



Talk of the Town

November 6, 2015
41st Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? There are hundreds of ways you can volunteer your time and talents in Smithfield and our surrounding areas. Visit: www.volunteermatch.org to view some of these opportunities.

Wine Walk

Downtown Smithfield to Host Fifth Annual Event to Support Harbor

The Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation will host its fifth annual Downtown Smithfield Wine Walk, a wine tasting to raise money for Harbor and the programs Harbor supports, on Friday, November 20, 2015.

The Wine Walk will take place from 5:00-8:30 p.m., when walkers will visit participating businesses in the downtown district to sample a different wine at each of the seventeen participating businesses. Walkers will begin at Harbor's Pizazz, located at 119 North Third Street in Downtown Smithfield, where 500 tickets will be available for \$20 per person. There, walkers will be given commemorative wine glasses and a wristband to wear, which will allow them to taste wines at other businesses.

Businesses participating in the 2015 Downtown Smithfield Wine Walk include Aspect Financial, Bistro on Third, Evans Jewelers, Jewel's Formals, Julie Anne's Salon & Spa, Little Brown Jug, Lovely Lady, MedicalTraining.me, The Meeting Place, Memory Lane Frame Studio, Pizazz, Seasons Fine Hats & Accessories, Simple Twist, Simply Bliss Studio, Suzanne Brewer Photography, Tucker Furniture, and We Ship It.

Many of the businesses will be hosting special events in conjunction with the Wine Walk, including extended shopping hours, special sales, giveaways, and entertainment. Participants will be treated to special savings at Pizazz Upscale Resale Shop. The Meeting Place will host a pop-up art shop in conjunction with the Johnston County Arts Council. Visitors to Memory Lane Frame Studio will be entered into drawings for gift certificates and art. Suzanne Brewer Photography will set up a candid portrait station to capture memories from the Wine Walk. Evans Jewelers will host their annual open house in conjunction with the Wine Walk, and offer shopping, refreshments, holiday decorations, and cheer.

"With seventeen participating businesses this year, the 2015 Downtown Smithfield Wine Walk will be our biggest yet," states Sarah Edwards, Executive Director of the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation. "It is a wonderful event for Downtown Smithfield and its businesses, and we are delighted to bring the community together to raise funds for Harbor to support the incredible work that they do."

Harbor is Johnston County's only nonprofit agency providing service and assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and women in transition. Harbor provides safe, compassionate, and advocacy services, resources, and programs. Harbor has a team of highly credentialed and experienced staff and volunteers who work diligently to assist women and children in need.

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



Keep Your Children Safe and Secure Online



The Internet is a great place for education and entertainment, but like the world around us it can pose dangers if precautions are not taken to protect ourselves. Allowing unchecked access puts your child, your computer and your personal data at risk. Here's how to keep your child safe online.

Keep the computer in a central location

If your computer is in an open area, you can more easily monitor your child's online activity. Also consider separate accounts on the family computer. Check your computer's settings to create a different account for each user and add parental controls for the youth setting. This approach may reduce the chance that your child might accidentally access websites that are off limits.

Know how your child is connecting to the Internet

Youth have many options to connect to the Internet beyond a home computer. You can add mobile devices, gaming systems and smart TVs to the list of ways kids can get online. Know all the ways and which devices (including what they use away from home) your children are using and be sure they know how to use them safely and responsibly.

Talk to other parents

Exchange information with neighbors, family members and the parents of your kids' school friends. This way you can all be on the same page when it comes to when and how your children get online as well as what your children do online.

Establish ground rules

Maybe your elementary school aged child is not ready for a personal Facebook page. Not all online services are for kids. Even some of the most popular social media sites are meant only for use by people aged 13 and older. Look for sites designed specifically for younger children that provide a safer, more secure and age-appropriate environment. Make sure your child knows how you feel about them and certain social media accounts.

Stop. Think. Connect.

STOP: Before you or your children connect, take time to understand the risks and learn how to spot potential red flags.

THINK: Take a moment to be certain the path ahead is clear. Show kids the warning signs and explain how their actions online could impact their safety, or the family's.

CONNECT: Enjoy the Internet with greater confidence, knowing you've taken the right steps to safeguard your family.

The online world is ever changing. New services with great features continually emerge. Knowing about them and how young people use them can help you better understand the digital life your children experience as well as any concerns you may have for your children.

Learn more about how to stay safe online with the National Cyber Security Alliance at StaySafeOnline.org.

NCDOT Reminds Motorists to Keep Alert for Deer During Fall Months

Over 58,000 animal-related crashes in N.C. in last three years



As the temperature starts dropping and leaves start falling, another sign of the changing season is more deer along North Carolina roadways, and in turn a greater chance of a collision with a deer.

Over the last three years (between 2012-2014), nearly half of the 58,372 animal-related crashes in the state took place in October through December. About 90 percent of those involved deer.

A [N.C. Department of Transportation study](#) shows that in 2014, there were 17,831 animal-related crashes, the lowest number since 2006. But over the past three years, animal-related crashes claimed 11 lives, injured more than 3,386 drivers and passengers and caused nearly \$145 million in damages.

"This is the time drivers need to be especially careful on the roads in regard to deer," said NCDOT Director of Mobility and Safety Kevin Lacy. "Increased activity and decreasing daylight hours mean extra attention by motorists to their surroundings is needed for their safety and the safety of others."

For the 12th year in a row, Wake County led all North Carolina counties in the

number of animal-related crashes with 794, which is a drop of more than 300 from 2013. The number remains high compared to the rest of the counties because Wake County still has considerable acreage of woods, with an increasing number of drivers on rural and urban roads.

Pitt County was the runner-up with 562 animal-related crashes, and has been in the top five rankings over each of the last eight years. The same status exists for the next two counties, with Guilford a close third at 550 crashes and Duplin at 445 crashes. Rounding out the top ten are Randolph, Union, Mecklenburg, Columbus, Johnston and Rockingham counties.

Counties in the far western section of the state have fewer drivers and road mileage, so once again report the lowest number of crashes. Swain County had the fewest number of animal-related crashes with four, just below Graham with five.

Deer are on the roadways more during the fall into winter months due to the hunting and mating seasons. They also travel more at dawn. This is the time of the year it grows dark in the evenings, with the time change coming at 2 a.m. on November 1, when we turn clocks back an hour. The largest number of crashes in 2014 came between 5 and 7 a.m., and 6 and 11 p.m. In addition to more deer moving about and crossing roads at those times, decreased driver visibility makes it more difficult to see the animals on or near roadways.

NCDOT offers the following suggestions for motorists to avoid being in a deer-vehicle crash:

- Slow down in posted deer crossing areas and heavily wooded areas, especially during the late afternoon and evening;
- Always wear your seat belt. Most people injured in deer-vehicle crashes were not wearing their seat belt;
- Statistics indicate most deer-vehicle crashes occur in areas where deer are more likely to travel through, such as near bridges or overpasses, railroad tracks, streams and ditches;
- Drive with high beams on when possible, and watch for eyes reflecting in the headlights;
- Remember that deer often travel in groups, so do not assume that if you see one deer cross the road, there won't be others following;
- Slow down and blow your horn with one long blast to frighten the deer away;
- Increase the distance between your vehicle and other cars, especially at night. If the car ahead of you hits a deer, you may also become involved in the crash;
- Do not swerve to avoid a collision with deer. This could cause you to lose control of your vehicle, flipping it over, veering it into oncoming traffic or overcorrecting and running off the road, causing a more serious crash;
- Do not rely on devices such as deer whistles, deer fences or reflectors to deter deer as these devices have not been proven to reduce deer-vehicle crashes; and
- If your vehicle strikes a deer, do not touch the animal. A frightened and wounded deer can hurt you or further injure itself. The best procedure is to get your car off the road if possible, and call 911.

Breast Exams & Mammograms



Every woman's wellness plan should include regular breast exams. Doing so can help you find problems early.

These three tests are used the most to check breast tissue:

- **Breast self-exam (BSE):** You check your breasts for lumps or anything else that seems unusual.
- **Clinical breast exam (CBE):** A doctor or other health care professional carefully feels the breasts and under your arms for lumps or anything else that seems unusual.
- **Mammogram:** This is a low-dose X-ray picture of the breast. A mammogram along with a breast exam by your doctor can find breast cancer at an early stage when it can best be treated. The amount of radiation used in mammograms is very low, so the risk of any harm is extremely small.

What happens during a mammogram?

A mammogram is a simple test. When you go for a mammogram, the technician taking the picture will place your breast between two X-ray panels. The panels will push your breast between them to get a clear picture. You may feel a little bit of discomfort, but each X-ray takes less than one minute.

Who should get one?

Women ages 40 and up should talk to their doctor about how often to have a mammogram. It varies based on your personal health and family history. A woman's chance of getting breast cancer is greater as she ages.

Women who have had breast cancer or other breast problems or who have a family history of breast cancer might need to start getting mammograms before age 40, or they might need to get them more often. Talk to your doctor about when to start and how often you should have a mammogram.

Why should I get one?

A mammogram can save your life by finding breast cancer early. It can show cancer what is too small for you or your doctor to feel. When breast cancer is found early, you have more treatment options.

Courtesy of WellnessWorks of Johnston Health

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



YOUTH BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Registration begins September 14 and continues to October 16 for boys ages 5-18 and girls ages 5-12. The child's age as of 12/31/15 determines playing age. Practices will start in November, with games beginning in January. Registration fee is \$40 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$88 for Non-Residents. For more information contact 919-934-2148.

PICKLEBALL

Beginning October 2nd, and running until November 20th, Smithfield Parks & Recreation will be offering Pickleball on Fridays, from 11:30am-1:30 pm. All ages are welcome. We have paddles for you to borrow ... so come learn and play. Wear some comfy clothes, tennis shoes, and bring a water bottle! For Pickleball, non-members of SRAC get in for \$3. For more information contact 919-934-2148, Tiffany.

TENNIS OPEN PLAY / CLINICS

If you are between the ages of 7-16, and want to work on your tennis game, join James Reid (SSS Tennis Coach) at Smithfield Community Park Saturday mornings in September - October, from 9-11am, and work on your game and your skills! Coach Reid will be there to assist with your game, and to run some drills. No registration is required! Don't have any equipment? No Worries - racquets and balls will be available for you to borrow!

Tadpoles

Come to SRAC on Wednesday mornings, 10am-Noon, and bring your little "tadpoles" to SRAC Splash Park. Resident rate is Adult Smithfield Resident: \$3, and \$2 Resident Child (Ages 3-12); Adult Non-Resident: \$5.50, and \$4 Non-Resident Child (Ages 3-12). Each additional child \$3. Questions contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-934-2148, ext 107.

SENIOR COFFEE CORNER

Senior Coffee Corner is back at SRAC for the Fall ya'll! If you are 55 and older, join us for FREE coffee and occasional breakfast treats every Tuesday and Thursday morning, from 8:30 to 10:30am. You do not have to be a member of SRAC to join us for coffee these mornings.

ROBOTIC LEGOS WORKSHOP

JEDI Engineering Challenge Using LEGO & JEDI Master Engineering Challenge Using LEGO: October 23rd, 9am-12 Noon (Ages 5-7); 1-4pm

(Ages 8-12).

Become a Play-Well Engineer this Fall! With over 100,000 pieces of LEGO, take on real-life engineering challenges that explore concepts in physics, engineering and architecture! This is a hands-on, brains on workshop suitable for LEGO novices to building "maniacs". Price is \$40 per person. For Registration Details and Workshop Descriptions, please visit: <http://bit.ly/LEGO-Teacher-Workdays>.

HALLOWEEN EGG HAUNT

Join us Thursday night, 10/29, as we hunt for Halloween Eggs filled with candy! This event is for children between the ages of 3-12. Come in your Halloween costume, with your jack-o-lantern or pillowcase to collect your loot! The Egg Haunt is at Smithfield Community Park, around small playground area.... Don't be late - or all the loot will be gone in a flash!

SWIM LESSONS

SRAC offers swim lessons on an individual basis. Each participant will have a specific lesson plan to meet his or her needs. Sign up year round. Request forms can be picked up at the front desk of SRAC. For more information, please contact Laura Crumpler, Aquatics Director, at lcrumpler-parks@ncrbiz.com or 919-934-1408. 3 Lessons/Smithfield Residents - \$45; NR - \$66. 5 Lessons/Smithfield Residents - \$85; NR - \$110.

BOOMER Wii FIT

If you are 50 and older, come try Wii and games beginning September 10th, 11:00am. Come work on coordination, balance, and overall physical fitness. The games are located in the banquet room of Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center (SRAC), every Thursday. If you are NOT a member of SRAC, there is a \$3 charge for Smithfield Residents and \$4 for Non-Smithfield Residents.

STERLING SILVER SENIORS CLUB

This Club meets the second Wednesday of every month, 10:30am at SRAC. Club members have the opportunity to go on day trips, occasionally overnight trips, as well as participate in other activities outside of regular meeting days. Members must be 55+, and dues are \$12/year.

DOODLEBUGS

Dribble, drip, squish and squeeze... delight as you watch you and your child get messy 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 the time or for a 4-week session. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE EACH CLASS so that accurate supplies are provided. Fee is \$5/Class or \$19/4 Classes - Smithfield Resident; and \$8/Class or \$30/4 Classes - Non-Smithfield Residents.

SRAC KIDS NIGHTS

Schools back in session, and SRAC kids nights crank back up!!! When SRAC closes, the fun begins! Drop your kids off in a safe, supervised environment that is kid friendly and parent free. Swimming, gym time, snack and other organized activities are offered throughout the night. Please contact the center to find out the activities for each night, as activities will vary. October kids night is our "Spooktacular" ... no swimming that night, and kids come dressed up for some trick or treating! Kids Nights Dates in the fall are: September 19th, October 24th, and December 19th, from 5:30-8:30pm, for kids ages 5-10. Fee is \$8/Smithfield Resident (pre-registration); \$13.50/Non-Smithfield Resident (pre-registration). \$5/Each additional child during pre-registration. \$10/Smithfield Resident (Register day or night of); and \$16.50/Non-Smithfield Resident (Register day or night of).

KIDS NATURE SERIES

This hands on class will focus on one specific theme for the day. Spiders, clouds, plants, wildlife and so much more of the natural world will be discovered as participants hike, create, experiment and LEARN about the natural world around them. Class meets on Wednesdays, from 10:00-11:00 am, for kids ages 3-5 (With an adult present). Fee is \$4/Smithfield Resident or \$15/4 Classes/Smithfield Resident; \$6.50/Non Smithfield Resident or \$25/4 Classes/Non-Smithfield Resident.

GHOST POTTERY WORKSHOP

Join us on October 17th, from 9-11am, as we make spooky, but cute, Halloween decorations to liven up your Halloween décor! Class is open to boys and girls between the ages of 8-15 years of age. Fee is \$10/Smithfield Residents and \$12/Non-Smithfield Residents. \$8 for Additional Siblings.

POTTERY: BEGINNING AND CONTINUING HANDBUILDING

This class is designed for students interested in creating pottery without using the wheel. Through a combination of demonstrations and individual work time, students will develop their handbuilding skills while making distinctive pieces such as plates, vases, and bowls. The variety of construction techniques include stiff slab and soft slab. During the 6-week class session, students may come in during open studio time to work freely on projects. An instructor will be available to answer questions. Clay can be purchased at SRAC for \$20/25 lb. bag. Class Max: 5. Fee: \$100/Smithfield Resident; \$137.50 Non-Smithfield Resident. Class Dates Tuesday Days: October 13-November 17, from 10am-12:30pm; or Thursday Nights: October 15-November 19, from 6pm-8:30pm.

OPEN STUDIO FOR POTTERY

Need a place to create? Want to network with other artists or just have a quiet, yet social art time? The pottery studio at SRAC will be open for all potters participating in classes to come in and work on their creations at their own pace. All supplies are brought in by the participant and all projects need to be taken home. Studio is open during regular SRAC operating hours, except when a class is in session. Fee \$100 for 6 months of studio time. Members get a 10% discount.

FUN WITH ACRYLICS FOR ADULTS

Beginning Painting: Materials provided unless you have your own paints, brushes, etc. and want to bring your own. Students will learn acrylic paint techniques and color blending while painting canvases worthy of framing. Dates: Wednesday nights, 6:30-8pm. Fee \$100/person/6 months. Advanced Painting/Open Studio: Students will use this class as time to collaborate with peers while working on their own acrylic painting projects. Students must provide their own painting materials. Must have completed a beginning painting class to participate in open studio time. Dates: Tuesday mornings, 9:30-11:30am. Fee \$100/person/6 months.

Judy Boyette is the instructor for these classes, and has 25 years of art experience teaching at Princeton HS and is the current president of the Johnston County Arts Council. She has been painting murals for 35 years.

SRAC GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

Free fitness classes are offered to SRAC members throughout the week. Water Aerobics, Cycling, Hybrid Fitness, Tai Chi, Yoga and Zumba are available. The schedule is distributed monthly and can be picked up in the SRAC lobby, or viewed online at www.sraconline.com. If you are NOT

a member of SRAC, but wish to attend a fitness class, you may purchase a day pass.

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](#)

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

October 06, 2015



Regular Meeting summary:

1. Approved Resolution # 567 (17-2015) endorsing the naming of the US Highway 70 West, Neuse River Bridge in memory of fallen Johnston County Sheriff Deputy Clendon Paul West, Sr.
2. Proclamation - Proclaiming the last Wednesday in October (the 28th) as a day in honor of survivors of domestic violence and in memory of those that have lost their lives due to domestic violence.
3. Approved Rezoning Request RZ-15-03: McFayden and Company, LLC
4. Approved Rezoning Request RZ-15-04: Atlantic Resources Incorporated
5. Approved Resolution # 563 (13-2015): The issuance by the Public Finance Authority of a portion of its \$75,500,000 Multifamily Revenue Bonds, Series 2015 FFAH. This is not a debt of the Town.
6. Approved Resolution # 568 (18-2015): Authorizing the filing of an Application to the Local Government Commission for Installment Financing of the Inflow and Infiltration and Raw Water Intake Projects.
7. Approved the Consent Agenda.
8. Authorized the Police Department to submit a grant application to the Governors Highway Safety Program to create a traffic safety team.
9. Authorized the Police Department to solicit applications for an Accreditation Manager and authorized changes to the salary schedule.
10. Approved an amendment to the Pay and Classification Plan to add a Career Ladder Plan for the Electric Department.
11. Bid Award to Clearwater, INC. in the amount of \$125,744.91 for the Sand Removal - River Project.
12. Approved the date of November 10, 2015 to hold a public hearing in accordance with NCGS 159B-16.1. Revenues - NCEMPA Members for receiving final rate study recommendation and to possibly set new rates.
13. Approved the date of November 10, 2015 to hold the regular Town Council meeting. This meeting was rescheduled due to the Municipal Election.
14. Directed staff to solicit more detailed bids for the demolition of the Old Water Treatment Plant and to allow those interested in purchasing the building to submit site plans for renovations and financial information.

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, November 10th.** Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

Employment Opportunities

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Accreditation Manager (Police Department - Non-Sworn)**

- **Police Officer I**
- **Public Utilities Director**
- **Sanitation Equipment Operator**
- **Town Manager**
- **Water/Sewer Superintendent**

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.

Online Bill Pay Now Available



Smithfield utility customers may now pay their bill online via the Town's website (www.smithfield-nc.com) or by calling 1-855-331-7952. The town accepts Visa and MasterCard credit/debit cards or checks.

There is a nominal transaction fee of \$2.45 and payments are limited to \$700 or less. When entering your Town of Smithfield account number, please remove the decimal. Example: Account number 23001234.0091 should be entered as 230012340091

Customers can still take advantage of other payment options, including, bank draft, the afterhours drop box, walk in, and mail.