



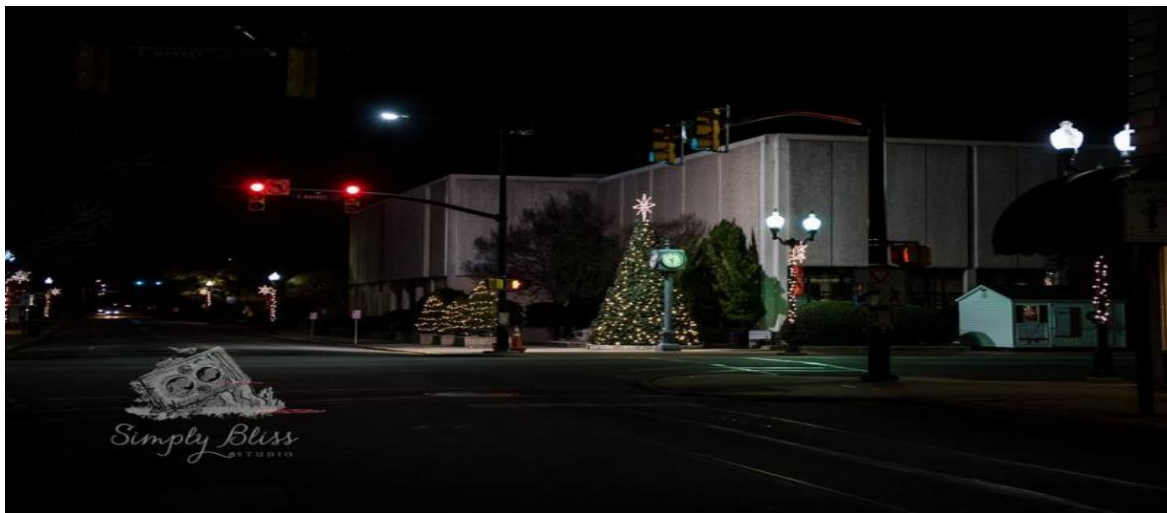
Talk of the Town

November 30, 2016

53rd Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? The world's tallest cut Christmas tree was a 67.36 m (221 ft) Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) erected and decorated at Northgate Shopping Center, Seattle, Washington, USA, in December 1950.

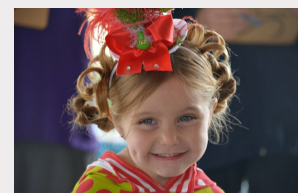


Come and join us for The Town of Smithfield's Christmas Tree Lighting on December 1, 2016 at the corner of Third and Market streets beginning at 7:00 P.M.

Just seven days after the tree is lit, on December 8, 2016 the Smithfield Christmas Parade will march down Market Street, and we hope to see you there!

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

No one wants to be a "bad banana with a greasy black peel!!!!" Join us Saturday, December 3rd 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! Race packets will be available for pickup on Friday afternoon, 12/2/16, between 3-7 pm. Run begins at 10 am with Jog/Walk beginning at 10:05



Quote Of The Week:

Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another.

John Dewey

Leaf Season is Here Again

The Public Works Department is Here to Help!

For the months of November to February, the Town of Smithfield Public Works Department provides curbside leaf collection for its citizens. Crews are using large self-contained vacuum equipment to pick up loose leaves and pine straw.



Here are a few tips to make sure your leaves are collected and to help keep our streets and crews safe:

- Have your piles of debris ready for removal no later than the evening before your scheduled day for trash pick-up,
- If crews do not pick-up your debris on the scheduled day, it is because they are behind due to volume of leaves and they will service your address the following day,
- Keep leaves along the curb and out of the roadway,
- Avoid placing leaves on sidewalks, meter boxes, sewer clean-outs and storm drains,
- Place leaves away from fire hydrants and mail boxes,
- Park vehicles a safe distance from your leaves so they are more easily accessible for pick-up.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Public Works Department at 919-934-2596.

Local Business Spotlight: RC Hobby Nook



R/C Hobby Nook carries a full line of R/C hobby products including Cars, Trucks, Helicopters, Drones, Boats & Planes. We also carry Nitro Fuel, Plastic Models, Nerf Guns, Rockets, Science Kits, BricTech Building Blocks, Balsa Wood Planes, Puzzles, Paints and other hobby products. Located at 150 S Equity Dr. Ste D, Smithfield, NC 27577 - **Behind Buffalo Wild Wings.**

Visit: www.rchobbynook.com or call: (919) 934-5931 for more info.

"Living in London" Opens

Ava Gardner Museum

Following the celebrations in London with the British Film Institute (Oct. 4) with Ty Jeffries (chanteuse and son of film legend Lionel Jeffries); the English Heritage 150th Anniversary Blue Plaque Commemoration for Ava Gardner (Nov. 4) to be dedicated by Carmen Vargas, Cecilia Peck (daughter of film legend Gregory Peck), and Ava's niece, Ava Carl Thompson; The avante-garde installation exhibit of Ava's life in London will be chronicled on December 10 at 10 a.m. at the Ava Gardner Museum in tableaux depicting the aspects of her life out of the public eye during the last three decades of her life. Come see how the Smithfield girl lived as a lady of London and enjoy British-themed refreshments for the ribbon-cutting. Please join us for this special event.

***Regular admission applies after 12p.m. DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED! A charity dinner will follow in January



Safety Tips: NATURAL GAS SAFETY TIPS

It's important for you to do your part to make a safe fuel even safer. Here are some SNIFFY DOs and SNIFFY DON'Ts for natural gas safety.



DO:

- * Learn all you can about natural gas. The more you know...the more you will be safe.
- * Use your nose. If you ever detect even a small amount of the odor of natural gas in the air, don't stay-get away. Then, contact your natural gas provider. If you don't know that number, dial emergency services, 9-1-1.
- * Look for the blue flame. If pilot lights and burners have a steady, blue flame, they are operating correctly. (Decorative gas fire logs are the only exception. Their flame is usually yellow.)
- * Have all gas appliances, furnaces, vents, flues, chimneys and gas lines in your home or business inspected every year or two by qualified industry professionals.
- * Keep the areas around all appliances and equipment clean and unblocked to allow for proper air flow.
- * Follow manufacturer instructions for the care and use of gas appliances and equipment.
- * Make sure there is at least one multipurpose fire extinguisher in your home or place of business.
- * Review these natural gas safety tips regularly with ALL family members and coworkers.

DON'T:

- * Ever let small children play with or near natural gas appliances or pipes, even the knobs on the oven or cooktop.
- * Use your stove or oven for anything other than cooking (for instance, to heat your home, under any circumstances).
- * Move or install a gas appliance or change the connector in any way without professional assistance.
- * Use a space heater UNTIL you are sure it has been vented properly. If using a vent-free heater, make sure the automatic cut-off switch is operational.
- * Install a gas appliance yourself, unless you are a qualified contractor. Instead, you should always seek professional assistance.
- * Ever store household chemicals or combustible materials near gas appliances.
- * Above all, don't forget to learn what to do if you ever smell natural gas in the air: SMELL GAS? ACT FAST!

IT'S BEST TO BE SAFE: If you smell gas RIGHT NOW-don't touch or turn off your computer-leave the area! After you go someplace away from the odor, call your natural gas provider. If you don't know that number, dial emergency services, 9-1-1.

Courtesy of www.safegas.org

Heating safety tips

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths. Half of home heating equipment fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February. Some simple steps can prevent most heating-related fires from happening.



- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.

courtesy of www.nfpa.org

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.

Smithfield SRAC Kids Night

Date: December 3, 2016; 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, Beginning September 2nd

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 SRAC Swim Lessons

Are you ready to get in and SWIM? Our individual swim lessons will begin to build a foundation of swimming lessons. We have instructors for all ages to teach the life learning skill of swimming.

Individual swim lessons allow clients to have one-on-one training in the pool with a qualified instructor at their own pace.

Private swim lessons are offered year around. We offer 3 lessons and 5 lessons packages. Each lesson is 30 minutes in length.

We follow American Red Cross guidelines. Instructors are flexible with meeting dates and times, and we encourage lessons more than once a week for optimal learning. All ages and skill levels welcome. Please visit our website http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/srac_pool to download the registration form. For more information contact Laura Crumpler at 919-934-1408 or laura.crumpler@smithfield-nc.com

ADULT EVENTS

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.

HOLIDAY & SPECIAL EVENTS:

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 Swim With Santa

Bring your bathing suit and towel and join Santa for a little swim before he gets too busy with the Christmas Rush, on Friday, December 2nd, between 5-8pm. Swim a little, and enjoy cookies and milk - Santa's favorites!!!

(Santa should be available to visit between 5:30-7pm.) SRAC members are free. Non-SRAC Member Adults: \$3/Smithfield Resident; \$5.50/Non-Smithfield Resident. Non-SRAC Member Children (Ages 3-17): \$2/Smithfield Resident; \$4/Non-Smithfield Resident.

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 Saturday, December 3rd 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 3-7 pm. Run begins at 10 am with Jog/Walk beginning at 10:05 am.

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 sleds.

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

Register online at www.play-well.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

November 01, 2016



Regular Meeting Summary:

1. Finance Director Greg Siler presented the FY 2015-2016 Audit to the Council.
2. Public Utilities Director Ted Credle presented information to the Council on the South Smithfield Water District
3. Mayor Moore expressed his appreciation to Town Employees and distributed service awards to all full-time Town employees
4. Approved Conditional Use Permit CUP-16-10, Victor Hugo Garcia Rizo
5. Approved the Consent Agenda
6. A bid was awarded to Superior Recreation in the amount of \$39,991.89 for the acquisition and installation of playground equipment at Gertrude B. Johnson Park.
7. Approval was given to the Fire Department to apply for an AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant) to replace aging Air-Packs (SCBA's) and the Air compressor.

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

Employment Opportunities with the Town of Smithfield

- **Animal Control Officer**
- **Licensed Water Plant Operator**
- **Police Officer**
- **Sanitation Equipment Operator**
- **Zoning & Minimum Housing Code Compliance Officer**

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. Full Job Advertisements may be obtained at the Smithfield Town Hall or by visiting our website at 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

