



# Talk of the Town

May 14, 2013  
10th Edition

## *Town Tidbit:*

**Did you know?** The Smithfield Police Department has two K-9 members. Argo and Diesel are highly trained German Shepherds who accompany their handlers on daily patrols. The K-9's are heavily involved in narcotics enforcement and can be used for tracking as well.

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## *Workplace Bullying*

### It Affects Everyone

Workplace bullying doesn't just affect the target of a boss's cruel jokes or physical abuse. A new study from the University of British Columbia finds that other employees are just as hurt by the inappropriate behavior. Sometimes, more so. "Just working in that toxic environment can [have a negative effect]," says Sandra Robinson, a professor at University of British Columbia's Sauder School of Business and a co-author of the study.



The study, based on a survey of 357 nurses at 41 units of a Canadian hospital system, found that employees have similarly high "turnover intentions," or thoughts about calling it quits, whether they were the direct target of bullying or just worked in departments where bullying was common. In fact, those who weren't directly bullied can be even more inclined to leave, their more positive treatment creating "a sense of moral uneasiness," the researchers say in their paper. (Why nurses? Past research shows they perceive themselves as particularly bully-prone, more so than professionals in other occupations, Robinson says.) Bullying in the workplace likely isn't as overt as schoolyard tactics like stealing a kid's lunch money or bringing the bus monitor to tears. But it can include overt verbal threats, public insults and offensive jokes. It can also be more subtle, such as "forgetting" to invite someone to a social event or meeting, or loading on job responsibilities. (This Psychology Today article outlines some other common tactics.)

Though the study-published in this month's issue of "Human Relations"-only measured the nurses' intentions to leave and not whether they followed through by quitting, Ms. Robinson says having staffers plotting their exits for prolonged periods can be even more detrimental than just having them leave.

Meanwhile, another report in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Applied Psychology by researchers at University of North Carolina's Kenan-Flagler Business School, University of Arizona's Eller College of Management and Michigan State University's Eli Broad School of Management, found that teammates will often band together and retaliate when a supervisor wrongs someone from the group. They may withdraw from "organizational citizenship behaviors" like giving the boss a hand with a big project, especially if the violated teammate was considered a critical member of the group.

(Credit: WSJ, Melissa Korn, July 18, 2012)

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## Ham & Yam

### Draws Record 27,000 People

A record number of people attended the Ham & Yam Festival in Downtown Smithfield over the weekend. According to the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation (DSDC), which organizes the annual event, a record 27,000 people attended the festivities, including 4,000 who saw the Casey James concert on Saturday.

A total of 187 vendors participated this year. The Kiwanis Club actually sold out of ham biscuits due to the large crowds.

No incidents or accidents were reported during the festival, as Smithfield Police provided security for the event.

Chris Johnson, Executive Director of the DSDC said, "A 15 minute rain shower came through Saturday afternoon that helps keep the legend alive that it always rains on the Ham and Yam!"



## "Thank you" to Our Volunteers!

### Spring Litter Sweep

On Saturday, April 27th, volunteers removed litter along Hospital Road between North Bright Leaf Blvd. and North Street. A total of 18 (55 gallon) trash bags of litter and 11 (55 gallon) bags of recyclable material were removed from the roadside. The goal to clean up the targeted area was met by these hard working volunteers. If you would like to participate in the Fall Litter Sweep event, please contact the Town of Smithfield Public Works Director, Lenny Branch at 919-934-2580.



**"Volunteers don't get paid not because they're worthless, but because they are priceless".** Join our team and make a difference in your community.

## Reliable Electric Operations

### Town Receives National Recognition

WASHINGTON, D.C.,-The Town of Smithfield is one of 184 of the nation's more than 2,000 public power utilities to earn Reliable Public Power Provider recognition from the American Public Power Association for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service. Brent McKinney, manager, electric transmission and distribution at City Utilities of Springfield, Mo., and chair of APPA's RP3 Review Panel, presented the designees on March 25 during the association's Annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference held in Kissimmee, Fla.



The RP3 designation recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

"RP3 utilities are shining examples of reliable and forward-thinking public power utilities," said McKinney, "These 90 designees should be extremely proud of this accomplishment and what it means for their communities."

"Receiving the RP3 designation means a lot to us," said Town Manager Paul Sabiston. "It's an honor to be recognized on a national level for the work we are doing here locally in the Town of Smithfield."

This is the eighth year that RP3 recognition has been offered. APPA is the national organization representing more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community- and state- owned electric utilities. It is located in Washington, D.C.

# Downtown Smithfield Award

## National Main Street Program

Smithfield NC -The Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation has been designated as an accredited National Main Street Program for meeting the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Main Street Center®, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Each year, the National Main Street Center and its partners announce the list of accredited Main Street® programs that have built strong revitalization organizations and demonstrate their ability in using the Main Street Four Point Approach® methodology for strengthening their local economy and protecting their historic buildings.



"We congratulate this year's nationally accredited Main Street programs for meeting our established performance standards," says Valecia Crisafulli, acting director of the National Main Street Center. "Accredited Main Street programs are meeting the challenges of the downtown in the economy head on and are successfully using a focused, comprehensive revitalization strategy to keep their communities vibrant and sustainable." [Click here](#) to read full article.

## Around Town

### *For fun or to help others in our community*

**Third on Third - Summer Concert Series** - This Friday, May 17th from 7-10pm. Corner of South Third and Johnson Street. [Click here](#) for a slide show and samples of the sounds to expect or visit their website at [www.CocoLocoPartyBand.com](http://www.CocoLocoPartyBand.com). Mark your calendars for future concerts on the Third Friday of each month through September.

#### **Memorial Day Town Hours:**

**Sanitation Schedule** - Household waste and yard debris collections for Monday, May 27, 2013 will be collected on Wednesday, May 29, 2013. 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.

**SRAC** - Closes at 5pm.

**Town Hall** - Closed.

**Running Club** - Do you like to run? Do you want to meet other people who have your same interest? Join the Smithfield River Rats Running Club. We will meet on Thursdays at 6:30pm starting May 30th at the large picnic shelter in Smithfield Community Park. \$20 membership fee includes a t-shirt. This is a club for beginners as well as seasoned runners. All ages and abilities are welcome. Run distances will vary and assistance will be provided for meeting personal goals. All runs will be followed by a light stretch or cool down. Contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-934-2148 x112 or email [tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com](mailto:tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com) for more info.

**Smithfield Farmer's Market** - Time: 9AM-1PM; Days: Friday & Saturday. New location - 724 N. Brightleaf Blvd. Smithfield, NC 27577. Come enjoy fresh vegetables, fruits, plants, and flowers from local farmers. Also come enjoy locally made items from people in the community. We are looking forward to a new year with new produce and a new location. Come check us out.

**Smithfield Community Park Craft & Wellness Fair** - Saturday, June 8th, 2013 from 9am-4pm at the Smithfield Community Park - 650 Booker Dairy Road. We are having our first craft and wellness fair! Come out for handmade crafts and hobbies, food, businesses, and wellness information. Vendors who are interested please contact Kristen Sasser at [ksasser-parks@ncrbiz.com](mailto:ksasser-parks@ncrbiz.com) or Tiffany Pearson at [tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com](mailto:tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com) or call 919-934-2148 to ask questions or to secure your spot.

**301 Endless Yardale** -The first annual 301 Endless Yard Sale will be held in Johnston County's towns along US 301 on June 14 and 15. The two-day event is designed to attract visitors from a 50-100 mile radius and off the interstates to the communities along 301 in Johnston County to buy and sell antiques, collectibles, and yard sale items. The event encourages businesses and residents to participate by having yard sales, sidewalk sales and special promotions for a continuous stretch from one end of the sale route to the other. Once established, the organizers hope to extend the sale to all the counties along US 301 in North Carolina and other states as well. Visit [www.301endlessyardsale.com](http://www.301endlessyardsale.com) for more info.

**3 Little Pigs Triathlon** - The Fourth Annual 3 Little Pigs Triathlon will be held June 15th. (Chick-fil-A is the title sponsor.) Races begin at 7:30 a.m. (Our third year had 462 racers - so register early.) The race is

comprised of a 250 yard swim, a bike portion (14 miles) and a running portion (5 km). The swim portion is in the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center; the bike portion takes you from SRAC into rural Johnston County, on a scenic but flat course; and the run portion is an out and back course that takes you through Smithfield's Community Park and onto its new Buffalo Creek Greenway and back to SRAC. Feel free to bring your family - your kids can play at the park while you do all the work! All proceeds raised during the event will be split between Smithfield Parks and Recreation Department/Friends of the Park and the Rotary Club of Central Johnston County. [Click Here for Registration Info](#)

**Free Foreclosure Prevention Services** - The Raleigh Area Development Authority has expanded to Smithfield to provide free foreclosure prevention services to Johnston County residents in need of assistance with mortgage payments. Services are free and authorized by HUD. Eligible clients include those who have lost a job, suffered a major injury, or lost a spouse. Smithfield office hours are by appointment only. Call 919-807-8400 to schedule a consultation or visit [www.rada-nc.org](http://www.rada-nc.org) for more information.

**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.

**Operation Helping Hand** - Many of our citizens have fallen on tough times. Some have medical problems, are elderly or just can't financially put the pieces together. Some can't cut their grass, need minor help with construction and repairs or just need a hand hauling limbs and debris away from their home. If your church or civic organization is looking to lend a hand, our community could use a hand and would certainly appreciate it. If you or your organization is interested, please contact Brent Reck at 919-934-2116 or email at [brent.reck@smithfield-nc.com](mailto:brent.reck@smithfield-nc.com).

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## *Parks & Recreation / SRAC*



**It's our Summer Swim Special!** - For just \$90, you'll get access to all the fun features and amenities the SRAC has to offer for three full months. And, get this - for each additional, qualifying family member, the price is just \$75. [Click here](#) or call 919-934-2148 for more info.

**SRAC Summer Camp 2013** - It's that time again! Time to register your child or children for one of the most popular summer camps in Johnston County! This year we're offering another eight weeks of art, swimming, sports and outdoor fun from 8:30am until 4:30pm each day. [Click here](#) for complete details or stop by the front desk at the SRAC for an official registration form.

**Swimming Lessons** - SRAC is offering Saturday swimming lessons for children 3-12 years old. \$40 Smithfield residents / \$50 Non-Smithfield residents. [More Info](#)

**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](#)

**BCBS will now pay for your membership at the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center!** [HEALTHWAYS](#) Prime program now offered at the SRAC! Healthways Prime program is an insurance based Fitness program paid through BCBS! No need to pay any out of pocket expenses for your facility membership, let BCBS pay it for you. The Healthways Prime program reimburses the SRAC for each time you visit on a monthly basis! STOP BY NOW for your tour and to get started at the SRAC! For more information, contact Dale Ham at the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center at 919-934-1408.

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# Council Meeting Highlights

May 07, 2013



Regular Meeting summary:

1. Approved rezoning request for Penco Land Company.
2. Approved Conditional Use Permit for Penco Land Company.
3. Approved Resolution #523 (10-2013) declaring vehicles and equipment as surplus personal property and the approval of the electronic auction of surplus personal property.
4. Approved bid award additions to the 2012-2013 Street Resurfacing Project.
5. Approved Resolution #524 (11-2013) to maintain and support the current integrity and funding for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF).
6. Appointed Councilman Charles A. Williams and Mayor Pro-temp Emory Ashley to the Employee Benefits Joint Committee.
7. Approved a one-year renewal of the contract with Petway, Mills & Pearson, PA to conduct the Town's FY 2012-2013 Annual Audit.
8. Approved an agreement with Envirolink for temporary services.
9. Considered RFPs for Primary Health and Ancillary Employee Insurance Brokerage Firms and approved brokers Mark III (Primary) and Municipal Benefits (Ancillary).

The Town Council regularly meets the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30pm at the Town Hall Council Chambers located at 350 East Market Street - unless rescheduled. The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4th, beginning at 7:30pm. Come join us and get involved!

[View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

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## US 70 Bridge Replacement

The Bridge is Open!



We are excited to announce that the new Market Street (U.S. 70 Business) bridge over the Neuse River was opened to traffic April 24.

The Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation hosted a gala ceremony to mark the occasion, complete with speeches, blessings by local ministers representing various faiths, and the Smithfield-Selma High School marching band.

Meanwhile, several items need to be done before the entire bridge replacement project is finished, including:

- \* Replanting vegetation;
- \* Repaving a section of the Smithfield Neuse Riverwalk under the bridge later this spring that was taken out during construction; and
- \* Completing the outside rails of the bridge later this spring, which will enable bicycle and pedestrian traffic to then use the six-foot wide pedestrian walkway on the north side of the bridge and 10-foot wide multi-use path on the south side.

Some lane closures will be in place as this work is completed; however, the bridge will not close at any time for this work.

NCDOT reminds motorists to watch signs for construction information, stay alert and obey the posted speed limit.

\*\*\*NCDOT\*\*\*For real-time travel information at any time, call 511, visit [www.ncdot.gov/travel](http://www.ncdot.gov/travel) or follow NCDOT on Twitter at [www.ncdot.gov/travel/twitter](http://www.ncdot.gov/travel/twitter). Another option is NCDOT Mobile, a phone-friendly version of the NCDOT website. To access it, type "m.ncdot.gov" into the browser of your smartphone. Then, bookmark it to save for future reference. NCDOT Mobile is compatible with the iPhone, Android and some newer Blackberry phones.

[More Info and Detour Map](#)

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# *Employment Opportunities*

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Police Officer I**
- **Finance 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](http://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

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