



Talk of the Town

September 27, 2013
18th Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? The term "cold shoulder", meaning "a display of coldness or indifference, intended to wound," was coined by Sir Walter Scott in 1817 and originated from the understanding that visitors to a house that were welcome were given a hot meal, but those who weren't were offered only "cold shoulder of mutton." Of course, there are no cold shoulders in Smithfield!

"Mad About Ava"

Ava Gardner Festival, October 4-6

This year the museum board of directors has chosen to showcase the award-winning film, *The Night of the Iguana*. Many critics felt this film to be one of Ava's best performances, and she was nominated for a Golden Globe. Ava went on to win the Best Foreign Actress Film Award (BAFTA) and Best Actress at the San Sebastian Film Festival for her role as Maxine Faulk.

This year's festival will channel the 1960s, as the movie was filmed in 1963 and the antics on the film set seemed quite mad. From Director John Huston's gift to the cast of gold-plated guns with bullets engraved with the casts' names to Ava, herself water skiing to the set, and Elizabeth Taylor being invited to the shoot -- it seems it was quite the adventure.



The theme of the festival will be "Mad About Ava" and the cast of "Mad Men", the television show are all being invited. Other invitees include Anjelica Huston, daughter of *Iguana* director John Huston, and Debbie Reynolds --both of whom have memoirs hitting the shelves this year. All of Hollywood and all fans of the vintage 60s are invited for a mad time in Smithfield!

[Click here](#) for more information and a schedule of activities.

Public Power Week

October 6-12, 2013

In recognition of Public Power Week, here are 10 tips to prepare for winter!

As temperatures begin to drop this time of year, a high utility bill can knock a person to their knees. The fact is falling temperatures cause people to use more electricity to heat their home. In turn, using more electricity means their bill will rise. Understandably, when a bill goes up, it's a huge downer. The good news? There are many steps you can take right now to reduce electricity use and spare yourself the alarm (and stress) of an overly high utility bill. Brian McGinn,



ElectriCities Senior Residential Energy Advisor, recommends the following:

- Insulate - Think of insulation as a big blanket for your home. It improves your home's energy efficiency by keeping the warm air you pay for inside your house. A good rule of thumb is to have at least 12 inches of insulation lining your attic.
- Keep it low - Your thermostat, that is. We recommend setting it at 68 degrees. Every degree you raise the temperature can add three percent to your heating costs. Consider this: at 72 degrees, the heating component of your bill can jump 12%.
- Dodge drafts - Weather-strip, seal and caulk leaky doors and windows and install foam gaskets behind outlet covers. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, decreasing drafts can reduce energy use by 5 - 30%.
- Change filters - Clogged filters make it harder for air to flow through, which puts more strain on your heating system. So change your filters every month or so; cheap filters work well.
- Use solar power - When the sun's out, open your blinds and let natural solar heat warm your house. Letting the sunshine in can keep cash in your wallet.
- Wrap it up - Wrap your water heater with an insulating blanket. Also, lower water temperature to 120 degrees or less.
- Dress up - We're not talking formal attire here, instead put on a sweater or sweatshirt when indoors. By simply bundling up a bit you can lower your thermostat while still remaining warm and cozy. Think of it as adding insulation!
- Keep vents clear - Your vents and heating registers should be unobstructed. Make sure furniture, drapes and other items aren't blocking the heat flow coming from your vents.
- Look for leaks - Inspect your ductwork for leaks or separation from the main duct line. If separated, reconnect and fasten with duct mastic, a caulk like substance you can purchase at any home improvement store.
- Be safe - If you use any fossil fuel (e.g. kerosene) in your home, make sure you have carbon monoxide detectors installed; they save lives. - For more energy-saving tips and how-to videos, visit [TempTracker365](#).

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



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 Matter of Balance Class - Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1-3PM (8 sessions)

Do you have concerns about falling? Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls. Who should attend this class? Anyone concerned about falls, anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength, anyone who has fallen in the past, anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns. Register for the class at the Smithfield Recreation and Aquatics Center. For more information or questions contact Tiffany Pearson 919-934-2148, or tpearson-parks@ncrbiz.com.

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 TEKologies: 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@ncrbiz.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

Chamber After Hours - The Smithfield-Selma Chamber of Commerce will hold this event at the Town of Smithfield Town Hall on Tuesday, October 1st from 5:30 - 7:00PM.

Wednesday's Wellness Walk - Meeting at the shelter at the Community Park next to SRAC every Wednesday at 6:30PM. The goal is to encourage everyone to get out and walk to better ourselves. This is a free service for anyone to participate. For more info, contact David Moore at 336-403-7348 or Corn Robertson at 919-802-3136.

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

September 03, 2013

Regular Meeting summary:



1. Proclamation - Honoring Chris Johnson's service to the Town of Smithfield.
2. Approved CUP-13-07 - Atkinson & Davis Memorial.
3. Approved Consent Agenda items.
4. Approved ANX-12-01 Julian Marshall.
5. Approved S-13-4 Amos D Simmons, Jr.
6. Approved S-13-5 Mildred Roberts.
7. Considered and approved an Interconnection agreement with ESA Renewables, LLC.
8. Considered and approved request to fill vacant Water Plant Chemist position with a Water Plant Trainee.
9. Received update on Water Plant Raw Water Intake.
10. Received update on the Johnston County Water Re-use Line Project.
11. Received update on the Piedmont Natural Gas issue in East Smithfield.
12. Discussed Town employee compensatory time policy.
13. Proclamation - Recognizing September 17-23 as Constitution Week.

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, October 1st, beginning at 7:30pm. This Tuesday, there will also be a special meeting at 7:00PM. 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**
- **Water Plant Operator I**

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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