



## Talk of the Town

May 23, 2014  
29th Edition

### *Town Tidbit:*

**Did you know?** Carolina Packing Company, as it was originally called, was founded in Smithfield, North Carolina by John A. Jones Sr., a native of Claxton, Georgia, and a group of local businessmen on December 12, 1940. Later, in 1941, the name was changed to Carolina Packers Incorporated.

### *The History of Memorial Day* Honoring Those Who Gave Their Lives While Serving

Memorial Day, recognized on the last Monday in May, is a United States Federal Holiday dedicated to the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The holiday originated after the Civil War to recognize the Confederate and Union dead. Because there were so many soldiers who died-more than 600,000 lives lost-memorializing the fallen took on a greater cultural significance.

On Memorial Day, the United States flag is raised briskly to the top of the flagpole, then solemnly lowered to half-staff, where it remains until noon in remembrance of the more than 1 million men and women who have given their lives in service to our country. At noon, the flag is raised to full staff to recognize the living, who resolve to protect our country and ensure that these soldiers' sacrifice wasn't in vain.

[Let us know](#), how are you spending your Memorial Day holiday?



### *Hot Dogs!* Memorial Day Grilling

Now that Memorial Day Weekend is here and everyone is planning their gatherings with family and friends, we thought it would be nice to hear your favorite hot dog toppings. And what are absolute no-no's? Let us know on [Facebook!](#)



### *Sanitation Schedule Change* For Week of Memorial Day

The Town of Smithfield Sanitation Department schedule for Memorial Day will be as follows:

Household waste and yard debris collections for Monday, May 26, 2014 will be collected on Wednesday, May 28, 2014.



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.

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## *Kudos to a Job Well Done*

### Smithfield Crews' Efficient and Coordinated Teamwork

On Friday, May 16, at 1:30 PM Smithfield's power pole that provides service to Excess Storage, a climate controlled storage and U-Haul business, at the NE corner of Brightleaf Blvd. and Hospital Road, snapped as a result of age and an extended period of ponded water at the base of the pole. The pole with two transformers fell towards the northbound traffic; but was supported by telephone and cable TV lines on our line of poles on the east side of Brightleaf Blvd., thus averting a serious traffic accident.



Smithfield's Electric, Police and Fire crews responded immediately: maintaining and routing traffic around the hazard, eliminating the electrical hazard; starting the extensive cleanup of mineral oil from the transformers and restoring service to Excess Storage, the only customer affected by this outage. They were soon joined by Public Works Department staff and Water & Sewer Department staff. In an extremely efficient, coordinated and knowledgeable way, Town staff fully addressed each of the immediate needs and within 2 hours had the cleanup complete and normal traffic flow restored. The Town's electric crews continued to work through the late afternoon and early evening, replacing each of the electrical components and restoring service to Excess Storage at 8:30 PM. Excess Storage's owner, Mr. Larry Stancil, expressed his appreciation to the Town crews for an exceptional job.

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## *High Energy Bills?*

### A Surprisingly Common Cause

She lives in a small, simple house in southern Mississippi. It's only 1,700 square feet. Why then, she wondered, were her summer electricity bills running more than \$600? She didn't have anything that could be a big energy hog, like a swimming pool, and she didn't do stupid things like leave all the doors and windows open while she ran the air conditioner. What could it be?



She called her electric company, one of the co-ops in Mississippi, and they sent someone out to investigate. Utility companies get calls like this all the time and they've learned from experience what most of the main causes of high bills are.

When the utility investigator arrived at the house, he asked her to tell him anything she knew that might help him. She said, "The air conditioner runs all the time but the house won't even cool down to 80 degrees."

"Ah, that helps to narrow it down a bit." He went to work, and it didn't take him long to find the problem. He measured the temperature drop across the air conditioner coil and found that the air on the 'cool' side wasn't much lower than the air on the warm side. And both were much warmer than they should be.

That could be a disconnected duct in the attic like the one from a different house that you see above. A look in the attic, however, showed that wasn't the case here. Besides, a disconnected duct would increase the bill, but it almost certainly wouldn't quadruple it.

His next step was to turn off the breaker to the electric resistance heat (better known as strip heat) in the HVAC system. This is basically a giant toaster inside the air handler. Heat pumps use it for supplemental heat. In some homes, it's used as the primary heat source. It's not cheap, though, especially considering that the same electricity going into a heat pump will yield two or three times more heat.

Anyway, the utility investigator turned off the breaker and watched what happened to the meter. In the summer time, turning off the strip heat should have no effect at all on how fast the meter spins because it shouldn't be running. Strip heat is for cold weather. In this case, the meter went from spinning fast enough to saw wood to moving as slow as a beetle going for a walk in the woods.

"Well, we found your problem, ma'am," he told her. "Your heating and cooling system was doing both at the same time, making you spend a lot of money to stay uncomfortable."

This problem often results from a thermostat wired incorrectly so that the system kicks on the strip heat when it shouldn't. Since anyone can go down to the home improvement store and buy a thermostat, a good number of these problems result from DIY jobs.

It seems crazy to think that someone wouldn't notice that the heat is running in their home in summer, but they don't

feel heat coming out of the vents. That heat gets mixed with the cool air from the air conditioner. They cancel each other out, both using even more energy because they're fighting each other.

Got high electricity bills in summer that you don't understand? Check your strip heat.  
(Credit: Allison Bailes - [Energy Vanguard Blog](#))

You may also get more information here at [www.temptracker365.com](http://www.temptracker365.com).

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## *Carolina Railhawks Soccer Training*

### Elite Technique Off-Season Training Program

RailHawks Elite Technique Off-Season Training Program -  
ARE YOU a YOUTH SOCCER PLAYER LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL ELITE-  
LEVEL TRAINING DURING THE OFF-SEASON THAT IS CONVENIENTLY  
LOCATED IN SMITHFIELD? LEARN FROM THE PROS!

RailHawks Elite Technique Off-Season EAST Program is a supplemental training program designed to keep you training at the highest level during the off-season to keep your game moving forward and better prepare you for the start of the next season.



Location: Smithfield Community Park / Soccer Field, 600 Booker Dairy Road

Three training options offered:

1. Introductory Program for U9-U14 Challenge and Rec-Level Boys and Girls (5 sessions)
2. Intensive Program for U11-U12 Classic-Level Boys and Girls (10 sessions)
3. Intensive Program for U13-U18 Classic-Level Boys and Girls (kids further divided into groups by age and skill level)(10 sessions)

Training addresses all aspects of the game: technical, tactical, physical and psychological.

5-weeks of training running from June 9 through July 16 (no sessions during the week of 4th of July)

Players will have the freedom to make mistakes to enable them to push past existing skill levels.

Training led by Director of RailHawks Elite Technique, Sam Stockley, and other RailHawks professional coaching staff.

For more information and easy online registration, go to the following link: [www.carolinarailhawks.com/page/slug/et-off-season-east-program#.U2E1mcYbef8](http://www.carolinarailhawks.com/page/slug/et-off-season-east-program#.U2E1mcYbef8)

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## *5th Annual 3 Little Pigs Triathlon*

### Register Now for Lower Entry Fee



Title sponsor Chick-fil-A welcomes everyone to this great event held on June 14th at 7:30 am. 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.

Race Registration is as follows:

Before 6/11/14

Individual: \$50.00

Relay: \$100.00

After 6/10/14 - This is on-site, race-day registration

Individual: \$60.00

Relay: \$120.00

All registrations are done on-line at [www.fsseries.com](http://www.fsseries.com). The last day to register online is 6/10/14. On-site registration may be available if this event is not full. A fee for USAT race day insurance will be added if you are not a USAT member (\$12.00 for adults, \$10.00 for ages 17 and under).

## *Distracted Driving Video*

### Help Promote Safety and Awareness

Distracted driving is at an all-time high and we are seeing more and more accidents from cell phone use among all age groups. For teen drivers though, inexperience and accessibility to smartphones has made for a lethal combination.



[Please view this video](#) and share with all of your friends, family members and loved ones. "[CRASH](#)" is a collaborative effort between Backwards Man Productions & Johnston County EMS. Intro is provided by Johnston Community College. This short film aims to show teens the dangers of distracted driving.

You can also view more teen driving safety tips from Johnston County Teen Drivers (JCTD) at [www.jocoteendrivers.com](http://www.jocoteendrivers.com). Johnston County Teen Drivers (JCTD) is a peer-to-peer safety program for young drivers, involving teenagers directly in developing and delivering driving safety messages. Our goal is to raise awareness of the top driving dangers for teens and prevent crashes involving young drivers. The program empowers teens to spread the word among their peers about deadly driving risks and encourage them to make smart choices while behind the wheel and as passengers.

## *Parks & Recreation / SRAC*



**SRAC Summer Camp** - 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, 2014. Children will be responsible for bringing 2 snacks, a lunch, swimming suit and towel. Dates: June 16-20, June 23-27, July 7-11, July 14-18, July 21-25, July 28-Aug 1, Aug 4-8, Aug 11-15; Time: 8:30am-4:30pm Early drop off and late pick up are available for an extra \$25 per week. Ages: 5-12yrs; Fee: \$100-Smithfield Resident; \$125-Non-Smithfield Resident

**Basketball Camp** - Ages: 7-14 yrs.; Dates: June 16- 19; Time: 9-12 Noon; Fee: \$65.00 (Make checks payable to James Robinson). \$75 if you sign up on first day of camp. Location: SRAC Gym. James Robinson is the Head Coach at SSS High School. Other area coaches and high school players will assist, with former college players in attendance! Camp includes slam dunk contests, 3-point shooting contests, most improved and more.

**Cheerleading Camp** - Grades: 1-6th ; Dates: June 23-25 and/or July 28-30; Time: 9-11am; Fee: \$50.00 (Make checks payable to Jessica Brank). Location: SRAC Gym. For more information contact Jessica at [brankncs@gmail.com](mailto:brankncs@gmail.com)

**Tennis Camp** - Ages: 5-7 year olds - \$30 / From 6-7pm; 8-14 year olds - \$50 / From 7-8:30pm. Location: Smithfield Community Park Tennis Cts. (Make checks payable to Jimmy Jernigan)

**Softball Camp** - Ages: Girls 7-16 yrs.; Dates: June 23-26; Time: 9-Noon; Fee: \$60.00 (Make checks payable to Britney Smith). Location: Smithfield Community Park. Britney Smith is a former SSS Softball Coach.

**Baseball Camp** - Ages: 7-14 yrs.; Dates: July 7-10; Time: 9-Noon; Fee: \$65.00 (Make checks payable to SSS Dugout Club). Location: SSS Baseball Field. Chase Crocker is the Athletic Director at SSS.

**Volleyball Camp** - Girls Ages: 8-14 yrs.; Dates: July 7-10; Time: 9:00 - Noon; Fee \$60.00 (Make checks payable to Kim Smith). Location: SRAC Gym. Kim Smith is a former Clemson player.

**Spartans Football Camp** - Boys Ages: 6-14 yrs.; Dates: July 7-8; Time: 5:30-8pm; Fee \$45.00 (Make checks payable to David Lawhon). Location: SSS Football Field. David Lawhon is the Head Coach at SSS High School.

**Engineering with Lego Summer Camps** - Dream it - Build it - Wreck it - Repeat!! Drive 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:  
Pre-Engineering - 5-7 Year Olds; July 7th-11th ; 9am-Noon; Cost - \$150;  
Register online at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/30450>  
Engineering FUNdamentals - 8-12 Year Olds; July 7th-11th; ;1-4pm; Cost - \$150  
Register online at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/30451>

**Pottery Camp** - 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 25lb bag of clay must be purchased separately at the front desk. Date: July 7-11, 2014 and August 4-8, 2014; Time: 9am -12pm  
Ages: 8-15yrs; Fee: \$85-Smithfield Resident; \$100-Non-Smithfield Resident

**Soccer Camp** - Ages: 5-14 yrs.; Dates: July 14-17; Time: 8:30 -11:00 am; 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, a former Barton College player, and Amber Brush, a current Barton College player.

**Pickleball** - Now through August 22nd, 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 out and play. We will provide the paddle, balls and net. For questions, contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148, ext 112.

**Craft Fair** - Looking for Vendors for an upcoming Craft Fair to be held on Saturday, June 21st, from 9am-4pm, in the parking lot of Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center (SRAC). This should be a good weekend for the craft fair, as there will be a baseball tournament in the park and a basketball tournament in the Aquatics Center! Vendor fee is \$25 for an 8x10 space. Looking for vendors with hand-crafted items, re-purposed or unique finds, antiques, plants/herbs, jewelry, pottery, photography, paintings, woodwork, hand-sewn items, mixed media, etc. Contact Kristin Sasser ([ksasser-parks@ncrbiz.com](mailto:ksasser-parks@ncrbiz.com)) or Tiffany Pearson ([tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com](mailto:tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com)) or 919-934-2148 for more information or to secure your spot.

**Senior Coffee Corner** - Every Tuesday & Thursday from 8:30AM to 10:30AM we will have FREE coffee available to all 55 and older adults. There will be occasional breakfast treats and brain teasers available. You do not have to be a member of SRAC to come hang out with your friends, read the paper, and enjoy a cup-a-joe. Where: The Smithfield Recreation and Aquatic Center. Questions: contact Tiffany Pearson 919-934-2148 ext.112, or [tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com](mailto:tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com).

**Doodlebugs** - Dates: Every Friday through June 6th. (Then will resume in the fall.); Time: 9:30-10:15am; Ages: 18 mos-3yrs; Dribble, drip, squish and squeeze. Delight in watching your child as together you get messy while creating and experimenting with different materials. Experiment with dough, pudding, gelatin, crayons, watercolors and more. Watch your young artist blossom! One child per adult please! You can sign up for one class at a time or for a 4 week session. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED by the Wednesday before each class so that accurate supplies are provided. Fee: \$5/class or \$19.00/4 classes-Smithfield Resident \$7/class or \$27.00/4 classes-Smithfield Non Resident.

**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](#)

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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## Council Meeting Highlights

May 06, 2014

Regular Meeting summary:

1. Administered Oath of Office to new Smithfield Police Officer - Christopher Norris.
2. Received update from Raleigh Area Development Authority (RADA) concerning the Talent Enhancement Grant.
3. Considered and approved Zoning Amendment: ZA-14-01 - Hank Daniels, Danbar Limited Partnership.
4. Considered and approved Zoning Amendment: ZA-14-02 - Town of Smithfield



5. Considered and approved Zoning Amendment: ZA-14-03 - Steve R Hargis
6. Considered and approved Conditional Use Permit: CUP-14-05 - Steve R. Hargis.
7. Approved the Consent Agenda.
8. Approved Resolution # 541 (03-2014) Supporting the Johnston County Bike Routes.
9. Approved a contract with CrossPoint Telecom & Consulting, LLC. to review the Town's Telecommunication services.
10. Approved Resolution # 542 (04-2014) Modifying the Electric Fund Revenue Bond Rate and payment with Southern Bank.
11. Approved an IT Assessment to be conducted by Alphanumeric and to amend the FY 2013-2014 in the amount of \$9,000 to fund the assessment.
12. Approval of the FY 2014-2015 Employee Plan Renewals: Healthcare, Dental, and Life/AD&D Renewal and Employee Voluntary Insurance Options
13. Approved the FY 2014-2015 Workers' Compensation Renewal
14. Reappointed Jack Matthews to serve on the Planning Board as an In-Town Member.
15. Recommended to the Johnston County Board of Commissioners that Ashley Spain be reappointed to the Planning Board to serve as an ETJ representative.
16. Approved various budget amendments for the Finance Department.
17. Approved a budget amendment in the amount of \$20,000 that would transfer an overage in a parks and recreation revenue account to an expenditure line item for park repairs at Smith Collins Park.
18. Approved Resolution # 543 (05-2014): Accepting and approving the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for raw water improvements and augmentation prepared by the Wooten Company.
19. Authorized the Wooten Company to make application for CDBG grant funding.
20. Approved a Contract Agreement for St. Joseph's of the Pines Rural Economic Development Building Reuse Program 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 3rd. Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

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## *Employment Opportunities*

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Part-time Lifeguard**
- **Police Officer I**
- **Water/Sewer Pump Station Mechanic**

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.