



## *Talk of the Town*

March 09, 2018  
69th Edition

### *Town Tidbit:*

**Did you know?**

The North Carolina Legislature had a meeting in the Smithfield at the Court House in 1779.



**Friday, March 30, 2018 - Town Offices are Closed for the Good Friday Holiday**

## *Town of Smithfield: 2017 Citizen Satisfaction Survey*



For the full reports: Visit [www.smithfield-nc.com](http://www.smithfield-nc.com)

## The Town Of Smithfield Sanitation Department Schedule For Good Friday Will Be As Follows:



Household waste and yard debris collections for Friday, March 30, 2018 will be collected on Wednesday, March 28, 2018. All other customers will have their household waste and yard debris collected on their regular scheduled day. Please have your curbside container and or all debris at curbside after 5:00pm on the day before your collection day. All curbside containers must be removed from curbside no later than 8:00am on the day after collection.

The Convenience Center at 231 Hospital Road will be closed Friday, March 30, and Saturday, March 31, 2018. The Convenience Center will reopen on Monday, April 2, 2018.

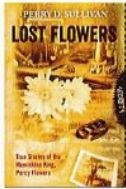

## Coming to The Heritage Center:

Please Join Us for the Formal Opening of Our Exhibit,  
**White Liquor & White Lies**

Featuring  
**Author Perry Sullivan & Special Recognition of Law Enforcement Officers**

**Johnston County Heritage Center**  
241 E. Market Street, Smithfield, NC  
Friday, March 23, 2018, 11 am

*Perry will also be on hand Friday afternoon/evening*

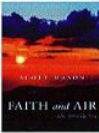


Preserving and Sharing Johnston County's Unique Story

Please Join Us for a Book Signing by  
**Scott Mason**

**WRAL's Tar Heel Traveler**

**Johnston County Heritage Center**  
241 E. Market Street, Smithfield, NC

**Saturday, March 24, 2018,**  
1 - 4 pm

Preserving and Sharing Johnston County's Unique Story

## Smithfield Fire Department: Fire District Receives New Rating

I would like to thank the Mayor, Town Council, Town Manager, and all Fire Department Staff for making available the resources and

opportunity to lower our insurance rating. They have allowed the needed improvements to the Town of Smithfield Fire Department which will greatly impact the citizens, business owners, and property owners of the Town of Smithfield and the Smithfield Fire District by lowering the insurance rating from a Class 4 to a Class 3.

Lowering the insurance rating from a Class 4 to a Class 3 will only affect commercial properties because the insurance rating for residential is already as low as allowed according to the Department of Insurance.

This classification is district-wide for the properties in the Smithfield Fire District, within 5 miles of a Smithfield Fire Station, and without regard to hydrant location. For example, in a split rating, the property would need to be within 1000 feet of a hydrant to receive the lower rate; however, that is not the case for the Smithfield Fire District.

Due to the district-wide classification, properties within the Smithfield 5 mile Fire District will receive the lower insurance rating. This rate change will be effective on June 1, 2018.

-Chief John Blanton-



#### RATINGS AND INSPECTIONS

Tel 919.647.0000 Fax 919.715.0063

MIKE CAUSEY, INSURANCE COMMISSIONER & STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
BRIAN TAYLOR, CHIEF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

For Immediate Release

Contact: Marla Sink  
(919) 807-6017

March 7, 2018

## Fire District Receives New Rating After Inspection

### State Officials Award New District Rating

RALEIGH - North Carolina Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Mike Causey announced today that the following Fire Districts completed their routine inspection and received the listed rating, on listed effective dates. The inspection, conducted by officials with the Department of Insurance Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM), is required on a regular basis as part of the North Carolina Response Rating System (NCRRS). Among other things, the routine inspections look for proper staffing levels, sufficient equipment, proper maintenance of equipment, communications capabilities and availability of a water source.

District	Type	Rating	Effective
Smithfield	Municipal	3	06/01/2018
Smithfield Rural	Rural	3/9E	06/01/2018

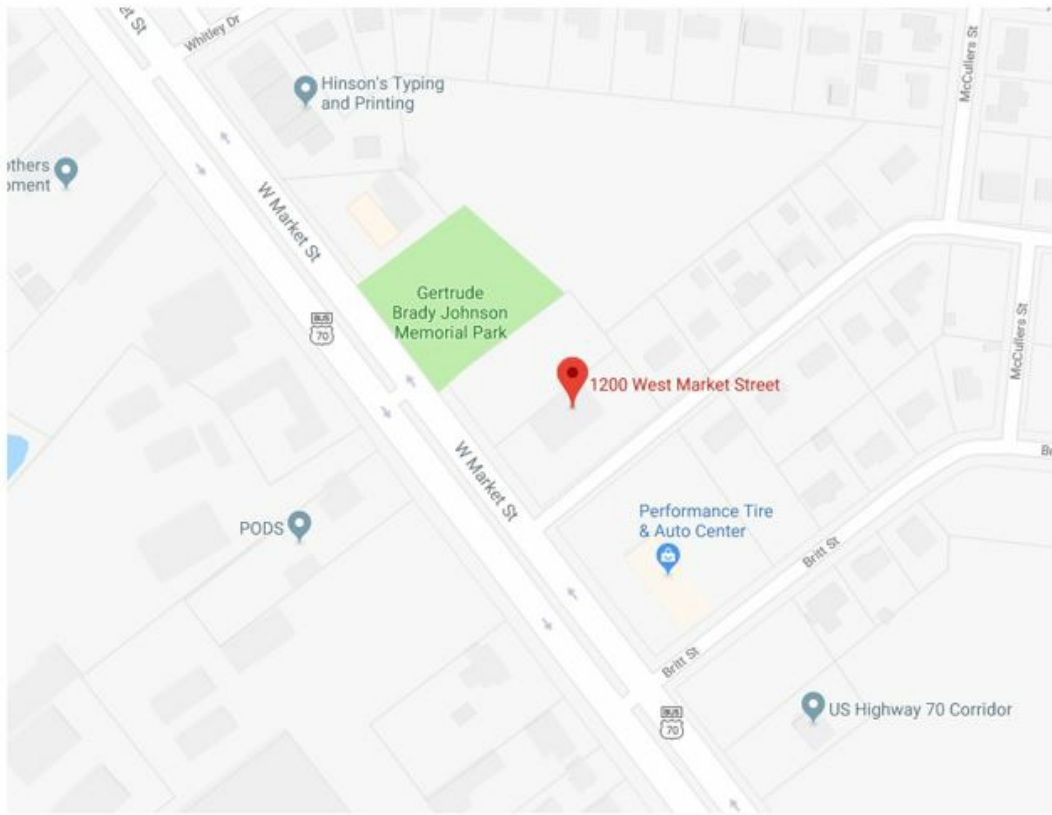
The NCRRS rating system ranges from one (highest) to 10 (not recognized as a certified fire department by the state), with most rural departments falling into the 9S category. While lower ratings do not necessarily indicate poor service, a higher rating does suggest that a department is overall better equipped to respond to fires in its district. Higher ratings can also significantly lower homeowners insurance rates in that fire district.

"I'd like to congratulate Chief Blanton for the department's performance and for the hard work of all the department members," said Commissioner Causey. "The citizens in the Town of these districts should rest easy knowing they have a fine group of firefighters protecting them and their property in case of an emergency."

State law requires OSFM officials to inspect departments serving districts of 100,000 people or less, which makes up all but six of the state's fire districts.

-NCDOI-

The Smithfield Fire Department will be dedicating the recently opened Smithfield Fire Station #2 on April 21st from 3pm - 5pm. Smithfield Fire Station #2 is located at 1200 W. Market Street.



To see the full report: Visit [http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/fire\\_rural\\_report](http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/fire_rural_report)

*Project Access:*



## Do you qualify for free health care?

Over 12,000 Johnston County residents and 9,000 Harnett County residents have no health insurance. The goal of Project Access is to provide the opportunity for every Johnston or Harnett County resident to receive access to health care.

### What is Project Access?

Project Access exists to assist communities across the nation with establishing and sustaining coordinated systems of care. There are 17 active Project Access programs in North Carolina, each unique to its own community.

Project Access of Johnston County/Harnett County is a physician-led volunteer initiative that gives low-income, uninsured county residents access to comprehensive medical care. Through Project Access, physicians and community partners like Johnston Health or Betsy Johnson Hospital, donate medical services without receiving reimbursement or compensation.

Project Access is not health insurance. It is however, an innovative, voluntary program designed to help community residents stabilize their health in a time of need when health insurance is not available.

### Who can participate?

Low-income, uninsured residents ages 19 up to 65, who are not eligible for Medicaid, Medicare, Worker's Compensation, VA benefits, or any other type of health insurance plan or coverage.

### How do I qualify?

To qualify for enrollment in Project Access:

- You must be a resident of Johnston County or Harnett County for at least 3 months.
- You must NOT qualify for ANY type of health insurance benefit.
- Meet income guidelines.

**PLEASE  
CALL TODAY  
TO SEE IF YOU  
QUALIFY.**

#### Johnston County Location

514 N. Bright Leaf Blvd.  
Smithfield, NC 27577  
Office: 919-550-0011  
Fax: 919-989-1206  
projectaccess@johnstonhealth.org

#### Harnett County Location

700 Tilghman Drive, Suite 728  
Dunn, NC 28334  
Office: 910-694-0113  
Fax: 910-694-0112

## Smithfield Middle Math Counts Team Wins First Place

The Smithfield Middle MathCounts team, Octo-Pi, won first place at the annual Johnston County Public Schools MathCounts Competition held on January 30th.

Team members include (from left) Front Row: Catherine Cepin, Jude Reece, and Ashley Hernandez. Back Row: Coach Patience Hall, Coach Gary Boyd, team member Jason Lopez, and Coach Kaye Boyd.



Jude Reece was also recognized for being the Overall Individual Student Winner and for being the first place Countdown Round Winner.

Courtesy of the [JOCO Report](#)



Johnston County Public Schools  
invites you to attend the

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

to celebrate the official opening of the  
**Smithfield-Selma High School  
Locker & Restroom Facility**

**Tuesday  
March 13, 2018  
10:30 a.m.**

700 E. Booker Dairy Road, Smithfield

## *Council Meeting Highlights*

March 6, 2018



### **Regular Meeting Summary:**

1. Mayor Moore administered the Oath of Office to new Police Officer David George.
2. The Public Hearing for the Rezoning Request RZ-18-04 and Special Use Permit SUP-18-02 was removed from the agenda at the request of the applicant.
3. The Town Council approved an amendment to Town of Smithfield Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Appendix A.
4. The Town Council approved Rezoning Request RZ-18-01 by the applicant Stephen (Tom) Medlin
5. The Town Council approved Rezoning Request RX-18-02 by the applicant TIMA, LLC
6. The Town Council denied Rezoning Request RZ-18-03 by the applicant Frank Lee
7. The Town approved the Special Use Permit Request SUP-18-03 by the applicant George's Barns.
8. The Town Council approved the Consent Agenda
9. The Town Council approved entering into the following service agreements:
  - a. Stewart Inc. to prepare the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan in the amount of \$93,400
  - b. Kimley-Horn to prepare the Comprehensive Transportation Plan in the amount of \$100,412.25

The Town Council regularly meets the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall Council Chambers located at 350 East Market Street - unless rescheduled. The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, 2018. Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

## *Local Business Spotlight: Chef Bias Soul Food Cafe*



Address: 320 Stencil St  
Smithfield, North Carolina 27522

Phone: (919) 205-1303  
[FaceBook](#)

## Quote Of The Week:

***Live Life to the fullest, and focus on the positive.***

***Matt Cameron***

## Smithfield Appearance Commission



Available to anyone who signs up: a gardening newsletter available through NC Cooperative Extension, State University, A&T University called "Gardeners Dirt". Master gardeners, industry & university experts contribute to the article.

To request a copy via email contact: [mhwarren@ncsu.edu](mailto:mhwarren@ncsu.edu). Or [cblassit@ncsu.edu](mailto:cblassit@ncsu.edu)

## Volunteers Needed

Opportunities Available to Serve on a Town Board

- Appearance Commission - 3 Position
- Historic Properties Commission - 3 Position
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - 1 In-Town position and 2 High School Representatives (2 year term)
- Planning Board: 1 ETJ Alternate position

Current Volunteer Town Board Opportunities:

All positions are three year terms, unless otherwise specified. Interested citizens can download an "[Application for Board Appointment](#)" on the [Town's website](#) or you may call Town Clerk Shannan Williams to request one by mail at 919-934-2116.



## Parks & Recreation / SRAC



### Upcoming Events

For more information on the below events without links, please visit: [http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/parks\\_programs](http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/parks_programs)

## 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 [southern@earthlink.net](mailto:southern@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. **Youth Adult Book Club** - Meetings are 6:30pm on the third Monday 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 Katie Barbour at 919-934-8146 ext.3 or email [kbarbour@pljcs.org](mailto:kbarbour@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.

## *Employment Opportunities With The Town Of Smithfield*

- **Electric Line Technician**
- **Part-time Lifeguard(s)**

Applications may be obtained at the Smithfield Town Hall, 350 East Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577 or by visiting our website at [www.smithfield-nc.com](http://www.smithfield-nc.com). Full Job Advertisements may be obtained at the Smithfield Town Hall or by visiting our website at [www.smithfield-nc.com/jobs](http://www.smithfield-nc.com/jobs). Full Job Descriptions may be obtained upon request at the Smithfield Town Hall. 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

