

# City & Town

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# New Argenta library coming to North Little Rock

**N**orth Little Rock's William F. Laman Public Library System officially began work on a \$2.8 million renovation project for its new Argenta branch location March 5. The new branch will be in the old Main Street Post Office Building in downtown North Little Rock, which was purchased in October 2012. When the new branch opens in early 2014 it will replace the existing Argenta branch a few doors down on Main Street.

The new branch will be 15,300 square feet, six times the size of the existing Argenta branch, and will feature meeting space, a 140-seat auditorium, research and reading rooms, exhibit space, a café and patio, a large children's department, and computer lab.

The U.S. Post Office closed the 82-year-old building in June 2012. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. To kick start the renovation and dedicate the building, library and city leaders used golden hammers to begin tearing down the first wall.



PHOTO BY RICHARD THEILIG

North Little Rock Mayor Joe Smith takes a swing at a wall with a ceremonial golden hammer to begin the transformation of the former Main Street Post Office into a new library.



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