



“Along the Gooney”

Browntown Community Center Association

March, 2024

Vol. 32 No. 03 Editors: Jackie Hodgkiss Jackie.BCCA@gmail.com & Tom Lacombe tomlacombe@comcast.net

BCCA Board of Directors - 2024

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	Wes Deavers	540-631-0016

Browntown Calendar

- Mar. 5th Virginia Primary Election
- Mar, 8th & 9th BCCA Yard Sale Friday and Saturday
- Mar. 11th 7:30 pm BCCA Public Business Meeting
- Mar. 27th Wed, deadline for April newsletter

Browntown Baptist Church

browntownbaptistva@gmail.com

Pastor: Sherman Kaipha Brown

Worship Service @ 11 a.m. Fellowship @ 12 p.m.
 Baptist Church provides food at the Fellowship Hall.
 Every Wednesday is “Free Food” for Browntown residents who need help with feeding their families.
 Hours are: 12:30 to 2:30 (for pick up).

Cool Spring Church of God

Pastor: Jeff Fletcher

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

Asbury United Methodist Church

Pastor: Taeshin Kim

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
 "Limeton church is no longer within the Warren Charge".

C-CAP Needs YOU!

Just one shift – 3 Hours a month
 Please contact Joanne Koszyk 540-551-3815
 Or email ourccap@gmail.com

Thanks so much for your help.

Joanne



BCCA Browntown Spring Yard Sale – March 8 & 9 Friday and Saturday 9:00 to 2:00

We need donations! And if you want to rent a table for yourself, contact Patsy Pennington at 540-635-5568. Space for personal tables is very limited inside, but outside we have lots of space, just dress warmly. We will take clothes, furniture, tools, dishes, linens and even Christmas decorations that you don't use or need anymore.

Izaak Walton League

The Warren County Izaak Walton League is conducting a litter pickup on Browntown Road ahead of the Redbud Festival, Sunday April 14th at 1:00pm. We meet in the parking lot of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at the Highway 340 end of the road. We have orange bags, reflective vests, and pickup tools. We put out two VDOT "Litter Pickup Crew Working" signs to alert drivers to our presence. Children are welcome if accompanied by a parent. You do not need to be a member of the IWL to participate. Please help out to put our best foot forward for the festival. We will also be meeting at the Rural King Parking lot (far end by the tractors) at 1:00 pm Sunday March 17th to clean up on Happy Creek. Please help us keep trash out of our streams and rivers. Work as long as you can, but most events last 3 to 4 hours.

Next time you see Dennis Mosher, give him a big thank you for ten years+ service in this position.

Bill Lacy , IWL Anti-litter Coordinator
 (540) 2304511 nrwoodworks@msn.com

Obituaries

Kyle Wade Shelton, 34 of Browntown, passed away February 19. Kyle was born on December 18, 1989, in Front Royal, VA, the son of Amelia Poe Proffitt and Zack Richard Shelton, Sr., and Zack's wife, Lua Shelton. Kyle attended Warren County High School. He was a car enthusiast and loved to work on cars any chance he got. He adored his nephews and loved to play football or baseball with them. He was a loving son, brother, uncle, and grandson. Kyle was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. He grew up attending Browntown Baptist Church where he was a member of the youth group, participated in numerous Christmas plays, and attended Bible school each summer. He would do anything to protect his loved ones and friends. The loss of Kyle's life leaves a void in the hearts of all who knew him. Surviving are his parents, Amelia "Amy" Poe Proffitt of Browntown, and Zack Richard Shelton, Sr. and his wife, Lua Shelton of Yadkinville, NC; two brothers, Zack Shelton and his wife, Caitlyn of Bentonville, VA, and Blaine Shelton of Browntown. One sister, Kendra Corey, and her wife, Georgia of Herndon, VA, and three nephews whom he adored, Rylan Shelton, Reed Shelton, and Walker Corey. He is also survived by his loving grandmother, Berniece Poe of Front Royal. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Kenneth A. Poe, and a close friend, Brendon Sullins. Memorial contributions may be made to Browntown Baptist Church Memorial Fund, c/o Michelle Alles, 12 Browntown Road, Browntown, VA 22610.

Hugh Joseph "Joe" Henry Jr., 88, of Browntown, passed away on February 20. at Shenandoah Senior Living. A celebration of life will take place at a later date. Mr. Henry was born on May 18, 1935, in Atlanta, Georgia to the late Hugh Henry, Sr. and Bertha Leu Harper. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Pauline Devlin Henry. He was the former owner of H.J. Plastering and Stucco. After retirement, he moved to Browntown and fell in love with the area. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. Survivors include his daughter, Barbara S. Henry; a friend who was like a son, Joe Marcus; a close friend, Barbara Marcus and numerous in-laws, nieces, and nephews. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Humane Society of Warren County, 1245 Progress Drive, Front Royal, Virginia 22630.

O.J. Rudacille Gen. Mdse.

Phone 636-2149

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OJ's New Hours

O.J.'s will be open 9 till 5 Mon-Sat and Noon till 4 on Sundays. Look for the **Open** flag out front, and a sign on door in case we have to close up for unforeseen reasons. **Thanks again, Tom**

Deadline for April

News: March 27th

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

**Don't forget -- area schools
Are now in session**

These stories appeared in the Warren Sentinel giving us an idea of what a bustling place Browntown was in the 1880's. The Baublitz Store existed until about 1900, then purchased by Rene Cooper. He ran the store until O.J. and Annice bought it in 1930. The Rudacilles rented the store for a few years to K.D. Updike, then took over in 1934. The other stores closed, as the Browntown Boom ended, after both the tannery and the stave factory closed up shop.

Browntown, January 17, 1884

Mr. Boblitz, of Carroll County, Md., has purchased of Messrs. George and Amon Updike, of this place, a lot upon which he expects to build a large and commodious store-room, the building is to be 40 X 50 ft. Mr. Boblitz expects to carry a \$5,000 stock of goods, and is a man with business views and will likely succeed. Mr. Jacob Masemer is the contractor, and will have it complete by the 15th of May. Mr. Masemer is also getting out a bill of lumber for his new hotel, which he expects to complete immediately after. A want long felt in our town.

Browntown, April 18, 1884

Browntown is a prosperous, busy village, with a population of more than 200, 8 miles south of Front royal; in the fertile and beautiful mountain locked valley, known as Gooney Manor, whose stores kept by Messrs. Fayette Updike, T. and B. Updike, and John H. Baublitz, each doing a large business. During the last year seven comfortable dwelling houses have been erected, and the large Factory and Steam Planning Mill of Jacob Masemer, whose owner and operator is as busy always as the engine which propels the machinery. The Mt. Vernon Steam Tannery of Cover Bros., now as extensive as any in Virginia, is this summer to have an extension of some 45 feet made to it for additional vats, to accommodate its large and growing business. This Tanner, under its energetic and successful management, has been of incalculable benefit to the Manor, and indeed to our whole county. The Woolen Factory of Marcellus Rudasill turns out goods that in quality and beauty are unsurpassed. The fine water power of Gooney Run affords rare opportunities for the profitable investment of capital in mills and factories, which at no distant day, will be appreciated, when Browntown will become, as it should, one of the principal manufacturing centres of the Valley of Virginia.

Mr. John H. Baublitz, of Carroll County, Md.; attracted by the present and future business importance of Browntown, purchased last winter of Messrs. George W. and Amon Updike, a half acre lot therein, upon which Jacob Masemer has built for him a comfortable and commodious dwelling and storehouse, wherein he will live with his family, and hopes to do a large mercantile business.



Browntown Red Bud Festival
April 20th 2024
Crafts and Vendor Application
Crafters 6 Foot table inside or
Vendors 10 Foot space outside \$20

The Browntown Red Bud Festival will be held Saturday, April 20th on the grounds of the Browntown Community Center and The Browntown Baptist Church Fellowship Hall from 9 A.M. until 3 P.M. We are seeking quality arts & crafts, or other vendors to participate in the festival. If you are interested, please complete this application and mail it, with the appropriate fee* to:

Browntown Community Center
 c/o Marianne Thomas
 4551 Bentonville Road
 Bentonville, VA 22610

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

BCCA _____ # Spaces Outside
 BCCA _____ # Spaces Inside

- or -

Browntown Baptist Church
 c/o Jayne Guilford
 12 Browntown Road
 Browntown, VA 22610

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

Baptist Fellowship Hall _____ # Spaces Inside

***Payment is due by April 10th (No shows or cancellations will forfeit their application fees)**

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____

Craft/Vendor description _____

Please call to confirm availability of space(s) before submitting this application:

Marianne Thomas (BCCA) 571.228.1620 - or - Jayne Guilford (Church Fellowship Hall) 540.636.4231
 Email: tsomdt@yahoo.com Email: jayne98@centurylink.net

Rules:

1. Please make checks payable to BCCA for space at the Community Center or Browntown Baptist Church for space at the Fellowship Hall.
2. Crafter & Vendor Space is \$20, and is non-refundable.
3. Indoor 6' tables are limited at the Community Center; however, additional tables are available at the Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
4. Outdoor craft/vendor space, (Community Center only), is 10' x 10'
5. No Yard Sale Items, this is for Crafts, and Vendors. Vendors other than crafters must be approved by the Red Bud Committee. (We want a nice variety of Vendors, but no conflicts with BCCA sales including bake sale items.)
6. For outside spaces, you will be responsible for providing your own table(s), chairs and/or tent. Tent is optional and is not required, but will protect you from the weather and attract more people to your space.
7. The Red Bud Festival begins at 9 A.M. and ends at 3 P.M. You must be set up and ready to go by 9 A.M. and we ask that you don't break down your booth until closing. Vendor vehicles must be removed from community center grounds. Once you have unloaded, please park in the back field to allow closer parking for buyers. Once the festival is over you may bring your car back to the front lot for easier loading.
8. We ask that you help to advertise the Red Bud Festival. Once we receive your application, we will e-mail our flyer to you. Please e-mail the flyer to your friends, family and co-workers and invite them to attend; if you have a Facebook page, post it thereon. We create an event on our Browntown Community Center Facebook Page. Please "like" our Facebook Page and share our Event. You may also print the flyer and distribute or post in businesses. We feel this is one of the best ways to advertise because it costs nothing but your time – and a personal invitation is always nice.

I have read and understand the General Information, Rules and Fees for the 2024 Browntown Red Bud Festival.

 Signature

 Date

Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association (NSVMGA)

Stop by and meet your certified Extension Master Gardeners who advise and educate the public on gardening and horticulture. "Ask a Master Gardener" EMG office is located in the Government center and hours are every Monday, 10:00am - 1:00pm, April thru October.

The 2025 classes for NSVMGA will be held in Warren County (STAY TUNED) on how to apply to the program, costs, curriculums, procedures and requirements.

Also we will be at the RedBud Festival, April 20, 2024, where we plan on having a table & tent for this event.



MARCH, 2024 UPDATE - THE BEARR GROUP “KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE”

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4 P.M. BURNING LAW IN EFFECT

FEBRUARY 15 to APRIL 30 MAXIMUM FINE \$500.00

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 woodland
3. No fuel may be added or fire rekindled 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.

RECOMMENDED: PHONE BEFORE YOU BURN!

Call Warren County Communications Center at [540-635-4128](tel:540-635-4128) to let them know you are planning to start burning brush.



CHIMNEY FIRES ARE ON THE RISE IN OUR AREA!

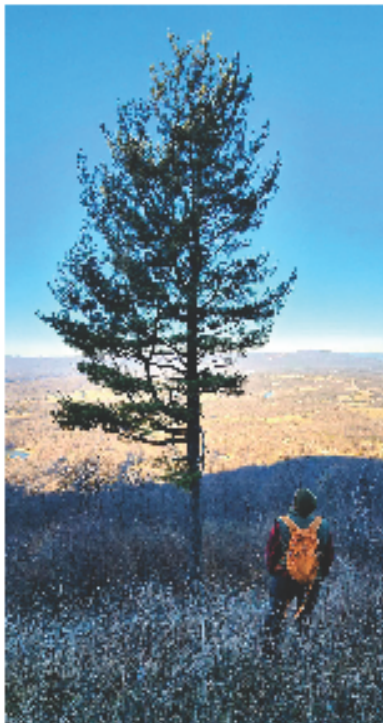
1. **Evacuate the house immediately and call 911**
2. **Do not attempt to extinguish the fire yourself:**
3. **Prevent further fuel supply:** If possible, close the fireplace damper to restrict airflow
4. **Cooperate with firefighters:** Provide them with information about the chimney and any potential hazards.

MORE ON HOW TO PREVENT THEM + WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHIMNEY CATCHES FIRE:

<https://orion180.com/prevent-chimney-fires-this-winter-a-how-to-guide-to-safety-and-preparedness/>

Front Royal's **ACES** team (**A**dvisory **C**ommittee for **E**nvironmental **S**ustainability) is excited to officially announce a save-the-date for our third annual Earth Day celebration happening in downtown Front Royal!

This year, we are branding our event with the Lone Pine — a locally iconic tree that looks out over our town from its perch high up in Shenandoah National Park, alongside mile marker 3.8 of Skyline Drive. Standing just over an estimated 100' tall with a 36" dbh (diameter breast-high), the Lone Pine is an Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), a native evergreen tree species known for its beauty and longevity. Speaking of which, we estimate that the Lone Pine was just a sapling when Skyline Drive was being built back in the 1930s, putting this tree between 90 and 100 years old.



For many, this tree is a waypoint, a waving flag welcoming you back home after a trip away. For others, the pine represents a symbol of strength, a sentinel keeping a watchful eye over the community below.

Rose Turner, former librarian at Samuels Public Library, referred to the Lone Pine as "The Floating Tree", and did a beautiful job describing what it meant to her back in 2017: *"The Floating Tree inspires me... for its determination to stand as tall as it can, and to be its best self, even if it means being a little separate from the other trees. All of those trees come together to make that mountain's elegance. All of those trees are part of home; the Floating Tree just holds the welcome sign."*

Meanwhile, local artist, Jess D'Elia, has loved this tree since it first caught her attention many years ago. *"... this tree is about belonging to our community. If it could speak, what stories it could tell. This tree has witnessed our history through war, miracles, sadness, joy, life, and death. It still stands; regardless of where you are, when you see it, you know you are home."*

All told, the Lone Pine is truly a significant piece of our community's identity. It is a perfect reminder of the beautiful landscapes we are so fortunate to call home. And that, for us, is the spirit of Earth Day that we are looking to share with the Front Royal community!

On Sunday, April 21st, join us for a big celebration of the great outdoors! We will have a large, diverse representation of nature-oriented and conservation service providers, practitioners, researchers, and environmentally active groups showcasing their programs and opportunities for getting involved. There will be a petting zoo, kids activities, food trucks, plants for sale, tons of free give-aways, a wildlife education program by the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center, electric vehicle display, and an Arbor Day tree planting ceremony!

For now, save the date, spread the word, and we look forward to seeing you there!!!

Ps. Our ACES team is such a fan of the Lone Pine that we adopted it into our formal logo!





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Eva Mae Compton, died May 15, 2013 at the age of 80. Eva lived all her life in Browntown. A very simple life, you might say she lived very much like her parents did. The painting is the view from her porch, as depicted by local artist Dick Richardson. For better or worse, that view is changing rapidly.

