

Buy Local **BUZZ**



FEBRUARY 2025

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What we love about York County

Love is in the air this February, and there's so much to adore right here in York County! From savoring delicious deals during Restaurant Week to scoring discount hockey tickets, we've packed this month's Buy Local Buzz with things that will warm your heart (and your taste buds). Discover our top 10 must-try dishes, uncover the secret behind Little York Confectionery's famous Raspberry Cheesecake bon bons and more. Celebrate the season of love by supporting the local businesses that make York County so special!

FOODIE FINDS

10 crave-worthy creations from local eateries

York County is gearing up for a delicious February! Whether you're planning breakfast with friends, lunch with your co-workers,

a romantic dinner with your special someone or just looking to indulge, these 10 not-to-miss dishes are sure to make your Valentine's Day dining experience unforgettable.

Here are the first three of them to whet your appetite:



Shorty's Diner

French Toast with Fresh Berries

627 Merrimac Trail, Williamsburg
www.shortysdinerva.com

Persnickety Crane Coffeehouse & Café

Swedish Meatballs with Mashed Potatoes

209 Village Ave., Suite C, Yorktown
www.persnicketycranecafe.com



Riverwalk Restaurant

Shrimp Grits

323 Water Street, Yorktown
www.riverwalkrestaurantva.com



Once you've recovered from this dining adventure, join us for **Restaurant Week**, Feb. 24–March 2, as we continue to celebrate the County's diverse cuisine. It's the perfect opportunity to revisit your favorites or discover new culinary gems. In fact, all of these restaurants, along with **others across York County**, are offering special menus and discounts on a wide variety of dishes during Restaurant Week, making it a food festival to remember!

So be sure to mark your calendars and make your reservations early for both Valentine's Day AND Restaurant Week. There's no better time to indulge in the local culinary scene and let your taste buds fall in love with the many delicious offerings in York County!

ALL 10 FEATURED DISHES

HOW IT'S MADE

Behind the Bon Bon: How Little York crafts confectionery perfection



Ever wondered what makes **Little York Confectionery's** bon bons so irresistible? In this exclusive video, we take you behind the scenes to see the artistry and passion that goes into crafting this beloved local delicacy. From the rich and creamy—yet crunchy—filling to the perfect chocolate coating, you'll savor every step of the process!

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



Want to get rewarded for something you already do?

Many businesses and attractions offer free admission or discounts for York County residents. Don't forget to pick up your Citizen Rewards discount card before you go! To nab your very own card, present proof of residence at one of the three pick-up locations:

- York Hall in Yorktown
- Senior Center of York
- York County Parks Recreation in Washington Square shopping center)

[LEARN MORE & SEE CURRENT DISCOUNTS](#)



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Many of our amazing York County businesses have been nominated for the 2025 *Coastal Virginia Magazine* Best-of Awards!

Tell everyone who you love most in York County and help these companies win by **voting online** no later than March 7.

VOTE NOW

UPCOMING EVENTS

Paintings, Pâté, Piccolos & Pucks

Looking for a unique and memorable way to celebrate Valentine's Day with your sweetie? You're not alone! According to the **National Retail Federation**, 41% of survey respondents preferred experiential gifts for Valentine's Day, along with 32% planning to buy a gift of this type for someone else. Check out these exciting upcoming winter events to surprise your loved ones this year.



Cabin Fever Concert Series

Thursday, Feb. 20

Are the winter doldrums giving you a case of cabin fever? Have no fear—we've got the perfect



Valentine's Day Market

Saturday, Feb. 8

You'll find a lot to love at our Valentine's Day Winter Market at Riverwalk Landing! Shop your

solution with our Cabin Fever Concert Series! Back by popular demand, York County welcomes the return of this exciting musical experience.

Join us for this intimate and free) event on select Thursdays in February March, 6:30–8:30 p.m. in the Yorktown Freight Shed 331 Water Street .

Next up: Bill Jenkins the Virginia Mountain Boys

LEARN MORE

favorite vendors and artists selling locally grown, produced and crafted products. Pick up flowers, artwork, desserts and other treats that your special someone is sure to adore.

Don't miss the chance to decorate the LOVE letters with your personalized message and try your best to guess the number of candy hearts in the jar at the Visit Yorktown tent for a chance to win a sweet treat.

LEARN MORE



Restaurant Week
Feb. 24–March 2

Save the date to take advantage of great meals and deals at York County restaurants during Restaurant Week!

Local dining establishments will be putting together scrumptious specials for all to savor! Support these independent businesses and enjoy an unforgettable and affordable) meal!

READ MORE



Yorktown Admirals
Saturday, Feb. 22

Join us as the Norfolk Admirals take on a temporary identity as the Yorktown Admirals, part of the City Series initiative!

On Feb. 22, celebrate Yorktown pride with a full team rebrand featuring the first-ever Yorktown Admirals jersey! York County residents receive **20% off** ticket prices—on sale now!

BUY TICKETS

DON T FORGET FIDO

Free wine glass & charity donation with your pup-
cookie purchases



Did you know that **32% of consumers** buy Valentine's Day gifts for their pets? Why not buy your precious pooch a special treat this year, while also supporting local rescues on the Southside and Peninsula?

Each year, **Gangsta Dog** in Historic Yorktown holds its "**Give Back**" **Puppy Love** cookie sale fundraiser! Now through Valentine's Day, each \$2 cookie purchased gives you a blind vote for a rescue organization of your choice, with \$1 from each sale added to a growing pot. The rescue with the most votes by Feb. 14 wins the money pot!

Plus, when you buy a dozen "Give Back" Puppy Love cookies, you not only place 12 votes for your favorite rescue, but you'll also receive a FREE Gangsta Dog wine glass while supplies last !

Visit Gangsta Dog at 319 Water Street to cast your vote and shop today.

INSIDER TIP

Need additional inspiration for your Valentine's Day gift giving?

Check out York County's **Shopping Dining Guide** for details on the best places to shop, dine and explore right here in our community! Whether you're craving a gourmet meal, hunting for the perfect gift or looking for a cozy café to relax in, this guide has it all. Discover local gems and hidden treasures that make York County a shopper's paradise and a food lover's dream.



NEW IN TOWN

From ribbon cuttings to renovations



Yum is the word in lower York County these days! Many residents are already buzzing about all the new restaurants serving up delicious meals.

Here's a look at what's recently opened and coming soon:



Jersey Mike's Subs has officially opened its doors, adding a delicious new dining option to the area! Known for its fresh,



Get ready for another helping of **Shorty's Diner** This upper County business is opening an additional location in the former Bay Haven Grille



Chick-fil-A has submitted a site plan to build a highly anticipated restaurant at 5600 Geo. Wash. Mem. Hwy., on the vacant lot

made-to-order subs, the new location (at the corner of Lakeside Drive and Route 17) is already drawing a crowd.

space, near Hampton Roads Harley Davidson on Rt. 17 in Grafton! The owners anticipate opening in March. [Read more](#)

between *IHOP* and *Dairy Queen* in Grafton. Fingers crossed for this exciting addition to the corridor!

Shibam Mix Grill recently opened in Kiln Creek Center, serving authentic Turkish cuisine. **Cookout** has submitted a site plan for a new location in Grafton. And let's not forget the announcements from last quarter: **Virginia Beer Company** and **QDaddy's Pitmaster BBQ** are also making waves in the local scene. As you can see, business is booming along the Route 17 corridor in lower York County.

New In Town

Want to know what other new businesses are New In Town? Spoiler alert: Yummy treats await! [Check out our New In Town video](#) for the scoop.



Stay In the Know

Each month, new businesses open up in York County.

Be the first to know when you check out our [New In Town business list](#), [video series](#) and [ribbon cutting image galleries](#).

What's Up with THAT?

Want to know what's coming to the County? Wondering what's going on at that site next door? Check out the [Development Dashboard](#) for details on recent property sales, assessments, building permits, site plans and much more!

THE WAY IT WAS



Valentine's date night at the drive-in, anyone? (Circa 1984)

Sure, Main Street in Historic Yorktown still looks shockingly similar to how it was as far back as the Revolutionary War! But most of York County has changed quite a bit since then.

Do you remember when the County Fair was held on Route 17, where Washington Square now sits? What about the old drive-in movie theater that is now home to Wal-Mart? Anyone recall what Yorktown Beach looked like before Isabel cleared the way for Riverwalk Landing? Spoiler alert: Water Street had a lot more traffic than it does now!

Follow along with us as we feature some oldie-but-goodie photos from Yorktown's yesteryear! How many can you remember?

KEEP IN TOUCH ... and keep it in the County!

- Let us know about your business and what makes it special, so we can promote it for you for free via our e-news, social media, and website. Have a coupon or upcoming event? We'll help you spread the word!
- Forward this e-news to your neighbors and friends, so they too can keep up to date with York County happenings and businesses. They can **subscribe here**.

