



Talk of the Town

July 23, 2015
39th Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? During the month of June, the Town of Smithfield's Public Works Department handled a total of 259 work orders, collected 396 tons of household waste and 148 tons of residential yard debris (over 1 million pounds combined!); and responded to 59 animal control cases.

Hot Summers are Costly

Video Provides Money Saving Tips

While we all look forward to the summer months for warmer weather, and enjoying the great summer nights, higher energy bills are not welcomed. Whether you are running your air conditioning more often, using more water to take showers, or you're using more electricity to run fans to get a cool breeze, energy saving tips can help your pocket and the Earth. This summer before you crank down the air conditioning another 10 degrees, look to these energy saving tips to help you through this hot summer, your pocket will thank you!

[Click Here to Watch](#)



Taking a Vacation?

Save For It and Stick to Your Budget

For many of you, summer vacation time is in full swing. Will it be a family barbecue by the lake? Or trip to the mountains or the beach? Or even a "staycation" at home. Like me, I'm sure many of you take your budget into consideration when making vacation plans. After reading Expedia's 2014 Vacation Spending Index, I was delighted to hear that a majority of people (71 percent) start saving for their vacation a year in advance. Let's face it, we all want to provide our families with great vacation memories, but it's also important to look at the bigger financial picture when doing so.

Saving for a vacation - instead of just slapping the entire expenditure on a credit card - makes the most sense when budgeting your expenses for the entire year. It gives you time to consider how much vacation you can afford, with plenty of time to avoid those expensive last-minute reservations. Every "travel guru" sticks by the old adage that booking early produces the least expensive results, whether it is for air fare, train fare, hotel stays or car rentals. So, try to strategize your adventures at least three- to six-months out. Not only will you get more vacation for your buck, but you'll also avoid that post-vacation "hangover" you get when you open that credit card statement and realize you'll be paying interest on that vacation long after your tan has faded.

Planning and budgeting ahead will ensure that your vacation is memorable...for all the right reasons.
(Courtesy of NC Department of State Treasurer)



NC 210 Bridge Replacements

Nearing Final Stages

A project by the N.C. Department of Transportation to replace two bridges on N.C. 210 near Smithfield is entering its final stages. The replacements round out an overall \$10.4 million express design-build contract awarded to S.T. Wooten Corp. in 2013 to replace 12 bridges in Johnston County with new bridges by late 2015.

Crews with S.T. Wooten Corp. have completed replacing the bridge on N.C. 210 over Swift Creek. Now that this replacement is complete, crews have demolished the second bridge in this project, over the Swift Creek Overflow, and have started its replacement. This bridge is scheduled to be complete by mid-September, weather permitting.

[Click Here for the Full Press Release](#)



Girl Scout Award Mural

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Friday, July 24th at 10am

Clar McGeough and Sarah Gaskins have completed their mural and are ready for you to see it!

Sarah and Clar are excited about the positive community reaction and would be honored to have you attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate their Girl Scout Silver Award Mural highlighting North Carolina Mountain to Sea Trail Landmarks.

Location: at the Smithfield Neuse Greenway near the Neuse River Amphitheater; near the corner of Market Street and Front Street, behind the Neuse Little Theater.



Smithfield PD Needs Your Help!

Vandalism on Kay Drive

The Smithfield Police Department is currently investigating a Damage to Property call that took place on the night of June 24, 2015 between 6 pm and 6 am. The incident took place on Kay Drive in the Johnston Court Apartment complex.

The victim's 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe was spray painted. The suspect spray painted a racial epithet as well as the letters KKK on the side of the victim's vehicle. The Smithfield Police Department is offering a \$1,000.00 reward for information that leads to the arrest and prosecution of the individuals responsible for this crime. Detective Ronald Johnson can be contacted at 919-989-1072 or the Smithfield Tip Line at 919-989-8835.



Online Bill Pay Now Available

Smithfield utility customers may now pay their bill online via the Town's website (www.smithfield-nc.com) or by calling 1-855-331-7952. The town accepts Visa and MasterCard credit/debit cards or checks.

There is a nominal transaction fee of \$2.45 and payments are limited to \$700 or less. When entering your Town of Smithfield account number, please remove the decimal. Example: Account number 23001234.0091 should be entered as 230012340091

Customers can still take advantage of other payment options, including, bank draft, the afterhours drop box, walk in, and mail.



"FUN in the PARK" 2015



Let's get together and enjoy a day in the park. Bring the family and meet your neighbors and town leaders.

Smith-Collin's Park located on E. Lee Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Drive

We will have **FREE** Food, Music, Bike Rodeo, Blow-Up Bounce House, Water Slide, Basketball toss, Tug-Of-War and a few other games. We will have many vendors with services that are provided in the area.

July 25, 2015 from 11am till 4pm

Sponsored by the East Smithfield Improvement Organization, Smithfield Police Department, and District One Councilman Marlon Lee

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



RED DEVIL FOOTBALL

Football registration has been extended until July 31, for boys ages 6-12. SPRD participates in the Johnston County Youth Football League. Our football teams are split into the following age groups: Rookies - Ages 6 to 8; JV - Ages 9 to 10; and Varsity - Ages 11 to 12. The child's age as of 8/1/15 determines playing age. Games will be played in the fall on some Saturday mornings, and some weeknights, beginning in September. Practices will begin the week of August 10th. Registration fee is \$40 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$80 for Non-Residents. For more information contact 919-934-2148.

RED DEVIL CHEERLEADING

The only time Cheerleading is offered by SPRD is during Football Season. Cheerleading registration begins Monday, June 15 through July 31 for girls ages 5-12. Practices will begin the week of August 10th, with games beginning in September. Games will be played in the fall on some Saturday mornings and some weeknights. Registration fee is \$25 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$50 for Non-Residents. Uniform cost is \$60, which you purchase and keep. For more information contact 919-934-2148.

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball registration began July 13 and continues until August 14 for girls ages 9-14. Practices should begin mid-September, with the season wrapping up around November 1st. Registration fee is \$35 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$77 for Non-Residents. (The girl's age as of 10/15/15 determines playing age.)

FALL SOCCER

Soccer registration begins Monday, July 6 through August 7 for boys and girls ages 5-12. The child's age as of 8/1/15 determines playing age. Games will be played on weeknights in the fall. Registration fee is \$35 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$77 for Non-Residents. For more information contact 919-934-2148.

MENS OPEN LEAGUE SOFTBALL

Men's Open League Softball registration began July 13 and continues until August 21. The fee is \$475 per team, with a maximum of 12 teams. Registration fee must be paid prior to the season beginning, after Labor Day. For more information contact 919-934-2148.

SRAC SUMMER CAMP

SRAC offers day long summer camps which include art, swimming, sports and outdoor fun... just some of the activities your child will be involved in during summer camp! Space is limited, so go ahead and sign up now! Registration begins April 1. Children will be responsible for bringing their lunch, 2 snacks, drinks, swim suit and towel. Sign up for one week or all. Limited spots available.

Fee: \$100 - Smithfield Resident \$125 - Non-Smithfield Resident

Early Drop Off/Late Pick Up: Additional \$25/week

July 27-31

Aug. 3-7

Aug. 10-14

Times: 8:30am-4:30pm

7:30am-Early Drop Off

5:30pm-Late Pick Up

Ages: 5-12

Questions contact 919-934-1408.

POTTERY CAMPS

Ages: 8-15 yrs.

Dates: August 3-7

Time: 9:00AM-Noon

Fee: \$85.00 - Smithfield Resident \$100.00 - Non-Smithfield Resident

Location: SRAC

Come play in the clay!!! Students will learn the techniques for handbuilding with clay as well as basic wheel throwing. Projects will be made that can go home. A 25-lb. bag of clay must be purchased separately at the front desk. Clay is \$20. Questions contact 919-934-1408.

MIXING IT UP WITH ANIMALS ART!

Ages: 6-8 yrs.

Dates: July 27-31

Time: 9-12 Noon

Fee: \$100.00 (Make checks payable to Courtney Murphy)

Class Min: 4 Students / Class Max: 8 Students

Location: SRAC

Campers will try a lot of techniques such as painting, collaging, drawing, and layering to create different kids of animals. Instructor - Art Teacher Courtney Murphy. Register at SRAC front desk. Questions contact 919-934-1408.

WEAVING THE SUMMER AWAY!

Ages: 9-12 yrs.

Dates: August 10-15

Time: 9-12 Noon

Fee: \$100.00 (Make checks payable to Courtney Murphy)

Class Min: 4 Students / Class Max: 8 Students

Location: SRAC

Campers will learn the basics of weaving on a handmade loom. They will also create an open weave basket using reed and recycled materials. Instructor - Art Teacher Courtney Murphy. Register at SRAC front desk. Questions contact 919-934-1408.

PICKLEBALL

June 26th through August 7th, on FRIDAYS ONLY, from 2-4pm, Pickleball will be offered at SRAC. If you are not a member of SRAC, it will be \$2 per session to come and play. We will provide the paddle, balls and net. For questions, contact 919-934-1408.

Join the SRAC! The area's most modern and well-equipped aquatics and fitness center is right in your own backyard. Check here for membership rates and special offerings for seniors, Johnston County School System employees and short-term memberships for Johnston County Community College students. Get Fit! [Membership Info](#)

Around Town

For fun or to help others in our community

The JoCo Scrabble group - meets on Monday nights from 6 pm to 8 pm at the McDonald's in West Smithfield (W. Market Street). There is no cost beyond whatever food you choose to buy. This is a social group of adult (or teen) Scrabble players. Players vary in ability levels, so don't hesitate to come and play. For more information, please email southerner@earthlink.net. Please put Scrabble in the subject line so that we know what the message is about.

Book Club - The Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield welcomes new members to its daytime book club. Meetings are at 12:30pm on the third Tuesday of every month. Club members suggest the titles to read, and the library lends copies of each month's selection to the members. For more information, call Morgan Paty at 919-934-8146 or email mpaty@plics.org.

Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation - Want to stay up to date with what's happening in Downtown Smithfield? [Click here](#) to sign-up for their newsletter or call 919-934-0887 for more information.

Council Meeting Highlights

July 07, 2015



Regular Meeting summary:

1. Recognized the promotions of Sergeant Brian O'Branovich to Patrol Lieutenant and Master Police Officer David Johnson to Patrol Sergeant.
2. Administered Oath of Office to new Police Officer Miguel Renteria.
3. Received a report from Margaret Marshall on the EZ Literacy & Lifelong Learning Grant received by the Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield.

The July 7, 2015 Town Council Meeting was adjourned due to a lack of quorum. All public hearings and business items originally on the agenda for this meeting will be taken up at the next regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting on August 4, 2015.

The Town Council regularly meets the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00pm at the Town Hall Council Chambers located at 350 East Market Street - unless rescheduled. The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th. Come join us and get involved!

[View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

Employment Opportunities

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Electric Utilities Director**
- **Engineering Technician**
- **Fire Chief**
- **Licensed Water Plant Operator**
- **Police Officer I**
- **Utility Line Mechanic**
- **Water and Sewer Utilities Director**

Full [Job Descriptions and Applications](#) may be obtained at the Smithfield Town Hall, 350 East Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577, by visiting our website at www.smithfield-nc.com or by calling 919-934-2116. Only qualified applicants should apply. The Town of Smithfield is an ADA/EEO Employer.