



2nd Quarter 2009

Volume 42

**Town Council Members:**

David M. Hare, Mayor  
Kaye H. Brown, Vice Mayor  
Harry G. Dashiell, Jr.  
John L. Graham  
Andrew C. Gregory  
Denise N. Tynes  
T. Carter Williams

Call the Clerks office for  
contact information for  
council members.

**Town Manager:**

Peter M. Stephenson  
(757) 365-9505  
[pstephenson@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:pstephenson@smithfieldva.gov)

**Town Clerk:**

Sharon L. Thomas  
(757) 365-9505  
[stthomas@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:stthomas@smithfieldva.gov)

**Town Council meets on  
the first Tuesday of each  
month at the Smithfield  
Center located at  
220 N. Church Street,  
Smithfield Virginia**

Town's website:  
[www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov)

Check out Charter cable  
Channel 6 for more town news

# Municipal News

## Town of Smithfield, Virginia

P.O. Box 246 / 310 Institute Street  
Smithfield, VA 23431  
Phone (757) 365-4200



## WATER SAFETY PROGRAM

Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention  
Program and Survey

The Commonwealth of Virginia Waterworks Regulations requires all water purveyors' to establish and enforce a program of cross connection and backflow prevention. This requirement was established to prevent contamination of the public water system. Contamination may occur under backsiphonage and backpressure conditions whereby contaminants are siphoned or forced back into the public water systems.

The town wants to ensure the public health and safety of all our citizens therefore we have adopted and will begin to implement this program in the next few months. As part of this program, each resident and business will receive a survey to be completed and returned to us. We hope to have this survey mailed out by the end of May so please watch for this important water safety survey. This survey will help us identify any areas on your premises where contamination to the public water supply could occur and where backflow prevention devices may need to be installed. A copy of entire Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention will be available to pick up at the Planning, Engineering and Public Works office located at 310 Institute Street.

We appreciate your cooperation with this important public safety mandate. As always, town staff will be happy to assist you with any questions or concerns. Please contact Sonja Pruitt, Office Manager, Department of Planning, Engineering and Public Works at 365-4272 or [spruitt@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:spruitt@smithfieldva.gov) or Brian Freeman, Waterworks Operator/Maintenance Supervisor at 449-4882 or [bfreeman@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:bfreeman@smithfieldva.gov).

THIS IS A MANDATED PROGRAM -  
YOUR ASSISTANCE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

**WATCH THE MAIL FOR YOUR SURVEY**



## Mother's Day Breakfast

Sunday, May 10, 2009

Looking for a place to take mom on Mother's Day...the Smithfield Center will be hosting a breakfast on **Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**. The plated breakfast will include fresh fruit, ham biscuits, hashbrowns, scrambled eggs, sausage, fried apples and a cinnamon roll. There will be live entertainment provided by the very talented Smithfield High Band. The hours are 8 AM -10 AM. We will be accepting pre-paid reservations April 20<sup>th</sup> through May 8<sup>th</sup>. Make your reservations by calling the Smithfield Center at 757-356-9939.



## **RECYCLING UPDATE**



The Town is currently looking into options to help increase participation in the curbside recycling program currently offered to town residents. Lately, town staff has been getting questions, concerns, and complaints from residents who recycle and have not had all items picked up, items left in the yard, etc. by SPSA. All incidents are being looked into and staff is trying to work with SPSA to correct the inconsistencies. The Town is also in the process of looking into options such as what other vendors may offer, larger recycling carts, and different recycling schedules. Please be patient throughout this process and keep recycling. One of the town council's strategic goals is to find ways for Smithfield to "Go Green". Thank you.



## **BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWALS**

Please note that all 2009 Business License Applications are due by April 15, 2009. Those businesses operating in 2008 should have received a renewal form in the mail. **PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL TAXES IN THE BUSINESS NAME MUST BE PAID BEFORE A BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL WILL BE ISSUED.** If you did not receive one, please contact the Treasurer's Department at 365-4200 or stop by the office at 310 Institute Street for assistance. For anyone starting a new business, license applications are available at any time throughout the year.

## **DELINQUENT TAXES**

Notices have been mailed for delinquent real estate and delinquent personal property taxes. These notices serve as a valuable tool for the Treasurer's office, not only to alert account holders of outstanding taxes but also to give the public an opportunity to notify us of errors and needed corrections. If you received a notice, **please address it immediately.** The Town will be stepping up its collection efforts to include DMV stops and garnishments once the feedback from delinquent notices has been processed. **Online payment is available for those who wish to pay by credit card.**

## **ON-LINE BILL PAYMENT**

The Town's on-line bill payment system is now operating through the Town's website, [www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov). The link is listed under **Public Notice** on the home page of the website. This option may be used to view or pay real estate and personal property taxes. Please note that for real estate payments, the account number listed on your tax bill is actually the ticket number. The account number is not printed on the tax bill, so real estate will have to be selected by name, parcel number, or ticket number.



# SMITHFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

## 2009 – 2010 STRATEGIC GOALS

(2/03/2009 – 6/30/2010)

Smithfield Town Council adopted the new strategic goals (shown below) on February 3rd, 2009 after having three work sessions to discuss many factors that affect the town as a whole. The discussions ranged from issues that were fiscal in nature, environmental issues, to procedural concerns. The Council is comprised of seven members of the community with very diverse backgrounds both professionally and personally. Currently there are three members who have been on the council for several years and four members who are fairly new in the positions. All bring to the table a refreshing sense of community spirit and dedication. Town Council holds a regularly scheduled monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Smithfield Center, located at 220 North Church Street. They also hold six committee meetings on the fourth Monday and Tuesday of each month beginning at 3:00 p.m. on those days, also held at the Center. For more information on agenda items go to the town's website: [www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov) or call the Clerks' office at 365-9505.

### **Managing Growth and Community Change**

- Develop and implement a strategy designed to produce affordable housing in Smithfield
- Develop a "green strategy" to save energy, conserve water, protect Smithfield's natural environment and enhance recycling efforts town wide

### **Economic Development**

- Develop a strategy that enables Smithfield to control its own water source and supply
- Develop a plan for maintaining, as well as expanding, business opportunities in Smithfield's downtown.
- Broaden efforts focused on increasing tourism in Smithfield
- Resolve plan and complete some level of improvements for South Church Street
- Consider creating an amenity package (additional parking, public restrooms) in downtown Smithfield
- Maintain a positive relationship with Smithfield Foods
- Develop a corridor improvement plan for Route 258 west of Route 10

### **Community Relationships**

- Continue sponsoring civic education programs such as the local government academy and the community planning academy
- Foster a closer relationship with the Windsor Town Council
- Consider publishing a periodic "Mayor's Message" in the local newspaper
- Develop an orientation program for persons appointed to town boards and commissions, as well as persons elected to town council
- Consider sponsoring a town government "open house" for citizens
- Consider adopting term limits for persons who serve on local boards and commissions
- Consider holding town council elections in November rather than May

### **Fiscal Management**

- Conduct a cost of services study and prioritize the core services sponsored by the town with spending guidelines
- Develop and use a prioritization policy for the town's CIP progress and establish a capital maintenance program for town assets
- Develop a local emergency management response capability

## NOTICE TO ALL SMITHFIELD TOWN RESIDENTS SPRING COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAYS

Moody's/AVES will provide free pick up service for your old furniture, appliances, TV's, stereos, carpets and lawn maintenance equipment such as lawnmowers, weed-eaters, etc. (equipment must be free of oil and gas) for Town residents on the following Saturdays:

### Date of Service and Area of Town

#### **Saturday, April 18:**

All areas north and west of Cypress Creek and the Pagan River (including River Oaks, Pinewood Heights, Goose Hill Creek, Jericho Estates, Cypress Creek, Riverview, Lakeside, Downtown areas, Jersey Park, West Main Street, etc.)

#### **Saturday, April 25:**

All areas on the south side of town including both sides of South Church Street and east of Cypress Creek (including Waterford Oaks, Willow Oaks, Aspen Woods, Scots Landing, Pinehurst, Grimesland, etc.)

#### **Saturday, May 2:**

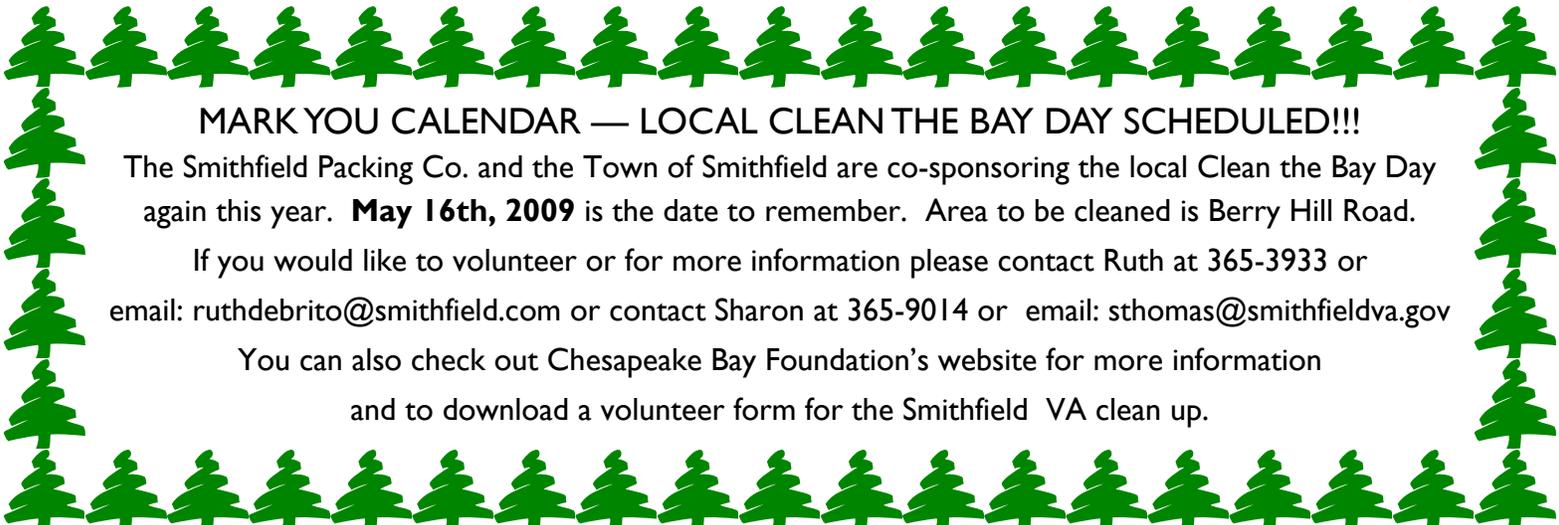
All areas east and north of South Church Street and both sides of Battery Park Road (includes Rising Star, Wellington Estates, Moone Plantation, Smithfield Forest, John Rolfe Estates, Croatan Landing, Moonefield, Pagan Point, Red Point Heights, Deer Run, etc.)

Everything to be picked up must be at the street side **no later than 6:30 AM**. The trucks will not be able to drive into your yard to pick up heavy items. *Please call Moody's/AVES at 357-9997 with any questions about Spring Clean Up Days.*

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Moody's/AVES WILL NOT PICK UP YARD DEBRIS OR TREE LIMBS (larger than 3" in diameter or longer than 4 feet) OR STRUCTURAL DEBRIS SUCH AS USED LUMBER, ROOFING, SIDING, ETC. Leaves or other yard trimmings must be bagged. Limbs must be tied and bundled.**

**OTHER ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE PICKED UP: TIRES, COMPUTERS, PAINTS, BATTERIES, GAS CYLINDERS, OIL, ASBESTOS, ANIMAL CARCASSES AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.**

**NOTE:** If you have household hazardous waste you can dispose of it free of charge at the Isle of Wight Transfer Station, 13191 Foursquare Road, Smithfield on the fourth Saturday of each month, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. You may recycle used motor oil at this location. They also take paint, pesticides, antifreeze, fuels, hobby supplies, insecticides, herbicides, paint thinners, solvents, fertilizers, swimming pool chemicals, household batteries and cleaners. You may reach the IOW Transfer Station at 357-7815.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR — LOCAL CLEAN THE BAY DAY SCHEDULED!!!

The Smithfield Packing Co. and the Town of Smithfield are co-sponsoring the local Clean the Bay Day again this year. **May 16th, 2009** is the date to remember. Area to be cleaned is Berry Hill Road.

If you would like to volunteer or for more information please contact Ruth at 365-3933 or email: [ruthdebritto@smithfield.com](mailto:ruthdebritto@smithfield.com) or contact Sharon at 365-9014 or email: [stthomas@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:stthomas@smithfieldva.gov)

You can also check out Chesapeake Bay Foundation's website for more information and to download a volunteer form for the Smithfield VA clean up.

# FATS, OILS, GREASE (FOG) PROGRAM



A point of compliance in the Regional Special Order by Consent with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Hampton Roads Sanitation District requires all Hampton Roads localities to submit a Management, Operations and Maintenance (MOM) Program Plan. Part of the MOM program for sanitary sewer systems includes efforts for eliminating pollutant discharges that cause interference in the function of both the gravity and force main systems, including interference caused by the discharge of Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) from food service establishments and residences.

FOG buildup can cause system blockages which could lead to larger maintenance problems and/or sanitary sewer overflows which have the potential to cause public health and water quality problems. In an effort to prevent FOG buildup and its potential problems, and to stay in compliance with mandated regional order by consent, the town is in the process of adopting a FOG ordinance, enforcement response plan and regional grease control device design standards.



Once this plan has been adopted by Town Council, all businesses, organizations and residents affected will be notified in writing of program requirements to include implementation schedules. Educational and training classes will be offered to anyone that wishes to learn more about the FOG program.

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## Code Compliance Corner

Spring 2009



Hello again to all Smithfield residents from your planning technician/ code compliance officer, Joseph Reish. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Smithfield residents for doing their part in keeping the Town looking great. Smithfield is truly a unique place with so much charm and beauty. For this newsletter, I offer a few suggestions to all the fine residents of Smithfield.

**Grass Height-** Spring is here, warmer weather and longer days; it will soon be time to mow the lawn. Please keep in mind that unmaintained yards may be in violation of Town code. Not only does a well maintained yard keep your home looking good, it helps keep the Town looking good.

**Building Numbers-** Many of the houses in Smithfield do not have visible street/ building numbers. Every building in Town is required to have building numbers attached to the house that should be visible from the road. Not having building numbers not only makes it harder for emergency services to locate you, it is also a violation of Town Code. Please make sure that your building/street numbers are easily readable from the street.

**Historic District-** If you reside in the beautiful historic district; please be aware that older houses and sheds often require more maintenance than most modern buildings. All historic district structures are protected under Town Ordinance, therefore allowing a building in the historic district to fall into a state of disrepair (trim falling off, badly peeling paint, etc...) is a violation of historic district ordinance. With the warm weather approaching, now is a good time to paint and perform other maintenance. Don't forget to get Board of Historic and Architectural Review approval before altering the appearance of any historic district building. Exceptions not requiring B.H.A.R. approval include any maintenance or repair that does not change the original look of the structure (painting the building the same color). If you are not sure about any work that you intend to start, please contact the planning department.

Feel free to contact the Smithfield Planning Department with any questions or concerns, at 365- 4271. Thanks again for keeping Smithfield beautiful. We can all work together to keep Smithfield a wonderful place to live.

Joseph Reish,  
Planning Technician/ Code Compliance Officer

## PUBLIC PARK UNDERWAY!

In early March, the town purchased approximately 162 acres of the Windsor Castle property from the McMurrin family. Another 46 acres were gifted to the town by the McMurrin's. The 46 acre parcel lies within the Virginia Department of Historic Resources conservation easement and will be kept as authentic as possible throughout any future improvements to the property.

Many of you may have noticed some underbrush clearing already taking place, this is being done through the generous contributor, Mr. Joseph W. Luter, III. Mr. Luter also contributed the majority of the purchase price of the larger 162 acre parcel. Future plans for improvement are being prepared and will be available for public review and comment.

Adopted Windsor Castle public park concept plan is available for viewing on the town's website: [www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov) The town welcomes any ideas, concerns, or questions from the public. If you would like to send in any written form of information, concern, or question please direct those to: Mr. Peter M. Stephenson, Town Manager, P.O. Box 246, Smithfield VA 23431 or email the Town Clerk at: [stthomas@smithfieldva.gov](mailto:stthomas@smithfieldva.gov). Any correspondence received will be forwarded to both the Planning Commission and Town Council for consideration during the planning process.



## SURPLUS PROPERTY



Did you know the town sells its surplus property from time to time? This has been an interesting process over the years. It began as an auction type sale, which if explained by the Town Manager who did the auctioneering, it did not go well. Then the town tried some sealed bid sales. All items were gathered, set out on specific dates and times for the public to view, and sealed bids were accepted. Well . . . That did not work so well either. So finally an organization came up with a much better, more modern method called [GOVDEALS.COM](http://GOVDEALS.COM). Anyone with access to the world wide web can go to this website and register to bid on items that localities have that is surplus property. When getting rid of out dated equipment, equipment needing repair, unclaimed property, etc. the town places pictures and details of each on the website for folks to bid on. Once the bid period is over, the highest bidder is contacted to set up a date and time to pick up their item. All items are sold "AS IS" with no refunds given. In the past, items placed on the website ranged from bicycles, grill, lawn mowers, generator, office chairs, desks, file cabinets, projectors, lamps, computer monitors, police vehicles, etc.



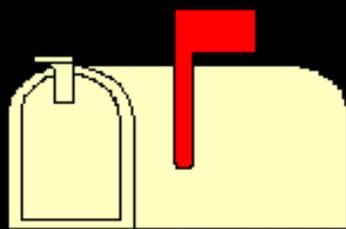
Town staff is gathering items now for a large group of items to be placed on the website by early May, so go online and register (registration is free), and take a look around at what other localities have to offer. To register you will need to go to the website, at the top right hand corner you will see "New Bidders Register Free!" Information that Govdeals ask for is for you to create a user name, your first name, last name, mailing address, phone number, and email address.



For more information contact the Town Clerk's office at 365-9505.

**CHECK IT OUT — [GOVDEALS.COM](http://GOVDEALS.COM)**

**IF WE CAN'T  
FIND YOU  
WE CAN'T  
HELP YOU**



5  
4  
7  
9



HOUSE  
MARKER  
5' x 14"

MAILBOX  
MARKER  
6' x 18"

**REFLECTIVE  
ADDRESS  
MARKERS**



## **Isle of Wight County Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary**

### **FEATURES**

- Highly Visible Day or Night
- Reflective Material on Both Sides
- Fade Resistant, Last for Years
- Pre-drilled Holes

**ORDER YOUR  
REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKER  
TODAY.....**

**IT MAY HELP SAVE YOUR LIFE  
OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE.**



***EVERY  
SECOND  
COUNTS!***

# Isle of Wight County Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary

## REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKER ORDER FORM

Please complete the following information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, ST Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

### Address Number Requested

Note: If your address has fewer than 5 digits, please X those boxes not used.

### Mounting Preference

HORIZONTAL \_\_\_\_\_

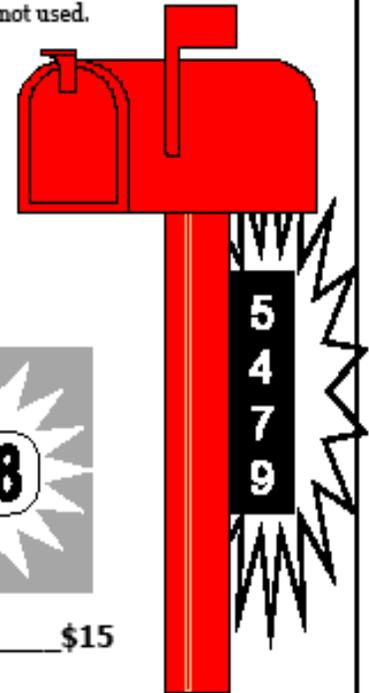
VERTICAL \_\_\_\_\_

**HORIZONTAL**

V  
E  
R  
T  
I  
C  
A  
L



House Sign \_\_\_\_ \$15



Mailbox Sign \_\_\_\_ \$20

**Check 1 or Both**

Mail Form & Check to:  
Isle of Wight County  
Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary  
PO Box 209  
Smithfield VA 23431

**Please Allow 2 Weeks for Processing**

The completed sign will be mailed to you as soon as possible.



# THE SMITHFIELD THIN BLUE LINE

Smithfield Police Department

2nd Quarter 2009



## Kristi Edwards - 10 years of service

Congratulations to Kristi Edwards, Smithfield Police Department Records Custodian, for 10 years of dedicated service to the Town of Smithfield. She was recently recognized for this milestone and was presented a plaque by Town Manager Peter Stephenson and Chief of Police Mark Marshall as a small token of appreciation for her of years service. She was originally hired by the Town in 1997 part-time as the Town Receptionist. After a year she took a full-time job with another employer. Kristi came back to the Town of Smithfield full-time in 1999 as the Town Receptionist until 2004, when she was transferred to the Smithfield Police Department, working in Records Administration. Her computer skills, time management skills, people skills, and plethora of knowledge have proven her to be a valuable asset to the Smithfield Police Department. Congratulations Kristi!

## Uniform Accoutrements for Service



The Smithfield Police Department requires all sworn officers to wear approved uniforms and accoutrements. Years of service to the Department are represented by a gold bar worn on the lower left arm of the long sleeve service shirt. Each gold bar represents four years of service to the Police Department. The following officers were recently recognized for their years of honorable service.

- Captain Alonzo Howell, 16 years of service, November 2008
- Sgt. Detective Jim Tragesser, 4 years of service, August 2008
- Officer Patrick Valdez, 4 years of service, February 2008
- Officer Ron Bryan, 4 years of service, August 2008
- Officer Robert Fox, 4 years of service, October 2008

If you see these individuals on patrol, make sure to congratulate them on their dedication to the Town of Smithfield. Their commitment helps ensure the citizens of Smithfield enjoy the benefits of a knowledgeable and professional Police Department.

## Hometown Hero Fund Raiser

The Smithfield American Legion Post 49, in conjunction with the Isle of Wight County Fair, will be hosting a motorcycle Poker Run to benefit Lt. Kurt Beach of the Smithfield Police Department. The run is scheduled for September 20th, and will end with all bikes riding in to the fairgrounds for VIP parking. This will be a non-profit event with proceeds from the ride going to the Kurt Beach Medical Fund. You can check the Isle of Wight County Fair website at [www.thefairiscoming.com](http://www.thefairiscoming.com) for information as it becomes available. Also check the Smithfield Times and Daily Press as the event gets closer for more information. So plan on firing up your ride and coming out to support a real Hometown Hero!

## It's a Boy! Patrick Graham Valdez

Congratulations to Officer Patrick Valdez and his wife Katie on the newest addition to their family, Patrick Graham Valdez, pictured with his "big" brother Isaac. Graham was born on December 22nd at 6:22 pm, weighed 7 lbs 11 ounces and was 20 1/4" long.



PHOTO FLASHBACK  
Can you guess which Smithfield Police Department employee this is? Answer on next page

# Firearms Safety in the Home

According to the National Sport Shooting Foundation and the National Security Council accidents involving firearms in the home have decreased significantly over the last twenty years. This is due to better education on the issue of firearms safety, as well as firearms owners taking responsibility for safe firearm handling practices by all family members. By strictly following some common-sense rules, parents and children can prevent firearm accidents in the home.



## Safe and Secure Storage Options

The primary options most people use to safely store their firearms are firearm lock, firearm case/cabinet, and a firearm safe. The most secure means of firearm security is the safe, which provides varying degrees of protection against fire and forced entry. A cabinet has a locking device intended only as access deterrence from unauthorized persons, especially children and is not designed to withstand forced entry. A firearm lock is a low tech device used to prevent the weapon from functioning. Always check municipal, county, state, and federal law for any requirements for the safe storage of firearms and ammunition and legal use.

## Sporting Firearms

Sporting firearms should always be unloaded before they are brought into the house, and it should never be loaded inside the home. The sporting firearm and ammunition should be stored separately, secured, and out of the reach of children. It is a good practice to clean and place firearms in their proper storage location as soon as possible from a hunting trip or a day at the range. Treat all firearms as if they were loaded, re-check them completely and often to make sure that they are in fact unloaded. Accidents have occurred from circumstances in which a family member has borrowed or loaned a firearm and returned it to storage while it was still loaded. It is also your responsibility for making certain that the firearms in your home are not casually accessible to anyone - especially curious young people.

## Firearms for Home Security

The decision to maintain a loaded firearm in the home for self-protection is a serious, personal matter. Any added safety benefit gained depends in large measure on the owner's having the appropriate training and a clear understanding of safe handling and storage rules and practices. Factors such as individual temperament, reaction to emergency situations, specific domestic circumstances and support for your having a firearm in the home from other adults in the household must be considered. Here are some useful websites related to firearms safety:

[www.projectchildsafe.org](http://www.projectchildsafe.org) [www.nrahq.org](http://www.nrahq.org) [www.kidsandguns.org](http://www.kidsandguns.org) [www.nssf.org](http://www.nssf.org) [www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)

## DEA Launches Website for Parents

[www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com](http://www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com) was developed as a resource for parents/caregivers to help identify drug abuse, prevent children from using drugs, and find resources for substance abuse prevention in an informative, non-technical manner.

The website was introduced at the National Leadership Forum of one of DEA's partner organizations, the Community Anti-Drugs Coalition of America. Acting Administrator Michele M. Leonhart said, "In this fight, information is power, and DEA's new website has current, accurate, and practical information about how to spot signs of abuse, identify drugs and paraphernalia, and how to talk to teens about drugs."



PHOTO FLASHBACK answer: Officer T. Davenport

## Identify Drugs and Behavior

So you've found a pill on the carpet in a corner of your child's room, and she stammered a lot when you asked about it. Your radar is sounding. You don't want to make assumptions, but you're a little worried. It occurs to you that you really don't know much about the kinds of things teens are confronted with these days, especially when it comes to drugs. And the whole subject of drug abuse is so complicated! There's so much to know - and so much at stake. Information is available you can use to help you and your child navigate today's murky social waters when it comes to drugs. .

Help is available! [www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com](http://www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com) has a section on identifying drug use and behavior. This section of the website will give you information you can use to help you and your child navigate today's murky social waters when it comes to drugs. This website will assist you to learn what sorts of products in your home can be abused by kids to get high. On the Identify page you will find links to the following pages: Visual Glossary, Drugs, Signs of Drug Use, What is Drug Paraphernalia, Drug Use Patterns, and Consequences.



Marijuana is the most widely used illicit drug among teenagers in the U.S.

## VEHICLE SAFETY

So you've finally found a parking place for your car, but did you remember to...

- Remove valuables from the seats and/or floor area BEFORE arriving at your destination?
- Avoid parking on deserted street?
- Report suspicious activities to the police or parking attendant?
- Check your vehicle/tag when you return?

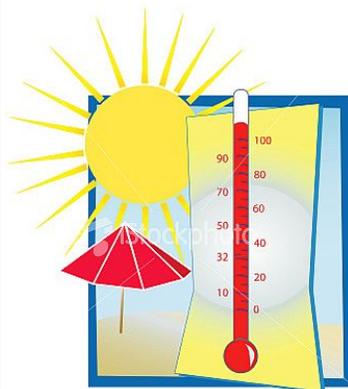


### HAVE YOUR CHECKED YOU TAG LATELY?

Many criminals count on you never noticing that your tag is missing, until they have left the scene. When was the last time you actually walked around your vehicle to check your tag? Most people can honestly say "almost never". Checking the exterior of your vehicle should be a part of your daily routine, whether your car is parked in your driveway or in a parking lot! Running into the gas station or the store for a moment? Check your tag when you return to your vehicle. Do you know your tag number? You should carry the information in your wallet or take a picture with your cell phone for a quick reference. If you discover your tag is missing, contact the police department so a report can be filed.

## Summer Danger for Children - Hot Cars

Approximately 25 children a year die as a result of being left or becoming trapped in hot vehicles. Cars parked in direct sunlight can reach internal temperatures of 131° F - 172° F when outside temperatures are 80° F - 100° F. Temperatures in the 60s can cause a car temperature to rise above 110° F. In warm weather a vehicle can warm to dangerous, life-threatening levels in 10 minutes. Very high body temperatures can cause damage to the brain and other vital organs, as well as heat stroke and death. Body temperature may rise to 106° F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. A body temperature of 107° F is lethal.



Some of the most tragic incidents happen when adult caretakers forget a child is in the vehicle. This frequently happens when a parent or guardian breaks an established routine and leaves a child in the car. Often they do not realize that they left the child in the vehicle until hours later.

Not all children who die in hot cars are left there by adults. Many children climb into unlocked vehicles without their parents' or guardians' knowledge. Once in the car, they may become confused by the door handle's configuration and be unable to open the door from the inside. Also, children may accidentally lock doors by leaning on a power control device and be unable to get out. According to a National SAFE KIDS Campaign survey, only half of all parents lock their cars when they park at home.

Please keep these facts in mind when you have children, and pets, in your car!

## Proper display of your Smithfield town tag

Almost everyone who lives in town is familiar with the Smithfield town tag for vehicles, that blue tag that proudly bears our town's name. The tag is managed by the treasurer's office. By January 15th, the town treasurer sends a vehicle application for the upcoming year to all residents whose personal property taxes are paid by December 5th. A \$20.00 fee is required to properly register a vehicle with the treasurer.

According to the Smithfield Town Code, section 78-51 "The town treasurer shall issue a license tag for each vehicle for which the tax prescribed by this article is paid. Such tag shall be displayed on the front of such vehicle at all times, so that it is plainly visible. Such tag shall be maintained in such condition that the numbers thereon shall be, at all times, clearly visible and clearly legible."

The town tag is blue, each year the treasurer issues a decal to show a vehicle is in compliance, this year the decal color is brown.

Here are a few tips for applying the decal. First, put the new decal over the old one, not beside it or on the other side of the tag. Secondly, make sure you put the town decal on the town tag, and not on your license plate.



## Police Department receives Thermal Imager System

The Smithfield Police Department received a Bullard TacSight Thermal Imager System, valued at over \$20,000, courtesy of a grant from the Department of Homeland Security. Officer Bob Fox attended training in Washington D.C. on the operation of the equipment and is now a Certified Basic Thermographer. Engineered specifically for law enforcement, the Bullard TacSight Thermal Imager System provides a powerful and effective thermal imager with a complete array of accessories to support the full range of applications from surveillance and detection, to search and rescue, as well as hazmat and accident investigation. TACSIGHT is especially well suited for tactical operations in poorly lit conditions. The TACSIGHT thermal imager requires no light. Heat energy is detected from target objects or subjects, and seen by the camera operator as a clear visual image.



## Night Vision Goggles awarded to Police Department via Grant



The Department of Homeland Security Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program is an important component of the Administrations coordinated effort to strengthen the Nation's overall level of preparedness. It enhances regional response capabilities and mutual aid by providing technology and equipment, together with training and technical assistance required to operate the equipment, to law enforcement, emergency responders and public safety agencies in smaller jurisdictions and certain metropolitan areas. This grant awarded the Smithfield Police Department a Night Enforcer lightweight monocular night vision device designed for nighttime operations, valued at more than \$5,000.

## Boat Patrol awarded new gear from Port Security Grant

One of the core missions of the Department of Homeland Security is to enhance the ability of state, territory, local and tribal governments to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks and other disasters. It was this grant that awarded the Smithfield Police Department Boat Patrol with four sets of foul weather gear valued at \$5,000. Each set included cold weather survival gear, bomber jackets, anti exposure suits, inflatable flotation devices, boots, gloves and strobe lights. As an added safety feature, all items of clothing are also designed as personal flotation devices.



## American Legion Veteran's Dinner

Sergeant Marty Roach, Officer Bob Fox and Officer Bryan Miller, all members of the American Legion and the American Legion Riders (ALR), recently took part in the annual ALR motorcycle ride from the Smithfield American Legion Post 49 to the Veterans Hospital in Hampton. They escorted two bus loads of disabled veterans back to Smithfield for dinner and camaraderie. Music was provided by an Air Force band from Langley Air Force Base. The veterans and Legion members had a great time. The ALR provided a motorcycle escort for the buses back to Hampton.



Officer Pablo Finelli in the processing room using LIVESCAN to capture an individuals fingerprints, an important step in the arrest process.



## American Red Cross Training

The Smithfield Police Department took part in American Red Cross training in March of 2009. As a First Responder, it is quite possible a police officer will be the first person on scene where medical aid is required. Officer received training on CPR, AED, First Aid and blood borne pathogens.



## Search and Rescue Training for Marine One

The Smithfield Marine Patrol Unit recently participated in the 2009 Search and Rescue (SAR) Forum for Hampton Roads, hosted by the Marine Incident Response Team and U.S. Coast Guard Sector Hampton Roads. The forum concentrated on



essential SAR techniques. Those in attendance took part in classroom and on water drills. Classroom training included personal protective equipment, navigation equipment, search patterns, towing safety, and navigation. On water drills included practical application of sonar, towing, navigation and plotting, search patterns and night navigation.

## **Upcoming Events Provided by: Smithfield/Isle of Wight CVB**

### **Olde Towne Curb Market**

#### **NEW! "Easter" Specialty Market**

**Saturday, April 4, 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.**

Join us for a taste of Virginia with locally grown produce and handmade goods. While you are here, enjoy a stroll in Historic Downtown Smithfield; visit our restaurants, museum and specialty stores.

**For further information call Market Manager, Marci Parrish at (757) 375-3031.**

### **SmARTS! (Smithfield Monthly Arts Stroll)**

**Friday, April 10 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Historic Downtown Smithfield**

Stroll through participating SmARTs Historic District shops to view stunning art, listen to captivating music, enjoy light bites and beverages on the second Friday of every month from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. SmARTS is free and open to all of the arts loving public.

Also featured this month...an Easter Egg Hunt with eggs hidden among the participating SmARTs merchants. One hidden Golden Egg will contain a \$50 gift certificate in it!

Visual or performing artists or authors...if you would like to participate in SmARTs (no fee to participate)

- or contact Terry Thompson at (757) 357-2214.

### **2nd Annual "Hope, Hams, History, Hospitality & HeARTs" Bicycle Tour**

**Saturday, April 25**

Bike for a Cure! This Relay for Life Event features a 12, 35 and 50 mile ride. Tax deductible registration fees go to the American Cancer Society and entitle registrants to participate in several drawings the day of the event. Fee also includes refreshments and box lunches.

**For further information go to [www.IWSBeaconsOfHope.org](http://www.IWSBeaconsOfHope.org).**

### **Sundays at Four Concert Series,**

**featuring "The Tidewater Suzuki Cello Ensemble "**

**Sunday, April 26, 4:00 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church, Smithfield**

Susan and Erin Hines, directors, Elsa Bakkum, accompanist

Featuring young musicians between the ages of 8 and 17, playing Bach to Ragtime!

Tickets at the door for each performance are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students.

Tickets for both this concert and the Miami String Quartet (April 26) are \$35 for adults and \$20 for students.

For further information or to purchase tickets or a season subscription, call (757) 375-9140 or visit:

[www.sundaysatfour.org](http://www.sundaysatfour.org)

### **SmARTS! (Smithfield Monthly Arts Stroll)**

**Friday, May 8 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Historic Downtown Smithfield**

Stroll through participating SmARTs Historic District shops to view stunning art, listen to captivating music, enjoy light bites and beverages on the second Friday of every month from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. SmARTS is free and open to all of the arts loving public.

Visual or performing artists or authors...if you would like to participate in SmARTs (no fee to participate)

or contact Terry Thompson at (757) 357-2214.

**Olden Days is June 26<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>.** Stroll through downtown historic Smithfield for an Olden Fashioned Street Fair. We are now taking applications for vendors, artists, musicians, and teams for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ever re-inguinial Pagan River Raft Race.



TOWN OF SMITHFIELD  
 P.O. BOX 246  
 SMITHFIELD, VA 23431

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

**Important Dates to Remember**

(All Town meetings are held at 220 North Church Street at the Smithfield Center)

1st Tuesday—Town Council Meeting—7:30 p.m.

2nd Tuesday—Planning Commission—7:30 p.m.

3rd Tuesday—Board of Zoning Appeals—6:30 p.m.

3rd Tuesday—Board of Historic and Architectural Review—7:30 p.m.

Last Monday and Tuesday of each Month—Town Council Committee Meetings beginning at 3:00, 4:00, and 5:00 p.m. will be held at the Smithfield Center. Stay tuned to Smithfield Channel 6 for any meeting changes and for important informational updates. **Also click on the town's website:**

**[www.smithfieldva.gov](http://www.smithfieldva.gov) to see more information.**

Holidays—Town Offices Closed

Monday, May 25th— in Observance of Memorial Day

Friday, July 3rd—in Observance of Independence Day

Planning Commission

Virginia F. Smith, Chair  
 Thomas F. Hearn, Vice Chair  
 Charles Bryan  
 Bill Davidson  
 John L. Graham  
 Julia Hillegass  
 Norma Odom Leonard

Board of Historic Review

Roger L. Ealy, Chair  
 Virginia Smith, Vice Chair  
 Cecil Gwaltney  
 Col. Eley Harris  
 Ronny Prevatte  
 Nancy Fortier  
 Ricks Wilson

Board of Zoning Appeals

Harold Lawrence, Chair  
 Clem Batten, Vice Chair  
 Arthur LaBonte  
 Faye M. Seeley  
 Virginia Walker