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**Bank of Botetourt Announces the Promotion of Karen L. Burks to
Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager of Smith Mountain Lake Office**

December 31, 2024, Moneta, VA – Bank of Botetourt is pleased to announce the promotion of Karen L. Burks to Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager of the Bank’s Smith Mountain Lake office. This promotion comes after the previous manager, Cindy Bower, relocated to the Troutville office to assume her new role as Vice President Loan Officer and Portfolio Manager.

Karen L. Burks brings over 30 years of experience in the financial industry, including roles as a branch manager and loan officer at three financial institutions in the Franklin County area, and has been with the Bank for nearly three years. Her career began as a part-time drive-thru teller shortly after graduating. In 1984, she relocated to the Bedford County area from Princeton, West Virginia, where she continues to reside today. Beyond her banking expertise, Burks previously owned and operated Sugar & Slice Bakery Café at Smith Mountain Lake, reflecting her entrepreneurial spirit and community focus. She is excited to further connect with residents and businesses.

Laurie Hart, Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy and Retail Officer, shared her enthusiasm for the promotion, “Karen has shown remarkable dedication to our customers and community, and her leadership skills are evident in her work ethic. We are thrilled to have her lead the Smith Mountain Lake team and know she will continue to make a positive impact.”

Outside of work, Burks is an active member of Eastlake Community Church, where she sings in the choir. She also serves as President of the Davis Mill Property Owner’s Association. In her free time, she enjoys crocheting and spending time with her husband of 27 years, Gary, their three children, and five grandchildren.

About Bank of Botetourt

Established in 1899, Bank of Botetourt serves customers through fourteen retail locations across Botetourt, Franklin, Roanoke, and Rockbridge counties, as well as the City of Salem in Virginia. The Bank provides specialized services through its mortgage division, Virginia Mountain Mortgage division and financial services through Botetourt Wealth Management. In 2024, Forbes ranked Bank of Botetourt as the number one bank in Virginia based on a nationwide survey.

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Karen L. Burks