

County News

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Library renovations coming



FLOWOOD- Renovations from head to toe will soon begin on The G. Chastaine Flynt Memorial Library in Flowood.

The work on the facility, which sits adjacent to Winner's Circle Park, will begin with a roof replacement.

"It's 20 years old, and we're doing about a year-long renovation of the library," Flowood Mayor Gary Rhoads said. "We're getting ready to take bids on the roof, and that's estimated to cost about \$1 million. The roof has been a problem from Day One, the way it was designed.

"So we'll put a new roof

on it, then come in and change out all of the lighting, and after that, come through with new flooring, carpet, and paint. This building definitely needs a renovation.

"The library is tremendously used. It's unbelievable how many people come and go. But after 20 years, you start to see some wear and tear."

Jan Patrick was the facility's first branch manager, and David Muse is the current branch manager. The library was dedicated to and named for the city's first mayor, G. Chastaine Flynt.

Air conditioner units have been replaced through the years, Mayor Rhoads said, and that system is currently in good shape.

"Once we get the roof replaced, we'll move onto the lighting, which is obsolete, and so is the carpet and flooring and the paint," he said. "The lighting and the roof are the two major issues. You can't have water leaking onto books, and if you can't see, you can't read books."

The entire building will be touched up, including the community room that sits straight ahead as you enter the facility.

Rhoads said he anticipates that the library might have to be closed for a week or so to facilitate the new paint job, and the installation of flooring and carpet.

"I don't know that it will be," Rhoads said. "We'll know that when we get to Phase Two of the project. We plan to get everything done in three phases. But I can't imagine that the library would be closed for any long period of time."





LIBRARY RENOVATIONS PLANNED- Officials in Flowood are planning a major renovation of the G. Chastaine Flynt Memorial Library. The facility's 20th Anniversary was celebrated on Tuesday, March 8. The project will include installation of a new roof, along with new lighting, flooring, carpeting and paint. Shown here (from left to right) are

Ward Four Alderman Seth Robbins, Flowood Mayor Gary Rhoads, Charlotte Flynt Koster, Alderman-at Large Donald Flynt, Ward Two Alderman Kathy Smith, Ward One Alderman Deron Harmon, and Ward Three Alderman Kirk McDaniel. The facility was dedicated to and named in honor of the city's first mayor.