



“AND SERVE OUR COUNTY WITH PRIDE”

York County Opens New Fire Station No. 1

At the end of the October 29 dedication ceremony of the new Fire Station No. 1, hundreds of citizens sat in silence as the fire alert sounded and 911 Dispatch announced that the new facility is now in service. Applause filled the station. And then the tours began. Citizens mingled with elected officials, dignitaries, and firefighters to view the brand new bunk rooms, kitchen, day room, fitness room, and even the training tower. The event celebrated the end of a multi-year project that involved identifying funds, finding and purchasing property, and hiring architecture and building contractors. But perhaps more importantly, it marked the beginning of the facility's service to the citizens of York County - service that will last for decades - in a modern, state-of-the-art station for personnel working 24-hour shifts.

In his comments to the crowd, Board of Supervisors Chairman Tom Shepperd (District 5) said, “This new fire station is the result of a lot of hard work. It involved County Administration, Fire & Life Safety, Public Works, and of course, the citizens of York County. Having a professional and highly trained fire department is number one for the safety of our residents and our visitors.”

Mr. Shepperd was preceded by both Fire Chief Steve Kopczynski and County Administrator Neil Morgan, the latter of whom discussed the County's progress towards maintaining and constructing sound facilities: “The Board of Supervisors has strategic priorities and near



(Top) The new fire station is located at 118 Dare Road. This facility replaces the original York County No. 1 that opened in 1960; (Inset) Citizens tour the lobby of the new facility.



York County Public Information Office
P.O. Box 532
Yorktown VA 23690-0532

PRESORT STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
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PERMIT NO 22
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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTIONS

This list features a sampling of items that were considered by the Board of Supervisors since the second May meeting. Additional information about these and other Board actions is available at www.yorkcounty.gov/bos.

AUGUST 6, 2019

- Endorsed the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Project requesting funding for two sidewalk projects: Route 17 from the existing shared path constructed as part of the Villas at Yorktown development and the Yorktown Library, where it would connect with a new sidewalk being constructed as part of the library expansion project. This would also link to the sidewalk being built by the County from the library to Ft. Eustis Blvd. The second project is on West Queens Drive between Queens Lake Middle School and Royal Grant Drive, providing safe pedestrian access between subdivisions and the school.

AUGUST 20, 2019

- Requested revenue sharing program funding from VDOT for six sidewalk projects and one culvert system. The program requires a match by the locality and our recommended \$1.5 million is available from appropriated and programmed funding.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

- Approved the creation of a new Social Services Advisory Board. The change to this body designates the York County Administrator and the Poquoson City Manager as the administrative board members with the current Social Services Board serving in an advisory capacity, and with the County continuing to provide the administrative operations for both the County and the City.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

- Approved an amendment to the York County Code to provide that an additional re-registration fee for a vehicle is waived if the owner is the trustee of a trust or the owner's name has changed. When title to a motor vehicle is changed to reflect a new owner, or change in the name of the owner, that owner is required to pay the full registration fee of \$23. This amendment changes that requirement.
- The 2019 Virginia General Assembly modified the definition of "dwelling" for purposes of real property tax relief for the elderly and/or disabled person. "Dwelling" now also includes not only a main residential building, but any outbuilding or addition used to house or cover motor vehicles or household goods. The Board adopted this change to our Code.

OCTOBER 1, 2019

- Authorized the construction of the Comte de Grasse sidewalk and drainage improvement project. The project includes a 5-foot wide brick sidewalk and a storm piping system with drop inlets and curb and gutter for better stormwater flow.

OCTOBER 15, 2019

- Amended the York County Code increasing the term of validity for land disturbing activity permits for single-family homes from nine months to two years.

CONTACT YOUR BOARD MEMBER

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CITIZEN NEWS | YORK COUNTY, VIRGINIA WINTER 2019

"Citizen News" is published quarterly for the citizens of York County. One copy is mailed to each household in the County. Address comments to P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, VA, 23690, call (757) 890-3300, or email publicaffairs@yorkcounty.gov.

County Administrator Neil Morgan
Public Affairs Manager Paula Hersh
Public Information Officer Gail L. Whittaker

DATES & DEADLINES TO KEEP IN MIND

Personal Property and Real Estate tax bills have been mailed and are due on or before December 5. If you did not receive your bill, please visit www.yorkcounty.gov/treasurer and select the appropriate tax inquiry under "Online Services" to view your bill. Taxes may be paid online, by mail, or in person.

Lifetime Dog Licenses are available for purchase for \$10 per dog. All dogs over the age of four months are required to have a license. A proof of rabies vaccination is required. Please visit www.yorkcounty.gov/treasurer or call (757) 890-3420 for more information.

The **Commissioner of the Revenue's Office reminds you of the following deadlines coming up March 2, 2020:**

- Annual Business License Renewals
- Tax Returns of Tangible Personal Property for Manufactured (Mobile) Homes
- Tax Returns of Business Tangible Personal Property and Machinery and Tools
- Active duty military members deadline to submit November 2019, December 2019, or January 2020 Leave & Earnings statements and for military spouses to provide documentation for exemption

For more information, call the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office at (757) 890-3381 or visit www.yorkcounty.gov/revenue.

The **Presidential Primary is March 3, 2020.** All regular polling places will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Beginning in January, a sample ballot will be online at www.yorkcounty.gov/voting. The deadline to **register to vote** in the primary - or to update your address or other registration information - is Monday, February 10, 2020. You may be able to vote absentee if you are going to be out of the area or otherwise unavailable to go to your polling place on March 3. The deadline to apply by mail, fax, email, or online for an absentee ballot is Tuesday, February 25, at 5 p.m. The deadline to apply in person for an absentee ballot is Saturday, February 29, at 5 p.m.



For additional information about voter registration, your polling place, or to volunteer as an Officer of Election, please call (757) 890-3440 or visit our website. **And don't forget the office has moved!** Our new locations are in the Washington Square Shopping Center, 5322 George Washington Memorial Highway (Route 17), and Victory Village, 6614 Mooretown Road (hours to be announced in January).

Tide Chart

WHAT'S ON THE RISE IN YORK COUNTY

A BETTER LOCATION = IMPROVED SERVICE

The Planning portion of the Department of Planning & Development Services has relocated to the Operations Center off Goodwin Neck Road, making it a one-stop-shop for residents, builders, and contractors, with Building Safety just around the corner. This is another step towards making our offices and staff more accessible and better able to serve the citizens. The Planning phone number remains (757) 890-3404.

A NEW KIND OF REALITY AT SENIOR CENTER

During its 28th anniversary celebration on November 15, the Senior Center launched its new Virtual Reality (VR) program where senior citizens can relax in nature, climb Mt. Everest, or even travel to the Moon...while never leaving York County. Exercise programs also are available via this technology. A wide-screen TV is available for other patrons to watch while the VR headset is being used. The adage often rings true: "The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." This program will allow seniors who can no longer travel for physical or monetary reasons to do so virtually, just a short drive from their homes. For more information about this and other Senior Center activities, please call (757) 890-3444.



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

FROM THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

For every \$100 you spend at a local, independent business, \$45 goes back into the community—versus only \$14 when spent at a national chain!

County Shops are Counting on You

HELP PRESERVE & IMPROVE OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

It's not what you buy—it's where you buy it. The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission has declared Nov. 15 to Dec. 15 as Buy Local Month (York County also signed on), to support and celebrate local, independent businesses. When you shop at a County boutique or eat at a family-owned restaurant, you're enjoying a unique, neighborly experience.

Local businesses offer value through better-quality merchandise... often items you won't find anywhere else! The entire County also benefits when you shop local. You are investing more funds for infrastructure, creating jobs and keeping taxes low.

Local businesses are the foundation of York County's culture, economy and character! Be sure to find local deals on Small Business Saturday—the day after Black Friday.



Gallery at York Hall sells items from 300+ local artists.



GO SHOPPING ON NOV. 30: SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY



Pea Soup for Kids

Find name-brand consignments and new boutique clothing for infants to size 12, as well as gifts, toys & accessories.



Simply Unique Jewelry Designs

Browse fine artisan jewelry made on site, or help design a custom piece. Citizen watches, loose stones & more!



Mobjack Bay Coffee Roasters

Buy exceptional coffees from around the world for the java lover. Fair Trade & source certified organic or conventional.



Don't Miss Out on Rewards! Get the App & Card

The **LOVEVA app** is a great reason to buy local! Collect points for each transaction at a participating local business in Hampton Roads, which can be redeemed for discounts and freebies! Download at bealocalloveva.com.

Show your **Citizen Rewards Card** to enjoy savings and specials around Historic Yorktown and Riverwalk Landing. The card is free for all County residents. More information at bit.ly/YCrewards.



By The Numbers

49.1

Percent of voters who participated in the November 5, 2019 election.

13,210

Pounds of paper shredded at our October Drug Take Back and Shred Event. Start saving for the spring 2020 event.

\$608,001

Value of volunteer hours served in the York/Poquoson Virginia Cooperative Extension office.



302 Dare Road, Yorktown, VA 23692
(757) 898-0300 | yorkcountyschools.org

 /yorkcountyschoolsva

 /yorkcountyschoolsva

 /YCS

 /yorkcountyschoolsva

On-Time Graduation Rates

York County students continue to outperform state averages for on-time graduation rates, according to data released by the Virginia Department of Education in October. On-time graduation rates include students who earn diplomas within four years of the first time they enter the ninth grade; and it includes all diploma types.

The York County School Division's 97 percent on-time graduation rate for the Class of 2019 not only marked the highest rate for the division in five years, it significantly exceeded the state average of 91.5 percent.

"Our success in improving on-time graduation and reducing drop-out rates is largely based on building personal connections with students," shared Dr. Stephanie Guy, chief academic officer. She added that early identification of at-risk students and the implementation of appropriate, individualized strategies for students further ensures success.

In addition to the overall improvement in on-time graduation rates, YCS D demonstrated growth for six of eight subgroups over the last five years. Significant gains have been made among black students and students with disabilities, improving from 90 to 98.4 percent and 84.1 to 95.7 percent respectively.

Student Records

In accordance with the Code of Virginia and guidelines provided by the State Board of Education (BOE) and the Library of Virginia (LVA), the York County School Division destroys non-permanent records (not scholastic records) of all students including special needs students. These records are retained for five years after the student graduates or withdraws from York County School Division or transferred to another school division.

Because this information may possibly be needed for social security benefits or other purposes, the student (or parent, if the former students is less than 18 years old) may obtain a copy of his/her records by contacting Georgia McQuigg at (757) 898-0314 or gmcquigg@ycsd.york.va.us.

We're Hiring

YCS D is seeking school bus drivers, substitute bus assistants and substitute crossing guards.

Bus Driver Details

Starting Pay: \$14/hour or higher

Requirements

- Valid Virginia Motor Vehicle Operator's license
- Clean driving record
- Hold or have the ability to meet VA School Bus Commercial Driver License requirements

Training provided

Includes Benefits for full-time positions

Bus Assistant Details

Starting Pay: \$8.50/hour

Training Provided

Crossing Guard Details

Starting Pay: \$8.17/hour

Training Provided

APPLY TODAY! YCS D Transportation: (757) 898-0344 | YORKCOUNTYSCHOOLS.ORG

YCS D CALENDAR

November 2019

27-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2019

13 Early Dismissal

23-31 Winter Break

January 2020

1-3 Winter Break

20 MLK Holiday

23-24 Early Dismissals

27 Student Holiday

STUDENT HOTLINE

 (757) 890-5000

DOWNLOAD THE YCS D MOBILE APP

Stay connected with YCS D and your school—customized to your personal preferences.



Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google play

WHAT IS A BMP AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS MAINTENANCE?

The County receives this question fairly often. A BMP, or Best Management Practices, is a structure or vegetative design meant to reduce the amount of sediment and contaminants that will eventually reach waterways. A BMP can be one of many things:

- Detention ponds (probably the most familiar of BMPs)
- Ditches/buffers/swales
- Gardens/landscaping
- Permeable pavement



Hampton Roads localities are responsible for monitoring and controlling pollution caused by stormwater runoff and BMPs help reduce those pollutants from entering the waterways. York County Department of Public Works' Stormwater Division is tasked with managing the programs aimed at reducing stormwater pollution and remaining in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations.

Creating a BMP in York County begins during the construction plans review process with Stormwater staff determining how much permeable surface is being replaced with impervious elements (such as asphalt and concrete). BMPs must be implemented during construction, with plans to maintain them once the development is complete. An example of this, that many citizens see in their neighborhoods, is a detention pond. The site developer includes the pond during the design and construction process and typically turns management of the pond over to the homeowners association (HOA). The BMP maintenance then falls under the HOA and it can be a costly operation requiring a yearly inspection and the possibility of dredging the pond due to sediment buildup.

To reduce the unexpected maintenance and costs of repair, it is important for everyone to do their part to manage stormwater runoff. This includes using the correct amount of lawn fertilizer, cleaning up gas and oil spills appropriately and quickly, and keeping other pollutants out of the path of stormwater.

For more information, call the Stormwater Division at (757) 890-3752 or visit www.yorkcounty.gov/pw.

BEWARE OF THE GREASE GRINCH

It's holiday time and we're kitchen tornadoes
Cooking turkey and fruit cake and yams and potatoes.
But beware of the Grease Grinch! He'll clog in a blink!
He'll gunk up your pipes! He'll stink up your sink!

All the pan drippings from ham and from roast,
The leftover bits from your frenchy French toast,
The lettuce from salads all covered with dressing,
The mystery casserole that still has us guessing...

Bacon grease, meat water, sauces and gravy
Should NEVER be poured down the drain. That's just crazy!
When the grease is too hot, pour it in a container
Like an empty tin can; it's a simple no-brainer.

Into the trash is where all grease should go,
Scrape, wipe or freeze are the methods to know.
Follow these steps and your holiday's saved,
Your drain will be happy, the Grease Grinch, behaved.

FROM ASKHRGREEN.ORG, ALL THE BEST.
AND WE HOPE YOU DON'T HAVE A VERY GREASE-MESS.

askHRgreen.org

Holiday Closings

All York County offices and libraries are closed Thanksgiving and the day after, Christmas Eve and Day, and New Year's Eve and Day. Garbage and recycling are affected by the holidays. See page 9 for collection details. Additional closings and the holiday collection schedule are also available at www.yorkcounty.gov.

Fire Station No. 1, continued from page 1

the top is Public Safety. One of the things that makes us feel good is that we have a long-term perspective investing in facilities like this one. I appreciate the Board's focus on the County's long-term needs." Read more about Mr. Morgan's thoughts on "meeting the challenge" of our aging facilities on page 12.

Designed to withstand 120 mile per hour winds, the station has 24/7 generator power allowing crews to operate during the most extreme weather conditions. Additional features include expanded storage space for equipment and personal gear, a fitness room to help maintain top physical condition, comfortable training space, and, new to York County, a training tower for use by all County Fire & Life Safety personnel.

In his remarks, District 4 Board of Supervisors member Jeff Wassmer said, "This is your neighborhood fire department. Treat it as that. As you go by, if you have questions or if your kids want to stop by, come on in. Knock on the door and talk to our Fire & Life Safety personnel."

Instead of a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a hose uncoupling signified the opening of the fire station. After a brief pause, the tone sounded and an announcement was made:

"Attention all stations, units and personnel. York County Fire Station One is now fully operational at 118 Dare Road. May its personnel forever be safe and serve our County with pride."

For more information on the new fire station, please call York County Department of Fire & Life Safety at (757) 890-3600.

View a slideshow of the ceremony at www.yorkcounty.gov or you can watch it in its entirety on WYCG TV (Cox 46, Verizon 38) and on demand at www.yorkcounty.gov/tv.



Fire Chief Steve Kopczynski shakes hands with Board Chairman Tom Shepperd following the ceremonial hose uncoupling (with County Administrator Neil Morgan).



Yorktown 2019 CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS



Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, December 6 • Victory Monument
The Fifes & Drums of York Town • 7 PM
Procession to Waterfront • 7:30 PM

Christmas Market on Main

Saturday, December 7 • 10 AM to 3 PM
Historic Main Street

Lighted Boat Parade

Saturday, December 7 • 7 PM
(Pre-parade festivities start at 6)
Yorktown Waterfront

Cookies with Santa

Sunday, December 8 • 1 to 4 PM
York Hall

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 14 • 8:30 AM
Riverwalk Restaurant (\$)

Toyland Market and Parade

Saturday, December 14 • Riverwalk Landing
Toyland Market • 9 AM to 3 PM
Parade • 1 PM









VisitYorktown.org | 757.890.3500

SPECIAL HOLIDAY EXHIBITS & EVENTS

Wreaths Across America Ceremony

Saturday, December 14 • 12 PM
Yorktown National Cemetery

Christmastide in Virginia

December 20-31 • 9 AM to 5 PM
(closed Christmas Day)
American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY

Kick off your holiday season on Saturday, December 7, at the Tabb Library and join Master Gardener Nettie Lamb from 1 to 2:30 p.m. to learn how to **use natural materials to decorate inside and outside your home for the festive season**. Discover practical tips to make beautiful garlands that will last through the season. This free program is open to all and registration is encouraged, but not required. Call (757) 890-5120 or visit www.yorkcounty.gov/library to register. This program is part of the Mastering Your Garden series, a partnership with York/Poquoson Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Looking for a fun way to enjoy books and meet new people? Join the **Tabb Book Readers!** This adult book discussion group meets from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month. Members choose their own books to read based on each month's topic and then share their discoveries with other attendees. New members are always welcome. Upcoming meetings and topics include:



For more information or book suggestions from library staff, call the Tabb Library Reference Department at (757) 890-5120.

- **December 21 - Foodie Fiction and Non-Fiction (excluding cookbooks)**
- **January 18 - Start a New Series**
- **February 15 - African American Authors**

For more information or book suggestions from library staff, call the Tabb Library Reference Department at (757) 890-5120.

Show off your trivia skills at our **Tabb Trivia Night** held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on January 29. January's edition of our quarterly Trivia Night for adults will feature a winter-themed round, plus hot cocoa and snacks. Both the prize and snacks are sponsored by the York County Library Foundation. Beginning January 2, ages 18 and up can register in teams of 1-5 players by calling (757) 890-5120.

The Tabb and Yorktown Libraries will be **closed** on the following:

- **Wednesday, November 27, closing at 5 p.m.**
- **Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29**
- **Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25**
- **Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1**
- **Monday, January 20, 2020**

For more information about library programs, contact the Tabb Library at (757) 890-5120 or Yorktown Library at (757) 890-5207, visit our website - www.yorkcounty.gov/library, or like us on Facebook or Instagram.

Get Your Holiday Spirit
~ON DEMAND~
 York County
 Announcement Channel
 Cox 48 • Verizon 40
www.yorkcounty.gov/tv



Sounds of the Season &
 Holiday Event Information

Cabin

Fever
 CONCERT SERIES

THURSDAYS • 7 to 8:30 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

YORKTOWN FREIGHT SHED

(311 Water Street)

JAN 30	<i>The Flatland Bluegrass Band</i>
FEB 6	<i>New Sound Alliance</i>
FEB 13	<i>BJ Griffin Duo</i>
FEB 20	<i>The H.M. Johnson Band</i>
FEB 27	<i>Something Different Duo</i>
MAR 5	<i>Poisoned Dwarf</i>

Limited Seating * No Tickets or Reservations * First Come, First Served

VisitYorktown.org

WASTE MANAGEMENT WANTS YOU TO KNOW....

Leaf Collection is now underway! The program began November 12 and continues through the end of January. York County residents who reside on publicly maintained roads may place an unlimited number of clear bags of leaves at the front roadside for collection every other week.

Residents who live in private communities or on privately maintained streets may bring leaves to the closest public roadway for collection. In addition, ALL RESIDENTS may bring leaves year round to the VPPSA Compost Facility located at 145 Goodwin Neck Road, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



For leaf collection purposes, the County is divided into two zones:

- **Northern Zone** includes all homes on and north of Dare Road, including neighborhoods along Wolf Trap Road, Goodwin Neck Road, and homes in and near Marlbank, Edgehill, Queens Lake, Hubbard's Lane, Skimino, and Lightfoot. Remaining collection weeks for the Northern Zone are:

November 25 December 9 December 23 January 6
January 20 (final sweep)

- **Southern Zone** includes all homes south of Dare Road, including neighborhoods in Grafton, Tabb, Brandywine, Coventry, Kiln Creek, Calthrop Neck Road, Running Man, and Carys Chapel Road. Collection weeks for the Southern Zone are:

November 18 December 2 December 16 December 30
January 13 January 27 (final sweep)

Leaves must be in clear bags (no drawstrings, please!) and bags must be easy to handle by one person (maximum weight = 40 pounds). Clear bags can be purchased at local hardware, grocery, and department stores. Bags should be no more than one millimeter thick and cannot contain other yard debris (sticks, etc.) or pet waste. Bags must be at the front roadside by 7 a.m. on the Monday of your collection week. Pick up will be completed by the end of the week. Please check our website - www.yorkcounty.gov/wastemanagement - for our leaf collection schedule for the 2019-2020 season. For more information, call York County Waste Management at (757) 890-3780.

HOLIDAY SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Thursday, November 28-----> collected on Friday, November 29, with Friday collections moved to Saturday, November 30

Wednesday, December 25-----> collected on Thursday, December 26, with Thursday collections moved to Friday, December 27, and Friday's to Saturday, December 28

Wednesday, January 1-----> collected on Thursday, January 2, with Thursday collections moved to Friday, January 3, and Friday's to Saturday, January 4

CALENDAR ART CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to our winners in the *Beautiful York County* calendar art contest.

One piece of art was selected for each month, plus one for the cover (shown above). Artwork was required to be made with recyclable materials and represent the theme: "Beautiful York County." Competition was among all York County K-12 students attending home, private, or public schools. Winners received \$100 each! The calendar will be available for you to pick up - for FREE - at the libraries, Waste Management Center, and Public Works offices. Congratulations and thank you to all who participated in the art contest. Next year's art contest will begin in the summer, so keep watching www.yorkcounty.gov/wastemanagement and future issues of "Citizen News" for information.



Cover Natalie Tuggle
 January Isaiah Graham
 February Hettie Reichwald
 March Noah Stoumbaugh
 April Molly Macedo
 May Sadie Graham
 June Jacob Macedo
 July Elden Crossett
 August Jackson Buck
 September ... Blake Schafer
 October Paige Macedo
 November Xavier Grady
 December.... Grace Graham

 **York County**
PARKS AND RECREATION

5338-G George Washington Mem. Hwy.
Yorktown, VA 23692
757.890.3500
www.yorkcounty.gov/parksandrec

 **SUMMER FUN**

Grades Completed K-7
Starts June 22!
Registration Starts February 10

 **Field Trip Fever**

Grades Completed 2-7
Starts June 26!
Registration Starts February 10

 **Spring Youth Soccer**

Registration January 2-31
Ages 6-18 • Start Smart Ages 3-5

 **WINTER INDOOR TENNIS**

8 Weeks • January 7 - February 26
Registration Deadline January 2

 **ADULT FITNESS**

Registration Starts December 9

Interval Training • Strength Training
Yoga Fusion Flow • Dance HIIT Fusion

 **ADULT SOFTBALL**

REGISTRATION

Returning Teams: Begins February 3
New Teams: Begins February 10

MCREYNOLDS ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Sponsorship Program
Advertisement opportunity for businesses & organizations
Advertising Signs Scoreboard Signs & Fence Signs
Contract Period: March 1, 2020 - November 20, 2020

 **A MAGICAL CIRQUE Christmas**

SENIOR CENTER
Saturday, November 30,
at the Ferguson Center for the Arts
Transportation from the
Senior Center Departs at 6:30 p.m.
Registration Ends November 28

BOS OFFERS EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



Do you know a York County high schooler who has made great achievements in their academic or personal life? Or who has made a demonstrated impact on the community? Consider nominating a young person for the York County **2020 Outstanding Youth Award Scholarship Program**. Nominations in the categories of **Community Service, Compassion, Courage, and Overall Achievement** are due by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19, in the Parks and Recreation Office, now located in the Washington Square Shopping Center. A \$1,000 scholarship for post-high school education or vocational training is awarded in each of the four categories.

The Board of Supervisors (BOS) is seeking students interested in representing the County's youth by serving on the **York County Youth Commission for the 2020-2021 school year**. Applicants must be York County residents who are currently enrolled in grades 8-11 in a public, private, or home school. A completed application form, short essay, and letter of recommendation must be received at the Parks and Recreation Office by Tuesday, March 10.

The Youth Commission is a 15-member, student-led group from across the County whose main purpose is to represent youth-related needs and concerns to the Board of Supervisors and School Board.

Forms and complete program details for both the **Outstanding Youth Awards** and the **Youth Commission** are available at www.ycyc.info. You may also pick up forms at the Yorktown and Tabb Libraries, Williamsburg and James City County Libraries, Griffin-Yeates Center (1490 Government Road in Williamsburg), and Parks and Recreation. If you have questions about the awards program and/or the Youth Commission, please call (757) 890-3500.

 **York County Head Start**

For more information, call (757) 890-3888
www.yorkcounty.gov/headstart



Now enrolling eligible children ages 3-5 for the 2019 - 2020 School Year including children with disabilities!

Program Features:

- Monday-Friday Classes
- Quality Preschool Program
- Free Nutritious Meals
- Family Support and Education Services
- Limited Transportation is Available at the Griffin-Yeates Location

Program Locations:

Bethel Manor Elementary School
Griffin-Yeates Center
Yorktown Elementary School





York County-Poquoson Office, 5338-I George Washington Memorial Highway, P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, Virginia 23690-0532
Telephone: (757) 890-4940 Website: www.yorkcounty.gov/vce

VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: SAVE THESE DATES!

WE'VE MOVED!

Our offices are now located in the Washington Square Shopping Center. Be sure to stop by to see our new home and to learn about the exciting programs we have available through Virginia Cooperative Extension.

PENINSULA MASTER NATURALIST BASIC TRAINING

Applications are now being accepted for the Spring 2020 training. For more information and to download an application, visit <http://vmpeninsula.weebly.com>.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact the York/Poquoson Extension Office at (757) 890-4940/TDD* during business hours of 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event. *TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 2020 4-H JUNIOR SUMMER CAMP



Camp for York County and Poquoson residents will take place August 3-7, 2020, at the Jamestown 4-H Center in Williamsburg. Registration opens Saturday, March 14, 2020. This is a week-long residential camp for youth ages 9-13. Visit www.yorkcounty.gov/vce to sign up for our email list to receive information about camp and other programs.

APPLY AS TEEN COUNSELOR OR COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING

If you are interested in serving as a counselor at next summer's 4-H camp, applications are now being accepted and are due to the York/Poquoson Extension office by Monday, December 2. For more information and to obtain an application, visit www.yorkcounty.gov/vce.

2020 HORTICULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA

Come join us on March 7, 2020, and hear Keynote Speaker Joseph Tychonievich, author and plant breeder. This event is 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Tabb High School and provides a broad amount of information for both the novice and more experienced gardener. Registration is December 16 through February 14. The cost of the event (which includes lunch) is \$20 if received by February 1, and \$25 after that date. For more information, visit www.yorkcounty.gov/vce or call (757) 890-4940.



HEALTHY VIRGINIA LAWNS PROGRAM

Sign up for the Spring Healthy Virginia Lawns program with visits beginning in March. For \$20, York/Poquoson Master Gardeners will visit your site, measure your yard, take a soil sample, and provide customized feedback. Call (757) 890-4940 or visit www.yorkcounty.gov/vce to register.

FEBRUARY 2020 SHERIFF'S CITIZEN ACADEMY

The York-Poquoson Sheriff's Citizen Academy begins February 10, 2020!



We are currently accepting applications. This 43-hour block of instruction is designed to give the citizens of York County and Poquoson a working knowledge of the Sheriff's Office and the criminal justice system. The goal of the program is to increase law enforcement awareness, dispel suspicions and misconceptions, and increase community rapport through the educational process. Students' interaction and input will contribute to this two-way learning experience.

The curriculum covers diverse topics such as 911 Communications, Hiring, Training, Policies and Procedures, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Law, DUI Investigations, Family Violence, Narcotics Enforcement, Tactical Operations, Hostage Negotiations, Jail Operations, and Firearms/Weapons Use.

Most sessions are held at the Sheriff's Office off Goodwin Neck Road. However, off-site classes include the York-Poquoson Courthouse, Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail, and other similar locations.

For more information and to apply, visit www.yorkcounty.gov/sheriff.

One More Thing



This new building is part of a much larger capital facilities challenge that we are meeting.

A NEW FIRE STATION: MEETING THE CHALLENGE

By Neil A. Morgan, County Administrator

As the front page article discussed, we are all proud of our new Fire Station No. 1 and appreciative of the hard work and support that went into making this important project a reality. I wanted to share with you my perspective on how this new building is part of a much larger capital facilities challenge that we are meeting for both the County and our York County School Division (YCSD).

The approximate \$7.5 million cost to build and equip the new Fire Station No. 1 represents roughly one year of capital spending for County infrastructure based on our six-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) average. Along with about \$10 million of average annual school spending in our combined, County-financed CIP, this is what we can afford to invest in critical long-term facility spending based on our financial condition and the current state of the regional economy. On the County side, other major projects in the works include the expansion and modernization of the Yorktown Library, expected to be under construction by this time next year, and a new, badly-needed Sheriff's Office headquarters, which we hope to have under design by the spring of 2020. Also, we have additional renovation plans for the maintenance and upkeep of many of our older public buildings. Something that has changed in capital budgeting over the last couple of decades is the need to include the cost of some very expensive technology and equipment that competes for the same resources. For example, a single ambulance costs \$350,000 and the replacement cost for all of the radios for the Sheriff's Office and Fire & Life Safety Department is in the range of \$1.5 million every fifteen years.

The YCSD has been making great strides in modernizing many of its buildings, with more improvements already in the planning stages. Some highlights in recent years include the Grafton Complex upgrade, the expansion of Waller Mill Elementary, and major face-lifts for Yorktown Elementary and Tabb Elementary. The expansion and modernization of Seaford Elementary is "in the pipeline."

This is the challenge we face as a community. Many of our buildings were constructed from the 1960s through the 1980s, which coincided with much of our population growth, and now they are aging faster than we can modernize or replace them. The funds required for all of these needed projects will vary dependent on interest rates, the cost of construction, and our general economic situation.

With your support, the Board of Supervisors has placed a high priority on "right sizing" our capital budget, appropriating funds for more of our pressing infrastructure investments. The new state-of-the-art Fire Station No. 1 represents the progress we are making in keeping York County a community of choice.