



# NEWS RELEASE

York County Public Affairs  
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## Yorktown Library Branch to Close May 29 for Renovation and Expansion

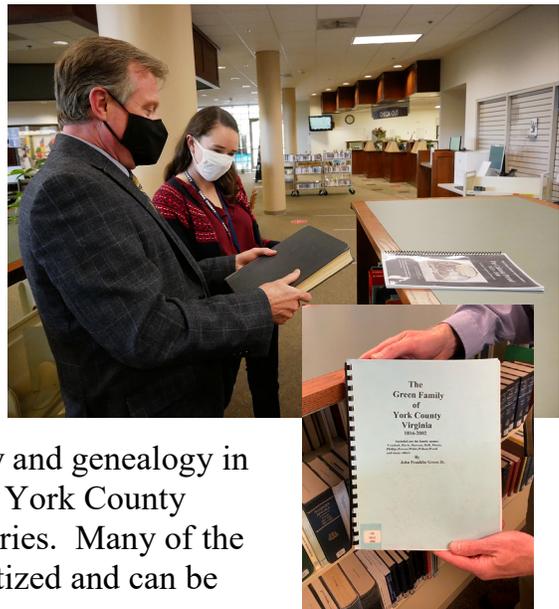
April 23, 2021

To better meet the evolving needs of our growing community, the York County Public Library will close the Yorktown branch at 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 29, to begin an exciting renovation and expansion project. Upon closing, library services will be suspended, with the exception of the book drop, which will remain open through Friday, June 18, to accept returns.

The goals of this project are to overhaul outdated infrastructure, create new public spaces, and make the building more welcoming and accessible to everyone. With this renovation and expansion, the new Yorktown Library can become the center of the community and provide support for the educational, professional, and cultural needs of area residents. The renovation plans add 10,000 square feet to the Yorktown Library. Among the highlights are expanded and updated spaces for events and programs, an updated Children's wing and new story time room, a brand-new space just for teens, innovative technology workspaces, and private study rooms.

In anticipation of the closure and renovation, and in recognition of the interest in the history and genealogy of this area, the Yorktown Library's Local History Collection is being moved to the Tabb Library until renovations are complete. The more than 800 volumes that make up the collection are being transferred and staff are diligently working to conserve the valuable County history, which includes works from popular local historians such as Thelma Ironmonger Hansford, John Franklin Green, and David Stall. Patrons are welcome to research a wealth of York County history and genealogy in notable items such as the 1790-1920 Census records; York County deeds, orders, and wills; and various regimental histories. Many of the books in the Local History Collection have been digitized and can be accessed online from the library's internet archive:

<https://bit.ly/2QRKo5D>. The Library also has subscriptions to the online genealogical



services of Ancestry Library and Heritage Quest. Upon completion of the renovations, the Local History Collection will be returned to the Yorktown branch.

As the work on the library gets underway, the County will be utilizing the empty space located on Route 17 that previously housed Fire Station 1 and has been vacant since the opening of the new Fire Station on Dare Road. Beginning Tuesday, July 6, curbside pickup services and an outdoor book drop will be offered at the building (5751 George Washington Memorial Highway). To utilize the curbside pickup and book drop, library patrons will need to access the parking lot from Grafton Drive, which is a through street that runs behind the facility. Curbside service will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday at this location.

Then, in early August, patrons will be able to visit a browsing room containing popular items including new fiction, new non-fiction, and children's books. Materials from the closed stacks will also be available upon request. The browsing room will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

"The Yorktown expansion has been twenty years in the making and I am so delighted that the County is able to bring this dream to fruition. After construction, we will essentially have a brand new library equipped to accommodate the various intellectual and professional needs of our citizens," said Library Director Kevin Smith.

Patrons are also reminded that services will continue as normal at the Tabb Library, located at 100 Long Green Blvd. Yorktown, VA 23693. The Tabb Library is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

For more information about library services, call (757) 890-5100 or visit our website: [www.yorkcounty.gov/library](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/library). Follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on the renovation, as well as all of the exciting programs and services the York County Public Library has to offer. If you have specific questions, email us at [library\\_services@yorkcounty.gov](mailto:library_services@yorkcounty.gov).

**Photo attached:** In the photo, Library Director Kevin Smith and Library Assistant Jane Snyder inspect items in the Local History Collection as they carefully pack and move the materials to a temporary location at Tabb Library.