



Talk of the Town

May 04, 2018
71st Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? The Town of Smithfield came into being with the inaugural session of the General Assembly of the newly proclaimed State of North Carolina in April 23, 1777. John Smith had agreed to provide 100 acres for the town and an additional 50 acres for a "commons" along the Neuse River south and west of his riverside home.

Do Not Forget To:



[Click Here For Upcoming Election Information](#)

[Click Here For Voter Information](#)



[Click here for more information about the Ham & Yam Festival](#)

Open for Business:

The Smithfield Planning Department has updated its Planning page of the Town's website. Improvements include:

- a clickable New Business Flow Chart linked to applications and partner agencies information
- a new Code Enforcement page
- a new Projects and Development page
- a new Comprehensive Growth Management & Transportation Plan page
- a new look to our Printable Forms and Documents page to make it more usable

Please visit http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/planning_home

Smithfield Cops Go Above And Beyond To Help Crime Victim

April 5th was a routine day for Michelle Fields of Smithfield. Fields had a few errands to run including stopping by the Wal-Mart on N. Brightleaf Boulevard that evening to pick up a few items for her home.

While shopping inside the store someone stole her pocketbook from the shopping cart. It contained her cell phone, car and house keys, credit cards and identification cards.

Fields immediately reported the theft to Smithfield Police.

Within minutes, Officer C.E. Van Halen arrived on the scene and had Wal-Mart security personnel review video surveillance camera footage and provide photos to police of the shoplifting suspect, who was immediately identified due to prior run-ins with Wal-Mart security.

Officer Van Halen had Wal-Mart security train their cameras on Field's car just in case the suspect returned to try and steal her vehicle.

Van Halen and Sgt. D.R. Johnson found an address for the suspect in the Selma city limits and met with Selma Police before going to the suspects home.

courtesy of the [JOCO Report](#)



Downtown Smithfield Façade Wins North Carolina Main Street Award

SMITHFIELD, N.C. - On Wednesday, March 14, Smithfield was one of 19 communities to receive an award for excellence in downtown revitalization at the NC Main Street and Small Town Main Street Awards Ceremony in Clayton. NAIRN Real Estate Investment's recent improvements at 224-228 E. Market Street won in the category of "Best Façade Rehabilitation Project for \$15,000 or less."

In 2017, the former Capital Department Store, located at 224-228 East Market Street, underwent façade improvements because of a change in tenants, the need for building maintenance and the availability of an awning grant from the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation. The façade improvement plan was developed by the North Carolina Main Street and Rural Planning Center's design partners, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Main Street Fellows in the Department of Interior Architecture. The existing awnings were removed and replaced with new, more appropriate awnings in size and shape, and the masonry walls were repaired and repainted.



Property owners James and Julia Narron were so pleased with the project that they have undertaken four additional façade improvement projects. Two other façade improvement projects are underway by other property owners, with additional improvements planned.

Deputy Secretary for Rural Economic Development and Workforce Napoleon Wallace and Assistant Secretary of Rural Economic Development Kenny Flowers presented the award to Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation Executive Director Sarah Edwards, who accepted it on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Narron.

"The NC Main Street and Small Town main Street programs provide communities with a recipe to succeed in economic and community development," said Deputy Secretary for Rural Economic Development and Workforce Napoleon Wallace. "I am honored to [...] recognize the outstanding projects that have helped their communities succeed."

"These award-winning projects have made a significant difference to their communities, bringing new jobs, new activities, businesses, and new investment to their Main Street and Small Town Main Street communities. We are proud of the change that these communities are making as a result of the Main Street America™ program and its principles," said Liz Parham, Director, NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center, part of the rural Economic Development Division at NC Commerce.

The North Carolina Main Street program helps small towns create vibrant central business districts by preserving their historic fabric and building on their unique characteristics using local resources. A panel of judges chose the 2017 award winners from dozens of applications submitted by Main Street communities throughout the state.

Main Street is a downtown revitalization program for smaller towns based on economic development within the context of historic preservation. The North Carolina Main Street program, which provides technical assistance to its communities, is part of the Office of Urban Development in the Department of Commerce's Rural Economic Development Division.

Since 1980, the North Carolina Main Street program has generated \$2.5 billion in private and public investment. More than 22,400 cumulative net new full-time and part-time jobs, and 5,500 new businesses have been created in North Carolina Main Street districts since the program's inception.

To learn more about Downtown Smithfield and its businesses, please call Sarah Edwards, Executive Director of the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation at 919-934-0887 or visit them on the web at www.downtownsmithfield.com.

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Department Highlight: Smithfield Fire Department

The Smithfield Fire Department is committed to protecting life, property and the environment.

We will be responsive to the needs of our residents by providing rapid, professional, emergency services essential to the health, safety, and well-being of the community.

We will accomplish our mission through prevention, education, fire suppression, medical services, hazard mitigation and other related activities.

We will actively participate in our community and strive to effectively and efficiently employ all of the necessary resources to provide a service deemed excellent by the people we serve.

Two Locations:

Fire Station #1
111 South Fourth Street
Smithfield NC 27577

Fire Station #2
1200 West Market Street
Smithfield NC 27577

919-934-2468



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Three easy ways to sign up:
 *Come see Customer Service at Town Hall * Call (919) 934-2116 Ext.1105 or Ext.1113
 * Or email: utilitybilling@smithfield-nc.com

Sign Up Today





First Park And Ball Field For Children With Special Needs Opens

The Partnership Park and the Miracle League Field opened on Saturday. The ball field and 1.5 acre park and play space is located in the Smithfield Community Park at 600 East Booker Dairy Road.



In Johnston County, over 6,000 children have some sort of special need and until now, no place to play in Johnston County.

For the past several years, The Partnership for Children and The Miracle League engaged in a collaborative effort with Johnston County leaders and citizens to build a park and ball field for children of all abilities to enjoy together.



Efforts began with the premise that all children regardless of ability should have a safe space to play together. The capital campaign raised more than \$1.2 million for the park and ball field construction.

"We are thrilled by the investment of our community in this exciting, quality of life facility," said Dwight Morris, Director of The Partnership for Children. "Play is critical to a child's development and every child deserved the kind of experience that provides for all abilities. We deeply appreciate all our donors and the shared vision of a place for all."

Following the ribbon cutting, there was the first official Miracle League ball game, face painting, balloons, food and fun in the park. Photos courtesy Tim Kerigan / Town of Smithfield



courtesy of the [JOCO Report](#)

Council Meeting Highlights

May 1, 2018



Regular Meeting Summary:

1. The Police Department's 2017 Officer of the Year was awarded to Officer Joey Wheeler
2. The Electric Department was awarded the American Public Power's RP3 Platinum Designation .
3. The Town Council approved Special Use Permit Request SUP 18-04 by the applicant Combine Mindz Tattoo Studio.
4. The Town Council approved Special Use Permit Request SUP 18-05 by the Applicant Classic Touch Automobile Sales.

5. The Town Council approved the Consent Agenda.
6. The Town Council approved and accepted a Golden Leaf Grant in the amount of \$500,000 and approved a contract with Vision, NC for design and permitting of the project
7. The Town Council recessed its meeting until Monday, May 7, 2018 at 6:00 pm/

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 5, 2018. **Come join us and get involved!** [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

Local Business Spotlight: We Ship It



We Ship It! is an independently owned and operated packing, shipping, printing and business services center located in Smithfield,

NC. We are professionally trained experts and members of the Smithfield community who are dedicated to providing Super-Star

Customer care in a convenient, efficient and friendly environment.

CONTACT

PH: 919-989-4070

FX: 919-989-4071

ADDRESS

111 N 3rd St
Smithfield, NC 27577

[Website](#)

Quote Of The Week:



Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

Francis of

Assisi

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. Or cblassit@ncsu.edu

Volunteers Needed

Opportunities Available to Serve on a Town Board

- Appearance Commission - 2 Position
- Historic Properties Commission - 2 Position



- Planning Board ETJ Alternate - 1 Position
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board -2 In-Town Members, 2 High School Representatives (2 year term)

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



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. **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.

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



- **Firefighter I (Full-Time Position)**
- **Part-time Lifeguard(s)**
- **Police Officer I**
- **Utility Line Mechanic**

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. Full Job Advertisements may be obtained at the Smithfield Town Hall or by visiting our website at 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

