



# Talk of the Town

March 03, 2017

57th Edition

## *Town Tidbit:*

**Did you know?** A 1911 bond issue of \$55,000 which town voters passed for water works, a sewerage system, and an electric light plant was a major boon to the town's growth. The issue funded the construction of the brick water and electricity plant (former Smithfield Water Power Plant), on the Neuse River at the north end of Front Street in 1913.

## *Smithfield Fire Department*

Getting to Know You...

**The Smithfield Fire Department is committed to** protecting life, property, and the environment by providing a rapid and professional response which is essential to the health, safety, and well-being of the community. Smithfield Fire Department accomplishes this mission by providing fire prevention programs, public education programs, fire suppression services, medical services, hazard mitigation, as well as many other related activities. The department is a combination fire department which means the utilization of volunteer and career firefighters. The career staff is made up of 3 shifts with 5 personnel on each shift which provides coverage 24 hours per day 365 days per year. Also part of the career staff is the Fire Chief and a Division Chief, both of which work 8-5 Monday - Friday. The department has (2) part-time Fire Inspectors on staff and there are 19 volunteer firefighters that respond when available.



**Fire Department personnel are trained on** fire suppression, technical rescue (which includes vehicle extrication, high/low angle rope rescue, confined space, structural collapse, water rescue, trench rescue, wilderness rescue, and machinery rescue), emergency medical services, emergency vehicle operations which includes pump and aerial operations, as well as other areas of professional development. Once a firefighter is certified in an area, he/she will need to complete continuing education on the subject each year. The continuing education training program is designed and employed on a monthly basis at the fire station. The training is delivered in the evening hours to accommodate the volunteer firefighters that may be working during daytime hours.

**Fire prevention is accomplished through** fire inspections and the Fire Marshal's office which resulted in 379 fire inspections last year. Smithfield Fire Department provides public education at various locations within the Town of Smithfield. In 2016, staff was able to reach 357 adults and 1,946 children through public education. Smithfield Fire Department was called to respond to a total of 2,549 incidents in 2016, which was a 25% increase from 2015. Personnel responded to 332 structure fires and fire alarms, 17 vehicle fires, 207 motor vehicle accidents, 1,670 EMS/medical calls, and 323 miscellaneous calls.

**When you have an emergency,** you should always remember to stay calm and call 911. The dispatcher will have several questions that need to be answered in order to get the appropriate authorities responding to your location. The dispatcher will ask you to stay on the phone until authorities arrive. Depending on the type of call, you might receive a response from the Fire Department, EMS, Law Enforcement, or a combination of any of these. All 3 entities work and train together to provide protection and safety to those who live, work, and visit the Town of Smithfield. Smithfield Fire Department responds to many different types of emergencies such as structure fires, vehicle fires, medical emergencies, motor vehicle accidents, hazardous materials emergencies, etc. When Smithfield Fire Department responds to your emergency, you will be met with courteous and professional personnel that have been trained and continue to train to provide assistance for your need. Fire Department personnel prioritize each incident in the following categories: Life Safety, Incident Stabilization, and Property Conservation. Personnel will first gather information, then develop strategies and tactics, and lastly implement and deploy the resources that

are needed to mitigate the incident. At the termination of the incident response, the goal of the Smithfield Fire Department is to have effectively and efficiently made a positive impact in the community.

**Become a Smithfield Volunteer Firefighter.** The volunteer fire service is a challenging, exciting, and rewarding experience, conveniently condensed into one package. Very few things can be a vocation and avocation at the same time, but you have that option as a firefighter. You can be fully trained and state certified at no expense to you. There is no difference in certification between career and volunteer firefighter. Obviously, there are specialties that are branches of emergency services, such as arson investigation, fire inspector, and fire official. Volunteering allows you to give something back to your community. Today, there are so many demands on our time, and firefighting or emergency services require specialized training. If you have a sense of civic pride, if you want to see immediate results of a job well done, or if you have the heart and spirit to make your community a better place, consider volunteering with Smithfield Fire Department. You may find meaning previously lacking in your work and your life, and you may also find a career. For more information on how to become a volunteer firefighter, call 919-934-2468 and ask for Chief Blanton or Chief Daughtry or visit us at 111 South Fourth St. in Smithfield, NC 27577.

## #SSStrong Community Day April 22nd



Suzanne Mitchell, Principal of Selma Elementary; Laura Makey, Principal of South Smithfield Elementary; Heather Anders, Principal of Smithfield Middle; and Cole Yarborough, Assistant Principal of South Smithfield Elementary appear before the Smithfield Town Council on Feb. 7th discussing SSStrong Community Day 2017. JoCoReport.com Photo

Smithfield Selma area schools will come together on Saturday, April 22nd for #SSStrong Community Day 2017.

The goal of the event is to bring the Smithfield Selma community together to celebrate the community with entertainment by school groups, vendors, exhibits and hayrides.

Games and events will be free. Food will be available for purchase from local businesses. SSStrong Community Day The event will take place from 11am until 1pm on April 22nd at the Smithfield Selma High Football field.

The event is open to the entire family.

Courtesy of [jocoreport.com](http://jocoreport.com)

## "Pet Portraits" Smithfield Middle School

*Art Teacher: Christina Schaffer*

*Principal: Heather Anders*

Displayed at Smithfield's Town Hall



# Improving The Town



We continue to work on projects for the beautification of our Town. So far, the lighting has been repaired at the statue by the Library and at the Memorial for the African Americans. We are planning to clean up and add plants around Memorial for the African Americans.

In beautifying the Town of Smithfield; new sidewalks are being replaced along 3rd street.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Scott, Vice Chairperson

## Volunteers Needed

### Opportunities Available to Serve on a Town Board



Current Volunteer Town Board Opportunities:

- Appearance Commission - 3 Positions
- Historic Properties Commission - 1 Positions
- Planning Board, ETJ Alternate - 1 Position
- Parks and recreation Advisory Board - 2 Position and 2 High School Representatives (2 year term)

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.

## Prescription Pill Drop Box Program

### Securely and Anonymously Dispose of Medications

If you are looking for a safe and secure method to dispose of unwanted medications, the Smithfield Police Department can help.

Permanent "pill drop boxes" are located in the lobby of the Smithfield Police Department on South Fifth Street and Town Hall at the corner of 4th Street and Market Street. The drop boxes are a large white mailbox-type container with a trap hatch to ensure security of deposited medications.

All medications deposited in the pillbox drop box will remain anonymous and no contact with police officials is necessary when depositing your meds. Once a prescription, or any medication, has expired or is no longer in use, obscure any personal information that may be present on the label with a black felt tip marker and dispose of the medication in the drop box.

Prescriptions, cold and flu medications, pain relievers, over-the-counter medications, cough syrups, topical ointments, vitamins, and pet medications are all accepted at the drop box. Needles and syringes will not be accepted.



The drop box is accessible during normal business hours, 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The drop box was made possible through Project Lazarus, a non-profit organization who believes that by taking the appropriate measures to safely dispose of medications, the amount misuse, abuse, and diversion of medications will decrease. National studies indicate that 70% of diversion is among family and friends. The FDA also recommends properly disposing of medications in order to prevent harm, and in some cases, fatality, due to accidental ingestion by children, teens, seniors and pets. Additionally, prescription drugs flushed or placed in landfills make their way into water supply systems further posing a threat to animals and the environment.

For more information, contact Police Chief Keith Powell at 919-934-2121.

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## *Smithfield-Selma High School* Students Hold African American Read-In

The Smithfield-Selma High Ladies and Men of Distinction took part in the African American Read-In with students at Selma Elementary on Feb. 23.



The goal of the African-American Read-In is to document readers making the celebration of African American literacy a traditional part of Black History Month activities.

During the month of February, schools, churches, libraries, bookstores, community and professional organizations, and interested citizens are urged to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month by hosting an African American Read-In, according to the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

Smithfield-Selma High students Tatyana McElveen, Elizabeth Hardy, Kayla Smith, Kiniah Street, Chandler Lasater, De'Oveon Fuentes, Joshua Raiford, Deja McIntosh, Angel Guzman-Garcia, Laura Price, Eric Hess, Sara Altman, Elijah Exum, and Antonio McDaniels participated in the read-in at Selma Elementary.

Patrice Hardy and Marvin Burke, Smithfield-Selma High staff sponsors of the Ladies and Men of Distinction, accompanied the student readers to Selma Elementary.

The read-in is sponsored by the Black Caucus of the NCTE and also the NCTE, and it is endorsed by the International Literacy Association.

(PHOTO: front row (from left) are Angel Guzman-Garcia, Laura Price, Sarah Altman, Kiniah Street, De'Oveon Fuentes, Elizabeth Hardy, Tatyana McElveen, Johnston County Board of Education member Dr. Peggy Smith, Deja McIntosh, Kayla Smith, Antonio McDaniels, and Selma Elementary Assistant Principal Anthony Whitaker; back row (from left) are Eric Hess, Chandler Lasater, Joshua Raiford, and Elijah Exum.)

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## *Local Business Spotlight:* *Jimmy R. Wallace Photography, Inc*

**JimmyR.WallacePhotography,Inc**

Jimmy R. Wallace Photography was established in 1967. The doors of the studio were opened for business on January 19, 1967 by Jimmy R. Wallace. Currently, our staff includes Tim Wallace and Elizabeth Moore Macias. Tim is one of Jimmy's three sons and began photographing with his father in 1975. Only three years later, Tim was photographing Weddings solo at the age of fifteen. Tim holds a Degree in Commercial Photography and worked for the world's largest still photography studio and produced commercial product images for clients such as Wal-mart, Sears, J.C. Penny, Belk, Roses and others, before returning full time to Jimmy R. Wallace Photography. Elizabeth joined us in 2012. Elizabeth adds the classic feminine touch to the portraits we create. With the focus on our clients, we enjoy creating simple and elegant, as well as urban and edgy images. We appreciate your inquiry and we are awaiting your call at (919) 934-3333 or your visit at 136 South Third Street Smithfield, North Carolina 27577-4540.

Visit: [jrwphotonc.com](http://jrwphotonc.com)

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## *Council Meeting Highlights*

February 7, 2017

Regular Meeting Summary:

1. Held a Public Hearing to gain citizen input on an application to the Local Government Commission for the financing of the relocation and extension of the Town's Water Distribution System in the Right-Of-Way of Booker Dairy Road (SR1923) in accordance with NCDOT TIP Project U-33348. Also approved Resolution # 597 (02-2017).



2. Approved the Consent Agenda.
3. Awarded a bid to BB&T in the amount of \$2,037,249 at a rate of 2.03% for 7 years for the financing of the Booker Dairy Road Project. Also approved Resolution #598 (03-2017) and Resolution #599 (04-2017).
4. Awarded a bid to R.D. Braswell Construction in the amount of \$1,935,619.78 for the Booker Dairy Road Project. This was approved contingent on staff working with the contractor to determine any additional cost in the event that work has to be halted due to NCDOT not securing right of way acquisition.
5. Approval was given to the Finance Director to create a new line item and to transfer funds in the amount of \$65,000 into that newly created line for the purchase of Water System Equipment at the Water Plant. Council also approved the purchase of the water system equipment.
6. The Town Council tabled a request, pending additional information, for funding of an NCDOT agreement.
7. Approved the preliminary plat for Belle Square Subdivision.
8. Approved the Belle Square Final Plat Phase I.

The Town Council regularly meets the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall Council Chambers located at 350 East Market Street - unless rescheduled. The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7th. Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#).

## *Parks & Recreation / SRAC*



### **Smithfield T-Ball Registration**

Registration February 13-March 10

Ages: Boys & Girls, 5-6 years old (Players must be at least 5 as of 5/1/17)

Fee: \$30-Smithfield Residents

\$66-Non-Smithfield Resident

Practices begin in April.

### **Smithfield Kinder Basketball**

Our Kinder Basketball program is an introduction into the sport of basketball. All our Kinder programs meet 4 times. Actual play dates will be Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 7th, 9th, 14th and 16th. There will be two sessions per night. Only 15 slots available per session. Session 1- 6pm-6:45pm; Session 2- 6:50pm-7:35pm. Sessions can not be mixed.

Registration February 6-24

Ages: Boys & Girls, 3-4 years old

Fee: \$20-Smithfield Resident

\$44-Non-Smithfield Resident

### **Smithfield Networks Basketball**

Want some extra work on your game on Sunday afternoons, beginning in March? Working with Networks can help your shooting technique, as well as other aspects of your game! Go to [www.networksbasketball.com](http://www.networksbasketball.com) for more information and to enroll. Available for Elementary to High School age kids.

### **Smithfield SRAC Kids Night**

Dates: January 28; March 18; May 13

Times: 5:30-8:30pm

Ages: 5-10yrs

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 Doodlebugs Art Class**

Dates: Every Friday until June 2, 2017

Time: 9:30-10:15 AM

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 Wee Read and Cook**

Join us as we read a fun children's book and then create a snack that is based on the book that we read.

Dates: Thursdays, Feb. 2-June 2

Time: 9:30-10:15 am

Ages: 3-5 yrs

Fee: \$5/class or \$19/4 classes-Smithfield Resident

\$8/class or \$30/4 classes-Non-Smithfield Resident

### **Smithfield St. Paddy's Day Pool Party**

Come out and help us hunt for Leprechauns! Those pesky magical creatures can be found all over and who knows... maybe you'll find their pot of gold!!!

Date: Friday, March 17

Time: 5-8pm

Fee: SRAC members Free

Non-SRAC Member Adults: \$3/Smithfield Residents

\$5.50/Non-Smithfield Residents

Non-SRAC Member Children (3-17): \$2/Smithfield Residents

\$4/Non-Smithfield Residents

### **Smithfield Garden Party**

Spring is knocking at the door... Bring your little gardener or fairy sprite for a morning of garden crafts, activities and snacks.

Date: March 18

Time: 10-11:30am

Ages: 2-10 yrs

Fee: \$15-Smithfield Resident

\$20-Non-Smithfield Resident

### **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 until 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.

### **Marlins of Raleigh Swim Team Development League**

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 9th - May 16th, the Marlins of Raleigh Development League will be practicing at SRAC.

Ages: 10 and Under - 6:30-7:15pm

11 and Older - 7:15pm-8:00pm

Fee: \$170

To register go to [www.marlinsofraleigh.com](http://www.marlinsofraleigh.com)

### **Smithfield Stroke Clinics**

Want to work on some of your swim strokes? Our stroke clinics are designed for swimmers who already have a strong foundation of the fundamentals of swimming, and desire to learn more advanced swimming techniques. There are 8 lessons per month/session. New sessions begin the first week of every month. Maximum Class size is 4 students/individual attention.

Requirements: Must be able to swim 25 yards on front and back

Dates: Mondays and Wednesdays - 6:00pm and 7:00pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays - 6:00pm and 7:00pm

Fees: Smithfield Residents - \$120/8 lessons (per session)

Non-Smithfield Residents - \$138/8 lessons (per session)

### **Smithfield SRAC Individual Swim Lessons**

Are you ready to get in and SWIM? Our individual swim lessons will begin to build a foundation of swimming lessons. Each participant will have a specific lesson plan to meet his or her needs. Sign up at any time. Request forms can be picked up at the front desk or [http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/srac\\_pool](http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/srac_pool). For more specific information, please contact Laura Crumpler, Aquatics Director at 919-934-1408 or [laura.crumpler@smithfield-nc.com](mailto:laura.crumpler@smithfield-nc.com).

### **Smithfield American Red Cross Lifeguard Training**

SRAC will be offering 4 Sessions for Lifeguard Training, through Guards Get Trained. You must be at least 15 years old in order to take the class. You must pass a pre-course swim test in order to continue in the class. You must attend 100% of all classes.

Fee: \$250

Register on-line at [www.guardsgettrained.com](http://www.guardsgettrained.com) or for more information, please contact Guards Get Trained at 202-838-SWIM or [guardsgettrained@gmail.com](mailto:guardsgettrained@gmail.com).

They can also do recertifications too.

## **ADULT EVENTS**

### **Smithfield - Resolution Walking**

Are you interested in getting out and walking for fitness? Are you looking for a group of like-minded individuals who can encourage you, hold you accountable? If so, then this is for you! Our walks will include a warm-up, walk and cool down. Depending on the weather, we will walk inside or outside. Please wear sneakers and comfy clothes. Bring water to stay hydrated.

Dates: Mondays, January 9-March 27

Time: 6:30-7:30pm

Fee: Free for SRAC Members. \$25 for non-members for 12 weeks, or \$2/Session

Location: Meet at front desk of SRAC

### **SMITHFIELD - Pickleball**

Pickleball will be offered at SRAC throughout January 13th-April 7th, **on Fridays only**, from 12:30am-1:45pm. 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 Senior Prom / A Night to Remember**

If you are 55 and over, think about joining others your age for "A Night to Remember", filled with dancing, appetizers and fun! Dance will be April 1st, from 7-9:30pm, at SRAC.

Cost: Resident Single-\$10 Resident Couple-\$20

Non-Resident Single-\$15 Non-Resident Couple-\$30

All registrations due by 3/27. For questions, please contact Tiffany Pearson at (919) 934-2148.

### **Smithfield Open Studio for Pottery**

Need a place to create? Our pottery studio is open for all potters participating in our classes to come in and work on their creations at their own pace. All supplies are brought in by the participant and all projects will need to be taken home. Studio time is open during regular SRAC operating hours, except when a class is in session.

Fee: \$100 for 6 months of studio time.

### **Smithfield Open Art Studio**

The SRAC Art Studio is open Tuesday mornings, from 9:30-11:30am; and Wednesday evenings, from 6-8pm. Anyone can join at any time! This is a group with a variety of art projects going on at any given time, not a class in which everyone paints what the instructor is painting! Participants bring projects they are working on, and can collaborate with peers, get critiques, help with any problems, inspiration, and learn new techniques. Media used includes any water based materials and oils IF they are odorless products. The facilitator for the group is Judy Boyette, who taught art in the public schools for 37 years and is President of the Johnston County Arts Council. She paints murals, charcoal portraits, does drawing and book illustrations. Come by, check it out.

Time: Tuesday mornings, 9:30-11:30am

Wednesday evenings, 6-8pm

Fee: \$100/6 months

### **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 Chick-fil-A 3 Little Pigs Triathlon**

Start getting in shape now for our 8th Annual Triathlon on June 17th!!! The race includes a 250 yard swim, a 15 mile bike ride, and a 5k run. The swim takes place at SRAC. The bike portion takes you from SRAC along rural Johnston County, along a scenic but flat course. The run goes along the Buffalo Creek Greenway and ends back at SRAC. All proceeds raised from the event go towards the Friends of the Parks and the Smithfield Rotary Club of Central Johnston County, both of which help with events and programs through P&R and SRAC.

Register: <https://fsseries.com/ra/r/3-little-pigs-triathlon/>

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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. **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](mailto: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.

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## *Employment Opportunities with the Town of Smithfield*

- Firefighter I
- Police Officer I
- Sanitation Equipment Operator

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](http://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](http://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

