



Talk of the Town

August 29, 2016

49th Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? The first celebrated US Labor Day was on Tuesday, September 5, 1882 in New York City, planned by the Central Labor Union. 10,000 workers marched from City Hall all the way to 42nd Street and then met with their families in Wendel's Elm Park for a picnic, concert, and speeches.

Evans Family Recognized For Having One Of "America's Coolest" Jewelry Stores

Just weeks after a locally owned business received national exposure about their new store, more honors are coming in for the Evans family at Evan's Jewelers in Smithfield.



INSTORE, "The Magazine for the American Jewelry Store Owner," recently held its 15th annual contest for 'America's Coolest' independent jewelry retailers. A total of 85 stores were entered in the 2016 contest. Evan's Jewelers received an honorable mention.

The stores were judged by a panel of retail experts on business practices, history, online presence, interior decor and curb appeal.

"Every year we feel privileged to bring our readers the best of the best in our industry," said Ralf Kircher, INSTORE's executive editor. "Winning stores often have amazing product lineups and are impressive to look at. But a store wouldn't really fit our 'cool' criteria if it weren't for such aspects as innovative marketing, creative retail environment and a unique work culture."

"The Evans family is very honored and humbled by this special recognition," said owner Daniel Evans. "We are so happy to represent the thousands of independent jewelers across America by providing a family atmosphere for our customers with a quality product and quality service. As we always say here at Evans, "When you leave Evans Jewelers you leave with quality."

Earlier this month, Evans Jewelers was recognized in the July edition of Southern Jewelry News for creating a "destination" store at 320 East Market Street. The report highlighted that every time you visit the store a member of the Evans family is there to greet you. In addition to jewelry, the store also features wine and cigars.

Smithfield Fire Department Project "Kool Kids"

The Fire Department is trying to keep the kids of Smithfield cool and bring some smiles on their faces on these hot summer days.



We offer this service to anyone in Smithfield within the town limits. In order for us to provide this service to your neighborhood or community, there are a few details that need to be discussed prior to us being able provide this service.

1. The property owner must approve the Fire Department to be on their property and understand the water may make the location very wet.
2. The Fire Department will inspect the property to see if it meets the criteria for the hydrant and sprinkler to work, for example adequate drainage, enough area. Our sprinkler requires an area of no more than 100' clear space.
3. The location must be safe for kids, for example: vehicle traffic, clear of debris, trash, broken glass, etc.
4. A hydrant must be on the side of the street for the chosen location, and within no more than 200'. We cannot close the street to run hose to the sprinkler.
5. The Fire Department, due to some neighborhoods and sub-divisions regulations, may not be able to invite kids from other areas to participate.
6. We do have areas that the entire town is invited to and they will be posted to our Facebook page with a schedule of dates and times.
7. Dates are subject to change due to weather, not having the available personnel and other possible conflicts.
8. A guardian must be present for your kids safety and supervision.

For more information and scheduling contact the fire station to speak with the on duty Captain at 919-934-2468. As of right now we only have two locations where we can invite the public to. And that may increase as we continue our efforts to reach out to the entire town.

Third On Third Summer Concert Series

With great entertainment for the 2016 Third on Third Summer Concert Series, we hope that you will join us for some fun Friday nights of dancing in the street on September 16, and October 21!



Held at the corner of Third and Johnston streets, the concerts will last from 7:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

We'll take a break from the heat of July and August, and return with The Justin Kyle Band on Friday, September 16. With soulful singing, grooving bass, drums, and rocking guitar, they have captured audiences of all ages. The Justin Kyle Band takes pride in having a superb sound quality, professional attitude, and a great family atmosphere.

Closing the series on Friday, October 21 is The Rhythm Express. Comprised of seasoned musicians with more than twenty years of experience, The Rhythm Express plays a variety of music, including Motown, R&B, Soul, Beach, Blues, and Classic R&B. Come early and have dinner at Bistro On Third, The Chicken Barn, Gotham's Deli, Mucho

Mexico, or Simple Twist, get some ice cream from Country Folks Creamery, take a free carriage ride from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., catch a movie at the Howell Theatre, participate in the Ava Gardner Museum's free wine tasting from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., end the night with drinks at the Little Brown Jug, and enjoy Downtown Smithfield!

SoDoSoPa Is Now Open

SoDoSoPa opened in Downtown Smithfield at 146 South 3rd Street on Tuesday, August 23rd



This restaurant offers a diverse menu of smoked and non-smoked foods. Available are appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, kids' plates, entrees and desserts. Its signature items are smoked brisket, pulled BBQ, smoked chicken leg quarters and smoked ribs with house made BBQ sauces. If smoked meats don't ignite your taste buds, they offer: shrimp and grits, meatloaf, ribeye, salmon and more. They are open Monday - Saturday 11am - 9pm and closed on Sunday. (919) 205-1076.

Superintendent Discusses Future Of Schools With County Mayors



Johnston County Schools Superintendent Dr. Ross Renfrow invited county mayors to a special meeting to discuss the state of the school district.

The superintendent shared the district's vision for instruction in Johnston County schools, titled "JoCo 2020." Dr. Renfrow also addressed any questions and concerns brought by the mayors. The conversation included the I-95 corridor of poverty, JCS facilities planning, growth issues, and modifications of older facilities.

Mayors attending the special breakfast meeting included Mike Gordon of Archer Lodge, Jeff Holt of Pine Level, William Massengill of Benson, Jody L. McLeod of Clayton, Andy Moore of Smithfield, Cheryl Oliver of Selma, Linwood Parker of Four Oaks, and Don Raines of Princeton.

"This type of partnership is what we need for the students of Johnston County," Dr. Renfrow said. "The majority of the mayors were in attendance and offered perspectives that we have not thought about previously. Because the meeting went so well, I want to petition the group of mayors to meet more than on an annual basis."

Since becoming superintendent on March 1, Dr. Renfrow has focused on receiving stakeholder input and gathering the information needed to meet the needs of students in Johnston County.

Courtesy of www.JoCoReport.com

Smithfield Junior Women's League Raises \$10,000 For Children's Literacy

A newly founded civic club has raised \$10,000 to improve literacy among children in Johnston County.

The "Big Night Out" fundraiser, a gala with a beach theme, was in keeping with the mission of the Junior Women's League of Smithfield, which is dedicated "to the betterment of all communities within Johnston County."

The Johnston County Partnership for Children will use the money for its literacy programs.



"The Junior Women's League has been an amazing support to the Partnership for Children this year," said Christina Peterson, coordinator of family and community outreach for the partnership. "The funds raised from their Big Night Out event will help us to expand our early-literacy efforts throughout Johnston County. We are excited to see what the future has in store for JWL and look forward to continuing to partner with them for years to come."

"Big Night Out" turned the Country Club of Johnston County into a scene from Palm Beach, complete with palm trees, pineapples and flamingos. Some 350 people attended.

Jessica Davis, president of the league, said she was pleased with the fundraiser.

"The support from our communities was astounding," she said. "Thirty-two local businesses joined forces with JWL to support early childhood literacy, and over 300 community members donated through the purchase of tickets.

"Johnston County's commitment to ensuring that our future generations have a solid foundation in literacy is inspiring. JWL is grateful for the outpouring of support. Big Night Out was a celebration of the hard work of our members and the many successes of JWL during our first service year."

Founded last October in Smithfield, the Junior Women's League aims to promote volunteerism, develop the potential of women and improve the community. Members must be at least 25 years old, pay annual dues, attend monthly meetings and contribute volunteer hours to fundraisers and community projects.

The group next plans a Touch a Truck event this fall. The educational community event will provide children with a hands-on opportunity to see and touch heavy machinery and meet people who "build, protect and serve Johnston County communities." Kids will be able to explore a fire engine, cement truck, school bus, tow truck and bulldozer, among other vehicles.

The group is accepting applications for members. For more information on the Junior Women's League of Smithfield, go to www.jwlsmithfield.com. For more information on the Partnership for Children of Johnston County, go to www.pfcjc.org.

Pictured: from left: front row - Helen Patterson of the Johnston Health's Early Learning Center and Junior Women's league members Amber Stancil, Nanda Jones, Carson Cataliotti, Emily Wilkinson, and Jessica Davis; and back row - Beth Moore, Chris Key and Dwight Morris, all of the Johnston County Partnership for Children, and Meredith Fordham, a Junior Women's League member.

Courtesy of [The News and Observer](#)

Downtown Smithfield Cited For High Performance From National Main Street Center



The National Main Street Center, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation has cited 44 North Carolina communities for economic

vitality and fidelity in following the best-practice standards for historic preservation and community revitalization championed by the center.

Eleven new communities joined the ranks of accredited North Carolina communities as compared to last year's roster. Each year, the National Main Street Center and its partners issue accreditation to Main Street® programs across the country.

The eleven communities newly appearing in this year's list are: Cherryville, Hendersonville, Lexington, Lincolnton, Rocky Mount, Rutherfordton, Sanford, Shelby, Sylva, Waxhaw, and Williamston.

Communities receiving accreditation again this year include: Belmont, Boone, Brevard, Burlington, Clayton, Clinton, Concord, Eden, Edenton, Elizabeth City, Elkin, Fuquay-Varina, Goldsboro, Hertford, Hickory, Kings Mountain, Lenoir, Marion, Monroe, Morganton, Mount Airy, New Bern, North Wilkesboro, Roanoke Rapids, Roxboro, Salisbury, **Smithfield**, Spruce Pine, Statesville, Wake Forest, Washington, Waynesville, and Wilson.

"Vibrant downtowns are important economic engines for the North Carolina economy," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary John E. Skvarla, III. "This national recognition confirms the results we're seeing every day in these forward-thinking communities and is a testament to the hard work and commitment of our Main Street program participants."

"Once again, we are thrilled to recognize this year's nationally accredited Main Street America communities for their outstanding work," says Patrice Frey, President & CEO of the National Main Street Center. "We are experiencing an exciting era for America's cities and towns, with a growing recognition of the importance of strong local enterprise, distinctive character, engaged residents, and sense of place. These are things that Main Street America programs have been working to protect and advance for years, strengthening the economic, social, and cultural fabric of communities across the country."

The performance standards set the benchmarks for measuring a community's application of the Main Street Four Point Approach to commercial district revitalization. Standards include fostering strong public-private partnerships, securing an operating budget, tracking programmatic progress and actively preserving historic buildings. More information is available at National Main Street Accreditation.

"Each year, our Center's staff evaluates each of the state's designated Main Street organizations to identify those programs that met the National Main Street Center's ten performance standards for the previous twelve-month calendar year. 69% of all North Carolina Main Street communities achieved national accreditation in 2016 and that represents 14% more communities that have worked over the last year to incorporate basic best practices in their Main Street operations," said Liz Parham, director of the NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center.

Since 1980, The North Carolina Main Street program has generated \$2.3 billion in private and public investment. In 2015, North Carolina Main Street downtown districts generated 228 net new businesses, 82 business expansions in existing businesses, 358 net new jobs, 282 façade rehabilitations and 215 building rehabilitations. More than 74,188 volunteer hours were recorded.

Courtesy of [Greater Smithfield-Selma Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



SMITHFIELD - NETWORKS BASKETBALL

Want some extra work on your game before the season starts? Working with Networks can help with your shooting technique, as well as other aspects of the game! Different training available for Elementary, Middle School and High School kids. Training starts on Sunday afternoons, mid-September, and goes until the end of October. Go to www.networksbasketball.com for more information and to enroll.

SMITHFIELD - BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Youth Basketball Registration will be September 12th - October 21st, for boys ages 5-15 and girls ages 5-12. (Players must be 5 years old as of December 31, 2016.) The cost is \$40 for Smithfield residents and \$88 for non-residents. Practices will begin mid-November/December with games beginning in January. Season should wrap up around the end of February.

Smithfield SRAC Kids Night

Date: September 10, 2016; 5:30-8:30pm

Ages: 5-12yrs

Fee: \$8-Smithfield Resident (pre-registration)

\$13.50-Non-Smithfield resident (pre-registration)
\$5/each add. child during pre-registration
\$10-Smithfield Resident (register day/night of)
\$16.50-Non-Smithfield Resident (register day/night of)

Smithfield Pottery Classes

Dates: Thursdays, September 1-October 6, 2016; 6-8:30pm
Tuesdays, September 6-October 11, 2016; 10am-12:30pm
Fee: Smithfield Resident-\$100
Non-Smithfield Resident-\$137.50
20# Clay-\$20

Smithfield Doodlebugs Art Class

Dates: Every Friday, Beginning September 2nd
Time: 9:30-10:15AM
Ages: 18 mos-3yrs
Fee: \$5/class or \$19.00/4 classes-Smithfield Resident
\$8/class or \$30.00/4 classes-Smithfield Non Resident
Pre-registration required by Wednesday.

Smithfield Tadpoles

Moms and dads bring your little tadpoles and swim in the splash park! Additional pool play activities may occasionally be provided. Play groups are welcome!
Dates: Wednesdays, September 7th - April 26th, 2017
Time: 10am-Noon
Fee: Adults - \$3/Smithfield Resident
\$5.50/Non-Smithfield Resident
Children (3+) - \$2/Smithfield Resident
\$4/Non-Smithfield Resident
Each additional child \$3 each.

ADULT EVENTS

SMITHFIELD - Pickleball / UPDATED

Pickleball will be offered at SRAC throughout the fall, September 9th through November 18th on Fridays only, from 11:30am-1:00pm. If you are not a member of SRAC, it will be \$3 per session to come out and play. We will provide the paddle, balls and net. For questions, contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148, ext 107.

SMITHFIELD - STERLING SILVER SENIORS CLUB

All 55 and older adults are welcome.
Meet 2nd Wednesday of each month, 10:30 AM
Fee: \$12/year dues (plus money for trips that you wish to take)
We are a club that takes trips together, fellowships together, and has fun doing different activities and crafts throughout the year. If interested in joining or if you have questions contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-934-2148 x107.

SMITHFIELD - SOCCER REFEREE CLINIC

If you are 15 years of age or older, and are interested in refereeing Recreational Soccer for the Johnston County Athletic Association (JCAA) County Soccer League, come attend our Clinic on Sunday, September 11th, at 2pm, at Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center. There is no cost to attend the Clinic, and light refreshments will be provided.

Smithfield Matter of Balance Class

Getting a little older... worried about falling... join us and learn practical strategies to manage falls. You will learn to view falls as controllable; set goals for increasing activity, make changes to reduce fall risks at home, and exercise to increase strength and balance. Classes are free and are held twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, for 4 weeks, 2 hours each class. Class time is from 1-3pm. Class starts September 20th and goes until October 13th. Sign up by 9/16 at SRAC. Class size limited, so sign up early. For questions, contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148, ext 107.

HOLIDAY & SPECIAL EVENTS:

Smithfield Free Movie in the Park

Join us on Saturday, September 24th, as we show a recent release movie, The Jungle Book, on the big screen at Smith Collins Park. Before the movie starts, there will be food available, face painting and fun beginning at 7pm. Bring blankets and lawn chairs, and the movie starts as the sun goes down! For questions, contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148, ext 107.

Smithfield Halloween Egg Hunt

If you're between the ages of 3-12, come get the "jump" on Halloween! Come dressed in your Halloween costume and go on a hunt to collect Halloween eggs!! Meet at the small playground in Smithfield Community Park for a hauntingly good time! Bring your jack-o-lantern or pillowcase to collect your treats!! (Free event ages 3-12.)

Smithfield Christmas Tree Lighting

Mark your calendars, and let's bring in the Holiday Season with the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, on Thursday night, December 1st, 7pm, at the corner of Third & Market Street. Join us for hot chocolate, entertainment, and a special guest from the North Pole!

Smithfield 5th Annual Grinch Stink, Stank, Stunk 5k & Jingle Bell Jog

No one wants to be a "bad banana with a greasy black peel!!!" Join us for our 5th Annual Grinch Stink, Stank,

Stunk Run and give until your heart is 3 sizes too big! All participants are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy or gift card. All toys will benefit Harbor and the Johnston County DSS Angel Tree Project. There will also be prizes awarded for some of your favorite "Whoville" characters ... so dress up and have fun! Registration forms will be available at SRAC beginning in September or at www.smithfield-nc.com. If you would like to order a Grinch t-shirt, the cost is \$15 and must be registered and paid by 11/18/16. (No extra shirts will be available.) Race packets will be available for pickup on Friday afternoon, 12/2/16, between 3-7pm.

Smithfield Christmas Parade

Go ahead and mark your calendars - Thursday night, December 8th, 7pm and plan to attend Smithfield's Christmas Parade!! If you want to be in the Parade, applications can be found at SRAC or at www.smithfield-nc.com under Holiday events.

Smithfield Winter Wonderland with LEGO

It's not too early to be thinking about your child's Christmas break and what they'll be doing... Have them join us as they apply engineering, architecture, creativity and fun to create a magical Winter Wonderland!! Build motorized contraptions like snowmobiles, gondolas, or a hilltop village, or slopes for LEGO skiers and sledders.

Dates: December 28-30, 2016; Ages 5-7 from 9am-Noon; Ages 8-12 from 1-4pm.

Register online at www.playwell.org. For questions, contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148 ext 107.

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

August 2, 2016



Regular Meeting summary:

1. Approved the Consent Agenda.
2. Approved an agreement with Expert Global Services to provide online utility bill payment services.
3. Approved the purchase of the second sludge press for the Water Treatment Plant.
4. Adopted the Wayfinding System and approved the funding of \$50,000 for gateway signage using the Town's reserved 2% tax dollars held by the Johnston County Visitor's Bureau as funding.
5. Approved a Scope of Works with Sanford Hdshouser for implementation of the Strategic Economic Development Update action items.
6. Approved the placement of a "No U-Turn" sign on Outlet Center Drive and Smithfield Crossings Drive and the placement of bollards.
7. Public Hearing was held to solicit input from the residents and property owners as to the needs of the Downtown Municipal Service District. No action was taken.

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, September 6th. Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

Employment Opportunities

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Fire Department Training Chief**
- **Police Officer I**
- **Utility Line 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 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

