Brusly Celebrates 100 years
1901-2001

Brusly Centennial Celebration
October 1-7, 2001
A week to celebrate 100 years of community and family.

Sugar Country Ramble
Saturday, October 6, 2001
A tour of historic homes and special places in and around Brusly.

SugarFest
Sunday, October 7, 2001
A sweet celebration of the traditional sugar cane harvest at the West Baton Rouge Museum.
Brusly mayor welcomes you

Our hundred years stand
Determined on their way up and down
The brick walls of Brusly's sacred
To hold back the storms of life.

We'll never let the storms
Break down these walls, these strong,
We'll build them higher, stronger,
Our Brusly mayor welcomes you.

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Brusly will celebrate 100 years of history during a
week-long celebration. Much research has been done to learn
more about the early days of the town and area.

Changes continue,
bonds stay strong

By SARAH BASS
The Advocate

Brusly has developed from a remote settlement located out from
the city of 1800 to a bustling community with a vibrant economy.

The town's growth is a reflection of the hard
work of its residents, who have
worked to make Brusly a place
where people want to live.

Young adults who grew up in
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Brusly, a city in Caldwell Parish, Louisiana, is a small town known for its rich history and cultural events. The town is located on the banks of the Tickfaw River and is known for its annual Dickens on the River Festival, where visitors can enjoy crafts, live music, and other festive activities.

The town is also home to the Brusly High School, which is a part of the Calhoun Parish Public School System. The school offers a variety of extracurricular activities and sports for students to participate in.

The Brusly community is known for its close-knit nature, with residents often contributing to local events and organizations. The town is proud of its history and culture, and is dedicated to preserving and celebrating its past.

The Brusly Civic Center is a popular venue for events such as concerts, plays, and other cultural events. The center is located at 101 N. Main St, and is open to the public for various activities.

The town of Brusly is also known for its beautiful natural surroundings, with the Tickfaw River flowing through the area and providing a scenic backdrop for the town.

Overall, Brusly is a welcoming community with a rich history and a strong sense of tradition. It is a great place to live, work, and raise a family, with plenty of opportunities for growth and development.
Westside’s story

Week-long birthday party starts Oct. 1

By RODNEY MALLETT
Staff writer

Brusly will celebrate 100 years as a community with a week-long festival featuring educational exhibits, a parade, picnics, family entertainment, live music and the whole thing will end with a fireworks display on Oct. 7.

The festivities have been in the planning since 1993, according to Gary LaBauve, president of the Town of Brusly Centennial Committee. And, the town has quite a week scheduled for everyone to enjoy.

Everything from the Brusly Oak on the history of the tree to how Brusly was founded to historic photos will be discussed throughout the event.

The Sugar Country Ramble, a tour of historic places on Oct. 5, will also be part of this year’s celebration.

And, the west side will be jumping as the Port Allen SugarFest gets cranked up on Oct. 6.

Then, back in Brusly, on Oct. 7, there will be more live music and the fireworks finale.

The week begins with a Live Oak Tree Ceremony at the Brusly Town Hall on Monday at 6 p.m.

The oak has been a symbol of Brusly for many years. The tree is estimated at more than 200 years old and, LaBauve said, is a symbol of the community.

“We have the Brusly Oak as our logo because it has been a part of Brusly for so long,” LaBauve said. “And, this celebration is about a return to our roots. The focus was to bring current and former people from Brusly back to the town with family and friends. There’s going to be people coming from all over. And we know we’ll have people come because they love these events.”

Joey Normand, Brusly mayor, said as the event nears, he can see what more than five years of planning has become.

“Just like any event, you can’t put the tents up until it gets here,” Normand said. “We’re feeling pretty good about the whole thing right now. We’ve planned for more than five years, but there’s only so much you can do until the event gets here. It’s getting closer.

“We’ve got the guest speakers, got all the bands lined up and all the details that come together at the last minute are falling into place. The only thing missing right now is the people.”

Normand said the celebration gives Brusly and West Baton Rouge Parish a chance to show what the west side has to offer.

LaBauve said the centennial committee is expecting more than 3,000 people for the entire event.

“The event is for anybody and everybody,” Normand said. “We encourage people from anywhere in the country to come. There are really interesting things to see and we have all kinds of entertainment.”

Joey Normand
Brusly mayor

2001 BAND SCHEDULE

Friday, Oct. 5th

7 - 8 p.m. ....................... Blues .......................... John Lis listening & The Delta Funk
8:30 - 10 p.m. ............... R&B .............................. The Neighborhood Stars
10:30 p.m. - Midnight ........ Rock .............................. The Shack Daddies

Saturday, Oct. 6th

10 - 11:30 a.m. .............. “Talent Show”
11:30 - 12:30 p.m. ............ Special Program
12:30 - 1 p.m. ................. Cajun .......................... Deja Vu Cajun Dance Band
3 - 4 p.m. ....................... Christian ..................... Les Dansaeurs de la Capitale de Baton Rouge
3 - 4 p.m. ....................... Soul Vision ............... Featuring: Les Dansaeurs de la Capitale de Baton Rouge
5 - 6 p.m. ....................... Rock .............................. Seven Day Sait
7 - 8 p.m. ....................... Country ....................... Oldies/Varity Dance
8:30 - 9:30 p.m. .............. Country ....................... "TBA (To Be Announced)"
10 p.m. - Midnight ............ Rock .............................. Dr. Hook featuring Ray Sawyer

Sunday, Oct. 7th

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. .............. Dixieland/Rock .......................... Triloby
7 - 8:30 p.m. ................. Southern Rock .......................... The Wet Willie Band
8:30 p.m. ...................... Grand Finale/Fireworks Display

Oak

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

people tacked announcements up for local events, welcome home greetings, political advertisements, news about trips, or even birthday announcements.

Today, that practice remains, but on a nearby bulletin board instead of on the tree itself.

The oak has become the town symbol, present on lapel pins, town murals and in the yellow pages book on the town, the oak is certain to be a focal point. Caillouet said, when Brusly celebrates its centennial Oct. 17.

Former Mayor Howard LaBauve, now deceased, once described the town and the tree’s importance in an Advocate article. “There weren’t any houses like we have now, and the streets were dirt, not blacktop.

“IT was more or less a meeting place for men to gather around on Saturday afternoon and tell tales. Most of the men were farmers, and after their Saturday bath they’d swap stories. That oak tree could tell a lot if it could talk.”

Through the efforts of a Brusly resident Ethel Cliburne Damron, founder of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association, the tree was officially registered with the Louisiana Live Oak Society in 1960. An LSU forestry specialist said then, through data obtained by 6-inch borings, the tree was 315 years old, with a margin of error of 20 years.

Official measurements in 1960 placed it at 23 feet 8 inches in circumference and 7 feet 6 inches in diameter. The tree today, noted Caillouet is about 25 feet in circumference.

The historical marker erected near the oak in 1976 in celebration of the bicentennial, recognizes the tree’s 330th birthday. It replaced an earlier wooden marker erected in 1969 at the tree’s first historical recognition.

Town dignitaries gathered at both events, Caillouet noted, pointing to old newspaper photos, to relate stories of their ancestors, their town and it’s well-known tree.

Caillouet and his husband, Gerald, bought the property in 1972 and after nearly 30 years, she still considers her “dreams of a tree” a privilege.

In the years Caillouet and her husband have lived on the oak’s land where the tree stands to the front of the street’s edge, she has watched modern times intrude on the oak’s health. The newly built road is in front of the house that sits comfortably close to the giant oak’s roots and there have been worries over the lack of water from recent years of drought.

The drought’s effect was ultimately addressed by town foreman, she said, who flushed out nearby fire hydrants directly on the tree, providing much-needed hydration.

“The water had to go somewhere,” she said with a wink.

Sometime, she said, the roots have spread and adapted as they have needed to. After all, the tree, she said, has been through a lot already in its 350 plus years.

“Every morning I open the blinds and see it,” she said smiling. “It’s an honor.”

The Back Brusly Oak has been a part of the area since before the town was founded 100 years ago.

Advocate file photo
Tour of homes, living history set for Ramble

By ROYDIE MALLETT
Editorial Director

The second Sugar Country Ramble is set to take place Friday on Saturday, April 17.

The Ramble is a tour of historic homes and churches in Brantley, Marion and Gadsden counties.

This year’s tour will include nine historic homes and churches.

The tour begins at 10 a.m. at the Ramble Home on Main Street in Baxley, G. A.

The tour concludes at 4 p.m. at the Baxley High School.

Tickets are $50 per person and $45 per person for groups of 10 or more.

Tickets can be purchased at the Ramble Home on Main Street in Baxley, G. A.

The tour includes a shuttle service to all the homes.

Ramble Home on Main Street in Baxley, G. A.

Tickets are due by April 17.

For more information, call (912) 375-2500.

Happy Birthday Bakken Perdue and Mary Lou Bakken

Happy Birthday to Bakken Perdue and Mary Lou Bakken.

Ramble Home on Main Street in Baxley, G. A.

Tickets are due by April 17.

For more information, call (912) 375-2500.

Congratulations on 100 Great Years!

Congratulations on your 100 Great Years!

Bakken Perdue and Mary Lou Bakken

Ramble Home on Main Street in Baxley, G. A.

Tickets are due by April 17.

For more information, call (912) 375-2500.

Congratulations Brusly

Congratulations on your 100 Great Years!

Pointe Coupée Electric Membership Corporation

Ramble Home on Main Street in Baxley, G. A.

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