

News



Gina Parsons photo

Scenic Regional Library District officials broke ground March 20 for the new library in Warrenton.

Library construction begins

Completion expected by late fall

By Gina Parsons
Staff writer

Warren County bookworms can look forward to reading in new digs by the end of the year.

Officials with the Scenic Regional Library District broke ground March 20 for a new library at 912 S. Highway 47 in Warrenton. District officials signed a contract in mid-March for construction of the new building.

The district awarded the contract to Maestes Construction of St. Charles, said Sallie Hancox, district director. The company had

submitted the low bid of \$721,000 for the construction.

Le Pique and Orne Architects of St. Charles designed the new building at a cost of \$21,250, Hancox said.

The building is planned as a 7,500-square-foot structure, but district officials hope to add 1,500 square feet to that, Hancox said. Whether the addi-

tional footage is added will depend on the soil content at the location, which will determine the cost to enlarge the facility.

The contract states that the construction will be complete within six months, Hancox said. However, there are no penalties to the construction company if the project takes longer than that, and the company would receive no bonus for finishing early.

"We're hoping it's complete by late fall," Hancox said.

The library district bought the 1.75-acre site for the new building in 1997 for \$59,000.

Architects worked with the configuration of the lot when designing the building, Hancox said. The building basically will have a triangular shape, with the shorter end of the triangle facing Highway 47.

"The actual front of the building is going to face north," Hancox said. "The meeting room will actually face out to Highway 47."

The current Warrenton library, in a leased building on East Main Street, is 1,800 square feet in size. It has room for about 18 people, sitting close together. The new building will accommodate 54 people.

WARREN
COUNTY