



Talk of the Town

July 20, 2017

61th Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? The town of Smithfield came in to being with the inaugural session of the General Assembly of the newly proclaimed State of North Carolina in 1777. Smith, Jr. had agreed to provide 100 acres for the town and an additional 50 acres for a "common" along the Neuse River south and west of his riverside home.

Town Election News:

Mayor and Town Council Running For Reelection.

- ▶ Andy Moore – Running for reelect as Mayor
- Marlon Lee – Running for reelect in District 1
- Perry Harris – Running for reelect in District 2
- Travis Scott – Running for reelect in District 3

Town Reduces Electric Rates



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 13, 2017

Contact: Ted Credle, Public Utilities Director
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919-934-2116 x1109; tim.kerigan@smithfield-nc.com

Town Reduces Electric Rates

In April of 2017, Electricities reduced its wholesale electric rate to its members by an average of 4.5%. With Smithfield being one of those members, Town Council directed staff to enlist the assistance of Utility Financial Solutions (UFS) to determine what, if any, rate reductions could be passed on to its customers.

Different possible reductions, as well as no reduction, were explored and analyzed. Following this review, staff recommended that Council consider the full 4.5% average reduction to its own customers. On July 11th, Town Council approved staff's recommendation. Depending on the type of service used by a customer, the reduction may be between 3.5% and 5.5% with an overall average of a 4.5% reduction between the entire customer base.

Council wanted no delay in implementing this reduction and directed staff to have this reduction reflected in the customers' August utility bill.

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Fun In The Park:

EAST SMITHFIELD IMPROVEMENT ORGANIZATION PRESENTS...

**JOIN
US**

**FUN
IN**

SATURDAY **Jul 22**
Smith-Collins
Park
12 noon til 5pm

FOOD

GAMES \$ ACTIVITIES

LIVE MUSIC

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

PRIZES

THE

PARKS

On behalf of District 1 Councilman Marlon Lee in conjunction with The Smithfield Parks & Recreation Department and The Smithfield Police Department

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!

PosterMyWall.com
Premium Content

Community Meeting:



COMMUNITY MEETING



**THE TOWN OF SMITHFIELD WILL BE HOSTING A
COMMUNITY MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE FOR THE
RECREATION CENTER and COMMUNITY POLICING OFFICE
IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER BUILDING AT
SMITH-COLLINS PARK.**

**THE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, JULY 25 at 7:00 PM in the FAMILY LIFE BUILDING.**

FACILITATED BY THE SMITHFIELD POLICE AND PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS

Smithfield Receives 2017 National Main Street Accreditation



The N. C. Department of Commerce's Main Street & Rural Planning Center announced Friday that 39 North Carolina communities have achieved accreditation from the National Main Street Center for meeting the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Main Street Center a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The North Carolina Main Street communities that have earned accreditation for their performance are Belmont, Boone, Brevard, Cherryville, Clinton, Concord, Eden, Edenton, Elkin, Garner, Goldsboro, Hendersonville, Hickory, Kings Mountain, Lenoir, Lexington, Lumberton, Marion, Monroe,

Each year, the National Main Street Center and its partners announce the list of accredited Main Street programs, which have demonstrated best practices in community revitalization through the Main Street Four Point Approach.

"Strong, thriving main streets are a key in ensuring strong communities, especially in rural parts of the state," said Anthony M. Copeland, Secretary of the N. C. Department of Commerce, "We're proud that our Main Street communities have been recognized on a national level for their downtowns, which helps overall communities enjoy a healthier, more robust economy."

North Carolina is one of the original states to administer the National Main Street Program. The North Carolina Main Street & Rural Planning Center evaluates each of the state's local Main Street organizations annually to identify those programs that meet ten performance standards.

"Those communities meeting the standards understand that downtown economic development requires a comprehensive approach, which is the basis for the National Main Street Program," said Liz Parham, Director of the North Carolina Main Street Center. "We're proud of the accomplishments of the 39 North Carolina communities that have achieved national accreditation."

"It is a great honor to recognize this year's 828 nationally Accredited Main Street America programs for their outstanding work to transform downtown and neighborhood commercial districts," says Patrice Frey, President & CEO of the National Main Street Center. "Main Streets are the heart of our communities, and the work they do to create quality public spaces, catalyze local entrepreneurship, and support downtown housing is more important than ever. Across the county, Main Street America programs truly strengthen the economic, social, and cultural fabric of their entire communities."

The performance standards set the benchmarks for measuring an individual Main Street community's application of the Main Street Four Point Approach to commercial district revitalization. Evaluation criteria determine the communities that are building comprehensive and sustainable revitalization efforts and include standards such as fostering strong public private partnerships, securing an operating budget, tracking programming progress and actively preserving historic buildings.

Since 1980, The North Carolina Main Street program has generated more than \$2.54 billion in private and public investment. In 2016, North Carolina Main Street downtown districts generated 319 net new business, 154 business expansions in existing businesses, 1,555 net new jobs, 393 facade rehabilitation and 328 building renovations. More than 114,336 volunteer hours were recorded.

Main Street America has been helping revitalize older and historic commercial districts for more than 35 years. Today, it is a network of more than 1,000 neighborhoods and communities, rural and urban, who share both a commitment to place and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development.

Since 1980, communities participating in the program have leveraged more than \$71.23 billion in new public and private investment, generated 583,869 net new jobs and 131,974 net new businesses, and rehabilitated more than 267,800 buildings. Main Street America is a program of the nonprofit National Main Street Center, a subsidiary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Courtesy of [JOCO REPORT](#)

New Payment Drop Box

Introducing Our New Drive-Up Payment Drop Box

The Town of Smithfield just made it easier to pay your utility bill. Now there's no need to leave the comfort and safety of your vehicle. The New Drive-Up Payment Drop Box is located in the rear corner of Town Hall at 350 East Market Street.



- Balances may also be paid by:

- o **Bank Draft** - customers can sign up for drafts online or by filling out a form and submitting it by mail, fax or email. Instructions can be found on the Town's website at <http://www.smithfield-nc.com>
- o Online - bills can be paid by credit card, debit card or electronic check through the Town's website at <http://www.smithfield-nc.com>
- o **Mail** - payments can be sent to Town of Smithfield, PO Box 63027, Charlotte, NC 28263-3027. Payment must be received before 5 p.m. on your bill's due date to avoid penalties and/or disconnection.
- o **Phone** - bills can be paid by credit card, debit card or electronic check by calling 1-800-487-4567, Ext. 3 for (General Customer Service). You will need your account number and know the amount you wish to pay.
- o **In person** - at Town Hall, 350 East Market Street St. between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Notice: Not for Johnston County Water Customers

Quote Of The Week:

Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.

Charles R. Swindoll



Smithfield Appearance Commission



Available to anyone who signs up: a gardening newsletter available through NC Cooperative Extension, State University, A&T University called "Gardeners Dirt". Master gardeners, industry & university experts contribute to the article.

To request a copy via email contact: mhwarren@ncsu.edu. Or cblasit@ncsu.edu

Volunteers Needed

Opportunities Available to Serve on a Town Board

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



Current Volunteer Town Board Opportunities:

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.

Local Business Spotlight: The Junior Women's League of Smithfield



The Junior Women's League of Smithfield is a non-profit organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

The Junior Women's League of Smithfield welcomes women of all races, religions, and natural origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to volunteerism.

The Junior Women's League of Smithfield was founded in October of 2015 when seven women came together with a common interest to serve Johnston County through volunteer work and connect with like minded women who are dedicated to improving the communities in which they live.

Benefits of being a JWL member include: working with other women to create a positive community change, insight into community needs and strategies for solutions, access to community leaders and creative ideas, and meeting new friends!

Email: jwsmithfield@gmail.com

Visit: www.jwsmithfield.com

Council Meeting Highlights



July 11, 2017

Regular Meeting Summary:

1. Heritage Center Executive Director Todd Johnson addressed the Council on a request to allow the Freedmen's School to be relocated onto a piece Town property.
2. The Town Council approved the Conditional Use Permit Request by Smithfield Assisted Living (CUP 17-07)
3. The Town Council approved an electric rate reduction. The average reduction across all rate classifications will be 4.5%. This reduction will take effect in the August billing.
4. The Town Council directed staff to work with Council on rate stabilization options.
5. The Town Council approved the Consent Agenda.
6. The Town Council tabled a request to continue engaging the services of Sanford Holshouser for Economic Development Consulting and Assistance pending further information. This item will be reintroduced at the August meeting.
7. The Town Council approved a financing agreement with KS Bank for the purchase of a garbage truck.
8. The Town Council adopted a resolution supporting a Smithfield Historical Area Revitalization Policy (SHARP) grant for the Sounds Station and Security Project.
9. The Town Council authorized the Town Manager to submit all grant applications as they relate to ratified Senate Bill 338 "The Disaster Recovery Act of 2017" and any grant opportunities offered by the Golden Leaf Foundation. Authorization was also given to employ the services of a grant administrator to be paid from any awarded grants.

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, July 11, 2017. Come join us and get involved! View Minutes of Past Meetings Here

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



Upcoming Events

For more information on the below events without links, please visit: http://www.smithfield-nc.com/page/parks_programs

Smithfield - Alligator Steps - Register please visit www.alligatorsteps.com

Smithfield - WIFFLE BALL TOURNAMENT

For more information, please contact Jeff Davis at 919-915-2280 or go to the official website at <http://newiffleball.weebly.com>.

July is National Parks & Recreation Month..

- Friday, July 28th, from 5-8pm

SUMMER CAMPS - 2017

Smithfield - SRAC SUMMER CAMP

Smithfield - NETWORKS BASKETBALL BOOT CAMP - Dates: Tuesdays / Beginning June 13th until August 8th

Register at www.networksbasketball.com

Smithfield - Younger Basketball Camp

Smithfield - Basketball Camp

Smithfield - KIDZ @ PLAY SPORTS CAMP

Smithfield - POTTERY CAMP

Smithfield - VOLLEYBALL Camp

Smithfield - TENNIS CAMPS

Smithfield - SPARTAN FOOTBALL CAMP

Smithfield - SPARTAN BASEBALL CAMP

Smithfield - EARTH ART CAMP

Smithfield - ARTZY KIDZ CAMP

Smithfield - SPARTANS TENNIS CAMP

Smithfield - SPARTANS Soccer Camp

Smithfield - YOUNG REMBRANDTS SUMMER DRAWING CAMP

Smithfield - ART SMART CAMP

Smithfield - YOUNG REMBRANDTS SUMMER DRAWING CAMP

Smithfield - PLAY WELL LEGO SUMMER CAMPS

Intro to STEM with LEGO - register.play-well.org/registration/new/60324

Mine, Craft, Build Adventure Game - register.play-well.org/registration/new/60326

STEM Challenge with LEGO - register.play-well.org/registration/new/60325

Mine, Craft, Build Survival Game - register.play-well.org/registration/new/60327

UPCOMING SPRD FALL SPORTS / WITH SUMMER REGISTRATIONS:

Smithfield - FALL SOCCER REGISTRATION - Fall Soccer registration will be July 10th - August 11th

Smithfield - MENS OPEN LEAGUE SOFTBALL REGISTRATION - Registration will be July 10th - August 18th

Smithfield - KINDER SOCCER - Kinder Soccer registration will be August 1st - 25th

Smithfield - BASKETBALL REGISTRATION - Youth Basketball Registration will be September 11th - October 20th

ADULT EVENTS

Smithfield - STERLING SILVER SENIORS CLUB

All 55 and older adults are welcome.

Meet 2nd Wednesday of each month, 10:30 AM

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. **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.

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.

Employment Opportunities with the Town of Smithfield

- **Planning Director**
- **Police Officer**
- **Pump Station Mechanic**
- **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. 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

