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Board of Supervisors

John Sharp, Chair, District 4
Charla Bansley, Vice-Chair, District 3
Mickey Johnson, District 1
Edgar Tuck, District 2
Tommy Scott, District 5
Bob Davis, District 6
Tammy Parker, District 7

County Administration

Robert Hiss, County Administrator Amanda Kaufman, Deputy County Administrator Patrick Skelley, County Attorney

Contact Us

Main Tel: (540) 586-7601 Fax: (540) 586-0406 www.bedfordcountyva.gov 122 E. Main Street, Suite 202 Bedford, VA 24523

On the cover: County Administrator Robert Hiss poses with "Will-Hay Nelson", which stands in a field beside the Huddleston Post Office on Tolers Ferry Road (created by Beth Bays, owner of Buckscrape Farms).

A Message from the

County Administrator

I've received the opportunity to speak about the County at a few meetings over the past month. During two of them with community members and business leaders, I took the opportunity to tout our economic development successes and explain our approach. There is a common misconception that a community is only successful if we are announcing 100+ employee industry relocations. Of course, we would like to get those in Bedford County and our staff, coupled with the Lynchburg Regional Alliance, is consistently out there selling our community. However, I would rather experience success by assisting our existing industries and businesses. After all, they have already chosen to be part of this community. They pay taxes, donate to charities, fund youth activities, employ residents, volunteer, and make our community stronger.

When our industries are ready to add jobs or another line of production, we want to be present and assist if needed. That doesn't happen unless

relationships already exist and they trust that our staff and EDA are here to help. Thanks to their good work, over the past 12 months, we've had six announcements of expansions totaling 108 jobs in six different companies. Additionally, the staff and EDA are currently working on a couple more that will hopefully be announced within the upcoming months. We are marketing to the world about our first class industrial parks and community. The almost complete shell building in New London will add to the lure of Bedford County and it will get filled by the right business at the right time. However, in the meantime, we will continue to pound the pavement with the goal of making our existing businesses and industries even stronger.

In another speaking engagement, I had the honor to recognize employees who have achieved milestones of service to the community. We honored 66 employees who achieved five year anniversaries all the way up to one who has been working for Bedford County for 40 years. I was amazed at the family like feeling of the ceremony. Each department director and Constitutional Officer presented the service awards to their staff and blessed the individual honoree and those listening with personal anecdotes. This created an awesome atmosphere of emotion and gratitude.

I can't begin to recognize all the time, energy, sweat, smiles, and tears that our employees give to this organization and community; but I really value the effort they bring every day on behalf of the taxpayers and how they support each other. I was so happy to play a role in the service award ceremony and look forward to the next opportunity to recognize our deserving employees.

Halt Hi

Upcoming Public Hearings

Notice is hereby given that the Bedford County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm regarding the following rezoning, special use permit, text amendment, and proffer amendment applications:

- Rezoning Application #RZ050002 is a request by Seven Hills Enterprises, LLC (George V. Rowe) to modify Proffers #3 and #4 that were accepted in association with the Bellevue Terrace Rezoning approved on February 14, 2005. Proffer #3 currently states "No home shall be permitted to be constructed on any lot that contains less than 3,000 square-feet of finished living space for a two story house, or 2,500 feet for a one story house". The applicant is proposing to amend Proffer #3 by adding the following sentence "For Lots 114-11-1 through 7 and lot 114-11-11 the minimum home square footage shall be 2000 square feet for a two-story home and 1600 square feet for a one-story home". Proffer #4 currently states "Architectural standards for all homes and accessory structures are to be primarily brick or stone, with Hardi Plank or similar cement fiber siding product covering less than half of the building exterior. Architectural grade shingles or better roof material must be used. There shall be no exposed concrete CMU foundations. Homes shall be of a generally traditional appearance, in keeping with other finer homes in the area". The applicant is proposing to amend Proffer #4 by adding the following sentence "For Lots 114-11-1 through 7 and lot 114-11-11 vinyl siding is allowed as an exterior finish". Since the Planning Commission public hearing held on January 21, 2020, the applicant has modified his proposed statement to amend Proffer #3 by adding "For lots 114-11-1 through 7, the minimum home square footage shall be 2000 square feet for a two-story home and 1600 square feet for a one-story home." Additionally, the applicant has modified his proposed statement to amend Proffer #4 by adding "For lots 114-11-1 through 7, vinyl siding is allowed as an exterior finish material in lieu of brick, stone or Hardie." The proposed changes now excludes Lot 114-11-11, and would apply to seven (7) of the eight (8) remaining lots owned by Seven Hills Enterprises, LLC. These lots are located in the Agricultural Village Center (AV) zoning district. Tax Map Numbers: 114-A-82, 114-11-1, 114-11-2, 114-11-3, 114-11-4, 114-11-5, 114-11-6, 114-11-7, 114-11-8, 114-11-9, 114-11-10, 114-11-11 and 114-11-12.
- Rezoning Application #R219-0001 is a request by Gumtree, LLC to rezone Tax Map Number 100-A-12A by removing the Historic Overlay (HO) district from the property. The future land use designation for the subject property is "Agricultural/Natural Resource Stewardship" in the 2030 Bedford County Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. The purpose of the Historic Overlay district is to recognize, preserve, and encourage the continued appropriate development of historic resources in designated areas by establishing standards for development and allowable uses that will insure such development. While much of the area in these districts may remain virtually unchanged other sections may need to change to serve the best interest of the area and its environs and the surrounding property owners. Typical uses within this district include restoration and reconstruction of historic structures, related residential, educational, administrative, maintenance, public assembly, festival activities, and limited supporting commercial activities. The applicant is proposing to develop the subject parcel with a driving range ("Commercial Outdoor Sports and Recreation" use). The property is located on Gumtree Road, adjacent to the Colonial Hills Golf Course (1926 Gumtree Road) to the north and 1770 Gumtree Road to the south and is 8 acres in size, according to Bedford County Real Estate information. The subject property is currently owned by Gumtree, LLC and is presently zoned Planned Commercial Development (PCD) district with Historic Overlay (HO) district. Voluntary proffers have not been offered by the applicant.

Upcoming Public Hearings

Notice is hereby given that the Bedford County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm regarding the following rezoning, special use permit, text amendment, and proffer amendment applications (continued from previous page):

- Special Use Permit Application #SU19-0002 is a request by Gumtree, LLC to allow a "Commercial Outdoor Sports and Recreation" use on an 8-acre parcel, zoned Planned Commercial Development (PCD) district with Historic Overlay (HO) district, for a golf driving range. The property is located on Gumtree Road, adjacent to the Colonial Hills Golf Course (1926 Gumtree Road) and 1770 Gumtree Road. Tax Map #100-A-12A.
- Special Use Permit Application #SU160007 is an amendment request by Thomas Road Baptist Church to expand an existing "Camp" use by more than 50 percent in an AP (Agricultural Rural Preserve) zoning district in accordance with Section 30-24-1(F) of the Bedford County Zoning Ordinance. Improvements to the property associated with this amendment request include the addition of one (1) 2,040 square foot staff cabin, ten (10) 2,040 square foot camper cabins, and two (2) 4,080 square foot family cabins. The property is located at 7794 Sheep Creek Road. Tax Map Number: 53-A-1G.
- Zoning Text Amendment. This amendment removes §30-82-11(b)(3) regarding rear setbacks and re-establishes the setback for multifamily structures in the AV,R-3, R-4, and C-1 zoning districts. For new multifamily structures at Smith Mountain Lake, the rear setback will be measured from the recognized full pond level. Additionally, the principal structure shall be located a minimum of ten (10) feet from the eight-hundred (800) foot contour. Walkways and steps are exempt from rear yard requirements.

The Board of Supervisors public hearing will be held in the Bedford County Administration Building Boardroom, 122 E. Main St., Bedford, VA. Copies of the applications are available for public inspection at the offices of the County Administrator and at the Department of Community Development located in the Bedford County Administration Building, 122 E. Main St., Bedford, VA., telephone 540-586-7616. Persons affected may appear and will be provided opportunity to present their views.



2020 Meeting Calendar

Board of Supervisors:

February	$10^{th} \\ 24^{th}$	Worksession beginning at 5:00 pm (CAFR and budget goals) Annual dinner with the Extension Office at 6:00 pm; Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm
March	9 th 16 th 23 rd	Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm - Revenue Estimates and Budget "Big Rocks" Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm – Questions follow-up & new positions Budget Work Session from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm; Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm
April	6 th 13 th 20 th 27 th	Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm Worksession 5:00 pm (topic TBD) Public Hearing Tax Rate at 7:00 pm (if needed) Budget Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm (if needed) Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm (Budget Public Hearing and Tax Rate Adoption)
May	$11^{th} \\ 26^{th}$	Work Session with VDOT at 5:00 pm; VDOT Public Hearing on 6-Year Plan at 6:00 pm Regular Meeting – Adopt Budget <i>(Tuesday)</i> at 7:00 pm
June	$8^{th} \\ 22^{nd}$	Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm (topic TBD) Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm
July	$13^{th} \\ 27^{th}$	Work Session beginning at 5:00 (topic TBD) Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm
August	10 th	Work Session from 5:00 – 6:30 pm; (VDOT and topic TBD), Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm (<i>A dopt PPTRA Rate</i>)
September	14 th 28 th	Work Session beginning at 5:00 pm (topic TBD) Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm
October	$13^{th} \\ 26^{th}$	Annual Joint Meeting with EDA beginning at 5:00 pm (<i>Tuesday</i>) Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm
November	9 th 23 rd	Worksession beginning at 5:00 pm (VDOT) Regular Meeting
December	14 th	Work Session 5:00 pm; Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm

The Board of Supervisors meets on the 2nd Monday at 5:00 pm, and the 4th Monday at 7:00 pm (unless otherwise noted) for Regular Board Meetings in the Boardroom of the Bedford County Administration Office, 122 E. Main Street, Bedford, Virginia. Worksessions are held at 5:00 pm on the same day as the first Regular Meeting of every month (unless otherwise noted). Board information, agendas, minutes, etc., can be found HERE.

Planning Commission:

• February 18, 2020

The Planning Commission meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Bedford County Administration Building Boardroom at 122 East Main Street, Bedford, Virginia.

2020 Meeting Calendar

Agricultural Economic Development Advisory Board:

November

December

2

Economic De	velopm	ent Authority:
February	6	Organizational Meeting (Thursday)
March	5	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
April	2	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
May	7	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
June	4	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
July	2	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
August	6	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
September	3	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
October	13	Joint Meeting w/Board of Supervisors (Tue. – 5 p.m.)
November	5	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
December	3	Regular Meeting (Thursday)
2021		
January	7	Regular Meeting (Thursday)

All *regular meetings* are held at <u>5:30 p.m.</u> in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room unless otherwise noted.

The annual joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors will be held at <u>5:00 p.m.</u> in the Ground Floor Training Room. Short EDA Business Meeting to immediately follow, if needed. The Economic Development Authority reserves the right to modify this schedule as necessary. Special meetings, such as a Planning Day, may be added as necessary.

February	5	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:00 pm
March	4	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:00 pm
April	1	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:30 pm
May	6	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:30 pm
June	3	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:30 pm
July	1	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:30 pm
August	5	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:30 pm
September	2	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:30 pm
October	7	Regular Meeting (Wednesday)	7:30 pm

Regular Meeting (Wednesday)

Regular Meeting (Wednesday)

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm from April to October; and 7:00 pm from November to March. When a holiday falls on the first Wednesday, the meetings are generally held the following Wednesday. Meetings are held in the Peaks Rooms of the Parks and Rec/Coop Extension Building (Falling Creek Center), 1257 County Farm Road, Bedford, Virginia unless otherwise noted. See <u>Calendar</u> for latest information. You can find the agendas and minutes from each meeting on our <u>Ag Board Agendas & Minutes</u> page.

7:00 pm

7:00 pm

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think! Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



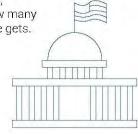
It's about fair representation.

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.

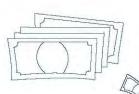


It's in the Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790.



It means \$675 billion.



Census data determine how more than \$675 billion are spent, supporting your state, county and



It's about redistricting.

After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts. adapting to population shifts.





Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



Census data are being used all around you.

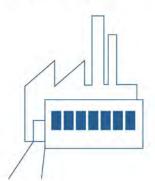


Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.



Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.

Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.



Your data are confidential.

Federal law protects your census responses. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics.

By law we cannot share your information with immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies, or allow it to be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.



Title 13 Sales

census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.

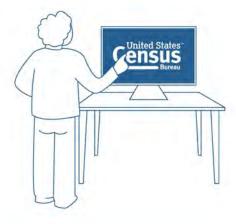
developers use the

Real estate



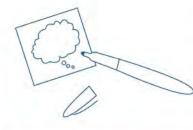
2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.



You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.



Census Bureau U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU CENSUS.gov

FIND OUT HOW TO HELP AT CENSUS.GOV/PARTNERS

Read more here >>

Economic Development



Custom Truck One Source Doubles Production in Bedford County

Custom Truck One Source, a manufacturer and distributor of specialized trucks and heavy equipment, will invest \$2.6 million to expand its existing manufacturing operation in Bedford County. The company will double production at its operation in Forest, Virginia to meet growing demand from its customers, creating 61 new jobs.

Blue Ridge Optics expands again in Bedford, adding 10 new jobs

The Bedford County Economic Development Authority (EDA), and the Town of Bedford EDA, are pleased to announce that Blue Ridge Optics, an industry leader in laser optics and thin film coatings, will expand its business in the Town within Bedford County, adding 10 new jobs over the next three years and an investment of more than \$695,000 in new equipment and real estate upgrades to meet increasing customer product demand. Read more here >>

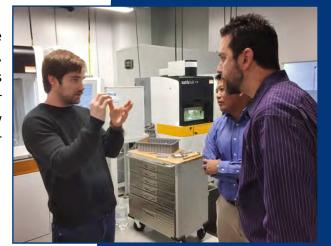
Traci Blido, Director

Contact Information: County Administration Building 122 E. Main Street Suite 202 Bedford, VA 24523

<u>website</u>

Phone: (540) 587-5670

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm



You can follow Bedford County Economic Development on









Economic Development

New London Shell Building remains on schedule

The New London Shell Building project is in its final stages. Next steps include electrical, storefront installation, stone and brick work, seeding and landscaping, The project is slated to be complete by the end of March.





TRACI BLIDO, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:
County Administration Building
122 E. Main Street
Suite 202
Bedford, VA 24523

<u>website</u>

Phone: (540) 587-5670

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Upcoming Events:

- February 21 Bedford ONE tour at Radford University Carilion
- February 21 Bedford ONE tour at Sam Moore Furniture and Blue Ridge Optics

The Bedford County EDA and the Office of Economic Development supports these tours that help prepare Bedford County high school students for the workforce.

Follow us on social media to see pictures from these tours and stay up-to-date with our activities.

You can follow Bedford County Economic Development on









E-911 Communications

CONGRATULATIONS

Bedford 911 Communications would like to congratulate Communications Officer Sue Ellen for assisting in the delivery of a baby through our Emergency Medical Dispatch program on 1/11/2020 at 6:37AM. Congratulations to the new mother and father as well.

THANK YOU!

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is from April 12-18, 2020.

Every year during the second week of April, the telecommunications personnel in the public safety community are honored. This week-long event, initially set up in 1981 by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in California, is a time to celebrate and thank those who dedicate their lives to serving the public.

CALLS FOR SERVICE				
TYPE	CURRENT	2020 TOTAL		
EMS	720	720		
FIRE	242	242		
SHERIFF	3421	3421		
UTILITIES	309	309		
TOWN PD	1113	1113		
OTHER LAW	378	378		
COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL	235	235		
OTHER	537	537		
WARRANTS PROCESSED	551	551		
PHONE CALLS				
TYPE CURRENT 2020 TOTAL				
WIRELESS 911	2055	2055		
WIRELINE 911	290	290		
ADMIN	10712	10712		
TOTAL	13057	13057		

JEFF JOHNSON, MANAGER

Contact Information: Bedford County Sheriff's Office 1345 Falling Creek Road Bedford, VA 24523

<u>website</u>

Office Hours: 24/7

Fire & Rescue

BCo.FR Big Island Medic 14-2 Quarters Remodel

Remodeling and renovations in the Big Island Emergency Crew facility on Route 501 has recently been completed. This facility houses Bedford County Fire & Rescue Medic 14-2 career staff consisting of six Firefighter/Medics on a 24/7 basis with two on duty per shift. In the continued partnership with the Big Island community and as staffing needs evolve, the traditional the volunteer Fire and Rescue facilities often are lacking in accommodations for 24/7 Career Staffing.

Fortunately, in Big Island the physical plant was such that it allowed a remodel establishing two individual bunk rooms, an updated bathroom, and previously non-existent shower facilities, while taking advantage of the existing kitchen and dining area. Enhancing what had been a less-than-desirable stairwell configuration and allowing the responders to access the medic units for emergency response will provide increased safety and efficiency in timeliness of response. This upgrade in no way impacts the facilities currently used by the volunteer Cadre and maintains a separate but equal distribution of resources.

The CIP line item for this type of project is truly the lifeblood of these projects. This upgrade was accomplished within the expected timeframe and slightly under the \$25,000 cost estimate, with Big Island Emergency Crew serving as the general contractor and Deputy Chief Janet Blankenship managing the needs and design tasks.

The next major initiative is with the Stewartsville Rescue Squad and honoring our agreement to establish permanent quarters for the career staff at Medic 14-13 assignment, as the six Firefighter/Medics continue to reside in a temporary construction trailer located behind the rescue squad building.

JACK JONES, JR., CHIEF

Contact Information: 1185 Turning Point Road Bedford, VA 24523

website

Phone: (540) 587-0700

Human Resources

New IRS Form W-4 for 2020

The IRS has announced significant changes to the IRS Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Certificate, for 2020. The new form and revised withholding calculations could affect your tax withholding and year-end refund or tax due amounts when you file your annual income tax return.

The 2020 Form W-4 is designed to be both easier and more accurate, permitting easy adjustments for anticipated tax credits, other income and deductions.



If you would like to adjust your withholding to account for these factors, you will now be able to simply enter your full-year estimated amounts on the Form W-4.

The IRS has provided an online "Withholding Estimator" at http://www.irs.gov/w4app to determine how to complete the 2020 Form W-4 so that you don't have too much or too little withheld during the year.

Form W-4 Highlights

- There are three options for employees with multiple jobs or two-earner families:
 - ✓ Simplified worksheet in the W-4 instructions
 - ✓ Enhanced IRS online Withholding Estimator
 - ✓ New checkbox to automatically adjust for multiple jobs or two-earner families
- New filing status Head of Household
- New adjustment entries:
 - ✓ Full-year child and dependent tax credits
 - ✓ Full-year other income; and,
 - ✓ Full-year deductions

In addition, you will still be able to authorize an additional dollar amount to withhold from each pay period, for any reason. Additional information can be found at https://www.irs.gov/.

DAWN FIELDS, DIRECTOR

Contact Information: County Administration Building 122 E. Main Street Bedford, VA 24523

website

Phone: (540) 586-7601 Fax: (540) 586-0406

Human Resources



On January 29, 2020 the County recognized 66 employees at the annual Employee Recognition Ceremony.

It is an honor to recognize the passion and dedication that our employees bring to their work every day.

Current Recruitment

The County of Bedford, Virginia is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants and employees shall be afforded equal opportunity in all aspects of employment without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, otherwise qualified persons with disabilities, or any other factor protected by law.

If needed, please contact the Human Resources office to request reasonable accommodation in completing a job application. Bedford County accepts applications only for current advertised positions. Resumes' are welcome as an accompaniment, but are not considered a substitute for the information requested on the application. An application remains active during the recruitment period for which it was submitted. A separate application must be submitted for each position in which the applicant wishes to express interest.

Apply online at www.bedfordcountyva.gov/jobs. Candidates may also apply in person at the Bedford County Administration Building, 122 East Main Street, Suite 202 Bedford, VA 24523.

Bedford County Employment Application

Position:	Department:	Vacancies:
EMT and ALS / Firefighter	Emergency Services	Full Time / Part Time
Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA)	Nursing Home	Full Time / Part Time
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)	Nursing Home	Part Time
Collection Center Attendant	Public Works – Solid Waste	Part Time
General Properties Manager	Public Works	Full Time
Communications Officer	911 Center	Full Time / Part Time
Director of Community Development	Community Development	Full Time

DAWN FIELDS, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:
County Administration Building
122 E. Main Street
Bedford, VA 24523

website

Phone: (540) 586-7601 Fax: (540) 586-0406

Parks & Recreation

GOOD NEWS:

Silver Notes - Senior Choir

The Silver Notes program is offered to all seniors free of charge. The Parks and Recreation bus is used to transport the choir to their booked performances. This group meets on Mondays for practice and performances. The Silver Notes are booked to perform on the following dates and locations:



February 10	Bedford Adult Day Care Center (815 Summit St.) 10:00 a.m.		
February 17	Cardinal Senior Living	10:00 a.m.	
February 24	Bedford Nursing Home	10:00 a.m.	
March 2	Heritage Green (building on the right)	2:00 p.m.	
March 9	Woodhaven Nursing Home	10:00 a.m.	
March 16	The Williams Home	10:00 a.m.	
March 23	Montvale Nutrition Site (Old Montvale Elem)	10:00 a.m.	
March 30	Carrington Place	10:30 a.m.	

2020 Mountain Cross Race #1

Sponsored by Blackwater Bike Shop, Bikes Unlimited, Scene 3 Bike and Board Shop, Sun Solutions, Peak Design Company, Roanoke Mountain Adventures and Walkabout Outfitters

97 racers participated in the Bedford Mountain Cross Race 1 at Falling Creek Bike Park. Racers ages ranged from 7 to 71. Youth participation in this race series continues to grow as well as first time racers. The next race is scheduled for February 6th and is a night race!

The attached pre-registration heat map shows where participants are coming from as well as a demographics break down.

WYATT WOODY, DIRECTOR

Contact Information: 1257 County Farm Road Bedford, VA 24523

website

Phone: (540) 586-7682



Parks & Recreation

GOOD NEWS:

Mountain Cross!....what is it?

The Mountain part refers to many of the same aspects that you might encounter in a mountain bike race. There are single track with rocks, roots and log overs but will only make up approximately 50% of the course. The Cross is similar to a cyclocross race mixing in grass paths, short sections of pavement or gravel road and similar lap distance. The racers will also be required to dismount to clear barriers on the



course. The race course is 1.5-2 miles per lap and will be changed for each race. When combined, these two cycling disciplines mesh nicely to make up what is called Mountain Cross. The races are short, intense and loads of fun!

The Equalizer Format is used to score these races. This is similar to the golf handicapping system. In golf, players of different abilities can play fun and competitive rounds against one another. Since their handicaps equalize their scores the golfer that plays his or her best, regardless of their level of experience, can win! The equalizer format allows riders/racers of all ages and ability levels to race for the overall race win.





A bonus of the format is that fast experienced racers who normally only have to worry about finishing ahead of the other top racers now have to push themselves to compete with beginners! The winner is the racer who does the most laps. Series winners will be the racers completing the most laps combined from all the races. In the event of a tie the racer with the most laps in the least amount of time wins. (Example: 20 laps in 1:55:05 beats 20 laps in 1:59:00)

WYATT WOODY, DIRECTOR

Contact Information: 1257 County Farm Road Bedford, VA 24523

website

Phone: (540) 586-7682



BEDFORD COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION



PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY RENTALS

AVAILABLE FACILITIES

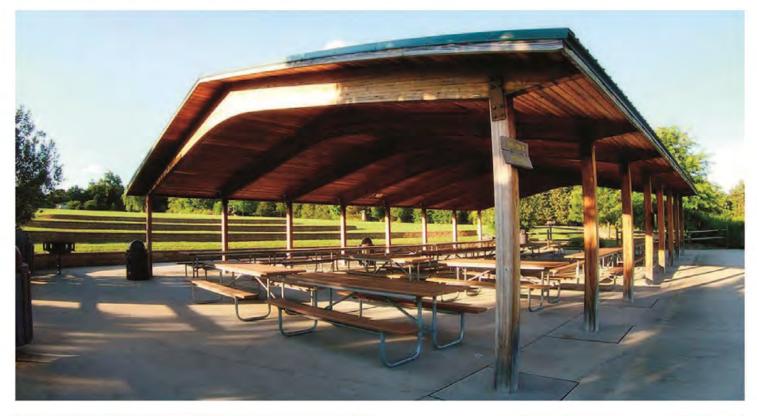
The Bedford County Parks and Recreation Department (BCPRD) have numerous facilities that are available to rent by the public and include:

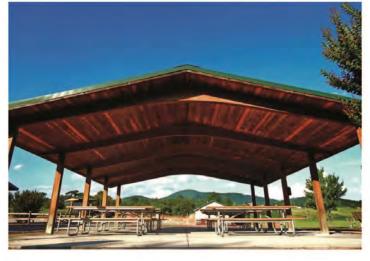
- Forest Recreation Center
- Bellevue Recreation Center
- Huddleston Recreation Center
- Chapel at Falling Creek Park Center

- · Picnic Shelters at Falling Creek Park
- Picnic Shelters at Montvale Park
- · Picnic Shelter at Moneta Park
- Numerous Athletic Facilities

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions or would like more details please contact us at (540) 586–7682.







YOUTH PROGRAMS

SUMMER CAMPS

Magic Fairy Camp June 8 - June 12 Falling Creek Park, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fee: \$100.00 Ages 5+

Magic Fairy Camp July 6 – July 10 Falling Creek Park 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Fee: \$100.00 Ages 5+

Magic Fairy Camp August 3 - August 7 Falling Creek Park 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Fee: \$100.00 Ages 5+ Art Camp

June 22 – June 26 June 29 - July 3 July 13 – July 17 Forest Recreation Center 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Fee: \$65.00 (per person/per week) Ages 5-9

Art Camp
June 15-19
July 6-10
Forest Recreation
Center
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Fee: \$65.00 (per
person/per week)
Ages 10+





EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 4 Elks Home 11:00 a.m. Free

Kids age 3-12 will be able to enjoy a toy and sticker filled egg hunt and a visit with the Easter Bunny. Please call 586-7682 to pre register.

YOUTH FISHING & OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

Saturday, June 6 Smith Mountain Lake Discovery Center Time: 9:30 a.m - 4:00 p.m. Free

This annual event includes fishing, casting contest, fire boat rides, boat and water safety, paintball range, canoeing and a biologist exhibit. Pre registration is highly recommended. There is a 200 child limit. Please call (540) 586-7682 for more information.

KINDERDANCE

BEDFORD PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICES

Kindercombo "Dance Jam" (ages 6-9) Wednesdays 5:30-6:30pm

Kindermotion "Gym Jam" (ages 6-9) Wednesdays 6:30-7:15pm

Kinder "Dance with Me" (ages 15-24 mo) Thursdays 4:00-4:20pm

Kindertots (ages 2-3) Thursdays 4:30-5:00pm

Kindergym (ages 3-5) Thursdays 5:15-5:45pm

Kinderdance (ages 3-5) Thursdays 6:00-7:00pm

For more information or to register visit https://kinderdancecv.com/

ATHLETICS

Spring Sports registration will start Monday February 3rd - February 28th. Spring Sports are Baseball/Softball, Wiffle Ball (for 3 & 4 year olds) Spring Soccer, and new this year is Flag Football! Registration fee is \$35.00. Late registration week is March 2nd - 6th; \$45.00. On Site registrations will take place on Saturday February 22nd.



SENIOR PROGRAMS/ TRIPS

SENIOR BINGO

If you are 50 years or older and like to socialize and play Bingo, then this is the place for you. The Bedford County Parks and Recreation Department offers Bingo 3 times a month at 3 locations from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Forest Recreation Center (2nd Tuesday), Moneta Rescue Squad (3rd Wednesday), and the Bedford Moose Lodge (4th Thursday). Lunch is served at all locations so come and bring your favorite dish to share. Cost is \$1.00 per card with a limit of 4 cards per person. For more information please contact the Recreation office at 586-7682 or come by our office at 1257 County Farm Rd. Bedford.

Oil Painting by the Bob Ross Method with Instructor Ed Gowen Thursday, Jan. 16, Feb. 13 and Mar. 19 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Forest Recreation Center

Even people who have never painted before can do this although more experienced people will also enjoy the classes. Each painting is done on a 16x20 inch canvas (unless otherwise specified) using Bob Ross supplies. Students a roll of paper towels, all other supplies included. Fee: \$75.00 per person/per class. Please call (540) 586-7682 to register. All classes are held at the Forest Recreation Center.

LINE DANCE CLASS

Bedford County Parks and Recreation offers a free line dance class that meets at the County Gym on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. If you are interested please call (540) 586-7682 for more information.

Matter of Balance
Bedford County Parks and Recreation Offices
Monday's and Wednesday's
March 2 – March 25
Free

A Matter of Balance is a 16 hour course that emphasizes practical strategies to reduce fear of falling and increase activity levels. Participants learn to view falls and fear of falling as controllable, set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors, and exercise to increase strength and balance. The group will meet twice weekly for 4 weeks.

Craft Class
Instructor Linda Mann
Thursday, Feb. 13, Mar. 12, Apr. 9, May 14,
June 11
Class Begins at 10:00 a.m.
Fee \$5.00 per person/per class
Bedford County Parks and Recreation Office

Bedford County Parks and Recreation will hold monthly craft classes at the Parks and Recreation office located at 1257 County Farm Rd. in Bedford. Class will begin at 10:00 a.m. Please call (540) 586-7682 to pre register. Participants must be registered by the Monday before class. Fee for the class is \$5.00 per person per class and will be paid to the instructor on the day of class.

TRAILS

BEDFORD MOUNTAIN CROSS WINTER RACE SERIES

We'll keep your legs spinning with the Bedford Winter Mountain Cross Race Series. Come on out and join in on the Racing, Fun, Food, Prizes and Friends! More good times coming with the Bedford Trails Winter Mountain Cross Race Series right around the corner. Get signed up today!

MTX #1 KICKOFF RACE!- Sunday- 2/2/2020 1:30 P.M. Falling Creek Bike Park Bedford, Va.

MTX #2 AFTER DARK!- Saturday- 2/8/2020 6:30 P.M. Falling Creek Park Bedford, Va.

MTX #3 Sunday- 2/16/2020 1:30 P.M. New London Tech Trails Forest, Va

MTX #4 Sunday- 2/23/2020 1:30 pm Falling Creek Park Bedford, Va.

REGISTRATION:

https://www.bikereg.com/bedfordmountaincross

Taste of the Trails

April 18th – New London Tech Trails May 16th – Moneta Park

5K AND MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDES!

Online registration https://www.bikereg.com/tasteof-the-trails

CENTRA REHAB FAT TIRE WEEKEND June 13th and 14th

A weekend of Mountain Biking FUN and racing for the WHOLE FAMILY at Falling Creek Park in beautiful Bedford Va.!

ALL SKILL LEVELS AND ALL AGES WILL HAVE A GREAT TIME!

Falling Creek Park has something for everyone, a MOUNTAIN BIKE PROGRESSION PARK with PUMP TRACK that is suitable for all levels of riders, for the







kiddos a large PLAYGROUND, 18 HOLE DISC GOLF and a world-class SKATE PARK.

FREE on site camping(race weekend only, primitive and car camping, no rv hookups) and HOT SHOWERS!

Registration https://www.bikereg.com/bedfordtrailsbikeraces

On site registration available 1 hour before event start. Cash or Check only.

More information www.bedfordtrails.wordpress.com

UPCOMING EVENT!

Falling Creek Arts and Drafts Fair May 9th National Trails Day June 6th (Location TDB) National Go Skate Boarding Day June 21st Bedford Skate Park

Battle of Bedford Disc Golf Tournament May 30th and 31st 2020 at Falling Creek Park

For More information please check www.bedfordtarils.wordpress.com

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OFFICE



Join the F.E.A.S.T.: Families Eating at Supper Together Series Dates: Tuesday, March 10th, 17th, 24th (Make up date: March 31st)

Time: 5:30 - 7:00pm

Cost: \$20 per family* for all three sessions Location: 1257 County Farm Road, Bedford, VA

Bringing families together in the kitchen teaches children and adults lifelong cooking skills that builds self-esteem, sparks creativity, and most importantly creates life-long memories. During this three-part series, families will learn together how to prepare a simple supper, enjoy a healthy meal together around the table, and utilize all those math, reading, and science skills they work hard on in school. Our goal is to ensure that during this family experience all participants take away invaluable life skills. For more detailed information contact 540-586-7675 or maribethm@vt.edu

*Scholarship information available upon request by calling 540-586-7675

Grow the Good Life, March 21, 2020

A seminar sponsored by the Bedford Extension Master Gardener Association, will be held on March 21, 2020 at a new location, the Forest Recreation Center, 1088 Rustic Village Rd, Forest VA 24551. Topics range from Trendy Ethnic Vegetables to Irises Galore and to Sustainable Gardening. Registration forms available at www. bedfordareamastergardeners.org or at 1257 County Farm Rd, Ste B Bedford, VA 24523. For more information: 540-586-7675.

FitX 2020, April 3 - May 29, 2020

Could you use a little structure? Maybe some encouragement? Break out those walking shoes! Let's do this together. FitX is an 8-week, team-based health program designed to increase physical activity and improve eating habits. Recruit a team, track your activity, receive newsletters filled with recipes, suggestions, and more. FitX launches April 3, 2020 and runs through May 29, 2020. Contact our office for registration information 540-586-7675.

One-Day Kick-Off Registration Bedford County 4-H Summer Camp Date: Saturday, April 4, 2020 Time: 9am - 12pm

Location: 1257 County Farm Road, Bedford, VA

We will host a one-day, kick-off registration event for 4-H summer camp participants. \$100 deposit will be due at the registration with the total cost of camp being \$270. Join us at the kick-off registration to reserve your spot, sign up for classes, and hear fun details about camp!

Financial Aid information available upon request by calling 540-586-7675.

Bedford Extension Master Gardener Annual Plant Sale Saturday April 25 9 am - 1 pm Falling Creek Complex

The Bedford Extension Master Gardener plant sale is held every year on the last Saturday of April at the Parks and Recreation/VA Cooperative Extension Building located at 1257 County Farm Road. The sale includes a large selection of plants grown by Extension Master Gardeners from seed, divided from plants that they already grow in their gardens, or from reputable, independent growers. Selections include vegetables, perennials, annuals, succulents, houseplants and small trees and shrubs. All are appropriate for our growing region. Because of customer interest, a focus will be on more native and pollinator plants.

Bedford Extension Master Gardeners will be available to assist in making informed plant choices for the area in which you will garden and to answer your gardening questions.

2020 Bed ford County 4-H Summer Camp Camp Dates: July 20 - July 24, 2020 Camp Cost: \$270 (\$100 deposit due at the time of registration) Camp Location: W.E. Skelton 4-H Ed. Conference Center, Smith Mountain Lake, Wirtz, VA

Camp is an overnight opportunity for youth ages 9 to 13, as of September 30, 2020, and youth who will turn 14 years old in 2020, to learn and thrive in a natural setting. The goal of 4-H camping is to develop life skills in a cooperative group living environment. You do not have to be a member of a 4-H club to attend, as the experience is open to any youth in the Bedford area. Camp offers opportunities for youth to learn decision making, problem solving, and managing personal resources.

Family Nutrition Program

Join us for free cooking classes! Have fun learning how to create quick, low cost recipes that are tasty and nutritious, Preparing healthy snacks and meals on a limited budget is possible!

Participants will sample new foods, take home recipes, learn tips and tricks to stretch food dollars, and more!

FREE

Classes are year-round. For more information or to register for our next series please contact Amanda Armstrong at 540-586-7675 or aarmstrong@vt.edu.

Website: https://bedford.ext.vt.edu/ **Find us on Facebook** Virginia Cooperative Extension – Bedford County

EXTENSION STAFF

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Extension Agent,
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scbaker@vt.edu

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Sandra Seals
Unit Administrative
Assistant
sseals@vt.edu

PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE HOURS

1257 County Farm Rd. Bedford Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (540) 586-7682

STAFF INFORMATION

WYATT E. WOODY III Director

SHARON ROSE Senior Administrative Associate

> STUART SAUNDERS Program Coordinator

CHRIS MCDONALD Athletics Coordinator

A.J. MILLER Regional Coordinator (SRHS Zone)

CURT HUNT Regional Coordinator (LHS Zone)

> JUNE CUNDIFF Administrative Assistant

KENNY PALMER Operations Coordinator

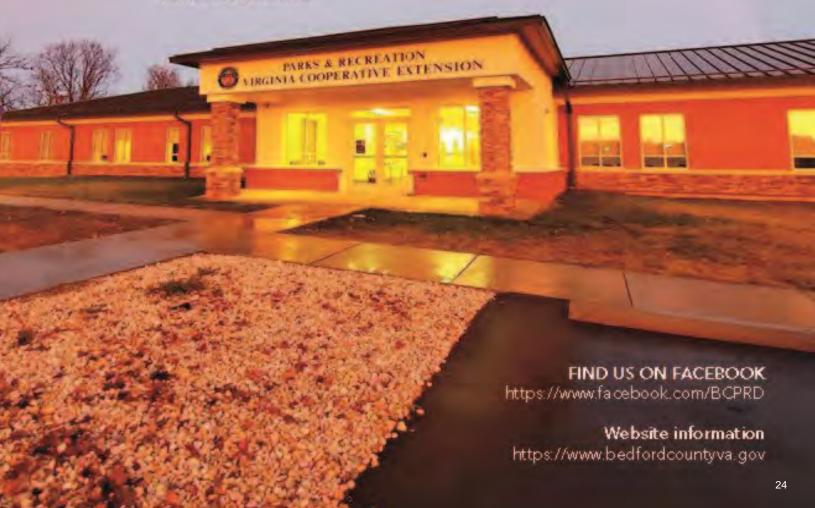
SEAN CASTLE
Outdoor Events & Marketing Coordinator

BUCK PATTERSON Park Maintenance Superintendent

> BRIAN MARTIN Park Trails Technician

TAMMY GRAHAM Maintenance

LOGAN MACKEY Maintenance



Public Library System

The U.S. Census is looking for approximately 300 applicants for Census jobs in Bedford County. Stop by your local Bedford Public Library branch and meet with them to see how to apply for these jobs or get answers to any questions you might have pertaining to the jobs. They pay a competitive hourly wage, and offer mileage reimbursement.

The following is the schedule for each of the library locations.

- Moneta Feb 18 & Mar 11 from 3:00 5:00pm
- Stewartsville Feb 25 & Mar 12 from 3:00 5:00pm
- Forest Feb 26 & Mar 13 from 3:00 5:00pm
- Bedford Feb 27 & Mar 25 from 3:00 5:00pm
- Montvale Feb 28 from 11:00am 2:00pm & Mar 26 from 3:00 5:00pm
- Big Island Mar 3 from 3:00 5:00pm

Spotlight on DuoLingo language resource for lifelong learning. Tired of the January/February blues and all this rain, turn those hours stuck indoors into productive hours by learning a new language. This month the Library is featuring one of our language learning resources - DuoLingo. Access it through our website, www.bplsonline.org, or you can download the app directly from the app store. DuoLingo gives you the option to either start with the basics or take a place-

ment test to see what you already know. The lessons are divided into categories such as color, clothing, food, time, and basic questions and phrases. To get the full experience of DuoLingo, I recommend using a headset with a microphone. The ser-



vice helps with reading, writing, speaking, and listening to the language. If you do not have a headset, the program allows you to skip that portion of the lesson and instead concentrates on reading and writing. DuoLingo is so effective that studies have shown that 34 hours of use is equal to 1 university semester! What makes this language learning experience unique is that you can connect with other users and form special groups to motivate each other. If you'd rather go solo, you can set your own daily goals. DuoLingo also awards achievement badges and crowns to increase your user level, as well as the virtual currency, Lingots, which can be redeemed at the DuoLingo shop for skills or items. The site also sends emails to remind you to practice and login if you miss a few days.

DuoLingo also offers fantasy languages for the pop culture fans in our midst. If you want to learn High Valyrian from the hit series Game of Thrones, or Klingon from Star Trek, DuoLingo can help. So kick those winter blues to the curb and join the over 300 million DuoLingo users worldwide in learning something new about your world.

JENNY NOVALIS, DIRECTOR

Contact Information:

<u>website</u>

Bedford Central Library 321 N. Bridge Street Bedford, VA 24523 (540)-586-8911

Big Island Library 1111 Schooldays Road Big Island, VA 24526 (540) 425-7000

> Forest Library 15583 Forest Road Forest, VA 24551 (540) 425-7002

Moneta/SML Library 13641 Moneta Road Moneta, VA 24121 (540) 425-7004

Montvale Library 11575 Lynchburg Salem Tnpk. Montvale, VA 24122 (540) 425-7006

> Stewartsville Library 45 Cascade Drive Vinton, VA 24179 (540) 425-7008

Public Library System



Bedford Public Library System is excited to announce a new non-partisan resource for Bedford County citizens — Be a Voter www.bplsonline.org/diglib/bav. This page has links to various websites that can answer questions you may have about voting. You can find out how to register, where to vote, a map of districts and voting locations. Important dates are also listed, so you'll know when absentee bal-

loting is happening, when is the last date to register, and more. We also have lists of candidates and links to their official web sites, so you can research policy proposals and platforms first hand. Plus we've got a list of scheduled televised debates, campaign finance reports, and fact checking websites. (We will be updating this resource for each election.)

Right now the page contains information about the March 3rd primary election. Once that election passes, the information will be updated for the June 9th primaries, then again for the November elections. We hope this information will be of use to voters throughout the county, both new and experienced voters. It should also be a great resource to those who move here from elsewhere.

You can find the Be A Voter page at www.bplsonline.org on our Digital Library page.

Mid-Year Comparison FY19 to FY20				
All 6 Library Branches Combined Data				
Circulation	% change (+/-)	FY20	FY19	
Physical items checked out	-4%	148,289	154,927	
E-materials checked out	8%	17,836	16,564	
Physical item placed on hold for pickup	7%	51,911	48,441	
New BPLS accounts created	0%	1,393	1,389	
Computer Transactions				
Computer Sign-ups	4%	16,433	15,870	
Wireless Sessions	3%	13,139	12,793	
Programming				
Total number of all library programs	-3%	775	801	
Total number of people attending those programs	6%	11,532	10,896	
Walk-in Visitors				
Total people walking through the door 1% 135,967 134,89				

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Tourism



Destination Bedford is partnering with the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce as a Chamber Champion for 2020. This new initiative was offered to businesses to have their logo and messaging included in marketing material and be recognized as a sponsor of special events. This is a great opportunity to get the word out to Lake-area residents and visitors about the new Destination Bedford brand and help spread the message about all there is to do and discover in Bedford County.

Destination Bedford was promoted at the American Bus Association Marketplace in Omaha, NE, January 10-14, as part of membership with the Shenandoah

Valley Travel Association (SVTA). A profile sheet highlighting group friendly attractions and destinations in Bedford was created and sent to SVTA to be included in this marketing opportunity.

Also in January, Destination Bedford was represented at the Florida RV Super-Show, with approximately 1,800 brochures distributed to attendees interested in vacationing in Virginia this year.

On January 30, the Welcome Center hosted the Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce's first networking event of 2020, which included the New Member Market. There were 16 new member exhibitors and more than 50 people attended. Destination Bedford also set up a table and promoted the new brand.





Contact Information: Bedford Area Welcome Center 816 Burks Hill Road Bedford, VA 24523

website

Phone: (540) 587-5681 Toll Free: 1-877-447-3257 Fax: (540) 587-5983













Tourism

Destination Bedford is doing a sponsorship with Liberty University athletics this winter and spring. Visual recognition for Destination Bedford takes place during the home games on the courtside LED and arm stanchions, and verbal recognition during live radio broadcasts of the games (90.9 FM). There is also a digital banner ad on the website. During the spring, Destination Bedford will be visible on the score-

board during home baseball games. The goal is to generate more local and regional awareness of Destination Bedford and reach a large audience that is less than a 20-minute drive from our locality.





On January 16, Bedford County had great representation at the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Dinner. In attendance to represent the County included Supervisor Tuck, Supervisor Johnson, County Administrator Robert Hiss, Traci Blido and Pam Bailey from Economic Development, Sean Castle from Parks & Recreation, and Nicole Johnson and Michelle Crumpacker from Tourism.

The Welcome Center/Tourism staff worked with students from the Cinematic Arts program at Liberty University to create a video about the Welcome Center. This was a class project, and the final video can be seen here.

Bedford was featured in a blog post by Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge titled "Great Small Towns to Explore in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains".

The tourism department hosted a travel blogger last October, and a blog was just released listing the best small towns in Virginia, with Bedford making the list.











NICOLE JOHNSON, DIRECTOR

Contact Information: Bedford Area Welcome Center 816 Burks Hill Road Bedford, VA 24523

website

Phone: (540) 587-5681 Toll Free: 1-877-447-3257 Fax: (540) 587-5983



Tourism

Mariners Landing in Bedford County will host the SML Wine Festival this September. This is the first time in the history of the event (more than 30 years) that it will be held in Bedford County. The press release issued by the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce is available here.



In January, the Welcome Center had 1,633 visitors, up from 1,474 last January, and the second highest January total since 2010.

The Welcome Center is seeking new volunteers; shifts are four hours and the greatest need is on the weekends. The Center is open daily, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Contact <u>Anita Dengel</u> for additional information.

The Belk Observatory in Bedford County is seeking volunteers for 2020. More information can be obtained by emailing observatory@lynchburg.edu.

Spend the "Month of Love" in Destination Bedford! Click <u>here</u> for events happening in February.

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Tourism



Three tourism employees were recognized for years of service – Dee Dee Blake and Ada Eubank for 15 years, and Jeff Stanley for 5 years.



On January 23, Nicole Johnson and Michelle Crumpacker participated in "Chamber Day at the Capitol" as part of the Leadership Bedford class. Meetings took place with Delegate Kathy Byron, Delegate Terry Austin, and Senator Steve Newman. There was conversation about current projects and bills, and the opportunity to ask questions. Participants toured the Capitol and sat in briefly during General Assembly sessions in both the House and the Senate, and received special recognition from the floor.

The tourism office produces a monthly event e-newsletter which is a great way to find out about upcoming events. To be added to the email list, sign up on the home page of www.DestinationBedfordVA.com. The tourism office also manages three Facebook pages – Destination Bedford VA, Bedford Wine Trail. If you are on Facebook, please "like" and follow these pages. We are also on Instagram, Twitter, and TripAdvisor.











NICOLE JOHNSON, DIRECTOR

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Bedford Area Welcome Center
816 Burks Hill Road
Bedford, VA 24523

website

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The Bedford Area Welcome Center LOVES their Volunteers!

We need you...



If you are outgoing, enjoy speaking with visitors from all over the world, and are knowledgeable about Bedford area attractions and events, this opportunity is for you!

This position provides support in the Bedford Area Welcome Center. Our volunteers greet visitors and provide information about the area, sell gift store merchandise, and answer visitor inquiries both in-person and by phone.

We are open 7 days a week from 9AM to 5PM.

Volunteer shifts are 9AM to 1PM and 1PM to 5PM.

You can volunteer as little as eight hours (two shifts) per month.



Every day is a beautiful day to be in Bedford – will you consider joining our awesome team of volunteers?

For more information, contact Anita Dengel, (540) 587-5681, adengel@bedfordcountyva.gov