, 3 and 8. I handle pages 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Obituaries

James Karl Kohn, "Jimmy", 66, of Bentonville, passed away on Jan. 16, after a courageous battle with cancer. Jimmy was born in Valley City, ND. A master plumber, he oversaw many plumbing installations for commercial and residential buildings in Northern Virginia. He was happiest spending time with loved ones, tending to his vegetable garden, and tinkering with machines in his barn. No machine was more precious to him than his 1952 Allis-Chalmers tractor. Jimmy loved gardening, doing home projects and enjoying life with Betsy. His love for his children and grandchildren was paramount in his life. He beamed with pride and always smiled when talking about them. He was preceded in death by his stepfather, Frederick Zaun; his father, Gerhard Kohn; brother, Tommy Kohn; sisters, Nora Dabbundo and Jan Williams; mother, Angie Zaun; and sister, Barbara Gann. He is survived by his long-time companion, Betsy Lordan; his son, Erick (Maria) of Stephens City; daughter, Sarah (John) of Front Royal; his sisters, Lisa Burr (Eric) of Amelia Court House, and Sue Erdmann (Jerry) of McIntosh, MN; his brothers, Chuck Zaun of Front Royal and Les Zaun (Kathy) of Valley City, ND; three grandchildren, Jordyn Arfield, Jake Kohn, and Oliver Kohn; and many nieces and nephews.

Austin Otis Fristoe, 91, of Front Royal, passed on Nov. 27. Austin was born Oct. 28, 1933 in Front Royal, son of the late Emory and Bessie Fristoe. Austin served in the US Army in Ft. Hiachuca, Arizona for two years. He worked at Avtex Fibers, for Virginia State, and owned and operated Fristoe's Water Service for over 30 years. He was a farmer by heart and farmed as his love and passion. Surviving Austin is his wife, Ruby Fristoe; his children Brenda Beahm and David Fristoe; his grandchildren Michael Fristoe, Krista Beahm, Tyler Fristoe, and Lindsay Fristoe; and his great-grandchildren; Kayle, Marleigh, Parker, Alex, and Kyle. Memorial gifts can be made to Hartland Hospice Care at 400 Holiday Court Suite 100 Warrenton, VA 20186 or to South Warren Volunteer Fire Department at 3330 Stonewall Jackson Hwy, Bentonville, VA 22610.

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 Mar. News: Feb. 27th

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

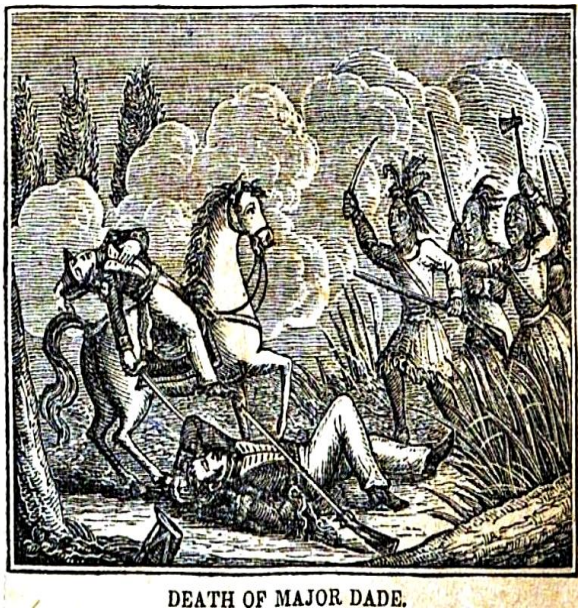
Beer Cans Make Money for the BCCA

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.

Where the Heck is Dade's Gap?

For years, I've been trying to figure out why Jed Hotchkiss, when doing maps for Stonewall Jackson referred to Jenkin's Gap, as Dade's Gap. At the time Dade's Gap trail was a very direct route to Flint Hill. There seemed to have never been a Dade who lived on either side of the mountain, and none of our local papers ever mentioned the name Dade. Then, I started searching the "Rappahannock News"; I found an article, in the April 7, 2005 issue,"Walks in the Shenandoah", by Maureen Harris. She solved the puzzle:

Jenkin's Gap was once known as Dade's Mountain, as it was owned by the Dade family who were wealthy Virginia landowners, Francis Dade having immigrated from England in 1650.The Dade family served as politicians, lawyers, judges, soldiers and plantation owners. There is much more to be learned about the Dade's and their connection to Browntown. One map I've seen lists the old road as Dade's Factory Road. Your Gooney Valley History and Preservation Club will be working on this mystery.



DEATH OF MAJOR DADE.

The image above shows Francis Langhorne Dade a Virginian being killed by a Seminole Chief, during the Second Seminole War in 1835. The battle was known as Dade's Massacre.

Subject: Join Us for Browntown's Battle of the Bowls – A Chili Cook-off!

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Do you think you have the best chili around? Ready to test out your recipe? You are in the right place! We invite you to join us for **Browntown's Battle of the Bowls**, a free community event where you can showcase your chili-making skills or simply enjoy great food, music, and community fellowship. (Please share this with friends and neighbors we might have missed!)

Event Details:

- **Date:** Saturday, February 8, 2025
- **Time:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
- **Location:** Browntown Baptist Fellowship Hall (Please note change in location from the BCCA)

How to Participate:

- **Chili Cooks:** Prepare a pot of your best chili at home and bring it ready to serve in a crockpot. Participants will compete in one of the following categories:
    - Traditional Chili
    - Spicy Chili
    - Vegetarian Chili
- Bring an extension cord if possible and a serving spoon.
- Stay with your chili to serve voters.
- Fixin's (cheese, sour cream, etc.) are welcome, but cornbread will be provided separately.

Not Competing? No Problem!

- Come as a guest and enjoy tasting a variety of chilis.
- Vote for your favorite chili to help crown the winner.
- Bring a musical instrument to play and add to the fun!
- Donations of cornbread or desserts are greatly appreciated.

Sign Up Today! To register as a chili participant, please fill out the form here: https://forms.gle/zr7AWpMUfY2rtVcX6 You can also find the information on Facebook-Browntown Bentonville Buzz.

We can't wait to see you there! Let's make the **Browntown Battle of the Bowls** a day to remember! We are sure we've not reached everyone so please forward this email to anyone you think would like to come!!

Best,
Emma, Stacie, Michelle, and Marianne
browntownbowls@gmail.com

Happy February Everyone!
I for one hope we have an early spring. The older I get the less I like the cold weather, and I can't believe I've turned into such a hermit. LOL. But before we know it, the warm weather will be upon us and the gardens will get planted, and the grass will get mowed and we'll be grumbling about the heat. Every season in the mountains is beautiful, especially in the Browntown area. How lucky we are to live here.
Here's what's happening at the Community Center: On Jan 26 we had a Paint Party with 12 painters and our instructor the fabulous Kelly Walker, who owns "The Studio" on Main St. I have posted some pictures on our Browntown Facebook Page and there should be some in our newsletter wherever Jackie can fit them in. We had a great time, the paintings all turned out well and we are looking forward to the next time!
Our next event is the **Chili Cook-Off to be held on Saturday, February 8th**. Please note that we are holding this at the **Browntown Baptist Church Fellowship Hall** and not the Community Center, as there is a private party going on there that day. So all of you who think you make good chili get signed up! This is a no cost event! Just good community fellowship! If you don't cook, come on down and taste! Get all the details in the flyer, on our Facebook page, or on our web page.
Our **Annual Spring Yard Sale will be March 14th and 15th**, so mark your calendars! We appreciate all donations, so when you are doing your decluttering think of us! Call Patsy Pennington at 540-635-5568 if you have donations!
April brings the **Annual Redbud Festival on Saturday, April 26th**! We need lots of volunteers, including people to head up each category! Our next meeting will be Monday, Feb 10 at 6:30 (an hour before our regular monthly BCCA meeting). If you would like to volunteer, please email me at marthaburacker@gmail.com or give me a call at 540-671-6349. We also are looking for items for our Silent Auction, so if you wanted to make a donation, here are some ideas:

1. Put together a themed basket
2. If you have a business, a gift certificate is a great way to advertise and help your community.
3. If you're crafty or artistic, a piece of your work.
4. If you have something nice that you just don't use much anymore (like jewelry or an antique).
5. Anything with Browntown History!

That's it for now! I hope to see you at one of our upcoming Events!
Take care,
Martha Buracker, President Browntown Community Center Association.

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

THE BEARR GROUP IS NOW ONLINE at BEARRGroup.com

Facebook: BEARR Group Instagram: @bearr_group Twitter: @bearr_group

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911 REFLECTIVE SIGNS -- HAVE YOU GOT YOURS YET?

3512.2

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

Cost: $25 (payable on delivery)

Order yoursat BEARRGroup.com or email Chris Lewis at chris@BEARRGroup.com or call 540-313-6185.

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4 P.M. BURNING LAW IN EFFECT
FEBRUARY 15 to APRIL 30 MAXIMUM FINE $500.00

RECOMMENDED: PHONE BEFORE YOU BURN!

Call Warren County Communications Center at **540-635-4128**
to let them know you are planning to start burning brush.

1. No burning until AFTER 4.00 pm within 300 ft of woodland or brushland leading into woodlands
2. Fire must be attended at all times within 150 ft of woodland or brushland leading into woodlands
3. No fuel may be added or fire re-kindled after midnight
4. Law applies to: camp fires, warming fires, brush piles, household trash, stumps, fields of broomstraw and brush or anything capable of spreading fire

Violations of this Virginia law carry the possibility of penalties and, if the fire damages property, could result in liability for the cost of suppressing the fire and damage done.

REDUCING WILDFIRE RISK

The recent LA wildfires are a reminder of how quickly things can change. Recent wind damage to trees in our area, plus the likelyhood that spring will bring more drying winds,

point to the need for all of us to make our

homes as fireproof as possible.

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WARREN COUNTY LOSES RELIC OF PIONEER DAYS

(Warren Sentinel, Sept., 1933)

Eugene Updike, of Browntown, recently sold a Conestoga covered wagon, estimated to be more than 100 years old for $100. The wagon was exhibited at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. (photo below)

HISTORICAL NOTE: Most likely this wagon was previously owned by Eugene's father, Amon Updike, a Browntown farmer well known for his eccentricities. In 1884 it was reported that Amon: "Passed through here for the picnic at Bentonville on Saturday evening, with his famous Rocky Mountain Sheep for exhibition, which is a savage-looking animal, and becomes, his owner says; more unmanageable as he grows older."

If you have any old newspapers, photos, movies, or other local family or historical artifacts please let Tom Lacombe know or simply bring them along to his shop

Source of photo: Century of Progress Records, 1927-1952, University of Illinois at Chicago Library