



American Planning Association  
**Virginia Chapter**

*Making Great Communities Happen*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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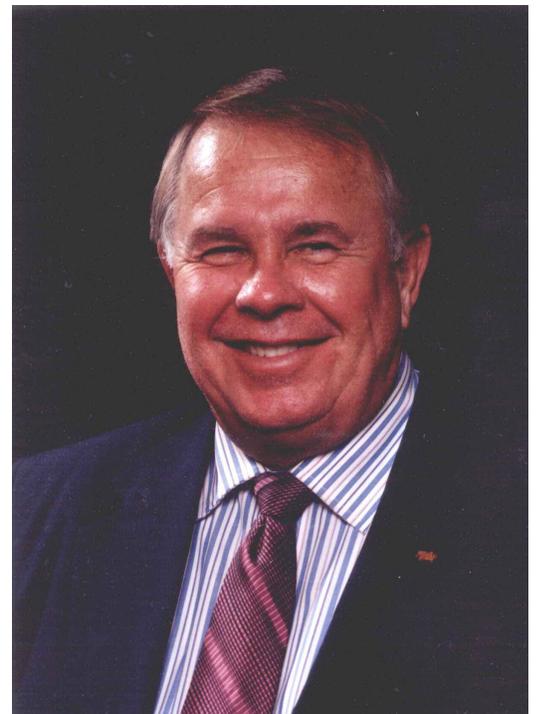
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**Botetourt County's Billy Martin, Sr. Recognized for  
Planning Leadership with Cardinal Award**

The Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Virginia) is pleased to announce that the Honorable Billy Martin, Sr., Chairman of the Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, is this year's Cardinal Award winner for Local Legislator of the Year. The Cardinal Award is presented to Virginia legislators who embrace the power and potential of sound planning practices to create great communities for all.

During Chairman Martin's four terms on the Board of Supervisors representing the Blue Ridge District, Botetourt County has experienced increased growth in all sectors. Chairman Martin has championed the establishment of Urban Development Areas, expanded workforce housing, and fostered new industrial development.

Nick Rogers, AICP, CZA Vice President of External Affairs for APA Virginia noted that "Chairman Martin has clear command of the critical role that elected officials play in influencing good planning. He is a collaborative partner with both county and regional staff, and has been instrumental in addressing potential pitfalls in planning initiatives before they undermine the process."



Chairman Martin has gone above and beyond with his dedication to good planning by representing the entire Roanoke region on the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (RVARC), the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization (RVTPO), and the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC).

In documenting Chairman Martin's achievements, C. Nicole Pendleton, AICP, CZA, CFM, Botetourt County's Director of Community Development recounts how "Mr. Martin takes the time to explore all citizen issues, conduct his own research, and work with staff on every possible angle for each project. He is a thorough advocate for Botetourt's citizens, and just as committed to the business and development communities."

The awards, which continue a 40-year tradition, will be presented at [APA Virginia's Annual Conference](#) virtually on Tuesday, October 13th at 1:00pm.

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About the [Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association](#)

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Our mission is to make great communities happen in Virginia by offering continuing professional development and other valuable services to planners that will enable them to excel in their practice. We are committed to raising awareness about the many benefits that planning offers as a foundation for effectively addressing the physical, economic, and social changes that take place in Virginia, and to providing effective leadership in planning advocacy reflective of a diverse geography and population.