



## Talk of the Town

March 27, 2015  
37th Edition

### *Town Tidbit:*

**Did you know?** On March 27, 2015, Smithfield Police Division of Narcotics Enforcement began Operation March Madness 2015. Smithfield Officers are being assisted by Clayton Police, Johnston County Sheriff's Deputies and Officers from North Carolina Probation and Parole.

Over the last twelve months Smithfield Narcotics Detectives have investigated numerous individuals for the sales/distribution of illegal narcotics within the City Limits of Smithfield.

The investigations have resulted in over 320 felony drug charges being filed, with more pending, on numerous suspects from Smithfield and surrounding areas. The charges include but are not limited to the sales of marijuana, sales of heroin, sales of MDMA, sales of LSD and the trafficking of opiates.

The operation is part of a continuing effort by the Smithfield Police Department to rid our Community of the illegal narcotics trade that adversely affects the citizens we serve. Numerous arrest were made today with multiple suspects still being sought.

## Money Lessons for Kids

### Help Jumpstart Their Saving Habits

**Lesson #1: Increase their money know-how** Grade school years are a good time for a child to learn the basics of tracking where his or her money is coming from and where it is going. The jar method has been around for a long time. Using this strategy, kids divvy up their funds (e.g. birthday money, special occasion gifts) into containers labeled spend, save and give, for example. They can only make withdrawals from the 'spend' jar.

**Lesson #2: Create smart money lessons**

Urge the parents you meet to talk about responsible spending with their child. The parents can draw a connection for the child between work and reward, such as doing chores in exchange for money the child can save to purchase app downloads or toys, similar to how their parents work and save to buy things.

**Lesson #3: Parents set the savings example.**

Recommend that they open a joint account with you. This way parents set a savings example. With help from parents, the child sees his or her savings grow from dividends and deposits or decrease from withdrawals.

**Lesson #4: Use written agreement documents and promote accountability.**

Another good financial lesson parents can teach their older kid is money accountability. Parents can create an agreement between themselves and their child. This type of agreement holds the youth accountable for the money parents provide for allowances, borrowing or sharing of costs.



## Excellence In Communication Awards

### Town of Smithfield Receives Two Awards



Pitt County, NC - The Town of Smithfield was among numerous North Carolina governments to earn recognition at the 8th North Carolina City & County Communicators' (NC3C) Excellence in Communications Awards presented Thursday, March 19 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Asheville Biltmore in Asheville, NC, as part of NC3C's annual Spring Conference. Almost 100 entries were received, with 40 winners receiving awards.

"This was one of the most successful award programs we've had in a while and these communicators used tried-and true methods, as well as cutting-edge technology to produce some great work," said NC3C Past President and Pitt County Director of Public Information & Media Relations

Kiara Jones. "It was truly an honor to preside over the program again this year, and I know these folks will continue to produce great, quality work that will reach their local citizens."

Categories included TV & Videos, Communication Technology, Special Events, Printed Publications, Most Creative Project for the Least Amount of Funds, Citizen Participation, Marketing Tools, and Communicator of the Year.

The Town of Smithfield received award(s) in these categories:

1. First Place in the category of Civic Participation
2. Second Place in the category of External Electronic Newsletter

Judges for the NC3C Excellence in Communications Awards were award-winning government and communication professionals from all over the nation.

The purpose of North Carolina City & County Communicators is to encourage professional development and networking among local governmental communications professionals. The organization was formed in March 2007 and is made up of government professional communicators from around the state. For more information about NC3C, visit the website, [www.nc3c.com](http://www.nc3c.com).

You can also view the Civic Participation "Fresh Perspectives" videos (made in conjunction with students from Smithfield -Selma High School at [www.smithfield-nc.com](http://www.smithfield-nc.com). Please share with others and invite them to sign up for our newsletter!

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## Sanitation Schedule Changes

### Week of Good Friday Only

The Town of Smithfield Sanitation Department schedule for Good Friday will be as follows:  
Household waste and yard debris collections for Friday, April 3, 2015 will be collected on Wednesday, April 1, 2015.

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.



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## Online Bill Pay Now Available

Smithfield utility customers may now pay their bill online via the Town's website ([www.smithfield-nc.com](http://www.smithfield-nc.com)) or by calling 1-855-331-7952. The town accepts Visa and MasterCard credit/debit cards or checks.

There is a nominal transaction fee of \$2.45 and payments are limited to \$700 or less. When entering your Town of Smithfield account number, please remove the decimal. Example: Account number 23001234.0091 should be entered as 230012340091

Customers can still take advantage of other payment options, including, bank draft, the afterhours drop box, walk in, and mail.



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## SSS Food Pantry

### IB Students Open Food Pantry at SSS

As part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Smithfield-Selma High School, students are encouraged to participate in service learning projects to fulfill a need they see either within the school setting or in the community.

During their freshman and sophomore years, the IB students at SSS volunteered their time to the "back pack buddies" program. This year, however, IB students Emma Lampe and Emma Szczesiul started the first ever SSS Food Pantry for students and families who do not have an adequate food supply at home.

"We started the food pantry in an effort to help every one of our peers get access to the most basic human right and alleviate the stigma surrounding not having enough and needing help at home," said Emma Lampe.

During the initial start-up, Lampe and Szczesiul reached out to the community for help. Both young ladies contacted local grocery stores and



community members for assistance; they also created a simple form so that families could identify the need as well as inform the food pantry students of any allergies and specific needs.

The student-driven project was a success because of the help from the community. In all, Lampe and Szczesiul collected hundreds of non-perishable items and were able to fill the shelves of the food pantry.

"As a teacher, I am very proud that my students took the initiative, not only to identify issues that our students face, but also to create a solution," said Cynthia Hutchings, IB advisor.

Throughout the course of the school year, SSS students and families who are struggling to keep food on the table are encouraged to fill out an anonymous application in Student Services. On Fridays, students involved with the food pantry help pack the anonymous bags, leaving them with counselors for pick up.

"Our biggest hope is that the SSS Food Pantry will impact every student at SSS- both those receiving and those volunteering their time," said Szczesiul.

In order to keep the shelves of the food pantry full, Lampe and Szczesiul are asking the community for donations towards the cause.

PHOTO: Emma Lampe (left) and Emma Szczesiul (right) sort through dozens of grocery bags full of non-perishable food items for the SSS Food Pantry.

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## Neuse Little Theatre

### Death of a Salesman

The story revolves around the last days of Willy Loman, a failing salesman, who cannot understand how he failed to win success and happiness. Through a series of tragic soul-searching revelations of the life he has lived with his wife, his sons, and his business associates, we discover how his quest for the "American Dream" kept him blind to the people who truly loved him. A thrilling work of deep and revealing beauty that remains one of the most profound classic dramas of the American theatre.

Email: [Kilpatrickjordan@gmail.com](mailto:Kilpatrickjordan@gmail.com)

Phone: (919) 934-1873

Web: [www.neuselittletheatre.org](http://www.neuselittletheatre.org)



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## Parks & Recreation / SRAC



**American Red Cross Lifeguard Training** - Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center will be offering 4 sessions of American Red Cross Lifeguard Training. In order to take the course, participants must 1) be at least 15 years of age; 2) Pass a pre-course swim test; and 3) attend 100% of all classes. Registration for pre-course is \$25 non-refundable deposit. If you pass the pre-course, class fee is \$175 for Smithfield Residents and \$200 for Non-Smithfield Residents, and your deposit is applied to this fee. Pre-course swim test includes: 1) A 300 yard swim with rhythmic breathing and breath control. You may use the following strokes all or in combination: freestyle and breaststroke. You may NOT swim on your back. 2) You must tread water for 2 minutes using only your legs, with your hands placed under your armpits. 3) You must swim 20 yards to retrieve a brick in 9 feet of water, then swim the brick back 20 yards to the wall, using only your legs. All this must be done in a time limit under 1 minute and 40 seconds. You may NOT use goggles for #2 and #3. YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL OF THE ABOVE TO CONTINUE IN THE CLASS.

Available Class Dates -

Session 1 Option: Sunday, March 1st - 2-4pm; Friday, March 7th - 3-8pm; Saturday, March 8th - 9am-6pm; and Sunday, March 9th - 1-7pm.

Session 2 Option: Sunday, March 22nd - 2-4pm; Friday, March 27th - 9am-5pm; Saturday, March 28th - 9am-6pm; and Sunday, March 29th - 1-5pm.

Session 3 Option: Sunday, April 26th - 2-4pm; Friday, May 1st - 3-8pm; Saturday, May 2nd - 9am-6pm and Sunday, May 3rd - 1-7pm.

Session 4 Option: Monday, May 11th - 5-7pm; Friday, May 15th - 3-8pm; Saturday, May 16th - 9am-6pm; and Sunday, May 17th - 1-7pm.

YOU MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE AT ALL DATES IN THE SESSION YOU SIGN UP FOR. SESSIONS CAN NOT BE MIXED.

### Pottery: Beginning Handbuilding

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: Tuesday Days: January 27-March 3, 2015 Time: 10am-12:30pm

Thursday Nights: April 23-June 4, 2015 Time: 6pm-8:30pm

Fee: \$100-Smithfield Resident \$125-Smithfield Non-Resident

### Pottery: Wheel Throwing

Just beginning or a little rusty, students will be introduced to the pottery wheel, pottery equipment and how to create mugs, vases, and other vessels. Because of limited wheels, student to teacher ratio is very good and students will have a very personal learning experience. Clay can be

purchased @ SRAC for \$20/25lb bag. Class max: 4 students  
Instructor: Kristin Sasser  
Dates: *Thursday Nights: January 29-March 5, 2015* Time: 6pm-8:30pm  
Tuesday Days: April 21-May 26, 2015 Time: 10am-12:30pm  
Fee: \$100-Smithfield Resident \$125-Smithfield Non-Resident

**Free Tennis Clinics** - SPRD will be offering two free (1 hour) Tennis Clinics on the following dates/times for kids between the ages of 5-16:  
Sat., 4/11, from 9-10am, Smithfield Community Park Tennis Courts, located at 600 Booker Dairy Road; and  
Sat., 5/9, from 9-10am, Smith Collins Park Tennis Courts, located at 502 MLK Drive.  
Tennis instructor is James Reid - SSS Head Tennis Coach. Racquets will be available to borrow.

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Date: Sunday, March 29th Time: 3PM

The Easter Bunny is Coming! Bring out the kids to collect Easter eggs and meet and greet the Easter Bunny. We will give out prizes to the first, second, and third place egg collector. Everyone will receive a small gift from the Easter Bunny. Please be sure to bring your Easter basket.  
Location: Smithfield Community Park (soccer field) Questions: Contact Tiffany Pearson 919-934-2148

**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](mailto: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](#)

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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. 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](mailto: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.

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## *Council Meeting Highlights*

March 03, 2015



Regular Meeting summary:

1. Sean Cook was awarded the 2014 Smithfield Police Department's Officer of the Year.
2. Approved a request by Sarah Gaskins and Clair McGeough of Girl Scout Troop 3424, to paint a mural under the HWY Business 70 Bridge on the Buffalo Creek Greenway.
3. Approved Rezoning Request RZ15-01 - Nell Howell Estate, Etal
4. The Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit Request CUP-15-01 - NC 210 Car Lot was continued until the April meeting pending additional testimony and information.
5. Approved the Consent Agenda.
6. A request by the Parks and Recreation Department for approval to enter into a lease agreement with Prosource for new fitness equipment for the SRAC was tabled until the March 17th Work Session.
7. Approved a budget advisement for reallocation of Water /Sewer Department Capital Projects for an AMOS Asset management and GIS System.
8. Approved a budget advisement for reallocation of Water/ Sewer Department Capital Projects for the purchase of a grinder for Lift Station #3
9. Approved a one-time adjustment for volunteer firefighters due to a change in tax calculations.

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, April 7th. Come join us and get involved!

[View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

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## *Employment Opportunities*

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Police Officer I**
- **Sanitation Equipment Operator**
- **Sanitation Worker**

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](http://www.smithfield-nc.com) or by calling 919-934-2116. Only qualified applicants should apply. The Town of Smithfield is an ADA/EEO Employer.