



Talk of the Town

April 11, 2016
46th Edition

Town Tidbit:

Did you know? that the average person throws away 4 pounds of garbage per day. The US is the #1 trash producing country in the world at 1,609 pounds per person per year. This means that 5% of the world's people generate 40% of the world's waste.

John Wesley To Headline 2016 Ham & Yam Festival

James Wesley will headline the 2016 Ham & Yam Festival with a free concert scheduled for Saturday, May 7th.

With his smooth voice, Wesley sings directly to real people about real things that profoundly affect real lives-and from his small-town upbringing to his blue-collar work ethic, he has a deep understanding of what those folks are longing to hear. One of the top rising stars in country music, Wesley found a new level of exposure as the opening act for Taylor Swift's Speak Now Tour, and has released several singles.

"We are excited to have James Wesley at the Ham & Yam Festival," according to Sarah Edwards, festival organizer and Executive Director of Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation. "He is a very talented artist, and his music will certainly resonate with many people in our area."

"Jackson Hole," the first single from Wesley's highly anticipated Real album, debuted at 54 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs chart. Four other singles have followed, including "Walking Contradiction," top 25 country chart hits "Real" and "Didn't I," and "Thank A Farmer," which was inspired by Paul Harvey's "So God Made a Farmer" speech and appeared on the Billboard Country Airplay chart. In 2015, Wesley partnered with Calcutta to produce the single and music video "Hooked Up," a song inspired by anglers who chase blue marlin at the legendary Big Rock off the coast of Morehead City.

In addition to the free 8:00 p.m. concert on Saturday, May 7, there will be entertainment on the festival's three stages throughout the day. "We are fortunate to have a large number of very talented up and coming musicians and entertainers here in Johnston County and North Carolina, and are pleased to be able to shine a spotlight on them at the festival," Edwards said.

A full schedule of events will attract thousands of people to Downtown Smithfield, where the festival occupies several blocks. Craft and commercial vendors line the streets, food vendors offer a variety of fair foods and menu items featuring country ham and sweet potatoes, and additional entertainment comes in the form of pig races, children's activities, and more.

The Ham & Yam Festival is organized by the Downtown Smithfield Development Corporation.



Courtesy of <http://www.jocoreport.com/>

Town of Smithfield endorses CSX Intermodal Terminal



In a unanimous vote, the Smithfield Town Council went on record Tuesday night in support of a CSX intermodal terminal in Johnston County. The resolution was added to the agenda at the last minute.

Signed by all seven council members and Mayor Andy Moore, the resolution is similar to others recently adopted by local chambers of commerce in Smithfield-Selma, Benson and Clayton and the NC Chamber of Commerce.

The resolution states, "The economic impacts of a major infrastructure project like an intermodal terminal represents a substantial opportunity for the long-term growth of Johnston County's economy which is a benefit for the Town of Smithfield. "The Town of Smithfield and its businesses will benefit from the project in reducing shipping costs and access to national and global markets."

"The citizens of the Town of Smithfield will benefit from this project with new well-paying jobs and the possibility of secondary industries to the surrounding areas creating the potential for more jobs."

"The Smithfield Town Council will support and offer assistance to the Johnston County Board of Commissioners and all stakeholders throughout the development process in order to bring an intermodal terminal to Johnston County," the resolution stated.

After being signed by the elected representatives the resolution will be forwarded to Johnston County Commissioners, members of the NC General Assembly representing Smithfield, and to CSX Railroad.

Courtesy of [Greater Smithfield-Selma Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

Partnership To Build A Miracle Receives \$10,000 Donation



BB&T in Smithfield has committed to donate \$10,000 to Partnership to Build a Miracle.

BB&T has been supporting the Miracle League since their first season, and has supported many important projects and organizations in Johnston County.

Partnership to Build a Miracle is a collaborative effort between the Partnership for Children of Johnston County and the Miracle League of Johnston County to build an Inclusion Park and Miracle Field for children of all abilities in Smithfield, NC. It will be a park where children with special needs have an accessible play space to share with their friends, and give them the opportunity to make new ones.

Chris Key, the Campaign Chair for Partnership to Build a Miracle, accepted the donation. "We are very excited to have BB&T be a part of this campaign. As we draw closer to construction, community leaders like Ernie and Zack are the kind of people who will make the difference," Key said.

Bids for construction of the facility will sought for a second time later this year. Bids came in much higher than expected during the first bid cycle. That has prompted campaign organization to try and raise an additional \$49,000 to begin the project.

Pictured: (Left to right): Chris Key, Campaign Chair for Partnership to Build a Miracle; Ernie Ward, BB&T Area Executive; Zack Thornton, BB&T Business Services Officer; and Dwight Morris E.D. Partnership for Children of Johnston County.

Courtesy of <http://www.jocoreport.com/>

Johnston County 2016 Athletic Hall of Fame Officially Inducted



Three inductees hail from Smithfield-Selma High School

Members of the Johnston County Athletic Hall of Fame class of 2016 were inducted on Saturday night, March 26th: (from left) Al Byrd of Smithfield-Selma High, Faye Jones representing her husband the late Deacon Jones of Princeton High, Twana Jeeter Johnson of North Johnston High, Susan Wall of Smithfield-Selma High and Jim Laughter of Smithfield High School.

The Johnston County Athletic Hall of Fame officially welcomed its 10th class of inductees Saturday night in a ceremony at West Johnston High School.

Enter the Hall were Twana Jeeter Johnson of North Johnston basketball fame, Al Byrd of Smithfield-Selma High fame, Susan Wall of Smithfield-Selma High fame, Jim Laughter of Smithfield High and the longtime Smithfield Herald sports editor and the late Kenneth "Deacon" Jones of Princeton High fame.

Byrd was a part of the first recruiting class for football Coach Dick Sheridan in 1986 at N.C. State. He now serves as team chaplain for the Wolfpack football team.

Wall was a three-sport athlete at SSS and played at UNC Pembroke before coaching at the middle school and high school level for more than 20 years in the area.

Known for many years for his car dealerships of late, Jones was a standout athlete winning baseball and basketball championships in the 1950s for the Bulldogs. He is a former president of the Princeton Booster Club and a longtime donor to Bulldog athletics. Princeton's new gym now carries his name.

Jeeter Johnson was the first female athlete to win North's prestigious Panther Award as the school's best all-around athlete in 1990. She was the University of Mount Olive's all-time leading scorer for 12 years after her graduation and is also a member of the Trojans' Hall of Fame.

Laughter played football and baseball at Smithfield High, graduating in 1965, then returned to Smithfield to become the sports editor of the Smithfield Herald in 1969 after graduating from UNC Chapel Hill. He served as the Herald sports editor for 28 years, earning multiple N.C. Press Association Awards and starting the Johnston County Little League All-Star Baseball Tournament and helping start the Johnston County Easter Invitational prep baseball tournament at South

Johnston. Since retiring from the newspaper business, he has worked as substance abuse counselor.

Courtesy of [The News and Observer](#)

Local Farmers Awarded Entrepreneurial Grants



Five Johnston County farmers are among 23 North Carolinians earning NC AgVentures grants of between \$4,500 and \$12,000.

Administered by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, the competitive grant program is funded through the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission. The grants are awarded for innovative projects aimed at diversifying, expanding or implementing new entrepreneurial plans for farm operations.

Farmers in 17 counties - Martin, Wilson, Pitt, Edgecombe, Nash, Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, Rockingham, Yadkin, Guilford, Sampson, Johnston, Greene, Lenoir, Duplin, and Wayne - were eligible.

Blake Thompson of Smithfield will use the grant funds to raise pastured pork, a niche market that has grown significantly in the past few years and will provide a new agriculture enterprise on the family farm. Thompson will sell the pork through a local cooperative.

Shepard Barbour of Clayton plans to use the grant to diversify the family farm operation by incorporating a turfgrass/sod business near the old Cleveland School. Six acres of Bermuda sod are planted, and Shepard intends to plant another 10 to 15 acres this spring.

Having experimented with small-scale aquaponic systems for raising fish and vegetables, Howard Kostelecky of Kenly will use grant funding to build a larger greenhouse and expand the aquaponics operation.

Also of Kenly, Susan Weaver Ford plans to expand her farm crops to include string beans and butter beans. The third-generation tobacco farmer previously diversified her operation by growing peas.

Wayne Worley of Princeton received a small grant to add a you-pick strawberry field. His new field is off Highway 70 near Princeton.

In addition to the individual winners, three community grants of between \$2,500 and \$10,000 were awarded to groups in Stokes, Lenoir and Johnston counties.

The Cattlemen's Association of Johnston County received a small community grant to purchase portable cattle handling equipment that can be rented and transported to farms with small herds. The equipment allows the farmer to restrain and safely provide proper care such ear tagging, vaccinating and deworming. The Johnston County Cattlemen's Association along with Cooperative Extension and County Government will manage the day-to-day oversight of the program.

Courtesy of <http://www.jocoreport.com/>

Parks & Recreation / SRAC



BASEBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for Baseball is underway until February 12th for boys ages 7-14. (Age as of 5/1/16 determines playing age.) Practices will begin late March with games beginning in April. Fee is \$35 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$77 for Non-Residents. Forms available in lobby of SRAC.

SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for Girls Softball is underway until February 12th for girls ages 7-12. (Age as of 1/1/16 determines playing age.) Practices will begin in April. Fee is \$35 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$77 for Non-Residents. Forms available in lobby of SRAC.

T-BALL REGISTRATION

Registration begins February 15th and runs until March 11th for boys and girls ages 5-6. (Players must be 5 years old as of 5/1/16.) Practices will begin in April. Fee is \$30 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$66 for Non-Residents.

KINDER BASKETBALL

Registration begins February 8th and runs until March 4th for boys and girls ages 3-4. Our Kinder programs only meet 4 times, and it is basically an introduction to the sport of basketball. We will have two sessions per night - Session 1 from 6pm-6:45pm; and Session 2 from 6:50-7:35pm. Each session can take 15 kids. Actual play dates are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3/8, 3/10, 3/15 and 3/17. Fee is \$20 for Town of Smithfield Residents and \$44 for Non-Residents.

FUN & FELLOWSHIP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Registration begins February 8th and runs until March 7th. Due to budget restraints and field availability, we can only accept the first 24 teams that register. To be registered, a team must turn in the Team Registration form and pay the fee. Due to limited space, spots can not be held. A coach's meeting will be held the last week of March and league play will begin in April. Teams should expect to play two games per week, on Mondays, Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. For more information, call 934-2148, or pick up a packet at SRAC. Registration fee per team is \$475.

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

Dads and your girls (ages 3-14) ... time to register for our Daddy-Daughter Dance on February 20th. Registrations must be made by February 17th. The Dance begins at 7:30pm and goes until 10:00pm. Come enjoy the music, dancing, pictures and Appetizers! Fees are \$45 per couple / Smithfield Residents; \$50 per couple / Non-Smithfield Residents. There is an additional \$5 charge for each additional daughter. Registration forms available in lobby of SRAC, or on Town's website at www.smithfield-nc.com.

ST. PADDY'S DAY POOL PARTY

SRAC will be charging ½ off day passes from 5-8pm on Friday, March 18th in honor of St. Paddy! So bring your bathing suit and come help look for pesky little leprechauns, and enjoy green snacks!!

EASTER EGG HUNT

Easter comes early this year, so mark your calendars for Sunday, March 20th. The Easter Bunny will be at Smithfield Community Park that day, 3:00pm, near the Soccer Fields/Small Playground area. Come hunt for Easter Eggs!! Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place egg collectors! Everyone will receive a little something from the Easter Bunny! Bring your Easter Basket, and don't be late!!!

ENGINEERING WITH LEGO SPRING BREAK CAMPS

SRAC will be offering LEGO camps during Spring Break - March 30th- April 1 st. Join us and defeat the empire by designing and refining LEGO X-Wings, R2-units, and settlements on far-flung edges of the galaxy. Use your imagination and engineering skills to create motorized and architectural projects such as energy catapults, shield generators and defense turrets. Registration for Lego camps are online. Register at www.play-well.org. Morning Session (Jedi Engineering) is from 9am-12pm, for Ages 5-7 - Register at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/49541>. Afternoon Session (Jedi Master Engineering) is from 1pm-4pm, for Ages 8-12 - Register at <http://register.play-well.org/registration/new/49543>. Camp will be held at SRAC, in the Banquet Room. A snack will be provided each day. If your child has specific allergies, please note at time of registration. For questions contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148. Cost is \$90.

MOM & SON NIGHT

Moms and Sons... sign up now for a night of fun on April 30th, from 7-9:30pm. Join us for music, games, an obstacle course, slide, bounce house, etc.! Wear your favorite team jersey and support their team! Loads of fun for everyone! Cost is \$25 per couple/Resident; and \$40 per couple/Non-Resident, with extra \$5/per additional boy. Registration deadline is April 20th - and there is a minimum of 40 pairs for this event to make!

TEA FOR TWO

This event is for Mothers and Daughters...or any of the special ladies to honor one another! Registrations due by May 2nd. Tea is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th, 10:00am. Fee is \$20 - Smithfield Resident, and \$30 - Non-Smithfield Resident. There is an additional \$5 per each additional child. We will be serving tea and lemonade, a selection of pastries and finger foods. Minimum of 10 people. For questions contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148.

SRAC SUMMER CAMP

It's not too early to start thinking about where your children will go this summer and what they'll be doing... Registration for SRAC Summer Camps for kids ages 5-12 begins in May. Camp weeks are as follows: June 13-17; June 20-24; June 28-July 1; July 5-8; July 11-15; July 18-22; July 25-29; August 1-5; and August 8-12. Register for one week or all of them! Registration forms will be available in the lobby of SRAC. Children will be responsible for bringing their lunch, 2 snacks, drinks, and a bathing suit. Please inquire at front desk of SRAC. Regular camp hours are 8:30am until 4:30pm. Remember - space is limited, so sign up April 1st! Camp fees are \$100 for Smithfield Residents and \$137.50 for Non-Smithfield Residents. Early drop off and late pick up are available for an additional fee. For questions contact 919-934-1408.

SRAC LEGO CAMP

SRAC will be offering two LEGO camps this summer - July 11th-15, and August 1st-5th! Registration for Lego camps are online. Register

at www.playwell.org. Morning Session is from 9am-12pm, for Ages 5-7. Afternoon Session is from 1pm-4pm, for Ages 8-12. Camp will be held at SRAC, in the Banquet Room. A snack will be provided each day. If your child has specific allergies, please note at time of registration. For questions contact Tiffany at 919-934-2148.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING CLASSES

SRAC will be offering American Red Cross Lifeguard Training again this spring. You must be at least 15 years of age in order to take the class. You must also pass a Pre-Course Swim Test in order to continue in the course. You must also attend 100% of the classes in your session, and you can't mix sessions. Registration fee is \$200 / Town of Smithfield Residents and \$225 / Non-Smithfield Residents. A non-refundable deposit of \$25 is due with your application. If you pass the Pre-Course swim test, then this will be applied to your balance for the course. Upon passing Pre-Course Swim, remainder balance for class due in full at the first class. Pre-Test Swim includes the following: 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 REQUIREMENTS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE IN THE CLASS.**

Available Class Dates are:

First Session: Sunday, February 21, 2-4pm; Friday, February 26, 3-8pm; Saturday, February 27, 9am-6pm; and Sunday, February 28, 1-7pm.

Second Session: Sunday, March 13, 2-4pm; Friday, March 18, 3-8pm; Saturday, March 19, 9am-6pm; and Sunday, March 20, 1-7pm.

Third Session: Sunday, April 17, 2-4pm; Friday, April 23, 3-8pm; Saturday, April 24, 9am-6pm; and Sunday, April 25, 1-7pm.

Fourth Session: Monday, May 9, 5-7pm; Friday, May 13, 3-8pm; Saturday, May 14, 9am-6pm; and Sunday, May 15, 1-7pm.

Class sizes are limited, so sign up early.

For more information, contact Aquatics Supervisor Laura Crumpler at 919-934-1408.

SMITHFIELD TADPOLES

Come to SRAC on Wednesday mornings, 10am-Noon, and bring your little "tadpoles" to SRAC Splash Park. Resident rate is Adult Smithfield Resident: \$3, and \$2 Resident Child (Ages 3-12); Adult Non-Resident: \$5.50, and \$4 Non-Resident Child (Ages 3-12). Each additional child \$3. Questions contact Tiffany Pearson at 919-934-2148, ext 107.

ALLIGATOR STEPS

It's not too early to help develop happy and confident swimmers... Parents and Toddlers, join us for Alligator Steps, our Parent/Tot 30 minutes of instruction and 30 minutes of splash pool play! This program is for children ages 6 mos. - 3 years, and meets every Monday @ 9:30am. Fee is \$10/per lesson. For more information contact 919-397-3158 or www.AlligatorSteps.com.

SENIOR COFFEE CORNER

Senior Coffee Corner is back at SRAC for the Fall ya'll! If you are 55 and older, join us for FREE coffee and occasional breakfast treats every Tuesday and Thursday morning, from 8:30 to 10:30am. You do not have to be a member of SRAC to join us for coffee these mornings.

SWIM LESSONS

SRAC offers swim lessons on an individual basis. Each participant will have a specific lesson plan to meet his or her needs. Sign up year round. Request forms can be picked up at the front desk of SRAC. For more information, please contact Laura Crumpler, Aquatics Director, at lcrumpler-parks@ncrrbiz.com or 919-934-1408. 3 Lessons/Smithfield Residents - \$45; NR - \$71.50. 5 Lessons/Smithfield Residents - \$85; NR - \$121.

STERLING SILVER SENIORS CLUB

This Club meets the second Wednesday of every month, 10:30am at SRAC. Club members have the opportunity to go on day trips, occasionally overnight trips, as well as participate in other activities outside of regular meeting days. Members must be 55+, and dues are \$12/year.

DOODLEBUGS

Dribble, drip, squish and squeeze... delight as you watch you and your child get messy 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 the time or for a 4-week session. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE EACH CLASS** so that accurate supplies are provided. Fee is \$5/Class or \$19/4 Classes - Smithfield Resident; and \$8/Class or \$30/4 Classes - Non-Smithfield Residents.

SRAC KIDS NIGHTS

When SRAC closes, the fun begins! Drop your kids off in a safe, supervised environment that is kid friendly and parent free. Swimming, gym time, snack and other organized activities are offered throughout the night, from 5:30-8:30pm, for kids ages 5-10. Fee is \$8/Smithfield Resident (pre-registration); \$13.50/Non-Smithfield Resident (pre-registration). \$5/Each additional child during pre-registration. \$10/Smithfield Resident (Register day or night of); and \$16.50/Non-Smithfield Resident (Register day or night of).

Dates:

Saturday, February 13, 2016

Saturday, April 9, 2016

Saturday, June 4, 2016

OPEN ART STUDIO

This art studio is ongoing. Anyone may join at any time. This is not a class where everyone paints with the instructor but is a diverse group with a variety of art projects going on at any time. Participants bring the projects on which they are working and use this time to collaborate with peers, show what they have been doing, get critiques, get help with a problem they've encountered, get inspiration, and learn about new techniques from other participants, etc. Media that can be used include any water based materials and oils if you use odorless products. The facilitator for the group is Judy Boyette, who taught art in public schools for 37 years and is president of the Johnston County Arts Council. She paints murals, charcoal portraits, does drawing and book illustrating. Come by and visit and check out

the studio! We meet in the multi-purpose room!
Time: Tuesday Mornings, 9:30-11:30AM
Wednesday Evenings, 6:00-8:00PM
Fee: \$100/6 months

SRAC GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

Free fitness classes are offered to SRAC members throughout the week. Water Aerobics, Cycling, Hybrid Fitness, Tai Chi, Yoga and Zumba are available. The schedule is distributed monthly and can be picked up in the SRAC lobby, or viewed online at www.sraconline.com. If you are NOT a member of SRAC, but wish to attend a fitness class, you may purchase a day pass.

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@plics.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

April 5, 2016



Regular Meeting summary:

1. Proclamation was presented to Dwight Morris, Executive Director of Partnership for Children designating April 9th - 16th Week of the Young Child
2. Proclamation was presented to Public Utilities Director Ted Credle and Lineman Glenn Sheets designating April 18th as Electrical Linemen Appreciation Day.
3. Mayor Moore administered the oath of office to New Police Officer Virginia Harter.
4. Approved a Conditional Use Permit request by Extra Mile Motors (CUP- 16-01)
5. Approved the Consent Agenda.
6. Approved a bid award to First Citizens Bank for Rolling Stock Financing
7. Approved a bid award to Mizelle Construction Services, Inc. for the construction and improvements at pump station #3 and the force main extension in NC Highway 210 in the amount of \$350,000. Also approved the cost estimate from Duke Energy for \$61,677.11.
8. Table discussions on an Employee wellness Program pending legal review by the Town Attorney.
9. A report was given on the total cost of the Downtown Street Lighting Project to be funded by the State Downtown Revitalization Grant funds. A committee was formed to discuss other options for this grant funding.
10. Discussion on composition of the Ad hoc Committee reviewing the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). It was determined that members of the Council, members of the Planning Board and a member from the Appearance Commission would serve on this Ad hoc Committee.

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, May 3rd. Come join us and get involved! [View Minutes of Past Meetings Here](#)

Employment Opportunities

with the Town of Smithfield

- **Police Officer I**
- **Firefighter I**
- **Licensed Water Plant Operator**

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