



**November 14, 2025**

### **York County Celebrates First Gov Series Graduates**

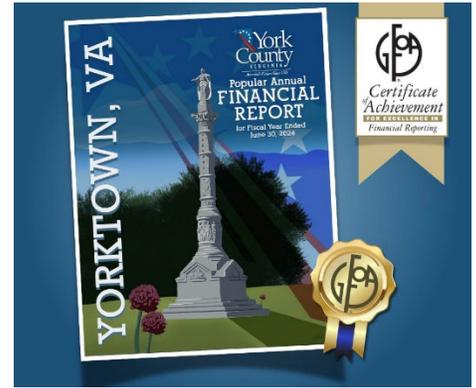
York County proudly celebrated the graduation of its **inaugural Gov Series class** on Thursday, Nov. 13 at York Hall. Over the past 10 weeks, participants explored the inner workings of local government—visiting departments, meeting staff, and gaining firsthand insight into the services that keep the community running. From public safety and emergency communications to planning, public works and economic development, the series offered a behind-the-scenes look at how York County operates. The final session focused on boards and commissions, encouraging graduates to stay engaged and consider future service opportunities. The evening concluded with a formal graduation ceremony and remarks from County Administrator Mark Bellamy and Board of Supervisors Chairman Shelia Noll. Congratulations to the Class of 2025 for their commitment to learning and civic engagement! *Interested in joining a future session?* Visit our [GovSeries webpage](#) to learn more.



The inaugural York County \*Gov Series\* graduates gather for a group photo following their graduation ceremony at York Hall.

## York County Earns National Recognition for Financial Transparency

York County has earned the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) prestigious **Triple Crown Award** for excellence in financial reporting and transparency. The award was announced Oct. 30 following the County's receipt of the **Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award** for its inaugural Popular Annual Financial Report for fiscal year 2024. The Triple Crown recognizes governments that receive all three of GFOA's top honors: the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**, the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**, and the **Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award**. York County has received the Certificate of Achievement for 39 consecutive years and the Budget Award for 22 years. This new recognition completes the trio, placing the County among a select group nationwide. The award highlights York County's commitment to transparency, accountability and making financial information accessible to the public. To view the award-winning reports, visit [www.yorkcounty.gov/budget](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/budget).



## Join Us for Yorktown's Annual Harvest Festival at Riverwalk Landing



**HARVEST**  
festival

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025**  
9 AM to 3 PM at Riverwalk Landing

There will be a bounty of food and fun for the whole family from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at our annual [Yorktown Market Days' Harvest Festival](#) on **Saturday, November 15!** Families will enjoy this autumn extravaganza, which features a live animal show, a hay maze, petting zoo, balloon art, inflatable axe throwing, hayrides, and a pie-eating contest. Test your skills by guessing the weight of the giant pumpkin for a chance to win prizes from our vendors. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, you can purchase holiday staples like turkey, sweet potatoes, green beans, breads, and pies. Local jewelers, painters, and artists

will also be selling their holiday handiwork. For some musical entertainment, Ralph Motley and the Last Minute Grass will perform bluegrass tunes from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Riverwalk Landing Stage. The free, accessible Yorktown Trolley will be in operation beginning at 11 a.m. during this event.

## Support Local This Holiday Season

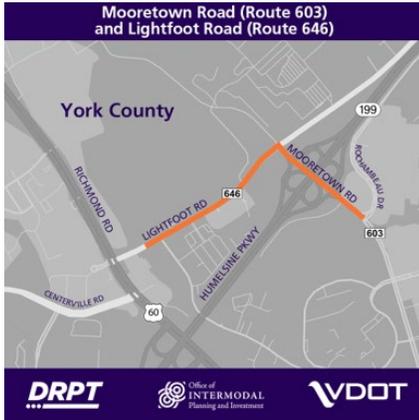
The holiday season is here, and York County Economic & Tourism Development is encouraging everyone to "Shop Local, Spread Cheer" as part of Hampton Roads Buy Local Month, running **November 15 through December 15**. Every

purchase made with a York County business helps support local jobs, community improvements, and the small business owners who make our area thrive. Residents are also invited to celebrate Small Business Saturday on November 29, a national event recognizing the importance of local shops, restaurants, and services. Whether you're buying gifts, dining out, or booking services, your



support keeps York County's economy strong and vibrant. Learn more about York County's Buy Local programs, resources, and Citizen Rewards discount program at [KeepItInYorkCounty.com](https://www.KeepItInYorkCounty.com) and follow @YesYorkVA on Facebook for updates and business highlights.

## Provide Feedback on Mooretown Road and Lightfoot Road Study



The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is inviting public input on potential transportation improvements for the Mooretown Road (Route 603) and Lightfoot Road (Route 646) corridor in York County, between East Roanoke Drive and north of Richmond Road (Route 60). The study aims to identify cost-effective solutions to improve roadway and pedestrian safety, enhance bicycle and transit access, and reduce congestion along this busy corridor. Residents and travelers are encouraged to review proposed concepts and share feedback through an online survey available now through **Monday, November 24**. The survey allows participants to rate different improvement options and includes a translation tool for other languages. Input received will help VDOT determine preferred concepts and potential projects for future funding opportunities. To learn more about the study and complete the survey, [visit the website](#). Comments may also be sent by email to [jerry.pauley@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:jerry.pauley@VDOT.Virginia.gov) or mailed to Jerry Pauley, Virginia Department of Transportation, 7511 Burbage Drive, Suffolk, VA 23435.

## Join the RAFT Implementation Teams!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Historic Triangle Community Resilience Workshops and contributed to the Resilience Action Checklists. Your input is vital in ensuring that the outcomes reflect the true needs and values of our community. We're excited to continue this important work together! If you're interested in helping bring these resilience strategies to life, we invite you to join your locality's **RAFT Implementation Team**. These teams will meet monthly beginning in **November 2025** and continue through **September 2026**, with coordination support from the RAFT Core Team. To learn more about the RAFT initiative, visit the Institute for Engagement & Negotiation – RAFT. [Sign up today](#) to join one or more **RAFT Implementation Teams!**

## Featured Flora: Fall Color with a Creative Twist

York County's annual fall displays are a seasonal favorite—and this year is no exception! In this segment, join Ashleigh as she brings festive flair to the County Administration Building with vibrant cornstalk arrangements and autumn accents. You'll also get a behind-the-scenes look at the history of these displays and pick up a few creative tips to make your own fall décor stand out. *Watch the full video and more at* [www.yorkcounty.gov/featuredflora](https://www.yorkcounty.gov/featuredflora).



**Additional Notes for the Week....** The next Board of Supervisors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of York Hall (301 Main Street). See the agenda [here](#).

York County's government television programming has moved to one convenient channel — making it easier than ever to stay connected and informed! Catch all your favorite County programs on Cox 86 / Verizon 2138, or stream anytime on the York County YouTube Channel for meetings, updates, and community features on demand. [Follow us on YouTube](#).



The poster features a dark blue background with a yellow banner at the top. On the left is the York County Sheriff's Office star logo. To the right of the logo, the text "WE ARE HIRING" is written in large, bold, white letters. Below this, a yellow banner contains the text "Deputy Sheriff". Underneath, the text "Starting Salary \$53,518" is displayed. A bulleted list follows: "With Associates: +1,000", "With Bachelors: +2,000", and "With Masters: +3,000". A yellow button with the text "Find more information at:" is positioned above the website address "www.yorkcounty.gov". At the bottom, a yellow banner with a dotted pattern contains the text "JOIN OUR TEAM". On the right side of the poster is a photograph of a young man in a dark blue uniform with a silver star badge. A white circular callout bubble is overlaid on the photo, containing the text "Additionally, Up to \$5,000 Signing Bonus for certified L.E."

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**Deputy Sheriff**

**Starting Salary**  
**\$53,518**

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- With Bachelors: +2,000
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Find more information at:  
[www.yorkcounty.gov](http://www.yorkcounty.gov)

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*Citizen News Weekly* is compiled and published by York County Public Affairs each Friday to share news and events with our citizens and neighbors. This weekly newsletter is placed on our [website](#) and delivered directly to your inbox.

Questions? Contact Public Affairs Manager, Kelli Tatum at 757-890-3315 or by email at [kelli.tatum@yorkcounty.gov](mailto:kelli.tatum@yorkcounty.gov).