



THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE

York County is ready to meet the challenge

For several years, York County has worked to ensure that its technology programs not only support our operations, but also enhance them. Never has that been more important than since the arrival of COVID-19. As the situation evolves, our IT department is ready.

“COVID-19 has caused many organizations to shift their business operation to an all-digital format to provide secure remote access, and other security measures,” said Tim Wyatt, Deputy Director of Information Technology (IT). “We were ahead of the game in many aspects and have been utilizing this technology for a while. But we worked quickly to deploy more computers to allow staff the work-from-home option for improved safety by keeping employees apart to minimize the potential for the spread of COVID-19.”

This technology allows employees, including those who are teleworking from their homes, to participate in meetings regardless of their location through Zoom, a video communications company.

“Before COVID-19, we averaged 75 remote meetings per day,” added Wyatt. “Now we average 300 sessions during the work week and 50 on weekends. In four months, we have hosted over 1,000 Zoom meetings for over 400,000 minutes and 9,000 participants.”

As Plato wrote, “Necessity is the mother of invention.” Truer words have never been written. In addition to IT, County departments have tapped into new ways and ideas on how to operate during this crisis.

“Clearly the leisure services part of the County has inconvenienced citizens the most: the Senior Center, Parks and Recreation programs, the Libraries, and Tourism,” said County Administrator Neil Morgan at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting.

As can be expected, many Parks & Recreation programs had to be canceled due to the state’s social distancing requirements. That



Virtual meetings for now are the standard. The Board of Supervisors and their committees/commissions use Zoom for public meetings. Shown here: The Board of Supervisors meeting as seen live on WYCG-TV.

includes the Summer Fun Program, Safety Town, and other activities that are popular among our residents. The Senior Center, the first to close due to the high risk posed to our older citizens, remains closed, but staff reaches out to seniors via telephone and continues to work with Meals on Wheels to ensure seniors receive a hot, nutritious meal. In addition, WYCG-TV is expanding the airings of their popular exercise classes.

Tourism Development’s events continue to be modified to fit the fluctuating requirements for the number of participants allowed--a definite challenge to our staff that are tasked with drawing scores of people to our locale.

Early this spring, the popular Yorktown Market Days was relocated to the McReynolds Athletic Complex as a drive-thru event with shoppers making their purchases online. Now that the market has moved back to Riverwalk Landing, two aspects of the drive-thru markets remain: many vendors still offer advanced ordering and pickup at the market.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' ACTIONS

This list features a sampling of items that were considered by the Board of Supervisors since the May 5 meeting. Additional information about these and other Board actions is available at www.yorkcounty.gov/bos.

MAY 19, 2020

- Authorized a day care center as a home occupation with non-resident employees providing care for up to 12 children. This home is located on 2.3 acres on Seaford Road.
- Approved a firearms sales and gunsmithing business as a home occupation on Mastin Avenue. The business operation is in a detached garage on the property.

JUNE 2, 2020

- Amended the York County Code to allow a Board of Supervisor member to participate remotely in Board meetings for a personal or health matter, and allow the Board to meet without a quorum physically assembled in the event of a declaration of emergency issued by the Governor.

JUNE 16, 2020

- Authorized the sale of property owned by the County to Falcon Crest Homes Association in exchange for conveyance of a portion of common area property for the construction of a drainage improvement project. This finalizes the agreement made on October 15, 2018 with the approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for the conveyance of properties.
- Approved agreements between the County's Economic Development Authority and T-Rex Ventures that provide grants to businesses that assist it in acquiring property in the York River Commerce Park and the construction of a data center. The County will not be required to make any grant payments until the data center is built and taxes are paid.

JULY 21, 2020

- Approved the request for SMART SCALE funding for improvements to the Route 17/171 intersection and improvements to the intersections of Airport Road with Mooretown Road and Richmond Road. The Route 17/171 project would relieve congestion and improve safety at the location by widening the northbound and southbound approaches to three through lanes and construction of an additional through lane and two turn lanes. The Airport Road project replaces the existing intersection with a roundabout and reconfigured signal intersection to address congestion and safety issues. If approved, the projects would total an estimated \$27 million.
- Approved the request for funds for the COVID-19 Small Business Recovery Assistance Grant, a regional program in partnership with Williamsburg and Poquoson. In York County, the program is administered by the Office of Economic Development. For additional information on this grant and the York CARES Grant, visit www.YesYorkCounty.com.

AUGUST 4

- This meeting was canceled due to Tropical Storm Isaias. All items requiring action by the Board were moved to the August 18 meeting.

CONTACT YOUR BOARD MEMBER

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CITIZEN NEWS | WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

FALL 2020

This issue of "Citizen News" is the second to be delivered to the community exclusively online. Typically, one copy is mailed to each household in the County. However, news is changing quickly these days due to COVID-19 and we wanted to make this adjustment in order to deliver timely and up-to-date information to you. We would like to know . . . Do you like the online version? Or do you miss receiving the newsletter in your mailbox? Please send your comments to publicaffairs@yorkcounty.gov, by mail to P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, VA, 23690, or phone call to (757) 890-3310. Thank you!

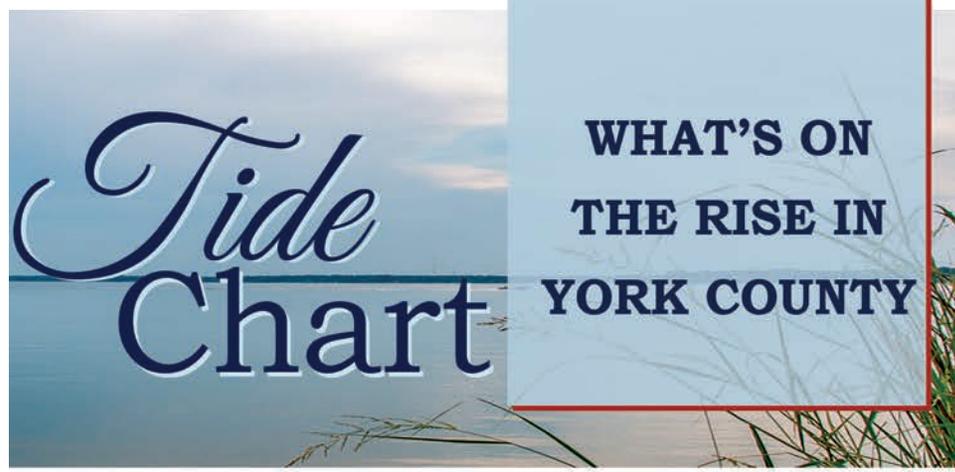
DATES & DEADLINES TO KEEP IN MIND

Tuesday, October 13, is the last day to register to vote in the November 3 election, and also to update your registration information. In this year's election, York County voters make their choices for President and Vice President, a member of the U.S. Senate, and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Voters will also decide on two proposed amendments to the Constitution of Virginia. A sample ballot will be available on the York County Registrar's website, www.yorkcounty.gov/voting no later than Sept. 18. Explanations of



the constitutional amendments will also be made available online and in the Registrar's Office. For more information on polling places, absentee ballots, and more, visit the website or call (757) 890-3440.

There is still time to complete the 2020 Census. Visit www.census.gov and complete the count! Census workers will be visiting homes that have not completed the census - wearing masks and following social distancing requirements - to complete the count.



SOUNDS OF SUMMER GOES VIRTUAL

This year's favorite bands from the Sounds of Summer concert series performed LIVE, but not at the waterfront. With the support of great partnerships, everyone had a front row seat to watch the bands perform live from a closed set in the Freight Shed. If you missed these on Facebook and You Tube, you'll have another chance to get up and dance with Slapnation, WHOA, and Tidewater Drive Band when the concerts replay on WYCG-TV (Cox 46/Verizon 38) in a special Labor Day Weekend Concert Marathon. Look for dates and times on www.VisitYorktown.org. See you back at the beach for Sounds of Summer 2021.



WHAT'S UP, DOCK?

Riverwalk Landing Piers have been busier than ever. Even with fireworks cancelled, the overnight and temporary hours booked for 4th of July weekend surpassed 2019.



Along with the *Alliance*, luxury yachts have been regular visitors to our pier and we look forward to our friends at the cruise lines returning soon.

Rhythms ²⁰²⁰ ON THE Riverwalk

FRIDAYS 6:30 - 8:30 PM

- SEPT 18** Bobby Black Hat Band
- SEPT 25** BJ Griffin and the Galaxy Groove
- OCT 2** Little Country
- OCT 9** Good Shot Judy
- OCT 16** Blue Tips Rhythm Revue

VisitYorktown.org

Events subject to postponement or cancellation due to COVID-19

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

FROM THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESSES WITH STAYING POWER

YesYorkCounty.com spotlights your most beloved and lasting local businesses. Check out our recent feature stories (with photo galleries):

Greens Barber Shop



While current COVID-19 restrictions mean masks and urging customers to get appointments before coming, everything else at Greens

Barber Shop on Highway 17 is pretty much the same as when John "Peter" Green first launched the business back in 1960 (even the customers)... [READ MORE](#)

Pea Soup For Kids & Pea Soup for Home



From kids clothes to home furnishings, Pea Soup consignment stores cater to selective shoppers who like a bargain. "Is this stuff used?" Pea Soup owners Ann Adcox and Suzanne Hayes field the question often.



Stepping into their side-by-side shops, you'd indeed think you were at a pricey boutique.... [READ MORE](#)

HELPING BUSINESSES WITH COVID RECOVERY

York County launches two new grants

If you run a business that has been negatively affected by the pandemic, here's some good news: you could receive up to \$8,000 through two new York County grants.



The Office of Economic Development created these grants (available on a first-come, first-served basis) to help businesses cover coronavirus-related expenses. Businesses of 20 or fewer employees may receive both grants, as long as they apply for different needs under each—such as protective supplies under one grant, and rent/mortgage under the other. Here are the main differences in the grants:

COVID-19 Small Business Grant

Up to \$5,000

≥20 employees

Includes:

- Purchase of PPE
- Cleaning services/supplies
- Property improvements to accommodate distancing
- Software/hardware to accommodate delivery, online payments, etc
- Signage/marketing to show you are open or to promote proper distancing/sanitization

York CARES Grant

Up to \$3,000

≥250 employees

Includes:

- Rent, mortgages, insurance, and/or utilities during the pandemic
- Purchase of PPE
- Cleaning services/supplies
- Property improvements to accommodate distancing
- Software/hardware to accommodate delivery, online payments, etc
- Signage/marketing to show you are open or to promote distancing/sanitization

APPLY FOR THESE AND OTHER GRANTS

By The
Numbers

73.5

The County's census self-response percent rate, placing us 16h highest among Virginia's 133 counties.

1,186

Homes requesting storm debris collection following Tropical Storm Isaias. For more on this story, visit page 9.

562,355

Minutes read by the 622 participants in the Library's Summer Reading Program. Over 3,300 program activities were completed!



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

f /yorkcountyschoolsva

o /yorkcountyschoolsva

t /YCS

▶ /yorkcountyschoolsva

Addressing Concerns

The York County School Division values communication with our stakeholders and encourages parents and other stakeholders to share their concerns and questions. We find that the most effective way to resolve a concern is to ensure it is addressed at the most direct level. Our goal is to work with you to reach an effective and timely solution that is in the best interest of your child.

Teacher

Contact the teacher to set up a time to talk and work toward the best solution for your child.

School Administrator

If you feel the issue is not resolved at classroom level, contact the school office for an appointment with the principal or assistant principal.

School Board Office

Some situations may require district-level attention. If your issue remains unresolved, please contact the School Board Office to speak to the appropriate department or representative. At this stage, concerns may be addressed first by a director, then a chief officer if necessary.

Superintendent's Office

If the issue has not been resolved to your satisfaction after following the prior steps, please contact the School Board Office to speak with the superintendent's office.

Instruction: 757-898-0462

K-12 Curriculum
Gifted Services
School Counseling
English Learners
Virtual High School

School Administration: 757-898-0306

Discipline
Health
Safety & Security
Athletics

Student Services: 757-898-0308

Homeschool
Special Education
Preschool

School Board Office: 757-898-0300

Stay Connected

Canvas Learning Management System

Teachers share assignments, due dates, and class materials. Students can submit assignments.

Aspen Family Portal

View student schedules, assignments and grades, as well as daily attendance records and family contact information.

Remind

Use for two-way communication between staff and families via text, email and phone

For more information on these systems, visit:

yorkcountyschools.org/technology/edtech

STUDENT HOTLINE

☎ (757) 890-5000

DOWNLOAD THE YCSD MOBILE APP

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



Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

NEWS FROM THE YORK-POQUOSON SHERIFF'S OFFICE

National Night Out - The Hampton Roads area typically celebrates National Night Out on the first Tuesday in August, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all National Night Out 2020 events will be held Tuesday, October 6. Please contact the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office if you would like us to come and join your neighborhood for National Night Out. *National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes law enforcement-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.* (natw.org)



Crime Prevention Outreach - With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions and recommendations, the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit are implementing new ways of educating the community. We will be utilizing our social media platforms to reach as many people as possible and help them decrease the opportunity of victimization through crime prevention practices and education.



YouTube - The York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office

Facebook - @YorkPoquosonSheriff

Instagram - york_poquosonsheriff

Twitter - @YorkPoquosonSO



**York County
Head Start**

2020-2021
School Year

NOW ENROLLING ONLINE
eligible children ages 3-5 including those with disabilities

Program Features:	Locations:
Monday-Friday Classes	Bethel Manor Elementary School
Quality Preschool Program	Griffin-Yeates Center
Free Nutritious Meals	(limited transportation available)
Family Support	Yorktown Elementary School
Education Services	

For more information, call (757) 890-8888
www.yorkcounty.gov/headstart



YORKTOWN art STROLL²⁰²⁰

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27
10 AM to 5 PM

HISTORIC YORKTOWN
THE FREIGHT SHED
RIVERWALK LANDING

ENTERTAINMENT - 12 to 4 PM
Audio Portrait
playing Acoustical Harmony

Rain or Shine | 757.369.1108
Events subject to postponement
or cancellation due to COVID-19

Presented by Yorktown Arts Foundation and York County
with support from York County Arts Commission.

Visit Yorktown.org



Continued from page 1



Nowadays, visitors to the will notice it looks a little different than it did a year ago: vendors and staff wear masks, tables are set up further apart, and many sales are made hands-free.

While other events were canceled, one that continued - at least virtually - is the Sounds of Summer Concert Series.

“Due to restrictions on crowd size, we’ve had to modify our Summer Concert Series looking at alternative ways to deliver live music to the community,” said Director of Community Services Brian Fuller.

And deliver they did. The three concerts were broadcast live



Tammy Faulkner of No Ordinary View and Elisa Wilkie and her partner, Julian, from Terra Aqua Dynamics Microfarm wear masks at Saturday's Yorktown Market Days.

from our Freight Shed and shown on YouTube and Facebook Live. (For more information about the concerts, see “On the Rise” on page 3.) Feedback from our citizens has been extremely positive, with concert-viewers enjoying the summer tradition from the comfort and safety of their homes.

The York County Public Library closed its doors earlier this year and has found new ways to deliver services to its patrons. Since parents can't bring their children to Story Time, this popular series has gone to them! Staff records programs each week and broadcasts live on social media - namely Facebook and Instagram - and also on YouTube. The stories are fun and interactive, often utilizing props.

Understanding that many patrons are not used to an online library, staff developed a series of Digital Bytes “how to” videos highlighting different functions of the library online including requesting a library card and downloading materials.

Curbside pickup is popular for many services, including the Library! Through this program, patrons view the library catalog solely online and check out books, DVDs, and other materials electronically. Once notified by staff that their items are available for pick up, all it takes is a quick ride to the library where materials are brought to the vehicle. How's that for service? With the modified reopening of the Tabb and Yorktown branches on August 5, many patrons are enjoying being able to visit the facilities once again. Curbside service continues to assist those who are not able to enter the building.

YouTube is a popular resource for the Parks & Recreation/Fire & Life Safety pre-kindergarten Safety Town program, which didn't happen this year.

We've missed seeing the kid's smiling faces, but the Safety Town crew has brought the lessons and activities to children virtually on the website and YouTube! While it is not the same as in-person instruction, we think kids will benefit from the printable games and coloring pages, as well as the instructional videos. Visit www.yorkcounty.gov/SafetyTown for all the learning materials.



This year, Sparky and all the Safety Town lessons can be found online.

During this situation, while many offices are required to come up with new ways to provide services to the community, others must continue to operate in a pre-COVID manner. Cheers to Fire & Life Safety, the Sheriff's Office, and Public Works for continuing their respective missions as they incorporate safety measures.

No one is sure what the future will look like in terms of our daily lives. York County government may also look different, but is ready to meet the challenge.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY

Looking for ways to connect to the York County Public Library? Check out our many **social media channels** to take advantage of the **virtual programs** we've been offering. Programs include story times, book and poetry readings, craft demonstrations and science experiments. Video-based virtual programs are available through Facebook Live, Instagram and our new YouTube Channel. Library staff continue to work hard to bring you programs you may have



Many of our summer programs and activities have been recorded and are available for viewing anytime on our YouTube channel. Here, Mrs. Dreama is shown at Story Time.

been missing since our closure. To stay up-to-date on everything we are offering, or to check out the videos you may have missed, like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and subscribe to our YouTube Channel at www.YouTube.com (search for York County Public Library and hit the subscribe button!). For more information, visit www.yorkcounty.gov/library.

One of our most popular digital resources is **Universal Class**.

Through the library's website, you have access to lifelong learning courses in over 30 subject areas, many of which offer continuing education units (CEUs). More than 500 courses are available, and all are designed and led by professional instructors. Universal Class includes videos, assignments, quizzes, tests, and options for social media interaction with other learners. You can take multiple classes and learn at your own pace.

From technical courses on computer software to digital photography to babysitting 101, a huge range of topics is available. Courses are offered in Exercise and Fitness, Entrepreneurship, Home and Garden Care, Cooking, Computers and Technology, Health and Medicine, Homeschooling, Job Assistance, Law and Legal, Parenting and Family, Pet and Animal Care, plus hundreds more. All you need is your library card to get started.

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY TIPS



Smoke Alarms Available - The Department of Fire and Life Safety cares very much about the safety of you and your family. Did you know that we have a limited



supply of free smoke alarms available to those residents who cannot afford one? We are also happy to visit our citizens to help with the proper placement and installation of smoke alarms. It is a fact that three out of every five home fire deaths across our nation is a result from homes with no smoke alarms.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors an Important Part of Home Safety

"Each year, our crews respond to calls involving carbon monoxide," says York County's Fire Chief Steve Kopczynski. "Carbon monoxide is particularly dangerous because it is an invisible, odorless gas that can kill in minutes. Anything that burns fuel can potentially become a source of carbon monoxide."



York County residents should be careful to install CO alarms in a central location outside each bedroom and on every level of the home. More helpful tips are available on our website.

A Slightly Different Trick-or-Treat - Halloween is a fun-filled time for children and adults. As of now, York County kids will still be able to enjoy trick-or-treating. Children are encouraged to wear a mask when trick-or-treating, but not one that affects the child's ability

to see clearly. Instead, work on incorporating your face mask into your costume! Along with wearing masks, frequent hand washing and social distancing precautions should be a part of your day-to-day life, and that includes events like Halloween.

Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for updated information.



For more safety tips, visit www.yorkcounty.gov/fire, call (757) 890-3600, Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m., and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/yorkcountymfire) - @yorkcountymfire.

PUBLIC WORKS WANTS YOU TO KNOW....

Household Chemical Collection & Computer Recycling Event

Saturday, September 12

Saturday, November 14

8:00 am – Noon

County Drive (off Goodwin Neck Rd)

(757) 890-3780 or vppsa.org for more information

Citizens are asked to remain in their vehicles



TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS YARD DEBRIS COLLECTION

On Tuesday, August 4, Tropical Storm Isaias left many residents with a mess to clean up. In addition to the downed power lines and loss of Internet connection, yards and driveways were littered with tree limbs, branches, leaves and various debris. The County announced a one-week period when citizens could request a free yard debris pickup. For those who signed up for this special collection, debris is to be



placed at the roadside for collection by the County. You'll probably

see our staff out collecting debris for some time, so give them a wave! But, please maintain social and safe distance. Also, we ask for your patience as it takes a while for our crews to go through the entire County!

BE A BAY STAR HOME OR BUSINESS

Pledge to become a Bay Star Home or Business! Get involved in the community effort to protect our region's most defining natural resource - water. The Bay Star Homes and Bay Star Business programs provide information on how to conserve and preserve this precious resource. Visit www.askHRgreen.org to find out more. Once registration is complete, you'll receive a welcome packet that includes great tips, local information from your city or county, and a beautiful Bay Star Homes flag so you can proudly display your commitment to clean waterways to the whole neighborhood. *Program offerings and incentives differ by locality.*



GO GREEN MARKET SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 8 A.M. - 12 P.M.



Yorktown Market Days is partnering with the County's Waste Management Center and Beautification Committee for this year's Go Green Market. If you've visited Market Days in the past, then you already know that sustainability is important to the weekly market and its vendors. Reusable bags are common among shoppers. And, at the September 12 market, visitors will see artwork created from recycled and upcycled materials and techniques, as well as sustainable practices on display.

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP HAPPENING SOON!

The Great American Cleanup - Friday, September 18 and Saturday, September 19 - is an opportunity to transform your neighborhood and community into beautiful spaces that are environmentally healthy, socially connected, and economically sound. They're better places to raise families, start a business, or go to school.

This is a two-day effort to remove litter and improve community appearance across all 17 cities and counties in the region. Community beautification projects include:

- Removing litter from roadsides, neighborhoods, beaches, waterways, and parks for cleaner communities
- Planting trees, flowers and community gardens to strengthen green infrastructure
- Restoring nature trails, parks and playgrounds to encourage outdoor activity
- Recycling old or unwanted items junking up your home or yard
- Restoring business districts and thoroughfares to encourage economic development



Due to social distancing guidelines, we are encouraging volunteers to lead neighborhood cleanups with smaller groups in a spot of your choosing. Supplies and support may be available from your local coordinator. Volunteers will be connected with a Team Up 2 Clean Up Clean Community Coordinator for assistance with proper safety protocols, available supplies and reporting your cleanup results. Helpful links are available at www.yorkcounty.gov/wastemanagement.

Yorktown

Upcoming FALL EVENTS

All events are free unless noted!

SEPTEMBER

MARKET DAYS

Weekly through October 31
(except Oct. 3)
Saturdays • 8 AM to 12 PM
Riverwalk Landing

SPECIAL MARKETS

Go Green Market

September 12 • 8 AM to 12 PM

Sister Cities French Market

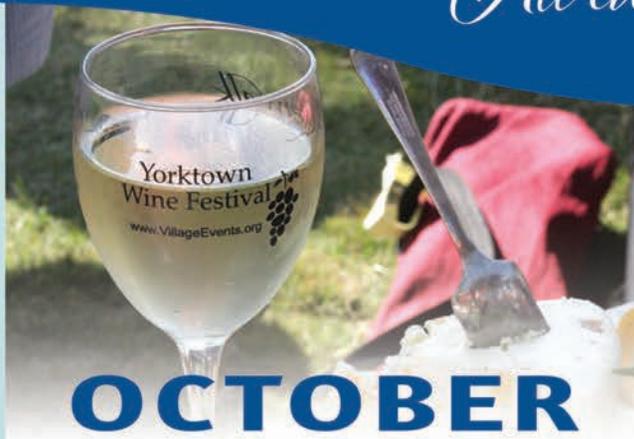
September 19 • 8 AM to 3 PM

RHYTHMS ON THE RIVERWALK CONCERT SERIES

September 18 – October 16
Fridays • 6:30 to 8:30 PM
Riverwalk Landing

YORKTOWN ART STROLL

Sunday, September 27
10 AM to 5 PM • Freight Shed and
Participating Businesses



OCTOBER

RHYTHMS ON THE RIVERWALK CONCERT SERIES

October 2 – 16
Fridays • 6:30 to 8:30 PM
Riverwalk Landing

YORKTOWN WINE FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 3
12 to 6 PM • Riverwalk Landing, \$

MARKET DAYS

Saturdays (except Oct. 3)
8 AM to 12 PM • Riverwalk Landing

SPECIAL MARKETS

Fall Festival

October 10 • 8 AM to 3 PM

First Responders Market

October 17 • 8 AM to 12 PM

Paws at the River

October 31 • 9 AM to 3 PM

NOVEMBER

YORK COUNTY VINTAGE MARKETPLACE

Saturday, November 7
9 AM to 3 PM
McReynolds Athletic Complex

MARKET DAYS

Saturdays • Riverwalk Landing

SPECIAL MARKETS

Maritime Festival

November 14 • 9 AM to 3 PM

Harvest Festival

November 21 • 9 AM to 3 PM

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Wednesday, November 11
12 PM • York Hall, 301 Main Street



Events subject to postponement or cancellation due to COVID-19.

VisitYorktown.org

WATCH YOUR MAILBOX...JURY QUESTIONNAIRES ON THE WAY

Every August/September, the Clerk of the Circuit Court sends out approximately 6,000 randomly selected juror questionnaires to York County and City of Poquoson residents. These are not summonses to serve. The questionnaires help determine potential jurors for 2021.



- Questionnaires may be completed online or mailed back to the office.
- You are required by law to return the completed Jury Questionnaire to the Court.
- Information compiled from jury questionnaire responses is CONFIDENTIAL and used strictly for jury selection.

For more information, please visit www.ypcircuitcourt.com.



HEALTHY VIRGINIA LAWNS PROGRAM

Sign up now for our Fall Healthy Virginia Lawns program with visits beginning in August! This program is designed to assist York County and Poquoson residents with taking care of their lawn in an economic and environmentally sound manner. For \$20, York/Poquoson Master Gardeners will visit your site, measure your yard, take a soil sample to be analyzed by Virginia Tech, provide you with a certified Nutrient Management Plan that will be good for 3 years for your yard and your situation and answer any questions you may have about your turf. To register for this program, visit <http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce> to register online or call the Extension office at 757-890-4940.

Proper social distancing practices including face coverings, 6 ft. distancing and safe handling of materials will be adhered by our volunteers and also will be required of the homeowner.

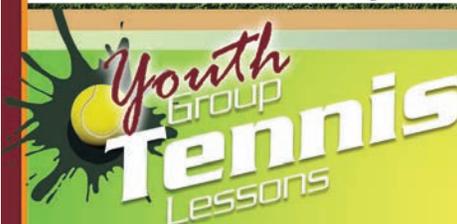
Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. 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.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR THE SERVICE MEMBERS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT?

This Act exempts active duty military personnel from personal property tax in any state other than their legal state of residence. Vehicles titled in an active duty non-resident military person's name will be exempt as long as each owner annually furnishes a Leave & Earnings Statement (LES) for the period of residence.

Military spouses may be eligible for tax exemption on personal property in their names or titled jointly with their service member-spouse based on certain qualifying conditions. To apply for this exemption, visit website at www.yorkcounty.gov/revenue or contact the Commissioner of the Revenue's office at (757) 890-3381.

All vehicles owned by military individuals who claim Virginia as their legal state of residence are subject to personal property tax.



Back Creek Park & Kiln Creek Park

Register online by:
September 7
Lessons Begin
the week of:
September 14

Kayak Rentals UNTIL OCTOBER 1

New Quarter Park & Back Creek Park
Reserve & pay online at least 48 hours in advance
2 Hours: \$10/\$12 • All Day: \$30/\$35
Resident/Non-Resident



Charles Brown Park

1950 Old Williamsburg Rd. • Yorktown, 23690

Trolls World Tour • Friday, September 11

McReynolds Athletic Complex

412 Sports Way • Yorktown, 23692

The Secret Life of Pets 2 • Saturday, September 19

New Quarter Park

1000 Lakeshead Dr. • Williamsburg, 23185

The Lion King • Saturday, September 26

One More Thing

EMBRACING CREATIVITY AND FLEXIBILITY LEADS TO SUCCESS

By Neil A. Morgan, County Administrator



The County staff has learned, innovated, made course corrections, and largely sustained the programs and services that are important to you.

Earlier during the COVID 19 adventure I wrote about how the County was approaching the situation from the standpoint of governance, the health threat itself, and its impact on our finances. As of mid-summer it is clear to all of us that there will be long lingering impacts not only in those categories discussed before, but also semi-permanently in the way the County organization delivers services, tries to keep employees and residents safe, and supports our school system with its own huge and ongoing challenges.

With the support of the Board of Supervisors and you, the County staff has learned, innovated, made course corrections, and largely sustained the programs and services that are important to you and our quality of life. Investments that we had already been making in technology paid off when we were able to quickly set up the ability for many employees to work from home, expand credit card services, access real time information from our website, provide non-contact drop-offs and pickups, and generally give citizens and County staff options for remote interaction. If you have watched a Board meeting lately, you can clearly see how the quality of our virtual meetings and the ability to accommodate citizen interaction has improved in just a few short months.

We have to be prepared when an employee tests positive for COVID 19 and try to deploy our staff in such a way that entire functions are not shut down as a result of quarantines or outbreaks within a building. I am proud that we are learning as time goes by. Our work is also occurring in the context of the personal challenges all of us are facing, reduced tax revenue to support county operations, and rising health care costs. We are trying to be supportive of the York County School Division, which is urgently deploying new distance learning technologies under difficult deadlines.

Already challenged by the temporary closure of the Grafton School Complex, the Superintendent and his staff have done an impressive job managing the pitfalls that 2020 has delivered. The division now has an instructional plan in place that will continue providing the excellent education to which our families are accustomed.

At this point we have to assume that county operations will not return to the old normal for an extended period of time. Some of the things we have learned suggest that some things should not go back to the way they were even if they could.

Trying to anticipate what is going to happen in coming months is like looking outside in the dark of night with sunglasses on! Our watchwords are flexibility, innovation, safety, and maintaining good service. If ever there were a time for continual improvement, this is it.