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We LOVE

Botetourt County

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Love is a canvas
furnished by nature
and embroidered
by imagination

– Voltaire –

Botetourt Living 2025

Tom Field publisher, editor, creative director

Photography

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www.botetourtchamber.com

Although every reasonable effort has been made to verify all facts and figures herein, Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce and Berryfield take no responsibility for omissions or inaccuracies.

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On the cover:

Image by **Chelsea Anderson**, who originally submitted the photo as part of the BOCO Grateful photo contest with Botetourt County communications.



Tiffany Bradbury Botetourt County Communications provided a majority of photos from department campaigns and her own, including many of the sections in this edition.

Jason Rinehart photographer (selected scenics, including Pages 6, 12–13, 20–24, 28–29, 53–54, 61, and fireworks 48, night road 16)

Chamber Staff & Volunteers (submitted Chamber and Chamber event photos)

Muddy Squirrel Botetourt adventure and events outlet provided some recreational photos (including selected images on Pages 26–27, 51)

Community photos were submitted to Botetourt County Administration, Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce, and Berryfield. Berryfield images are also included.

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there is life

– Mahatma Gandhi –



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Quick Facts

About Botetourt County

- Population: 34,129 (2024)
- Land area: 541 square miles
- Homeownership rate: 85.8% (2023)
- Median household income: \$80,467 (2023)
- Median housing value: \$293,818 (2024); Median home sale: \$387,500 (3/25)
- Unemployment rate: 2.8% (3/25), compared to the U.S. rate of 4.2% (4/25)
- Industries include: Mining, Advanced Manufacturing, Transportation, Agriculture, and Healthcare
- Moody's estimates cost of doing business: 15% lower than national average
- Cost of living averages 5–6% lower than national average
- Male/Female ratio of population is nearly 50:50
- Fincastle, the County seat: Incorporated in 1772 and attracts genealogists from all over the world
- Dream destination for outdoor recreation: 70,000 acres of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests; James River with boating access; miles of off-road opportunities for all-terrain vehicles; Appalachian Trail access; 35 miles of Blue Ridge Parkway
- Botetourt Sports Complex: Championship softball, youth baseball fields; soccer fields; cross-country course; 18-hole disc golf course; Wi-Fi

Sources: U.S. Census, Federal Reserve, Botetourt County, Virginia Economic Development Partnership, AI

Welcome

To Botetourt County
and Botetourt Living

The Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce and its members welcome you to the 28th edition of *Botetourt Living* magazine. This edition also covers activities from our Chamber's activities in 2024.

The magazine serves as a guide for visitors and for citizens — those who recently moved here or have lived here for a lifetime. It's particularly geared to our business community and each of us who has a vested interest in the continuing mission to develop this great place to live, work, and play.

Botetourt County is an ideal environment for business and family. Major markets and resource bases are located within a few hours of here and the labor pool is strongly supported with educational and training venues. As an area for arts and culture, Botetourt offers a wide range of amenities with attractive shopping and entertainment opportunities. Outdoor recreation in Botetourt County, including many square miles of Jefferson National Forest and rivers, is second to none in every season.

Botetourt County, a repository for many forms of historical information, was founded in 1770. Lord Botetourt, for whom the County is named, served as Governor of Virginia. The County is now part of the Roanoke Metropolitan Area, though in early times its lands extended as far west as Illinois and Wisconsin. The County shares the Southern Shenandoah Valley with its neighbor jurisdictions of Roanoke County, the cities of Roanoke and Salem, and the Town of Vinton.

Welcome to our beautiful County and all that it offers.
We invite you to visit or call the Chamber for more information.



Fall in...

LOVE

WITH BOCO

From mountain views to local brews, small-town charm to big-time adventure—Botetourt County has it all! Come explore, shop local, and meet the amazing people who make BOCO so easy to love. See what makes BOCO special at www.botetourtva.gov

SCAN ME

Our LOVE We

ACTIVITY

Where do we start?

Botetourt County is the ideal place for individuals who like to be active.

One of the first areas of activities that come to mind for both residents and visitors alike is outdoor recreation. Botetourt is paradise for people who enjoy hiking and biking, hunting and fishing, camping and paddling, swimming and sunning.

Whenever tourism, visitor, and similar media outlets lists the best places to experience the outdoors in the Commonwealth of Virginia, one place consistently shows up in the top group: Botetourt County.

Our natural setting of rolling hills, pastures, mountains, rivers, and forests are more than just panoramic calendar-worthy scenes—they're a most wonderful escape for real-world adventure, meant to be enjoyed in real time.

And then there are events. From festivals to concerts to markets to holidays and other celebrations, Botetourt is the perfect place to just have fun. It's a vibrant and dynamic calendar we have, and we welcome all to the vibe.

Two specific sectors of activities involve our sports offerings and agricultural bounty. The Botetourt Sports Complex and professional Disc Golf Course are just two of our most popular venues. Golfers from all around love our two unique courses. Pickleball and gym/fitness centers are also incredibly popular. We also host numerous races.

Our farmer markets and agriculture fairs tickle the senses of all who love fresh and local products. And Botetourt's reputation in the horse and equestrian communities has been celebrated throughout our history.



TIES



Our Favorite Events

Daleville Summer Concert Series
Buchanan Town Events
Fincastle Town Events
Troutville Town Events
Botetourt Chamber Events
Stoney Brook Vineyard Events
Virginia Mountain Vineyards Events
Botetourt County Fair
Beaver Dam Farm Sunflower Festival
Botetourt County Parks & Rec Events
Botetourt County Historical Society
and Museum Events
Troutville Trail Days
Fincastle Ghost Tour
Buchanan Community Carnival
BOCO WILD
Open Studios Botetourt
Botetourt Homes & Garden Tour
Botetourt Restaurant Week
Botetourt County Holiday Celebrations





Farming /Ag-Life

Botetourt Farmers Market
Tomato Festival
BEE AWARE Honey Fest
Farm-to-Table Harvest Tour
Horse Experience Day





Outdoor Picks

Appalachian Trail
 Tinker Cliffs Overlook
 Roaring Run Trail
 Jefferson National Forest
 Twin River Outfitters
 Blue Ridge Parkway
 George Washington
 National Forest
 Craig Creek (we call it
 Craig's Creek)
 Purgatory Mountain
 Hay Rock Overlook Hike
 James River Float / Paddle



Sporting Favs

Botetourt Sports Complex
 Greenfield Disc Golf Course
 Preserve at Crooked Run
 Shooting Range
 School Athletic Games
 Indoor / Outdoor Pickleball
 Botetourt Youth Athletics
 and Rec Leagues
 US Bicycle Route 76
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 Ashley Plantation Golf
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 Botetourt Golf & Swim Club
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– Maya Angelou –



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The advertisement includes a large bottle of Stoney Brook Cabernet Franc wine on the left. To the right is the Stoney Brook Vineyards logo, which consists of a stylized 'S' and 'B' inside a circle. Below the logo are four smaller images: a wide view of the vineyard with rolling hills, a couple in wedding attire embracing in a field, a dining room with several tables set for a meal, and a group of people standing next to a red tractor in the vineyard.



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Our LOVE We

COMME

Botetourt County provides a great home for business. Proof of that is happening at this very moment. New businesses are being announced and existing businesses are thriving or expanding.

The products and services available and accessible to citizen-residents, in-county and out-of-county employees, frequent visitors, and those just passing through have never been as plentiful as they are today.

Statistics show Botetourt County as an ideal and desirable place to conduct business, as a consumer or as a business owner/operator, or a supplier.

Botetourt is home to a number of mid-to-large corporations that contribute greatly to our community. But people especially notice the plethora of small businesses, too—and economic developers note that contribution (and passion) equally.

From small shops serving health and beauty to retail boutiques to restaurants to markets and country stores, the parking lots are always filling. A drive around the county in any direction reveals little pockets of commerce, many operated by longtime (sometimes multi-generational) families, though brand new entrepreneurs are also popping up on our growing business scene.

Top Shops

Blue Ridge Mall
Botetourt Commons
Botetourt Plaza
Brugh's Mill Country Store
Buchanan Flea Market
Catrina Fashions
Daleville Town Center
H&H Outdoors
Harris Hall of Antiques
Heritage Family Market
Ikenberry's Orchard
& Country Store
KC Collections
Kelly's Real Deal Antiques
MECS Pawn & Guns
Outdoor Trails
Penelope
Southern Past Times
Stable Hill Studio & Gallery



RCE

Foodie Finds

1772 On Main & Rooftop
A Few Old Goats Brewing
Angelle's Diner
Mrs B's Restaurant & Bar
Bella Pizza Italian
Bellacino's
Buchanan Fountain & Grille
Crooked Shoreline
Don Ho's
Donnie D's Bagels & Deli
Ferguson Family Provisions
The Fishin' Pig
Foot of the Mountain Cafe
Good Times Cafe
Iron & Oar Grill
James River Drip
Lentinni's
Little Green Hive Coffee
Mi-Mi's Ice Cream
Mill Mountain Coffee & Tea
North Star Restaurant
One Love Coffee House
The Pie Shoppe
Pancho Mexican
Rodeo Chico
Thai Oudone
Three Li'l Pigs BBQ
Tizzzone
Top Dawgs Pub & Deli
Town Center Tap House
Yo-Mian
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a few from our
Real Estate Lineup

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Long & Foster–Botetourt
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Patrick Team Homes–Botetourt
Re/MAX All Stars Realty–Daleville
(and individual agents, too)

a few
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Dominion Accounting
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- **New** pub/sports bar with billiards
- **New** coffee and bake shop
- **New** Culinary Director (appeared on Gordon Ramsey's Hell's Kitchen)

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True love stories
never have endings

– Richard Bach –



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HERITAGE
FAMILY MARKET

At Heritage Family Market we are busy dreaming and planning about our new store! Our new location will still be in the Town of Fincastle at the Corner of Frontier Way and Rt. 220. We hope to be open at the new location by the Fall of 2026. Thank you for your continued interest and support! We couldn't do it without you!



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We are only pieces

– Rumi –

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– Ann Landers –



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– Reese Witherspoon –

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– Henry David Thoreau –

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Our LOVE we

well-be

Botetourt County is a great place to live, work, and play if wellness is a priority.

To begin, our air and water quality is measurably higher than so many other populated areas in the state. But we also have a surprising level of access to medical services and health clinics, with more practice areas than ever before. Citizens have fewer reasons to drive in to Roanoke or farther destinations for healthcare needs.

Specialized healthcare includes a number of dental and eye doctors and physical therapist and other services in both institutional and private practices. Many providers offer directed care to our youth and seniors, too.

Well-being also includes having a safe environment. Public safety in Botetourt County is a priority. Maintaining one of the Commonwealth's lowest crime rates is important and never taken for granted. And having emergency response designed for our unique blend of rural and suburban environs is job one for our first responders.

We have our offering of wellness services that address our pleasure and comfort, as well. From dance and yoga and fitness and beauty, everyone has ample opportunity to attend to personal improvement and both physical and emotional conditioning.



4 Fit & Fun Favs

BOCO Fit
Botetourt Family YMCA
Carilion Wellness—Botetourt
Grow Wild Play Studio



ing



Med Mix

A few Healthcare, Medical, Clinics and similar practices in Botetourt County

COMPREHENSIVE

Carilion Clinic
LewisGale

SPECIALTIES / PRIVATE PRACTICE

Lawson Family Medicine

THERAPY-REHAB

CORA Physical Therapy
Daleville Physical Therapy
Ivy Rehab
Kissito Healthcare
Tuck Chiropractic
University Physical Therapy

DENTAL-ORTHO

Cross, Lavindar, Quinn & Park
Daleville Family Dentistry
Daleville Dentist
Henritze Dental-Daleville
Lenk Orthodontic

VISION-EYE

Blue Ridge Optical
Eye Care & Surgery
Vistar Eye Center-Botetourt

COUNSELING-THERAPY

ABT Counseling-Daleville
Botetourt Counseling Center



Chamber Connection

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Young Professionals Group • Job Postings



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Maiya Ashby



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Mikki Barranco



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Dustin Bays



Richard Bennett



Kim Braswell



Janes Breakell



Luke Campbell



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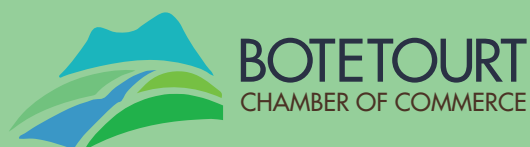
Community Involvement & Giving Back

Awarded **(4) \$1,000** Scholarships to Botetourt graduating seniors
Presented **\$1,000** to the Botetourt County Sheriff's Department
Presented **\$2,500** in the form of \$500 Food Lion gifts cards (thanks to our partnership with Food Lion Feeds, to local nonprofits, including: New Freedom Farms • Craig County DSS • St. Mark's Episcopal Church (Botetourt Food Pantry) • Adult & Teen Challenge, Eastern Appalachian Region • Solomon's Mission

Did You Know?

A membership in the Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce is one of the most important investments a business can make. We're the pro-business voice in Botetourt County and the surrounding region. Being a member will keep you plugged in locally and throughout the region.

Workforce Development • Community Service
Business/Legislative Advocacy • Special Events
Annual Gala • Business After Hours • Mentorships
Workshops • Roundtables • Local Market Intel
Newsletter • Business Growth • Directory



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3rd Vice President (Membership) **Danielle Alexander**
Treasurer **Dustin Bays**
Secretary **Richard Bennett**

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Mikki Barranco Pinnacle Financial Partners
Cristin Barrett Virginia Western Community College
Kim Braswell Member One Federal Credit Union
James Breakell Roanoke Cement / Titan America
Luke Campbell Botetourt County Public Schools
Jared Frye C&F Farms
Mike Ketron Botetourt County Public Schools
Shana Linthicum Virginia811
Mike Rakes Spectrum Design
Teanna Ruppel Rethunk My Junk
Nadia Summo Balzer & Associates
Cheryl Willis P.ZAZ Salon and Spa

Grow And Sustain Your Business

Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce combines traditional community development with modern business economic development. We advocate, educate, facilitate.

Signature Events

Annual Meeting of the Members
June 12, 2025 at Virginia Mountain Vineyards
Annual Chamber Golf Tournament
October 17, 2025 at Ashley Plantations
Annual Chamber Membership Dinner
November (TBD)
6th Annual Tinsel Trail
December 5, 2025—January 1, 2026 in Fincastle
BOCO Talks
Quarterly
Networking / Educational Events
Throughout Term

Committees

Agriculture Jared Frye, Chair
Ambassador Danielle Alexander, Chair
Scholarship Kim Braswell, Chair
Tinsel Trail Sandra Craft, Chair
Golf James Breakell, Chair
Events Mikki Barranco, Chair
Finance Dustin Bays

Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce

23 South Roanoke Street • Fincastle, VA 24090 | PO Box 413 • Daleville, VA 24083 | (540) 566-8812
e-mail: info@botetourtchamber.com • web: www.botetourtchamber.com



Confronting Challenges and Crafting a Prosperous Plan

As your Chamber President,

I am deeply thankful for the support and dedication each of you has shown in the past year. Our shared journey has been marked by courage and creativity, and it is this passion for what we do and for each other that will guide us to a prosperous future. Together, we will continue to embrace each challenge with a spirit of unity and passion, knowing our collective strength lies in our love for our community and its success.

Each business, large or small, contributes to the unique tapestry that makes our community thrive. The dedication, enthusiasm, and innovation found here are truly inspiring. We've faced challenges that have tested us, but our collective strength and determination have always guided us through.

Tackling the Tough Stuff

This past year has been a testament to our community's resilience. We have confronted unprecedented obstacles, but I am proud to say that our businesses have risen to the challenge. Whether it was adapting to new technologies, embracing innovative business models, or finding new

ways to connect with our customers and members, we have shown that we are capable of turning challenges into opportunities.

These experiences have only strengthened our resolve. We have learned that by working together and supporting one another, there is no obstacle too great for us to overcome. Our Chamber is more than just a network, it is a family, and our shared commitment to our community's success is our greatest asset.

Gazing Into the Crystal Ball

As we look to the future, I am filled with optimism and excitement. The Botetourt Chamber is committed to fostering an environment that supports the growth and success of all our businesses. Our vision is to be a catalyst for innovation, collaboration, and economic development, ensuring that Botetourt remains a vibrant and thriving community.

We will continue to provide valuable resources, advocate for your interests, create opportunities for networking and professional development, and give back to our beautiful Botetourt as often as we are able. Our upcoming initiatives are designed to empower you with the tools and knowledge you need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Championing Botetourt's Business Community

Our mission remains clear: to serve you, our valued members, with dedication and integrity. Your success is our success, and we are committed to ensuring that the Botetourt Chamber remains a cornerstone of support for your business endeavors. We encourage you to take full advantage of the resources and opportunities available through the Chamber, and we are always here to listen and respond to your needs.

In closing, I'd like to express my deepest appreciation for your continued trust and partnership. Thank you to our dedicated board members for their unwavering support and guidance. Your commitment and expertise have been crucial in advancing our organization, helping us overcome challenges and seize opportunities. The future is bright, and together, we will achieve remarkable things. Let us embrace the opportunities ahead with confidence, knowing that our community's spirit of innovation and collaboration will guide us to new heights.

On behalf of the entire board, thank you for being a vital piece of the Botetourt Chamber puzzle. Here's to a future overflowing with success, growth, and prosperity for all.



BOTETOURT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Warm regards,
Maiya Ashby
Botetourt Chamber Board President



BOTETOURT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PARTNERS

VISION



PLATINUM



GOLD



lumos

SILVER



Sponsorships effective as of April 2025



ANNUAL DINNER





THE GOLDEN AGE OF BOTETOURT





ANNUAL GOLF





TOURNAMENT





ANNUAL MEETING





OF THE MEMBERS





TINSEL





TRAIL





BOCO TALKS



BOCO GIVES









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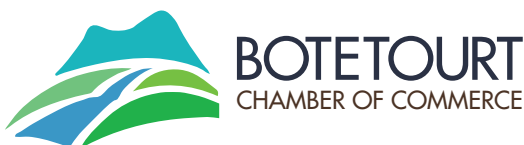
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LEARN &

Who says the best places for learning and creativity and overall culture are the big metropolises? That's simply not the case if you ask the students and knowledge-seekers, artists and craftspeople, and those who appreciate the culture and creative environment Botetourt County presents.

Our schools are the kind where we're proud to say our children attend.

Our libraries offer a respite for readers and diverse programs for all.

Our theaters and performance venues are so enjoyable, folks from all over drive here for the experience.

Our museum and history is so significant, it marks the nation's birthplace as the entrance to western expansion.

Our cultural organizations and events celebrate everything from historic milestones to community theater to agricultural richness to community service and nonprofit work to performances and races and outdoor occasions to culinary and winery affairs to markets and fairs and holidays and friendly township gatherings.

Botetourt County is an environment wide open for you to learn and create, enjoy and appreciate. Participants here are enriched... a big reason why we love Botetourt.



To E V E R L O V E

CREATE

14 Arts / Culture / Recreation Resources

Botetourt Family YMCA [Daleville]
fitness, workouts, classes, and much more
ymcavbr.org/locations/botetourt/botetourt-family-ymca/

Buchanan Theatre [Buchanan]
on the Virginia Landmarks Register
buchanantheatre.com

Open Studios Botetourt [all over!]
visit artists in their homes/studios
openstudiosbotetourt.com

Attic Productions [Fincastle]
community theater at its best
atticproductions.info

Daleville Town Center [Daleville]
popular summer concert series and more
dalevilletowncenter.com/events

Botetourt Sports Complex [Troutville]
tournaments and other sporting events
botetourtva.gov/639/Botetourt-Sports-Complex

Troutville Trail Days [Troutville]
a favorite for outdoor enthusiasts
troutvilletraildays.org

Beaver Dam Farm Sunflower Festival [Buchanan]
growing attraction for locals and visitors
beaverdamsunflowers.com

Botetourt County Fair [Buchanan]
nostalgic and fun
botetourtcountyfair.com

Town of Buchanan Events
buchanan-va.gov/news-events

Town of Troutville Events
townoftroutville-va.gov/events.php

Botetourt County Historical Society & Museum [Fincastle]
posts its events on
bothistsoc.wordpress.com/events/

Botetourt County Parks & Recreation
facilities, sports, activities, and much more
botetourtva.gov/162/Parks-Recreation

Botetourt Chamber of Commerce
member and community events
botetourtchamber.com/events

School Time

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Breckinridge Elementary School
Buchanan Elementary School
Cloverdale Elementary School
Colonial Elementary School
Eagle Rock Elementary School
Greenfield Elementary School
Troutville Elementary School
Central Academy Middle School
Read Mountain Middle School
James River High School
Lord Botetourt High School
Botetourt Technical Education Center
Virtual Academy

HIGHER EDUCATION

Hollins University
Mountain Gateway Community College
Virginia Western Community College
(private, parochial, homeschool, too)



Love Our Libraries

Blue Ridge Library
Buchanan Library
Eagle Rock Library
Daleville Self-Service Library
Fincastle Library





From the Board of Supervisors Chair

As we reflect on 2024, we are proud to share the achievements and milestones that have shaped another successful year for our community. This year, we launched the “Get to Know BOCO” initiative, which allowed us to connect with residents in new and meaningful ways. We began the year with our State of the County address, where our department directors not only highlighted the county’s accomplishments but also shared a more personal side, helping you get to know the dedicated individuals who serve our community. Many of our county employees are also residents who work tirelessly to make Botetourt a better place, and we’re proud to humanize the people behind the work while simplifying complex government processes.

2024 also saw significant progress in expanding broadband access and supporting local businesses. The launch of the Destination Botetourt Small Business Summit and the BOCO Small Business Grant Program, marked key initiatives to help our small businesses thrive. We welcomed new faces to our BOCO family, and our teams once again displayed their commitment to public service, with members of Botetourt Fire and EMS traveling to Damascus, VA, and Asheville, NC, to assist with recovery efforts after Hurricane Helene. This spirit of giving back is one of the many reasons we are so proud of our county.

In addition, we worked hard to keep our community informed about ongoing development and construction projects through the launch of “What’s Going on in BOCO.” This initiative is part of our broader commitment to transparency and community engagement. On the fiscal front, we continued to demonstrate financial responsibility by receiving the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) award for the 18th consecutive year. We also reduced the county’s real estate tax rate from \$0.79 per \$100 to \$0.70 per \$100 while adopting a balanced budget—ensuring that your tax dollars are being used wisely. There are many more positive things that have happened during 2024, however these are just a few.

On behalf of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, Botetourt County Administration, and staff, I am pleased to present the 2024 Botetourt County Annual Report. We are proud of what we’ve accomplished together, and as we look ahead to 2025, we invite you to Fall in Love with BOCO—a truly exceptional community in which to live, work, play, and give back.

Sincerely,

Mr. Stephen Clinton
2024 Board Chair



Economic Growth

Destination Botetourt

To celebrate Small Business Week 2024, Botetourt County collaborated with our partners at Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge (VBR), Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC), Shop Botetourt & Roanoke and NRV Small Business Development Center to launch the inaugural "Destination Botetourt Small Business Summit." This in-person summit was designed to empower small businesses and cultivate strategic partnerships within local tourism. Forty-two people attended the event on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 in Daleville to learn how VBR and VTC are spotlighting Botetourt. It was a great morning of networking, education, and collaboration.

New Businesses & Opportunities

In 2024, Botetourt County saw quite a few new businesses pop up! In Daleville, we welcomed Crooked Shoreline and Dunkin' Donuts and we attended the much anticipated Fishin' Pig Groundbreaking, F.A. Wagner Agency also held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the fall, and Daleville Town Center continued to flourish with the construction of a new hotel and new retail space.

Big things were also happening in the Town of Buchanan! We welcomed a Roanoke brewery to Buchanan where A Few Old Goats (AFOG) opened their

doors on November 2nd, serving up ice-cold brews to residents and visitors. AFOG sits right beside the renovated Groendyk building, now home to Factory Flats Apartments! The year also saw the Bank of the James opening its doors on Main Street.

Blue Ridge saw the groundbreaking of a new Sheetz Convenience Store that will be located off of Route 460. Fincastle saw plans for a new location for the Heritage Market while the 1772 Rooftop and the B&B on Main also garnered national attention as a destination for visitors.

We were thrilled to attend Virginia Western Community College's expansion of programs at Greenfield as they opened up opportunities for students to explore careers in the fields of certified clinical medical assistants, EMTs, phlebotomists, and welders!

Small Business Development

Botetourt's small business development program involves partnerships with the Advancement Foundation and the Greater Roanoke & NRV Regional Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

Please note that SBDC client surveys for 2024 impact were collected in February 2025 and reportable in April 2025.

- Clients Served: 118
- Average Hours Per Client: 3.7
- 3 Business Starts & 7 Jobs Created
- Capital that BOCO businesses secured: \$98,800

Small Business Grant Awards

In 2024, the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors and the Economic Development Authority encouraged small businesses located in the county to apply for grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,000 to support and grow their operations. The county received 39 applications requesting up to \$150,000 in grants. Sixteen Botetourt County businesses received grant funding totaling \$35,540! Congratulations to:

- Saddles & Stuff
- Mountain Thyme Honey & Gifts
- Dark Moon Cards and Games
- Beyond the Peaks
- Children's Nest Learning Center
- Buchanan Butchery
- Twin River Outfitters
- Jeter Farm
- Watts Heavy Duty Repair
- Microharmonics
- Bryant Orchards Farm Market
- Williamson Farms
- Heritage Family Market
- Willow Spring Apothecary
- Grandpa Ike's Donuts
- BOCO Fit Rage



Community Development

What's Going on in BOCO?

In 2024, Botetourt County launched a new webpage dedicated to keeping residents informed about ongoing and upcoming development and construction projects in the county. "What's Going On In BOCO" is part of the county's commitment to transparency and community engagement. Residents can access information on current projects in various stages of approval, from authorizations granted by the Board of Supervisors through projects under construction in the county. The webpage features an interactive map along with descriptions of proposed projects. The webpage is updated monthly to show what's going on in BOCO.

Botetourt County is one of the only localities in Virginia making these types of strides to keep the community informed through our interactive story map. The county encourages all residents to find out what's going on in BOCO by visiting: www.botetourtva.gov/whatsgoingoninboco.

Building Safety Month

During Building Safety Month 2024, Botetourt County highlighted the critical importance of ensuring safety in and around homes. To promote building safety, the county implemented a multifaceted outreach campaign, which included:

- Social Media Campaigns (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)
- Dedicated Website Page (www.botetourtva.gov/buildingsafety)
- Building Safety Month Resolution adopted during the April 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting

Each week of the campaign focused on a unique aspect of building safety, aligned with the National Building Safety Month theme, "Mission Possible." The county also teamed up with Capps Building Supply in Troutville to offer a prize pack to a citizen who completed their home safety plan.

Safe Streets & Roadways for All

In May 2024, Botetourt County, Roanoke County, and the Town of Vinton collaborated on a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan through the Federal Highway Administration's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program to prevent deaths and serious injuries for all roadway users including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, commercial vehicle operators, transit riders, and micro-mobility users. More than 260 residents completed a survey sharing their thoughts on improvements that could save lives and many shared their testimonials as to why safe roads and streets are important to them. Visit www.botetourtva.gov/safestreets for more information.

In 2024, our Community Development Department completed:

- 1,911 Permit Reviews
- 636 Project Reviews
- 5,516 Inspections
- >\$89 million (value of started projects)
- >\$45 million (value of finished projects)



Good Government

County Continues Fiscal Responsibility

Botetourt received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Financial information and an infographic video outlining the county's budgeting process can be found at www.botetourtva.gov/budget.

New Director of Finance

In December, 2024, Botetourt County announced that Katie Davis had been promoted to Director of Finance. Katie joined Botetourt County in November 2021 as Senior Financial Analyst, and since then, she has demonstrated exceptional initiative, critical thinking, and a strategic approach to improving the county's financial practices. Katie holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Roanoke College and a Master of Business Administration from Valdosta State University. She has also completed additional accounting courses through Liberty University. She worked for the City of Roanoke for 10 years holding positions as an Accountant, Senior Accountant, Budget Management Analyst, and Senior Budget Analyst.

Remote Worker Support

Did you know that 10% of the workers who live in Botetourt County's are remote workers? To better serve this segment of our community, the county teamed up with the Roanoke Regional Partnership and the Rural Growth Initiative to survey remote workers and learn how the county can better support them. Nearly 400 workers completed the survey, saying that reliable broadband, childcare, and coworking spaces were some of the greatest needs. The county also presented findings at the 2024 Saving Rural America Conference and also shared information with our colleagues at Virginia Tech. The county will continue to work on framework to make

Botetourt County a certified remote work community while also setting up performance indicators and benchmarks for other communities to follow. Find out more at www.botetourtva.gov/remotework.

VACO Award – BOCO4U

The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) announced the 45 recipients of the 2024 Achievement Awards, which recognizes excellence in local government programs. Botetourt County was one of the winners and was recognized for the BOCO Facts4U initiative.

The BOCO Facts4U page was created in March, 2024 to correct misinformation spread through the grapevine and via social media. We believe that constructive discussions and effective solutions must be based on facts and not assumptions, innuendo, or false narratives. The Botetourt County Office of Communications led this initiative to address rumors and false claims.

Election 2024

Three elections were held in 2024:

- March Presidential Primary: 5,484 votes cast with a 21% turnout
- June Republican Primary: 1,761 votes cast with a 7% turnout
- November General Election: 22,508 votes cast with an 81% turnout

Botetourt County Statistics

January—November 2024:

- Registered voters as of 1/1/2024: 26,599
- Registered voters as of 12/5/2024: 27,474
- Registered 1,311 new voters transferred 1,039 voters into Botetourt from other Virginia localities
- Transferred 989 voters out of Botetourt to other Virginia localities
- Canceled 332 deceased voters
- Canceled 20 voters for felony convictions
- Canceled 102 voters for moving out of state
- Canceled 10 voters by their choice

The Office of Elections would like to thank all of our volunteers and election workers for all that they did this year to provide exemplary customer service to Botetourt County citizens.

BOCO Cuts Tax Rate

During the June 25, 2024, Botetourt County Board of Supervisors Meeting, the Board voted 4-1 to reduce the real estate tax rate from \$0.79 per \$100 to \$0.70 per \$100. They also voted 4-1 to adopt the proposed budget. The Board also voted on the following budget-related issues:

- The Fiscal Year '24-25 Operating Budget totaling \$90,422,886 was approved with a vote of 4-1. This was an 8% increase from the previous year, mainly due to increased funding for public safety/first responders and Botetourt County Public Schools. More than 64% of the county's general budget is dedicated to public safety/first responders and education.
- Botetourt County increased aid for elderly and disabled persons relating to exemptions from real estate tax to become one of the most generous communities in our region.
- Vehicle personal property tax remained the same at \$2.71 as in the previous year.
- Business property tax increased from \$2.71 per \$100 to \$2.94 per \$100.
- Machine and Tools tax increased to an effective rate of \$1.00 per \$100.
- Meals Tax Rate increased from 4% to 6% (The effective date of the proposed Prepared Food & Beverage tax rate adjustment is October 1, 2024)

Botetourt County spends local tax dollars as follows:

- 34% Education
- 29% Public Safety
- 13% Non-Departmental
- 7% General Government
- 5% Health & Welfare
- 4% Public Works
- 3% Community Development
- 2% Judicial Administration

Public Safety

Botetourt Fire & EMS Community Engagement

Botetourt County Public School's elementary students were invited to participate in the 2nd Annual Fire Prevention Week Art Contest! Participants were encouraged to create artwork in a medium of their choice surrounding the 2024 Fire Prevention Week Theme, "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You." The winners were invited to dinner with firefighters at Read Mountain Station 7, where they also got to take a short ride on the fire truck!

Botetourt Fire & EMS also hosted their very popular and nationally recognized Girls Fire Camp! Over 50 girls from our community attended the camp in June. The camp is made possible by our community partners and funding is provided by a FEMA SAFER grant through the International Association of Fire Chief's Volunteer Workforce Solutions. We appreciate the overwhelming support of our staff, volunteers, partners and sponsors!

BOCO Fire & EMS Career Academy & Volunteer Academy

Botetourt County Fire & Rescue continued to recruit and train for career and volunteer staff in 2024. The department held two career recruit schools. Academy 37 graduated on June 7, 2024 as part of the Roanoke Valley Regional Fire & EMS Recruit School. Then on July 22, 2024, 13 recruits started their fire & EMS journey in Recruit Academy 1, which was solely run by Botetourt Fire & EMS. Eight recruits were officially pinned on January 3, 2025 after completing a rigorous 24-week training academy. The department is also in the process of running a volunteer academy. To find out how you can volunteer with Botetourt Fire & EMS, visit www.botetourtva.gov/fire

Recruitment & Retention Award

Congratulations to Botetourt Fire & EMS for receiving the International Association of Fire Chiefs Volunteer Combination Officers Sections Recruitment and Retention Award for the department's efforts in recruiting Fire & EMS volunteers! Chief Ferguson and Volunteer Coordinator Taylor Lunsford traveled to Florida to receive this prestigious honor on behalf of the county.

Hurricane Helene Deployment

On Thursday, October 3rd a crew of 4 personnel deployed to Damascus to provide relief for their volunteer responders who had worked tirelessly for over 72-hours straight during and after Hurricane Helene moved through their areas. During the time our personnel spent in Damascus, they helped with community support and responded alongside the local first responders to a barn fire. It is disasters like these that give local responders an opportunity to go help our distant neighbors, while also gaining an appreciation for operations during troubling circumstances. This brings back valuable information while educating our local first responders in better disaster preparedness in our own communities.

A small crew also deployed to help our neighbors in Asheville, NC. Assisting our neighbors in their time of need is the most important thing that we can do!

Public Safety Radio System - Updates

To improve an outdated (1999) Public Safety Communications system, Botetourt County is implementing the purchase of a new public safety radio system. The new system will provide better coverage for the citizens of the county and first responders during emergencies. To stay up to date on the project, visit www.botetourtva.gov/emergencycommunications

- 32,462 Total Calls of Service, Sheriff's Department
- 5,517 Total Calls of Service, Fire & EMS
- 43,450 Total Calls Received by E-911 Center

Sheriff's Office Updates

Fugitive Arrested: On April 19, the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office, along with the U.S. Marshals Service Roanoke Division announced the arrest of fugitive Michael D. Hightower, Jr. This fugitive was charged with four counts of aggravated sexual battery. He fled to Mexico in October 2023 but was taken into custody and extradited to Botetourt County. A press conference was held to announce the arrest.

Axon: The Botetourt County Sheriff's Office is transitioning to Axon Technologies to update equipment which includes updating current in car camera systems, cradle point internet solutions for patrol vehicles, and updating current TASERS to new and more effective less lethal equipment. This technology provides critical officer safety advantages for our deputies who are constantly immersed in task-saturated environments by equipping them with reliable and simplified tools.

Senior Socials: In 2024 the Sheriff's Office continued to collaborate with Fincastle Baptist Church and community partners to host senior socials for our community. This was a great time to allow the older adults in our community to fellowship and learn about services available to them.

You can stay in touch with the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office at: www.botetourtsheriffva.com and follow them on Facebook.

Community Programs

Increase in Community Engagement – BOCO Libraries

Botetourt County Libraries launched new resources in 2024 including:

- Hoopla (ebooks, e-audiobooks, streaming movies and more)
- Mailbox Plus (for teachers and homeschoolers)
- Patrons can remotely print from mobile devices with Princh

- Fincastle Library interior facelift for better usability
- Launch of “Botetourt Memory” digital archive of records related to the history and heritage of Botetourt County and its residents

Botetourt County Libraries continued an upward trend in community engagement in 2024:

- Reaching over 3,000 people at outreach events

- 102,000 patron visits to library branches
- Patrons enjoyed 265,000 checkouts of physical and digital materials
- Over 10,000 people enjoyed 900+ library programs
- Patrons connected to over 19,000 Wi-Fi sessions
- Staff spent 400 hours in more than 1,200 one-on-one sessions helping citizens learn basic computer skills.

Recreation

Botetourt County Welcomes Victor Morales as New Parks & Rec Director

Botetourt County is pleased to announce Victor Morales as the new Director of Parks & Recreation. Victor brings seven years of experience from Berry College, one of Georgia’s top private colleges, where he leveraged the 27,000-acre campus to develop people through adventure. Victor holds a BA in Outdoor Education Leadership, Environmental Studies, and Psychology from Salisbury University and an MBA from Berry College.

BOCO Wild

Our 3rd Annual BOCO WILD took place on Saturday, June 8th at Buchanan Town Park. BOCO WILD is a partnership with the Department of Wildlife Resources and encompasses a diverse array of outdoor activities. Save the date – BOCO Wild returns to Buchanan on June 14, 2025!

Track Trail Sign Dedication

Botetourt County and the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation’s Kids in Parks

program grand opened the Cherry Blossom TRACK Trail on August 17th. This is one of the newest TRACK Trail in the Kids in Parks network. TRACK Trails are a type of environmental scavenger hunt for young children and their families to get unplugged and active outdoors, offering a series of self-guided activities that turn an ordinary hike into a fun-filled, discovery-packed adventure. At the TRACK Trail’s trailhead, four brochure-led activities are available that help kids learn about topics such as Hide and Seek, Bug Out, Tracks and Traces, and Pond Life.



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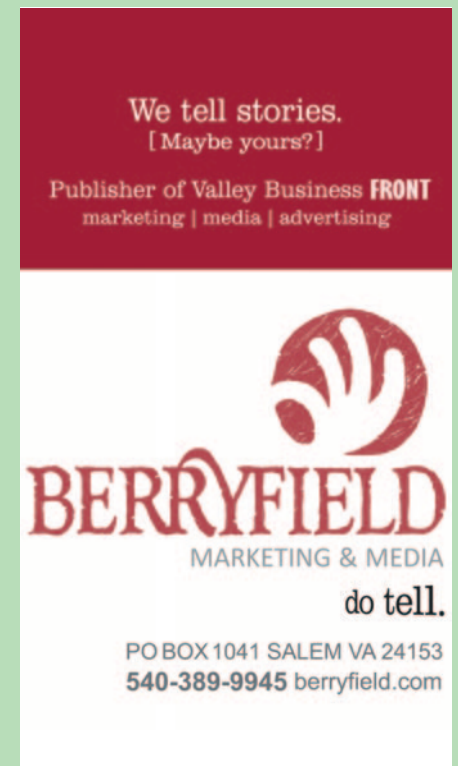
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Recreation Incentive Fund

This fund provided over \$48,000 to local organizations through the Parks & Recreation Department. The county offered a 50% match of the total project for these projects:

- Breckinridge PTA: \$1,200 for Outdoor Basketball Court Improvements
- Cloverdale PTA: \$8,865.50 for Basketball Court Rejuvenation

- Colonial PTA: \$7,750 for Playground Enhancements
- Eagle Rock PTA: \$3,219.55 for Basketball Court & Track Enhancements
- James River High: \$7,619 for School Scorer's Table
- Troutville PTA: \$10,000 for Playground Updates
- Buchanan Town Improvement Society: \$10,000 for renovations to the Community House

Youth Recreation Sports

2,213 youth and 395 coaches registered for 8 recreation sports leagues. Seasons included Cheerleading with 4 teams, Flag football with 16 teams, Tackle Football with 5 teams, Soccer with 53 teams, Baseball, Softball, and Tee-ball with 64 teams and Basketball with 68 teams with edition of the NEW All-Girls 7-8 Basketball league with 51 participants!

Quality of Life

LOVE Sign Dedication

The Botetourt Sports Complex at Greenfield is one of the treasured jewels of the county, where we get tens of thousands of visitors each year and where many of our residents come to take a walk or watch their children and grandchildren play on the soccer fields. On October 21, 2024, Botetourt County was pleased to dedicate our Botetourt County LOVE Sign! The colors in the sign replicate the Botetourt County LOGO. We invite visitors to stop by the Botetourt Sports Complex, snap a photo with the sign and find out how easy it is to fall in love with BOCO!

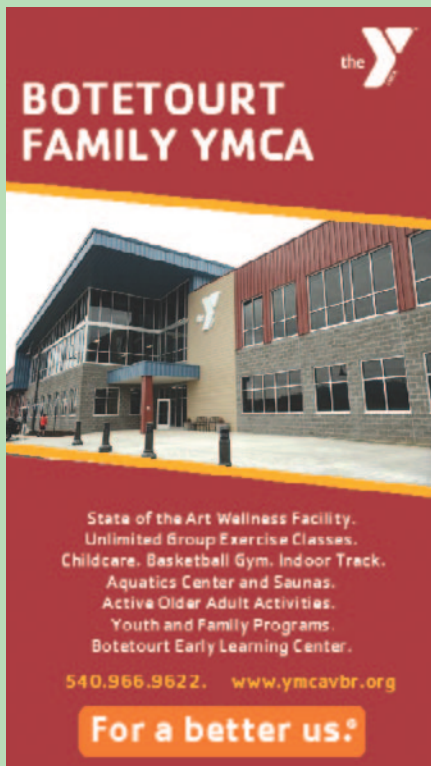
Learn more at
www.botetourtva.gov/lovesign

Broadband


Did you know that Botetourt County has achieved 95% universal broadband coverage fiber to home? We are so close to making this vital utility a reality for all of our residents and visitors. In 2024, the county received yet another grant totaling \$395,411 to work on expanding and establishing broadband installation with Comcast to 62 addresses in the Blue Ridge community. This Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI)

proposal follows three previous successful VATI projects in Botetourt County serving a total of approximately 3,070 addresses and elevates the county's work to deliver broadband connectivity to every residence and business, begun in 2017 with the broadband demand study.

In 2025, the county will continue to explore BEAD (Broadband Equity Access & Deployment Program) funding to complete the universal coverage broadband build. Follow our Broadband Journey at
www.botetourtva.gov/broadband



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Telling Botetourt's Story—We LOVE What We Do!

Getting to Know BOCO/Ask BOCO/Chatbot

Botetourt County employees work to serve our community and one of the things that we do is answer our community's questions about their local government. To better serve, in 2024, we launched the "Getting to Know BOCO" Initiative.

The theme centers around "live, work, play, and give back," and we invite everyone—

residents, businesses, and visitors alike—to dive in and Get to Know BOCO by:

- Asking Questions
- Utilizing our new chatbot feature at www.botetourtva.gov
- Subscribing to our brand-new digital newsletter
- Signing up for notifications and news from the county at www.botetourtva.gov/notifyme
- Watching "Ask the Expert" videos

- Validating rumors at www.bocofacts4u (2024 VACO Award-Winning Project)

Local government employees work tirelessly to ensure that essential services are provided and that residents and businesses are well-supported. Their efforts go a long way in making Botetourt County a great place to live, work, play and give back! Learn more by visiting www.botetourtva.gov/gettingtoknowboco

Falling in LOVE with BOCO: A Celebration of Community Through Art

Falling in love with BOCO is an experience for all ages. There's something truly special about appreciating the place you live, work, play, and give back. As the Botetourt County Office of Communications planned the cover for this year's annual report we wanted it to feel personal. That's when inspiration struck: an art contest inviting middle and high school students from Botetourt County Public Schools to Fall in Love with BOCO while also learning about local government in the process.

The contest challenged students to explore different aspects of local government and design postage stamps reflecting their unique perspectives on what makes Botetourt County special. These student-created designs serve as a love letter to our county, capturing the essence of our community and celebrating the dedication of our local government over the past year. You will find their work scattered among the pages of the Annual Report at www.botetourtva.gov/806/Annual-Reports

A total of 121 students from three Botetourt County schools—Central Academy Middle School, Lord Botetourt High School, and James River High School, participated in the contest, and 16 winners were selected. Congratulations to: Kaeli Berry, Kaylee Harlow, Abby Humphries, Ashby Wilkes, Regan Childs, Amber Stevens, Belle Stewart, Kody Park, Kylee Aaron, Elizabeth Meadows, Neela Megow, Brookelyn Fadia, Caroline Rushing, Braelynn Scott, Olivia Eubank, Avia Fochtman, and August Buehring.



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A Look Ahead

As we welcome 2025, Botetourt County is looking forward to continuing our mission which is to generate and allocate revenues and establish policies and regulations to pursue public safety and educational goals, protect our environment and quality of life, enhance the local economy, comply with state and federal program mandates, and provide other lawful services desired and supported by county residents.

Botetourt County is dedicated to: Integrity, Excellence in Providing Services, Limited Government, Respect for Others, Respect for the Past and Future, Accountability, and Loyalty.

Some of the projects & initiatives on the horizon to better serve our residents, businesses, and visitors are:

- Beginning of the E-911 Center Relocation
- Buchanan Library Renovation
- Recreation Enhancements
- Continued Construction at the Fincastle Circuit Courthouse
- Continued Construction of the E-911 Communications System
- Delivery of New Fire-EMS Apparatus

Engage With Us!

Sign up for the latest county news and events at:
www.botetourtva.gov/notifyme

Follow us on social media
(Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor, LinkedIn, YouTube) @botetourtcounty

Botetourt County Administration
Office at Greenfield
57 South Center Dr.
Daleville, VA 24083
communications@botetourtva.gov
540-928-2000



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Attorneys at Law

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Malcolm McL. Doubles



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Fincastle, VA 24090

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Fax: 473-2994

e-mail: mdoubles@doubleslaw.com

Family Traditions

In western Virginia there are few things held in higher esteem than family and family traditions. People in the area look for quality and value in their services.

The Woods Family includes three generations of expertise that have been providing the Roanoke Valley and Botetourt areas with the highest quality and value in heating and air conditioning services for decades.

Our Family involvement dates back more than 50 years. We feel that personal service, professionalism and expertise are part of those family traditions.

If you are looking for those family traditions and personalized service from Rick, Gary and the rest of the Woods Family give us a call; we're happy to start a family tradition for you.

Rick & Gary Woods



WOODS FAMILY



Heating and Air Conditioning

540-992-3944

Contacts

Botetourt County Constitutional Offices

Clerk of the Circuit Court	540-928-2350
Commissioner of the Revenue	540-928-2050
Commonwealth's Attorney	540-928-2150
Treasurer	540-928-2030

Botetourt County Administration

County Administrator and Deputy	540-928-2006
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Botetourt County Departments

Animal Control	540-928-2200
Communications	540-928-2004
Community Development (Services, Building)	540-928-2070
Community Development (Planning, Zoning)	540-928-2080
Economic Development.....	540-928-2140
Elections & Voter Registration	540-928-2000
Fire & EMS (for emergencies, dial 911)	540-928-2006
Health Department	540-666-4275
Libraries	540-928-2900
Parks & Recreation	540-928-2130
Sheriff (for emergencies, dial 911)	540-928-2200
Social Services	540-591-5960
Solid Waste	540-992-5111

Botetourt County Public Schools	540-473-8263
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Botetourt County Sports Complex	540-928-2400
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Botetourt County Chamber of Commerce	540-566-8812
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