

# Smithville News

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-- A digital collection of Smithville's history from 1897 - 1915.

THE SMITHVILLE NEWS.

**A Digital Collection of Smithville's History 1897 - 1915**

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Local merchants most likely published Smithville's first newspaper, *Name It & Take It*, in 1897.



Later it was named *The Smithville News*.

Destroyed in a fire in 1901, the newspaper was revived in 1908 by Ralph B. Carter, a local telephone exchange pioneer. Under Carter, *The Smithville News* covered local business, limestone, railroad news, and happenings--society news, church events, obituaries, the occasional criminal mischief, and gossip about who was courting whom--in Smithville, Harrodsburg, Sanders, Fairfax and Clear Creek. Marketed as politically independent, the newspaper took editorial "digs" at some hot-button Progressive Era issues such as prohibition, teacher pay, fair business practices, transportation, and rural mail service.

[A Timeline of Smithville Events](#) is also available.

[Acknowledgements](#)

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