



Press Release

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Contact: Keith Schuermann
Regional Library Director
706-882-7784 office
678-577-2241 mobile

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Library Announces Temporary Site, Renovation Schedule

The Troup-Harris Regional Library has announced plans to move services of the LaGrange Memorial Library to a temporary site, while the library undergoes a renovation/addition capital improvement project. The library will close on December 4th, and will relocate to an unused part of Unity Elementary School on 525 Park Avenue in LaGrange. This temporary site, once established with shelving, computers, and materials for circulation, will open in early January.

Library services will be maintained and operated at the north end of the Unity facility, with the gymnasium, band room, and cafeteria to be secured in a leasing agreement with the Troup County School System. This temporary site will remain in service during the course of the capital improvement project, which will begin in January of 2021 and is estimated to take 12-14 months to complete.

Troup-Harris Regional Library System Director Keith Schuermann stated this temporary site will provide essential services for the community. "We'll be focusing on the basics," Schuermann said. "This will include circulating materials for all ages, computer services for the public, which have been more in demand lately as everything is pushed online due to COVID-19, and possibly provide a little bit of programming, as we're able to do so. Overall, our intent will be to operate in an express-styled manner."

Once completed, the renovated LaGrange Memorial Library will be the eighth version of a library to provide services to the LaGrange community since being established in 1921, when the LaGrange Woman's Club opened and operated the city's first public library in the Queenie Heard House. CAS Architecture of Lawrenceville, GA is providing architectural design and engineering services on the project. Chad Alexander Smith, President of CAS, recently completed the renovated Bogart Library near Athens, the Sewell Mill Library and Cultural Center in Marietta, and is nearing completion of the new Norcross Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library.

The reimagined LaGrange library will require a full renovation of the current building, providing the community with a new layout, furniture and finishes, spaces for programming including a larger meeting room, and much needed infrastructural improvements including a new roof, humidity controls, and a new exterior surfacing. It is estimated the total project cost will be \$6.8M, supported by state and local funding partners.

For more information concerning this project as it progresses, and for information regarding library locations and programs, visit them on the web at www.thrl.org.
