

More TROUTVILLE Tidbits!

Community Service & Offenders

By Marquita Reinhardt

Corrections Officer, Botetourt Correctional Center

Ever wonder how some of the things around town get done? Who spreads the rubber mulch on the play areas at Troutville Park? How did the old school building behind the firehouse get painted? Who waxed the floors in the Town Hall? Believe it or not, Virginia Department of Corrections inmates incarcerated at Botetourt Correctional Center are responsible for participating in these community service projects, as well as many others.

Botetourt Correctional Center (BTCC) houses approximately 350 offenders of medium security enrolled in a therapeutic treatment program. All offenders who are eligible to work in the community are screened by selected staff, and must meet strict guidelines to go into the community. They must be an active and participating member in the therapeutic treatment program and have been housed with BTCC for a minimum of six months. The Assistant Warden is responsible for reviewing an offender's history of behavior while at BTCC.

All offenders who go out in the community are under close supervision of a certified Corrections Officer at all times. The role of the Officer is to ensure the safety and security of the offender and the members of the community. Officer J. Ratcliffe, who has worked with BTCC for 3 years, has been assigned to the post of the Road Crew on many occasions. He has witnessed first hand the physical agility one must have to supervise these inmates in extreme weather for long periods of time. The offenders of BTCC who participate in Community Service are said to be, "hard working men, who are extremely talented," says Officer J. Campbell, who has worked with the Department for nine years.

In June 2007, the offenders of BTCC began painting the old school building behind the firehouse in the Town of Troutville. In October 2007, they were responsible for installing strobe lights on service trailers for the Botetourt County Fire and Rescue Squad in Troutville. They have waxed and buffed the floors of the Troutville Town Hall and the Fire and Rescue Squad buildings. Some have special skills and trades, such as welding and carpentry, in which all are trained in the operation of a forklift and are required to take an OSHA class conducted by a certified trained staff member. Those offenders, who have abilities such as welding, have built canine cages for the Botetourt County Sheriff's Department.

BTCC has adopted Stoney Battery Road in Troutville and made the commitment to keep this road clean of litter and debris. The offenders usually work an eight-hour day picking up litter and clearing brush, trees and weeds. The Road Crew consists of eight offenders who assist the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) along various exits, roads and many locations within Botetourt County. During the winter months they prepare heavy snow removal machinery, shovel sidewalks and assure the Troutville Town Park is still accessible.

When not working with VDOT or at the Troutville Town Park, cutting grass, weed eating or sweeping sidewalks, the Road Crew and Outside Maintenance Workers have put in many hours at the Second Harvest Food Bank in Salem. The outside work crews of BTCC work approximately 20-40 hours a week performing Community Service in the Town of Troutville and many other locations.



The Second Annual Senior Dinner Hosted by *The Sunshine Girls*

Hope to see you at the Senior Dinner on Saturday evening, May 23rd, at 4:00pm at the Troutville Town Hall.

Don't miss this chance to come and reminisce with your 'ole Botetourt Buddies. We'll crank up the Victrola and have a blast from the past! If you attended this event last year, you are already on the invitation list, but you still need to call to make your reservation.

It's FREE if you're over 70!

Call 819-6335 by May 18th

Dinner will be served promptly at 5:00pm; singing and entertainment will follow.

April Yard Sale a "HOT" Success!

The 5th Annual Community Yard Sale was a **HUGE** success!! Forty-four families, Kountry Katering, Boy Scouts and Troutville Baptist Church made a great combination for Food, Fun and Entertainment. In all, the event raised \$808.25 for the Park! Thanks to ALL who attended and participated!

Us "Clowns" Cleaned the Town!

Yes, it was the *Friends of the Park* who fought the cold wind to pick up town trash. Special thanks to Kav Kan Disposal for the dumpsters they brought to the Park, along with their friendly employee, Ronnie Kessler, who stayed with us the entire time. Thanks also to our new Town Council Member, C.J. Booth, and Mayor Bill Rader.

The streets were cleaned by Len Miller, Jimmy O'Brien, Jan Smith and Lee Minnix. Husband and wife team, Debi and Russ Robison, picked up trash along a two-mile stretch of Stoney Battery Road.

If you feel bad that you missed out on all the fun, there is a second chance to join this ambitious team. The north end of Trinity Road is still untouched and we have lots of orange bags left. Call us....the Cleaning Town Clowns...and we'll put you on the site with us! 819-6335.

Don't miss "Praise in the Park"

Saturday, May 9th, 11am - 2pm

Everyone is Welcome!

Sponsored by Troutville/New Bethel Church of the Brethren

To contact **Friends of the Park** or TROUTVILLE Tidbits

P.O. Box 276, Troutville, VA 24175

540/819-6335

www.TownofTroutville.com