

The long anticipated renovation of Pack Memorial Library is beginning this fall. The renovation plan will bring the thirty year old building up to date by constructing a small addition on the north side, replacing all heating and air-conditioning systems and incorporating former storage space into the public areas of the building. New space for the North Carolina collection will be created, the children's room will be nearly doubled in size and the main floor will be reconfigured to provide more space for seating and technology. All of the electrical and lighting systems will be upgraded. The renovation project should be completed within two years.

During the renovation process, various functions of Pack Library and the Library Administrative Offices will be shifted to other locations. Some services may be temporarily unavailable for the duration of the renovation, but as much as possible, library staff will assist patrons in finding substitutes for those items and services. Library patrons who normally use Pack Library are welcome to use any of the other eleven library branches in Buncombe County.

The renovation project will begin with the lower and mezzanine levels of Pack Library. This will allow the main floor to stay open as long as possible. The Children's Department on the lower level will close Friday, October 16. A small collection of children's books will move upstairs to the main level and will be available for families to check out. Lord Auditorium and Gates Computer Lab will also close in October. The library Administrative Offices will be out of the upstairs mezzanine level by the end of November. The Administrative Offices and the Technical Services department will relocate to temporary office space in the Kmart shopping center across from the Asheville Mall on Tunnel Road. The main floor of Pack Library should remain open with the closing date to be determined in early 2010.

Due to the nature of construction projects, we strongly advise library users to please check the website or call the library before making a special trip downtown. All scheduled notices regarding any interruption in services or temporary closures will appear on the Buncombe County web site at buncombecounty.org.

We appreciate your patience during this renovation and apologize for any inconvenience. We hope to have a great new library for Buncombe County citizens to enjoy for many years to come.