



# “Along the Gooney”

Browntown Community Center Association

**September, 2025**

Vol. 33 No. 08 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
<b>Sept.. 08<sup>th</sup></b>	Mon. BCCA Public Meeting 7:30p.m.	
<b>Sept. 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Deadline for October 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

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Browntown, VA 22610



## Obituary

**Bonnie Lee Crank** passed at home on Aug. 16. She was born May 15, 1936, daughter of George Frank Junbert, Jr. and Laura Virginia Sengelaub Jungbert in Louisville, KY. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her devoted husband and friend, Dr. Carlisle C. Crank; sisters, Diane Joy Witlow and Linda Sue McIntosh; brother-in-law Howard McIntosh; and a nephew. Surviving are two children, Hope Lee Bett and husband Jack of Glen Allen, VA and Carlton C. Crank and wife Jeannie of Penn Laird, VA; two granddaughters, Melody Lee Bett and Danielle Jeanette Crank; two great-grandchildren, Liam and Korianne; and two nieces. Mrs. Crank was born and spent early years in Louisville, KY and was a graduate of DuPont Manual H.S. Following high school, she worked at Alexander Blaine Hospital in Detroit, MI and later attended Kentucky Baptist Hospital School of Nursing, where she met her future husband at a gathering for student nurses and students from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. They were married in 1957. Following her retirement in nursing, she began a career in writing. In addition to her magazine, poetry and newspaper articles, she had three books published, *Another Time, Another Place*, *From Ashes to Glory*, and *From Where the Parson's Partner Sits...or Hanging on by My Fingernails*. Mrs. Crank was a member of First Baptist Church, Front Royal, VA. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church, 14 West 1st Street, Front Royal, VA 22630, the Warren County Humane Soc., 1245 Progress Drive, Front Royal, VA 22630 or to a charity of your choice.

## O.J. Rudacille Gen. Mdse.

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## Deadline for Oct. News: Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>

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. My Dad drilled this in to my head. "Leave one car length between you and the car in front of you, for every 10 miles an hour you are driving!"



## 2026 HISTORIC BROWNTOWN CALENDAR

Pre-order now at O.J. Rudacille Store

**\$18 IF PRE-ORDERED TODAY**  
**\$20 WHEN CALENDAR GOES ON SALE NEXT MONTH**



# GOONEY VALLEY HISTORY CLUB

## THE BROWNTOWN UNION CHURCH UPDATE



May 2020



September 2025

### **News on the Union Church Steeple!**

Last Month we included an article about the condition of this wonderful 1882 church and mentioned our hope that initial repair work on the damage caused by the fall of its steeple in March, 2025, and by water entry since then, could be carried out before the end of August. This has not happened but we are still hopeful that some progress can be made before the end of September. It was our understanding that, since 2018 the Browntown Baptist Church has owned the property, but now we have been told two other churches may have some rights of ownership, making maintenance decisions more complicated. Our current understanding is that the church leaders want everyone who has expressed a concern and the desire to help to know that the churches involved are working on addressing the repairs of the building and that they will shortly let people know how they can support the Church in making those repairs.

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

**<https://gooneyvalleyhistoryclub.com>**

**President's Message**

Greetings Everyone! Hope you had a great Labor Day Weekend!

First on my agenda is to let you know we've changed the dates of our Fall Yard Sale. There was a bit of a mix up on a reservation for a family reunion that was scheduled for this past weekend so we couldn't start setting our Yard Sale up 'till after that. With the volume of donations, setting up is no small task, so we've moved the dates to Oct 17 & 18 and Oct 24 & 25. So mark your calendars! Oct 25<sup>th</sup> is also the Greasy-Gooney 10K so Browntown will be busy that day! If you want to enter the Greasy-Gooney 10K go to their Facebook Page of the same name and you can get all your information.

Good news for Jackie Hodgkiss who has put our monthly newsletter together for more years than I can count. Gene Raymond who is our Website Manager has graciously accepted the additional challenge of Newsletter Manager and will be working with Jackie until he's comfortable doing this on his own. Its time Jackie can just enjoy coming to the Browntown Community Center events and not have to worry about newsletter deadlines. Thanks for everything you have done for the Browntown Community Center Jackie! Gene has got lots of great ideas and we are working to get our Website, Newsletter and Facebook all cohesive. Reservation Applications for using the Center as well as forms for our Event Vendors will also be available online. As a reminder our website is [www.browntowncommunity.com](http://www.browntowncommunity.com). Patsy Pennington is still the one to book the reservations! But you can download and print the application from the website. Also available on the website is a volunteer interest form you can fill out. It's found under the Volunteer Tab! If we all could help in some small way we can keep this community center going for the future generations!

Our Trustees and Buildings and Grounds Committee has been working hard and next on the agenda is to remove the old urinals in the men's room and add one more bathroom stall. If you'd like to be part of this group of great volunteers, contact Jim Sylvester at [jamesesylvester@gmail.com](mailto:jamesesylvester@gmail.com).

The next event after our Yard Sale is the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 22. Emma Bricker is updating our Vendor Application and it will be available on the website once it's finalized. It will also be available via email so let me know if you need an application.

My email is [marthaburacker@gmail.com](mailto:marthaburacker@gmail.com). Emma will be the one coordinating the Vendors though and her email will be on the application.

I think that's it for now. Hope you all have had a great summer!

Take care,

Martha Buracker, President

Browntown Community Center Association



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## Local Izaak Walton Chapter Completes Its Summer Roadside Cleanup

Whilst most everyone else was relaxing and enjoying their Sunday afternoon on July 20, your local Izaak Walton League chapter was pulling trash off Browntown Road ahead of the VDOT grass cutting crew. We were nine members strong and collected 21 bags of trash -- in addition to a few car parts, a solar panel, and a five dollar bill. An extra incentive this time around was pizza and chocolate chip cookies for the work crew. We organize cleanups on a quarterly basis and invite you to help. Our next road pick up is scheduled for September 14. Your assistance is always appreciated and you don't have to be an IWL member. For additional information, you can contact the Izaak Walton league anti-litter coordinator Bill Lacy at [Blacy358@gmail.com](mailto:Blacy358@gmail.com). Your Warren County Izaak Walton League chapter is 250 members strong, and we maintain a beautiful park consisting of 155 acres under conservation easement on Gooney Manor Loop. New members are welcomed and encouraged. For more information about our chapter, please visit our website at [wacovaike.org](http://wacovaike.org)





## SEPTEMBER, 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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1  
2

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### Warren County Fire and Rescue

**2025 Citizens Fire Academy: Starts September 24, 2025 | 6:00 PM**

Warren County Fire and Rescue has recently announced the return of their Citizens Fire Academy this September!

This program is free and open to any adult who lives or works in Front Royal or Warren County!

Location: Warren County Public Safety Building (at North end of the Browntown Road).

The Citizens Fire Academy (CFA) is a **FREE seven-week program**. Participants will gain an insider's perspective on the Warren County Department of Fire and Rescue Services. Each session will focus on a different component of the department, covering topics such as emergency medical services, fire suppression, and the pathways to becoming a trained volunteer or career firefighter.

Attendees will learn about the criteria for becoming an emergency responder in our community, engage in hands-on experiences related to emergency operations, and learn essential fire and life safety information to help protect their families and homes.

For more information and to register, visit the website <https://www.warrencountyfire.com/399/Fire-and-Rescue-Services> or contact the Fire Administration at (540) 636-3830 and ask to speak to Lieutenant Nick Bailey

**Citizen's Fire Academy**, that the Warren County Department of Fire and Rescue is holding, starts September 24th. The program is from 6-9 pm each Wednesday, for 7 weeks. Register by calling 540-636-3830, or online at:

[www.warrencountyfire.com/635/events](http://www.warrencountyfire.com/635/events).





Browntown  
Community Center

# Fall YARD SALE

8 AM - 2 PM

Fri Oct 17 & Sat Oct 18  
&  
Fri Oct 24 & Sat Oct 25

RAIN OR SHINE

96 BROWNTOWN RD,  
BROWNTOWN, VA 22610

### How to safely be rid of weeds or unwanted grass!

It's the time of year that many of us are dealing with weeds .... on our lawns and gardens. If you are among those who use commercially available (toxic) chemicals, such as Weed-Be-Gone, Roundup, etc., you should know that there are alternatives to these chemicals, and are much less harmful to the environment and to our bodies. One such alternative uses natural ingredients, found in most households; here's the recipe for an effective weed killing, (and/or grass killing), alternative:

**1 Gal. Vinegar, 2 Cups Epsom Salt, ¼ Cup Dawn Detergent.**

Dissolve Epsom Salt in the Vinegar first. Then add in the Dawn. Stir

If a **skunk sprays your dog**, you can wash the dog with a mixture of 1 quart hydrogen peroxide, 1/4 cup baking soda, and 1 teaspoon of Dawn dish soap

Browntown Community Center Assoc.  
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Browntown, VA 22610  
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## **Local Artist Roger Tomhave**

Come see some of his works at Glen Manor Vineyards, Roger has been working on a series of watercolor paintings. To the right is one of four views he has done of Hogback Mountain, Shenandoah National Park, as seen from Browntown where we live. Come and take a look. The work will be up during September and will come down on Wednesday, October 15.

