



Talk of the Town

October 28, 2013
20th Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? Ten months after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Town of Smithfield officially was chartered. However, the origins of the community date back to 1759 when John Smith, one of the area's earliest settlers, petitioned to operate a ferry where the Neuse River cut through land he owned. The site became known as Smith's Ferry.

Trick-or-Treating Safety Tips

Thursday, Oct. 31st: 5pm-8pm in Town of Smithfield



Walk Safely

- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
- Put electronic devices down and keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
- Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

Trick or Treat With an Adult

- Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, they should stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

Keep Costumes Both Creative and Safe

- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision and are not approved in the Town of Smithfield.
- Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

Drive Extra Safely

- Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- Eliminate any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
- Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.
- Smithfield trick-or-treating hours are 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. so be especially alert for kids during those hours, but also remember that some attempt to begin early or extend beyond.

For more info on Codes of Ordinance for the Town of Smithfield, in regards to trick-or-treating, please visit [here](#).

9th Annual Ghost Walk

Taken by 250 "Historical Tourists"

Clear skies and chilly yet tolerable temperatures brought about 250 persons to the Heritage Center's 9th annual Historical Ghost Walk through Smithfield's Riverside Cemetery on Thursday evening, Oct. 24.



This year's cast of volunteer re-enactors included (left to right in the photo): Pearl and Edward Blackmon as Flossie and N.L. Cannady, long-time educators in Clayton; Judy Daniels as Lunette Barber, conservationist and wildlife educator; Lt. Col. Jonathan Gaskins as Capt. Sefton Stevens, a decorated World War II bomber and fighter pilot who was killed in action; Myra Wallace as Nancy (Nanny) Coates, mother of nine children educated at Smithfield's famed Turlington Institute who went on to distinguished professional careers; present-day Johnston County Sheriff Steve Bizzell as C.S. Powell, Confederate war veteran and sheriff of Johnston in the 19th Century; and Tom Howerton as Benjamin Williams, Revolutionary War veteran and the only native Johnstonian to serve as Governor of North Carolina.

Following the cemetery tour, visitors were treated to refreshments provided by the Downtown Smithfield Development Office inside the historic Hastings House, where "Major" Williams Hastings - played by Chris Johnson - greeted guests and talked about his role in the Civil War as a civilian supporter of the Confederacy.

Classroom From Congress

Congressman McIntyre Visits Smithfield Schools

On Monday, October 28, U.S. Representative Mike McIntyre visited some of our Smithfield schools. Between 10 AM and 1 PM, Congressman McIntyre spoke to students and staff at Smithfield-Selma High School, West Smithfield Elementary and Johnston County Head Start.



In his "Classroom from Congress on Citizenship" series, Congressman McIntyre encouraged students to not only dream of their future, but to take advantage of their opportunities and take steps towards making their dreams realities. He also spoke of the importance of the extracurricular activities that complement our education system; practice, teamwork, accountability, dealing with victories as well as losses were some of the lessons learned.

You may contact Congressman McIntyre [here](#) or by calling Constituent Services Assistant, Emily Farnell, in Congressman McIntyre's Smithfield office at 919-934-2116 x1103.

I-40 and I-440 Improvements Begin

Re-Dubbed "Fortify"



The North Carolina Department of Transportation project to fortify two of the Triangle's busiest roads begins this week, with some preliminary work already underway. The Fortify project involves removing and replacing an 11.5-mile stretch of I-40 and I-440 to address immediate safety concerns. Drivers will begin seeing nighttime lane closures this week, with some additional daytime closures to follow in early December.

For more information, visit [here](#) or call the project hotline at (919) 707-2683 to speak with a dedicated project representative.

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



SMITHFIELD COMMUNITY PARK HARVEST CRAFT FAIR - Calling all crafters and artisans! We are getting ready for the holiday season. If you are interested in being a vendor for the craft fair please contact Tiffany Pearson or Kristin Sasser at (919) 934-2148 or tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com or ksasser-parks@ncrbiz.com for an application. The event will be held outside of the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center. Date: Saturday, November 2nd from 9AM-4PM.

SMITHFIELD PRINCESS TEA PARTY - Date: Saturday, November 16, 2013, Time: 10-11:30am, Ages: 2-5yrs. Bring your little Princess in for a morning of princess activities, tea drinking and treats! Princesses can come in their favorite princess outfit. Fee: \$15

SMITHFIELD/SELMA Youth Council - Smithfield and Selma Parks & Recreation Departments are starting a Youth Council. Looking for an opportunity to be involved in your community? Are you a high school student interested in being a part of a club that takes trips, does rewarding work, and starts the building blocks of your resume? For more information, contact Tiffany Pearson at tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com or 919-934-2148.

SMITHFIELD Pottery: Handbuilding Class - 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 times to work freely on projects. An instructor will be available to answer questions. Clay can be purchased @ SRAC for \$20/25lb bag. Class max: 5 people. Dates: Tuesdays, October 22-November 26, 2013 from 10am-12:30pm and Thursday Nights, October 17, 2013-November 21, 2013 from 6:00pm - 8:30pm. Fee: \$100-Smithfield Resident or \$125-Smithfield Non-Resident.

SMITHFIELD KIDS IN NATURE SERIES - Dates: Every Wednesday, Time: 9:30-10:30am, Ages: 3-5 years (with an adult). This hands on class will focus on one specific theme for the day. Participants will hike, create, experiment and LEARN about the natural world around them. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED by the Monday before each class. Minimum 4 students. Fee: \$4.00-Smithfield Resident or \$6.00-Non Smithfield Resident (Fee applies to each child participating).

SMITHFIELD DOODLEBUGS - Dates: Every Friday, 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.

SMITHFIELD 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.

SMITHFIELD River Rats Running Club - The summer has caused routine to go out the window. Join us in reestablishing your routine with running on Thursday evenings at 6:30PM. We are meeting under the large picnic shelter. Looking for all running types and abilities so bring your running goals, come out and meet other people who enjoy running as much as you. Club dues: \$20. This fee includes a T-shirt. For more information or questions contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-934-2148 ext.112, or tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com.

SMITHFIELD Robotic Legos Workshop - October 25th - Play-Well TEKnologies: Engineering FUNDamentals with LEGO Workshops: 10/25/13, 10AM-1PM 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 \$35 per person. For more information, contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-34-2148, ext. 112, or tpearson-parks@ncrrbiz.com.

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

Public Information Meeting - A Public Information Meeting will be held on Monday, October 28 at 7 PM, to discuss the Town of Smithfield applying for a NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant to help with the "Partnership to Build a Miracle" project at Smithfield Community Park. The meeting, which will be held at the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center, will be a public forum to view plans, ask questions and give comments on this project. The project entails the building of an accessible youth baseball field and an inclusion playground at Smithfield Community Park, both of which will serve the children in our community of varying abilities. The public is encouraged to attend, make comment, and learn more about the project. The meeting will be hosted by Smithfield Parks & Recreation and "The Partnership to Build a Miracle" Committee.

Halloween - Trick or Treating throughout the Town of Smithfield will be on Thursday, October 31st beginning at 5pm and continuing until 8pm.

Veteran's Day - Sanitation Schedule - Household waste and yard debris collections for Monday, November 11, 2013 will be collected on Wednesday, November 13, 2013. All other customers will have their household waste and yard debris collected on their regular scheduled day. Please have your curbside container and or all debris at curbside after 5:00pm on the day before your collection day. All curbside containers must be removed from curbside no later than 8:00am on the day after collection.

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@plics.org.

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

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 01, 2013



Regular Meeting summary:

1. Recognized Sergeant David Tyndall for obtaining the Advanced Law Enforcement Certification.
2. Received the Appearance Commission Annual Report.
3. Approved ANX-12-01 Julian Marshall.
4. Approved RZ-13-04 - Family Media Group, LLC.
5. Moved Consent Agenda Items 4 and 5 to Business Items (items 7 & 8 respectively). Approved remaining Consent Agenda.
6. Approved Special Event - Larry W Barnes on behalf of the Sudan Shriners.
7. Considered and approved an Agreement with Neuse Charter School to provide School Resource Officer services.
8. Considered and approved a Police Department Budget Amendment.
9. Considered and approved certification pay increases for two Police Officers.
10. Received update on the treatment of sludge at the Water Plant. Approved to proceed with

- recommended procedures and continue to explore alternatives.
11. Received update regarding Piedmont Natural Gas survey progress.
 12. Approved Parks and Recreation Department to hire a part-time fitness instructor and two lifeguards.
 13. Considered and approved Resolution #535 (22-2013).

The Town Council regularly meets the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30pm at the Town Hall Council Chambers located at 350 East Market Street - unless rescheduled. The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12th, beginning at 7:30pm as to avoid conflicts with Elections on Tuesday, November 5th. Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

Employment Opportunities

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Police Officer I**
- **Water Plant Operator/Trainee**

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

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