



Talk of the Town

May 06, 2016
47th Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? The sweet potato was domesticated more than 5,000 years ago. Members of Columbus' expedition in 1492 were the first Europeans to eat sweet potatoes. By 2007, Americans were producing and consuming 1.8 billion pounds of sweet potatoes annually.

Town of Smithfield Welcomes New Town Manager

The Town of Smithfield has concluded its search for a new Town Manager by selecting Michael Scott as Smithfield's next Town Manager, citing his executive management experience, commitment to fiscal responsibility, and his responsiveness to the citizenry and business community.



Scott has served as Smithfield's Police Chief and has over thirty years of government experience working in Iowa and North Carolina. Scott was hired as the Police Chief in October of 2009. His strengths included a vision of community policing, team-building, organizational management and law enforcement accreditation. He led the Smithfield Police Department through its first national accreditation (CALEA) in March of 2015. Since his hire as Police Chief, the Town of Smithfield has also witnessed a decrease in violent crimes by over thirty percent. He is expected to expand the community interaction and communication philosophies instilled in the police department throughout the rest of Town government.

"Following an extensive nationwide search, we are pleased and confident to know that we have found the best candidate within our own family," states Mayor Andy Moore. The duties of Town Manager will take effect immediately. In addition, the Town will begin the search for the Town's next Police Chief. Captain Keith Powell will serve as Interim Police Chief until the position is filled permanently.

Scott holds a Bachelor's Degree from Kaplan University, a Master's Degree in Law Enforcement Justice Administration from Western Illinois University and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate from Western Illinois University in Executive Administration. Scott resides in Smithfield with his wife, Peggy.

Smithfield Ham & Yam Festival Tomorrow

Join us for the 32nd annual Ham & Yam Festival on Saturday, May 7 in Downtown Smithfield! With pig races, inflatables, vendors, entertainment, and ham and yam foods, it's a fun day for the entire family!



Rising country star James Wesley will headline this year's free concert, scheduled for 8:00 p.m. With his whiskey-smooth voice, Wesley sings directly to real people about real things that profoundly affect real lives-and from his small-town upbringing to his blue-collar work ethic, he has a deep understanding of what those folks are longing to hear. One of the top rising stars in country music, Wesley found a new level of exposure as the opening act for Taylor Swift's Speak Now Tour, and has released several singles.

"Jackson Hole," the first single from Wesley's highly anticipated Real album, debuted at 54 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs chart. Four other singles have followed, including "Walking Contradiction," top 25 country chart hits "Real" and "Didn't I," and "Thank A Farmer," which was inspired by Paul Harvey's "So God Made a Farmer" speech and appeared on the Billboard Country Airplay chart. In 2015, Wesley partnered with Calcutta to produce the single and music video "Hooked Up", a song inspired by anglers who chase blue marlin at the legendary Big Rock off the coast of Morehead City, NC.

In addition to the free 8:00 p.m. concert on Saturday, May 7, there will be entertainment on the festival's three stages throughout the day. A full schedule of events on Saturday, May 7 will attract thousands of people to Downtown Smithfield, where the festival occupies several blocks. Craft and commercial vendors line the streets, food vendors offer a variety of fair foods and menu items featuring country ham and sweet potatoes, and local bands and dance groups perform on three stages. The festival features a barbecue cook-off, rubber duck race, 5k, and the always popular "What's That Yam Thing?" contest. See you soon in Downtown Smithfield!

Smithfield-Selma High School Opens Indoor Shooting Range



Members of the Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Smithfield-Selma High School can now practice their marksmanship without having to leave campus.

The JROTC built a 1,200-square-foot, six-lane, indoor shooting range at the school over five months and began using the facility last week. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and the National Shooting Sports Foundation donated most of the \$10,000 in supplies for the range.

The cadets in the program practice shooting with Daisy pump air rifles, but administrators said the pellets in the guns can be dangerous, so students have to undergo extensive training before they can head to the range.

"There's a marksmanship safety test they have to take, and they have to get a 100 on it," Commander David Wegman said. "In addition to

that, they have to sign a safety pledge, get permission from home and then finally demonstrate on the range that they know how to handle one of these air rifles safely."

Only four JROTC students are certified to use Smithfield-Selma High's shooting range, but Wegman said he hopes to have all of the seniors in the program certified by the fall.

Despite the national debate about gun violence and school shootings, Wegman said the shooting range poses no threat.

"The procedures that we have in place ensure that we do the same thing, the same way, every single time," he said.

JROTC cadet Timothy Jones agreed that safety is a priority on the range.

"You go out there, and you're relying on others. You have to have the trust in others that they are handling a weapon, that they are not going to harm you, and you're not going to harm them," Jones said.

Courtesy of <http://www.wral.com/>

SSS Student Named Goodnight Scholar

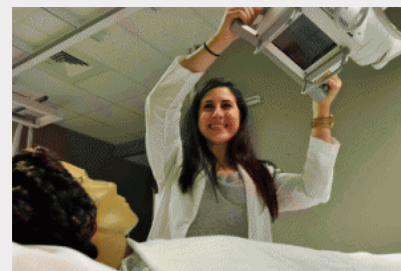


Congratulations to Smithfield Selma High senior Noah Kiser, who was recently selected as a **NC State University** Goodnight Scholar!

Eligibility for the \$78,000 scholarship is limited to North Carolina students studying in STEM disciplines who complete a very competitive application and interview process. Kiser plans to major in computer science and minor in mathematics. Congratulations!!

Courtesy of [Johnston County Schools](#)

Radiography Student And Ambassador Is JCC Academic Excellence Winner



Anna Pierce knows cancer is tough, and that's why she wants to spend her career as a radiation therapist being a bright spot for patients.

"These patients are going through so much, and to have the opportunity to be a bright spot in their day, that's really rewarding," Pierce says.

The daughter of Tom and Tricia Pierce, the 20-year-old is a second-year radiography student at Johnston Community College. She will graduate in May with her associate's degree and will begin her studies as a radiation therapist at UNC Hospitals this fall.

Pierce came to JCC in 2014 after she moved to North Carolina from Florida with her parents. New to the community, Pierce said she was welcomed with open arms when she visited JCC.

"I applied to three different colleges, but I really liked JCC best," she says. "It felt very comfortable to me, and I found

everyone to be super helpful and friendly especially since I was from out of state."

At JCC, Pierce is a dean' list student, a member of the Radiography Club, and one of the college's 12 student ambassadors. Her performance and example in the classroom and in the community are reasons why she's JCC's 2016 recipient of the Academic Excellence Award.

"Anna is a great asset to JCC and the student ambassador program," says Kate Leahy, advisor of the student ambassador program at JCC. "Her positive attitude, strong academics, and quiet leadership style earns the respect of her fellow peers and will take her far in life. She is very deserving of this award."

At JCC, academic excellence award recipients are nominated by faculty or staff and selected on the basis of selected academic criteria, which are consistent with Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society criteria. Fifty-eight students, one from each community college, received academic excellence awards. Pierce will receive a plaque, a \$1,000 scholarship from the NC Community Colleges Foundation, and will be recognized at graduation for her accomplishment.

Pierce said the ambassador program has helped her grow as a leader and also meet lots of good friends.

"It's been great," she said of the ambassador experience. I've learned so much about leadership and professional skills, and I've really enjoyed the community service projects we have participated in."

Pierce says she's thankful for the award and even more grateful for her college experience at JCC. "Community college is really a great step for people who maybe aren't sure what direction they want to go in right away," she says. "It's a great transition after high school. You have two years to continue to develop your study skills and become more independent. It's really a nice middle ground."

Courtesy of <http://www.jocoreport.com/>

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



SMITHFIELD - SRAC Summer Camp

Dates: June 13-17, June 20-24,
June 27-July 1, July 11-15, July 18-22, July 25-29,
Aug. 1-5, Aug. 8-12
Time: 8:30AM-4:30PM
7:30AM-early drop off
5:30PM-late pick up

Ages: 5-12yrs

Art, swimming, sports, and outdoor fun are just some of the activities your child will be involved in! Space is limited! Registration begins April 1, 2016. Children will be responsible for bringing their lunch, 2 snacks, a swimsuit and towel.

Fee: \$100-Smithfield Resident \$137.50-Non-Smithfield Resident

Early drop off/late pick up: Additional \$25/week.

SMITHFIELD - SRAC SHARKS SWIM TEAM

Want to work on your swimming skills? Be a part of a summer swim team? Join the SRAC Sharks!! Can take swimmers up until June 1st.

Ages: 5-10 / Practice Mon., Tues., and Wed., Time: 6-7pm

Ages: 11-18 / Practice Mon., Tues., and Wed., Time: 7-8pm

First day of Practice is May 31st. Season ends July 30th. Swim Meets are on Thursday nights.

Fee: \$70 / Smithfield Resident

\$104.50 / Non-Resident

For more information contact Laura Crumpler at laura.crumpler@smithfield-nc.com or 919-934-1408.

SMITHFIELD - SPARTANS FOOTBALL CAMP

Dates: June 13-15

Ages: 6-14 yrs.

Time: 6-8PM

Fee: \$35.00 (Make checks payable to Wes Hill)

Location: SSS Football Field

Wes Hill is the Football Coach at SSS.

SMITHFIELD - NETWORKS BASKETBALL BOOT CAMP

Dates: Tuesdays / Beginning June 14th until August 9th.

(Will NOT meet week of July 4th)

Ages: Elementary (Entering Grades 2nd - 5th)

Middle School (Entering Grades 6th - 8th)

High School (Entering Grades 9th - 12th)

Time: 6:30-8PM

Fee: \$150.00
Location: Smithfield Middle School Gym
Register at www.networksbasketball.com.

SMITHFIELD - Basketball Camp

Dates: June 20-23
Ages: 7-14 yrs.
Time: 9-Noon
Fee: \$40.00 (Make checks payable to James Robinson)
Location: SRAC Gym
James Robinson is a former HS & MS Coach. Other area coaches and high school players will assist.

SMITHFIELD - TENNIS CAMPS

Dates: June 27-29
Ages: 5-7 yrs. Time: 6-7PM
Fee: \$30.00 (Make checks payable to Jimmy Jernigan)
AND
Ages: 8-14 yrs. Time: 7-8:30PM
Fee: \$50.00 (Make checks payable to Jimmy Jernigan)
Location: Smithfield Community Park Tennis Courts
Jimmy has coached Tennis for 30 years.
There is a minimum for each to make.

SMITHFIELD - SPARTANS BASEBALL CAMP

Dates: June 27-30
Ages: 7-14 yrs.
Time: 9-Noon
Fee: \$50.00 (Make checks payable to Mike Sliger)
Location: SSS Football Field
Mike Sliger is the Baseball Coach at SSS. (10 Kid Minimum Required for Camp to Make.)

SMITHFIELD - VOLLEYBALL Camp

Dates: June 29-July 1
Girls Ages: 8-14 yrs.
Time: 8-Noon
Fee: \$60.00 (Make checks payable to Kim Smith)
Location: SRAC Gym
Kim Smith is a former HS Coach and Clemson player.

SMITHFIELD - SPARTANS BASKETBALL CAMP

Dates: July 11-15
Ages: Upcoming Grades 3rd through 8th
Time: 9AM-1PM
Fee: \$40.00 (Make checks payable to Matt Cuddington)
Location: SRAC Gym
Matt Cuddington is the Basketball Coach at SSS.

SMITHFIELD - SPARTANS TENNIS CAMP

Dates: July 11-15
Ages: 5-10 yrs. Time: 6-7PM
AND
Ages: 11-16 yrs. Time: 7-8PM
Fee: \$40.00 (Make checks payable to James Reid)
Location: SSS Tennis Courts
James Reid is SSS Tennis Coach.
There is a minimum for each to make.

SMITHFIELD - Soccer Camp

Dates: July 18-21
Ages: 5-14 yrs.
Time: 8:30-11AM
Fee \$50.00 (Make checks payable to Steve Brush)
Location: Smithfield Community Park Soccer Fields
Steve Brush, USSF Nat. D & NSCAA National Coaching Diploma, and will be assisted by Morgan Brush and Amber Brush, former Barton College players.

SMITHFIELD - YOUNG REMBRANDTS SUMMER DRAWING CAMP

Dates: July 25-29
Theme - Creatures of the Rain Forest
Ages: 5-7 yrs. Time: 9-10AM
Ages: 8-13 yrs. Time: 10-11AM
Fee: \$75.00
Location: SRAC
Learn to draw snakes, jaguars, toucans and more.
Register online at www.youngrembrandts.com/raleigh.

SMITHFIELD - YOUNG REMBRANDTS SUMMER DRAWING CAMP

Dates: August 8-12

Theme - Southwestern

Ages: 5-7 yrs. Time: 9-10AM

Ages: 8-13 yrs. Time: 10-11AM

Fee: \$75.00

Location: SRAC

Learn to draw a cactus, flowers, kokopelli, native American basketry, jeweled skill and pueblo.

Register online at www.youngrembrandts.com/raleigh.

SMITHFIELD - PLAY WELL LEGO SUMMER CAMPS

Dream it - Build it - Wreck it - Repeat!!! Dive into LEGOS, and build elaborate objects, structures and/or vehicles, as you explore fundamental principles of engineering and physics! Get extra inspiration from specially trained instructors!! The camp is offered at SRAC for two age groups as follows:

For 5 - 7 Year Olds:

Construction Vehicles & Machines

July 11th - 15th

9am - Noon

Cost \$150

Register online at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/49070>

Jedi Engineering

August 1st - 5th

9am - Noon

Cost \$150

Register online at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/49072>

For 8 - 12 Year Olds:

Bashem Bots

July 11th - 15th

1 - 4pm

Cost \$150

Register online at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/49071>

Jedi Master Engineering

8 - 12 Year Olds

August 1st - 5th

1 - 4pm

Cost \$150

Register online at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/49073>

SMITHFIELD - FREE TENNIS CLINICS

Come join James Reid, SSS Tennis Coach and learn the rules, fundamentals, scoring and get a basic overview of the game of tennis...

- Free Tennis Clinic for Ages 5-16 - Saturday, June 11th, at Smith Collins Park Tennis Courts, (502 MLK Dr.), from 9-10:30AM; and
- Free Family Day Tennis Clinic - Saturday, July 9th, at Smithfield Community Park (600 Booker Dairy Rd.), from 9-10:30AM.

There will be some tennis racquets available to borrow.

SMITHFIELD - WIFFLE BALL TOURNAMENT

The 28th Annual State Wiffle Ball Tournament will be held July 16th and 17th at Smithfield Community Park Soccer Fields. For more information, call Jeff Davis at 919-915-2280 or go to the official website at <http://ncwiffleball.weebly.com>.

July is National Parks & Recreation Month...

Help us celebrate with a Pool Luau on Friday, July 29th, from 5-8pm. Beginning at 5:00 pm, we will be discounting day passes to ½ off. Come enjoy the pool, the Wibit, punch and a "no hands" watermelon eating contest. Come enjoy the fun! For more information, please contact Tiffany Pearson or Laura Crumpler at SRAC.

SMITHFIELD - FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

Red Devil Football registration will be June 13th - July 15th. Once again we will be playing in the Johnston County Youth Football League. Groups will be broken down as follows:

Rookie - Ages 7-8; J.V. - Ages 9-10; and Varsity - Ages 11-12. The child's age as of 8/1/16 determines playing age. The cost is \$40 for Smithfield residents and \$88 for non-residents. Games will be played in the fall on some Saturday mornings, and some weeknights, beginning in September. Practices will begin in early August.

SMITHFIELD - RED DEVIL CHEERLEADING

We offer Red Devil Cheerleading for girls between the ages of 5-12. The only time Cheerleading is offered is during football season. Registration begins in mid-June, with practices beginning in August. (Uniform cost should be around \$50, which you purchase and keep.) Registration is \$25 for Smithfield residents and \$55 for non-residents.

SMITHFIELD - FALL SOCCER REGISTRATION

Fall Soccer registration will be July 11th - August 12th, for boys and girls ages 5-12. (Players must be 5 years old as of 8/1/16.) The cost is \$35 for Smithfield residents and \$77 for non-residents.

SMITHFIELD - GIRLS FALL VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for girls volleyball will be July 11th - August 12th for girls ages 9-14. The cost is \$35 for Smithfield residents and \$77 for non-residents. (The girls age as of 10/15/16 determines playing age.) Practices will begin mid-September with games beginning around the end of September. The season should wrap up around November 1st.

SMITHFIELD - MENS OPEN LEAGUE SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Registration will be July 11th - August 19th for Men's Open League Softball. The fee is \$475.00 per team. (The maximum number of teams

is 12.) The registration fee must be paid before the season begins to be put on the schedule. Play will begin after Labor Day.

SMITHFIELD - KINDER SOCCER

Kinder Soccer registration will be August 1st - 19th, with playing dates scheduled in September. (All our Kinder programs are for 3-4 year olds.) They will meet and play 4 times in September. As of right now, those dates are not set. The cost is \$20 for Smithfield residents and \$44 for non-residents.

SMITHFIELD - BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Youth Basketball Registration will be September 12th - October 21st, for boys ages 5-15 and girls ages 5-12. (Players must be 5 years old as of December 31, 2016.) The cost is \$40 for Smithfield residents and \$88 for non-residents. Practices will begin mid-November with games beginning in December.

SMITHFIELD - Pickleball

Beginning mid-June, Pickleball will be offered at SRAC on Fridays only, from 10:30am-12:30pm. If you are not a member of SRAC, it will be \$2 per session to come out and play. We will provide the paddle, balls and net. For questions, contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148, ext 107.

SMITHFIELD - STERLING SILVER SENIORS CLUB

All 55 and older adults are welcome.

Meet 2nd Wednesday of each month, 10:30 AM

Fee: \$12/year dues (plus money for trips that you wish to take)

We are a club that takes trips together, fellowships together, and has fun doing different activities and crafts throughout the year. If interested in joining or if you have questions contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-934-2148 x107.

SMITHFIELD - SENIOR COFFEE CORNER

Join us at SRAC on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, between 8:30-10:30am for a FREE cup of coffee for adults 55 and over. There will be occasional breakfast treats and brain teasers. You do not have to be a member of SRAC to hang out with your friends, read the paper, and enjoy a cup-a-joe! Coffee Corner will continue through the end of May, take the summer off, and resume in the fall. Questions contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-934-2148 x107.

SMITHFIELD - CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Join us Saturday mornings in July (9th, 16th, 23rd) from 9:30-11:30am, as we gear up for Christmas! We will be Christmas crafting and food decorating, so when Christmas comes, you will be ready!!

Smithfield Residents: \$10/per Saturday. Non-Residents: \$15/per Saturday.

Minimum of 10 required for each Saturday. Registrations due by the Wednesday before each class.

SMITHFIELD - SOCCER REFEREE CLINIC

If you are 15 years of age or older, and are interested in refereeing Recreational Soccer for the Johnston County Athletic Association (JCAA) County Soccer League, come attend our Clinic on Sunday, September 11th, at 2pm, at Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center. There is no cost to attend the Clinic, and light refreshments will be provided.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

SMITHFIELD - Fourth of July Celebration - Sunday, July 3rd

Before the fireworks begin, come enjoy crafts, relays, sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, hula hoops, face painting, etc.! Activities begin around 6:30pm, with Fireworks at 9pm.

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@pljcs.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

May 3, 2016

Regular Meeting summary:



1. Approved Resolution #589 (16-2016) an employment contracts with Michael L. Scott to serve as the Town Manager. Mayor Moore administering of the Oath of Office to Mr. Scott.
2. Proclamation was presented to members of the 1966 Smithfield High School class in celebration of their 50th reunion.
3. Mayor Moore administered the oath of office to new Police Officer Marshall Tate.
4. Margaret Marshall Executive Director of the Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield updated the Council on the on the EZ Literacy and Lifelong Learning Grant and the NC Cardinal Migration Grant that were award to PLJCS.
5. Approved a Conditional Use Permit request by Carroll Cottle Farms (CUP- 16-03)
6. Approved the Consent Agenda.
7. The Council discussed allowing the East Smithfield Improvement Organization to utilize the Smith Collins Park concession stand to help raise funds for the Fun in the Park Event.
8. Referred the Smithfield Selma Sports Academy to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.
9. Staff gave an update on the Pine Acres subdivision drainage concerns.
10. Approved that the first meeting of the FY 2016-2017 budget will be held Monday, May 9th at 6:30 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall.
11. Approved allowing staff to begin discussions on potentially acquiring property at 116 South 5th Street.
12. Passed Resolutions #587 (14-2016) and 588 (15-2016) for state grants from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).
13. Tabled discussions on a request by DSDC to refinance streetscape loan for a lower interest rate and to consider alternate options on two loan repayments.
14. Approved the downtown streetscape lighting project as recommended by the Appearance Commission and the DSDC to be mostly funded by the Downtown Revitalization State Grant.

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, June 7th. Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

Employment Opportunities

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Police Officer I**
- **Firefighter I**
- **Pump Station Mechanic**
- **Licensed Water Plant Operator**

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.

Contact: **Tim Kerigan** - HR Director / Public Information Officer
350 E Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577
919.934.2116 x1109