



NEWS RELEASE

York County Public Affairs
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York County Update 7/24/2020:

Fire & Life Safety COVID-19 Update; Economic Development Announces Small Business Grant; Tourism Development Awarded Grant; Summer Concert Series Coming to You Live-Streamed; Join Us for Movies in the Parks

July 24, 2020

Fire and Life Safety COVID-19 Update

- Eleven Fire & Life Safety personnel who had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and quarantined per policy, have returned to duty along with other staff under quarantine as a health and safety precaution. In the past 24 hours, two additional staff have tested positive, are in the process of being quarantined, and the department is working to identify additional personnel who may be in need of quarantine. Additional information is available in the [press release](#).

Economic Development Announces COVID-19 Small Business Grant that Joins York CARES Grant in Assisting Local Businesses

- York County Economic Development has announced an additional grant to small businesses – those with under 20 employees. The **COVID-19 Small Business Grant** offers up to \$5,000 in recovery funding for eligible businesses as reimbursement for purchase of protective supplies, tools, equipment, or inventory; cleaning services or supplies; property improvements or renovations to accommodate social distancing or outdoor dining, recreation, services, etc.; payment for rent or mortgages during times of required business closure and/or modification; and other qualifying expenses incurred following the State reopening requirements. Visit the [website](#) for more information including eligibility requirements. This grant is in addition to the York CARES Grant (see below).

Business Recovery Assistance	
COVID-19 Small Business Grant	York CARES Grant
Up to \$5,000	Up to \$3,000
20 or fewer employees	250 or fewer employees
More restricted	More open-ended
Uses state funds	Uses federal funds
Joint initiative with Poquoson & Williamsburg	York County initiative

- York County set aside funding received from the government’s CARES ACT to establish the **York CARES Grant**. The County and Economic Development Authority are offering one-time financial assistance

to eligible for-profit small businesses up to \$3,000. The application and eligibility requirements are available on the Office of Economic Development [website](#).

Tourism Development Awarded Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC) DMO WanderLove Grant

- York County Tourism Development is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a \$10,000 Recovery Grant awarded by the Virginia Tourism Corporation for destination-marketing organizations (DMO) across the Commonwealth. The funding will be used to increase awareness and visitation to our destination through the WanderLOVE campaign, which aims to stimulate economic activity and travel “road trips” across the state. These funds will support creating WanderLOVE videos, digital assets, and participation in the VTC Google search and digital banner campaigns. **As part of the grant, and to help celebrate *National Farmers Market Week*, York County is excited to once again host the VTC’s life-sized LOVE letters, this time for the special August 8 market.** The letters are an extension of the “Virginia is for Farmers Market Lovers” variation of the state’s iconic motto. The annual event provides an opportunity for the community to learn more about how their food is grown and harvested, and to celebrate our farmers and other local small businesses. The letters will be on display for photo opportunities from August 1 through August 9.
- **The show will go on... virtually. Tourism Development is bringing you the Sounds of Summer Concert Series live online!** While in-person Sounds of Summer concerts have been cancelled up to this point as a result of the pandemic, the Tourism Development Office is excited to announce **three upcoming real-time concerts that will be live-streamed** for the community! These performances are Thursday nights on a closed set inside the Freight Shed. Viewers may tune in at 7 p.m. via York County’s YouTube page and the Visit Yorktown Facebook page to see 90 minutes of music from some of our area’s most popular bands. This series is a collaborative effort between York County’s Tourism Development, WYCG-TV, and Department of Information Technology. A special thank you to James River Audio Visual for their support and services. Upcoming Line-Up:
 - **Thursday, July 30 – Slapnation**
 - **Thursday, August 6 – WOAH**
 - **Thursday, August 13 – Tidewater Drive Band**

Parks and Recreation’s Movies in the Parks Continues

- Movies in the Parks continues this weekend with a family-friendly movie showing just after sunset at New Quarter Park. Two of these movie showings have taken place – July 10 at Charles Brown Park and July 18 at New Quarter Park – and have attracted approximately 60 people at each event. These outdoor movies are an opportunity for families to enjoy a movie, spend time outside, and socially distance all at the same time. For a complete listing of upcoming movies, view the [schedule online](#).



York County Fire & Life Safety Awarded Regional Peninsulas EMS Awards

- The Department of Fire & Life Safety received two awards – one for Outstanding EMS Call for its response to the 75-car pileup on Interstate 64 in December of 2019, and another for Outstanding Contribution to EMS Preparedness and Response given to Sherl Emerson, Senior Administration Services Manager (now retired) for her 39 years of service to the department. The Innovation Excellence in EMS award was given for the Peninsulas COVID-19 Operations Center, of which York County Fire & Life Safety is a partner. For additional information, please see the [press release](#).

Board of Supervisors July 21 Meeting Online, TV

- The Board of Supervisors July 21 meeting was held remotely. Meeting details are available [here](#). Meeting replays are always available to [view online](#) and are shown on WYCG-TV (Cox 46, Verizon 38). The Board does not hold a meeting on the first Tuesday in July. The next meeting is August 4. The meeting agenda will be posted online during the previous week.