

# FOUR OAKS

MAY 2015 | Your Community. Your Neighbors. Your Story.

# Journal

## Meet the Weavers

- Welcome to Our Inaugural Issue!
- Protect, Serve & So Much More
- Community Calendar

Local Postal Customer

PSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM-Retail



# 25TH ANNUAL FOUR OAKS ACORN FESTIVAL

MAY 15-16

FOOD | ENTERTAINMENT | RIDES  
AND SO MUCH MORE!



UNLIMITED  
RIDE ARMBAND  
**\$10**  
SINGLE  
RIDES **\$1**

## EVENT SCHEDULE

**FRIDAY** 6:30 pm Concert and Pig Pickin by Carolina Tradition Bluegrass  
Barbour's Grove Park | Bar-B-Que by White Swan

**SATURDAY** 10 am Parade of Children (Main Street)  
DOWNTOWN FOUR OAKS 10:30 am Acorn Festival Parade (Main Street)  
12 Noon Acorn Festival: Rides, Food, Vendors, Entertainment by: The Martin Davis  
Beach Band, Dr. T Bone Tommy Tucker, Bobby Adams & Carlie Barbour  
Four Oaks Chamber Ambassador Scholarship Award  
Acorn Festival \$5,000 Raffle Drawing

### PRESENTED BY:



### SPONSORS:

COPPER SPONSORS:  
Johnston County  
Visitors Bureau

FRIENDS:  
Quality Care  
Animal Hospital

For more information call **919.963.4004** or email **fouroaksareachamber@gmail.com**



## FROM THE PUBLISHER

# Welcome to the Four Oaks Journal



Randy, Shanna and Ethan Capps.

Photo by D.J. Griffin

To tell our story, you have to start in a kitchen in the spring of 2008.

Shanna, Ethan and I were living in Henderson, where I was working for the Daily Dispatch, when I agreed to take a job in Fayetteville. Shanna was still working in Raleigh at the time, so we needed a new place to live.

A plan was hatched.

Nothing scientific. We looked at a map to find a place in between Fayetteville and Raleigh, and we narrowed it down to Sanford and Four Oaks.

You can guess where we ended up.

Ever since, we have met wonderful people while falling in love with this charming town.

So, that's how we got here.

Now, let's get into what we're doing.

Shanna and I have worked in news media for well over a decade now. We've worked on both sides of the business, I in editorial and Shanna in advertising.

We've seen the print media industry decline in recent years, a victim of a flooded market full of news outlets and the rise of the Internet as a social and news gathering tool.

It's a tide that can't be stemmed, some believe.

Well, we don't feel that way.

The Four Oaks Journal is a different sort of publication. We're not a newspaper. There's never going to be a crime blotter or a canned story from a government meeting.

This, as you can surely tell, is a magazine.

What might be less clear is what it's about.

The title is a good clue. But it's more than that.

It's about the moments worth remembering.

It's about graduations, celebrations, baseball games and festivals.

It's about perfect summer days or the fun and fellowship of Christmas.

But above all, it's about you.

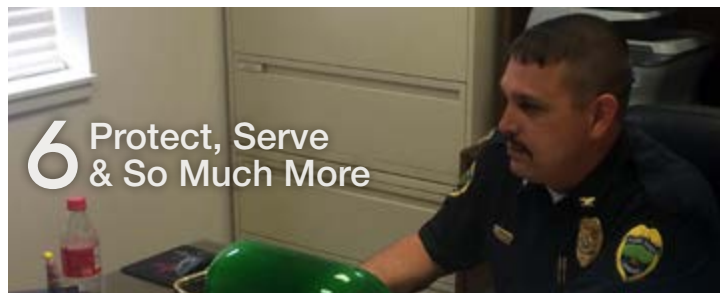
We hope you'll share your stories with us. We can't wait to hear from you.

– Randy Capps

## FEATURES



## 8 Meet the Weavers



## 6 Protect, Serve & So Much More

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**PAGE 4**  
**HALL OF FAME**

**PAGE 5**  
**LIBRARY CHANGES**

**PAGE 7**  
**EASTER EGG HUNTS**

**PAGE 12**  
**LOCAL ART**

**PAGE 13**  
**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**PAGE 14**  
**BUSINESS PROFILE**

## ON THE COVER

The Weaver family is featured on the cover as photographed by **D.J. Griffin Photography**. Griffin was born in Winston-Salem and studied photography at East Carolina University. He has been exhibited in various shows and competitions, including the N.C. Photographers Biennial Exhibition at Meredith College. He lives in Clayton with his wife and two children. D.J. Griffin Photography is available for family or corporate photography and can be reached at **919-616-1456**. Read the story of Gela Weaver's road to motherhood beginning on page 8.

### Volume 1, Number 1

A Shandy Communications, LLC publication

**General Manager** - Shanna Capps  
**Creative Consultant** - Ethan Capps  
**Creative Director** - Frank Spurlock

**Publisher** - Randy Capps  
**Editorial Consultant** - Mike Bollinger

Interested in advertising? Send email to [shanna@fouroaksjournal.com](mailto:shanna@fouroaksjournal.com) or call 919-618-4405

Story idea or a photo to share? Send email to [randy@fouroaksjournal.com](mailto:randy@fouroaksjournal.com) or mail it to P.O. Box 58, Four Oaks, N.C., 27524

Visit us on the web: [www.fouroaksjournal.com](http://www.fouroaksjournal.com)

The Four Oaks Journal is a monthly publication of Shandy Communications, LLC for our Four Oaks neighbors. No part of this magazine may be reproduced without written consent by the publisher. Advertisers take sole responsibility for the validity of their advertisement. ©2015 Four Oaks Journal. All rights reserved.

# THE JOHNSTON COUNTY ATHLETIC **HALL of FAME**

*The Johnston County Athletic Hall of Fame welcomed five new members on Saturday, March 28. This year's class includes:*

## **E.O. Adams Jr.**

Adams, a 1965 graduate of Cleveland School, was a prep baseball and basketball standout, earning seven varsity letters (four in baseball). He was a captain on both squads his junior and senior seasons, and also played American Legion Baseball in the summers.

He accepted a baseball scholarship to Campbell College (now University), and eventually earned a degree in Business Administration in 1969.

Adams served as president of the Cleveland Athletic Association and played a key role in getting lights installed on the Little League fields where his son, Dell, and daughter, Keli, played their games.

Adams and his wife, Bonnie, have been married 46 years and still live in the Cleveland area.

## **Mickey Bridgers**

Bridgers, a native of Wilson and a graduate of Fike High and Atlantic Christian College, was a coach in the eastern part of the state for more than four decades.

Twenty of those years were spent at South Johnston, where he coached football, baseball and softball – in addition to serving as athletic director.

During his time at South Johnston, he helped start the Johnston County Athletic Hall of Fame. He retired last year after 42 years and coaching in about 1000 regular season contests and around 100 playoff games. He lives in Four Oaks with his wife, Pat. They have two children, Elizabeth and Heath, and three grandchildren.

## **Anissa Gainey**

Gainey is a 2000 graduate of Clayton High School. She lettered in basketball and track for the Lady Comets, but it was on the track where she excelled. She won seven 2-A and 3-A state titles in high school in the 100m, 200m and long jump.

Gainey earned a track and field scholarship to the University of North Carolina, where she earned several All-ACC and All-American honors, and graduated in 2004 with a degree in Journalism and Mass Communication, with a concentration in Advertising.

Gainey works for Mizuno USA and lives in Atlanta.



## **Alfred (Al) Heartley**

Heartley graduated as valedictorian and senior class president from Johnston Central High in 1967 and went on to become the first black varsity basketball player at N.C. State. He graduated from there in 1971 with a degree in Applied Mathematics.

A year later, he married his high school sweetheart, Beverly Howard. They have three children, Kanika, Shani, and Alfred Matthew. Heartley worked for Southern Bell and Bell South for 33 years, retiring in 2004, and he and his wife now live in Stone Mountain, Ga.

## **John Chris (Sonny) Johnson, Jr.**

Johnson was a baseball and basketball standout at Cleveland High School. He scored more than 1,000 points on the basketball court, and was one of only two Johnston County players selected for the N.C. State freshman team after his high school graduation in 1967.

He attended N.C. State for a year before being drafted into service by the Marine Corps. Johnson served six years before returning to the Cleveland area, where he was active in the Cleveland Athletic Association. His company, Southwind Development, bought the old Cleveland High School building in 2002 and remodeled it. It now serves as an assisted living center – and as a home to many historical items from the area.

He was married for 41 years to his wife, Annette, until their untimely death in 2011. They leave behind two sons, John and Ben, who are still active in the Cleveland community.

**DOUBLE A**  
**LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE, LLC**

**10% OFF** YARD SERVICE  
with maintenance agreement

FREE ESTIMATE!  
CALL TODAY!

**919.796.4415**



# Changes in the Johnston County Library System

The Town of Clayton has announced that its library, the Hocutt-Ellington Memorial Library, will be leaving the Johnston County affiliated library system on June 1, 2015.

To ease this transition, the county libraries discontinued the transfer of books and other materials with the Clayton branch on April 1.

An active library card issued by any of Johnston County's public libraries (including Clayton) beginning with the numbers 2895 will still work in any of the remaining Johnston County affiliated library locations, including

Benson, Four Oaks, Kenly, Princeton, Selma, and Smithfield.


Online resources including eBooks through the 3M Cloud Library and NC Live will also be available to all Johnston County residents, regardless of their address.

Anyone with a Johnston County Library System card with Clayton as the home branch will be reassigned to one of the other remaining libraries based on zip code.

For more details, visit your local library, call (919) 963-6013 or email [librarian@fouroakslibrary.org](mailto:librarian@fouroakslibrary.org).

## Lower rates without lower standards

We are the best in customer service for your home, auto, renter, life and business insurance needs.

Call **today** for a free quote  
 **919.963.2059**

### Lee Insurance Agency, LLC

Carrie Lee • Miranda Bailey • Mike Naquin  
119 W South Railroad St. • Four Oaks  
[LeelInsuranceNC.com](http://LeelInsuranceNC.com)



## Preschool Registration

Now registering for the 2015-2016 school year

2, 3 & 4 year old classes

Mom's Morning Out for ages 1-3

Christian-based Learning

Field Trips

Weekly Devotions

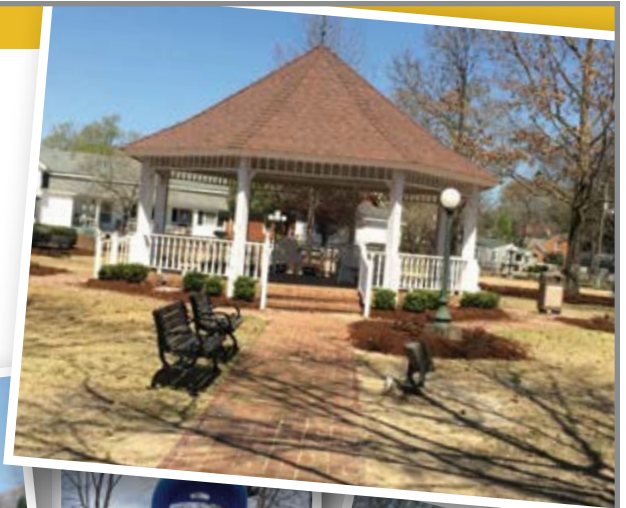
**First Baptist Four Oaks Preschool**  
403 N. Main Street • 919-963-2013

*... a laid-back, relaxed atmosphere that is rooted in a rich, rural, Southern heritage*



919.963.3112

[fouroaks-nc.com](http://fouroaks-nc.com)



# PROTECT. SERVE. **MORE.** **AND SO MUCH MORE.**

New ideas, new vision for Four Oaks Police Department

It's a rainy morning in mid-March, just a few hours after narrow wins for both North Carolina and N.C. State in the NCAA Tournament.

Four Oaks Police Chief Stephen Anderson is working in his office. His business cards still read "Detective," but it's clear that he's already comfortable in his new post after being sworn in on March 9.

"It's been very easy so far," he said of his transition. "We've got a great town board that helped make that possible for us. They're wanting to step up to the newer era of law enforcement that we're in, and they've really provided a way for us to do that."

Things like improving the patrol cars, altering uniform patches and increasing overall police coverage are just a few of the things that Anderson is looking to change early in his tenure, but his long-term goals are much more broad.

"We just want (people) to know that we're here for them," Anderson said. "They can call us. It doesn't have to be a negative thing – they could just need someone to talk to. Our doors are always open."

"The biggest thing I try to push is that I want community policing. I want us to be approachable by the community."

His community-based approach to law enforcement was developed while working as a detective in Four Oaks for the past two years before his promotion, and by earlier stops in the Kenly and Princeton police departments.

"It's a place where you can get to know everyone," Anderson said. "It's the small-town atmosphere that I enjoy. I grew up watching Andy Griffith – he was actually my grandmother's high school teacher at Goldsboro High School – so, in a small community, you could take a peaceful approach to solving a big problem. And I kind of like that."

Anderson, 36, is a native of Grantham and is married to April, a registered nurse in Smithfield. In addition, their family also includes Destiny (16), Mackenzie (14), Seth (14), Karinne (12), Morgan (12) and Katie (6).

So, he's got plenty going on in his off-duty hours as well.



Four Oaks Police Chief Stephen Anderson works in his office in this March 2015 photo.

Photo by Randy Capps

"Managing all of that helps me manage things here," he said with a smile. "It's just a fine balance. My kids are very active. It's chaotic at times, but we manage. We sleep well at night."

Anderson hopes that, in his new role, the residents of Four Oaks will do the same.

"In these bigger towns and cities, they're so fast paced that sometimes, before you can get a chance to think about what's going on, it's all over. Here, it's not that way. Being able to know

everybody and call folks by name means a lot to me."

**FREE** Front End Alignment\*

Diagnostic • Repair • Performance  
Tires • Chrome & Trim  
Foreign & Domestic

**SERVING FOUR OAKS FOR 20 YEARS!**

**NAPA AUTO CARE**  
5977 US 301 South, Four Oaks  
**919.963.2520**

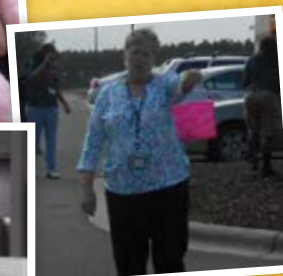
Free front end alignment with purchase of 4 new tires. Must mention this ad. Expires 5/31/15.





# EASTER EGG HUNTS

SUBMITTED BY FOUR OAKS LIBRARY AND GENCO—BD FOUR OAKS



## 2015 SRAC Summer Camp

### Ages: 5-12yrs

Art, swimming, sports, and outdoor fun are just some of the activities your child will be involved in! Register today! Space is limited!



### Camp Dates

June 15-19  
June 22-26  
July 6-10  
July 13-17  
July 20-24  
July 27-31  
Aug 3-7  
Aug 10-14

• \$100/week-Smithfield Residents •  
• \$125/week-Non Smithfield Residents

### 8:30am-4:30pm

Children will be responsible for bringing their lunch, 2 snacks, drinks and a bathing suit.  
Early drop-off and late pick-up are available. Please inquire at the front desk.



600 Booker Dairy Rd  
Smithfield, NC 27577  
(919) 934-1408

Registration forms are available in the lobby or at the front desk.

Registration begins April 1 and continues throughout the summer.



## Summer Membership Special 3 Months

\$90-individual membership

\$75-each additional, qualifying family member

Children 11 and under are FREE!

Full facility usage for 3 months from the time that you sign up.

Children 12 and 13 must be on a contract with a parent.

Children 14 and older can get an individual contract as long as a parent or legal guardian signs them up. A one time \$9 amenities fee will be added upon sign-up which covers usage of towels for the duration of your membership.

[www.sraconline.com](http://www.sraconline.com)

Registration: May 1-June 30, 2015



### LEGOS SUMMER CAMP Engineering with LEGO SUMMER CAMPS MINECRAFT



Mine, Craft, and Build using LEGOs

Ages: 5-7 years olds

Dates: July 13-17, 2015

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Fee: \$150

Register online at:

<http://register.play-veil.org/registration/new/39712>

Location: Smithfield Recreation & Aquatic Center

600 Booker Dairy Road\* Smithfield\*NC\*27577\*919-934-2148

Mine, Craft, and Build using LEGOs

Ages: 8-12 year olds

Dates: July 13 - 17, 2015

Time: 1:00pm-4:00pm

Fee: \$150

Register online at:

<http://register.play-veil.org/registration/new/39713>





# A long road to Mother's Day

## Egg donation, faith helped complete Four Oaks family

At first glance, the Weavers look like any other family.

Or, at least any family with twins.

Gela, a special education teacher at Four Oaks Elementary, and Scotty, a senior firefighter with the City of Raleigh, are the parents of seven-year-old Amrynn and her brother, Mason.

They live in a picturesque home smack in the middle of town. There are cement casts of the kids' hand prints in the flower bed, leaning against the house.

There are toys in the driveway and pictures on the mantle. And frames already in place on the opposite wall, just waiting for memories and moments yet to come.

There is the sound of laughter, the sounds of boyhood curiosity as Mason tries to figure out a latch on a chest and the beginnings of southern charm as Amrynn asks a guest if it's OK to ask her son to play Monopoly.

Gela is charming, funny and a gracious host, while Scotty is a quiet and spiritual man - a fact lending weight and wisdom to that which he chooses to say.

What you can't see is - without a twenty-something woman in Tennessee, plenty of patience and a measure of faith - none of this may have ever happened.

Gela and Scotty met at Wake Tech, and were married in April 2001.

And it didn't take long for the subject of children to come up.

"We were actually on the plane going to our honeymoon when he said something about starting to try (to have children)," Gela said. "I just kind of smiled at him and said 'that's sweet.' We didn't really try-try until a year later. I was very surprised it didn't occur on its own."

About a year later, the Weavers began to sense something was wrong. So, Gela asked her doctor.

"He first asked me, 'well, how old is your husband?'" she said. "And I

said, 'I didn't marry an old man.' So, he got me started on Clomid (a fertility drug) and when that didn't work, we went on from there."

Every few months was a different attempt. More drugs. More shots. Then, In vitro fertilization, which is basically a process in which the egg is fertilized outside the body, then implanted.

Finally, the Weavers went to Tennessee to a fertility clinic.

"He concluded by watching my eggs, and after all the things we had tried, that, even though he had seen worse make it - and seen ones that were good not make it - that it was my egg quality all those years," Gela said. "So, we probably had a fertilized egg at some point, but it never made it past 24 hours."

"He said, 'I have a hard time believing that you don't have any good eggs in there,' he just thought it might take 10 years for that one good one to come out. I said, 'I don't want to wait 10 years.' So, I immediately told him to start looking for an egg donor for me."

Egg donation can be a touchy subject for some people. The idea that another person's egg - and thus, DNA - is involved with the birthing process is an issue for some.

Not the Weavers.

"I remember my mom asking me when they were born, 'are you going to tell them?' And I said, 'yeah I'm going to tell them - all of Four Oaks knows. I had people that I worked with giving me fertility shots, so it was somewhat of a community event,'" Gela said.

"Once you get the end result - having children - it's truly a blessing after what we went through," Scotty added. "It was a struggle. A roller coaster of highs and lows. And you hate to put a name on it, but you see people with children that don't even act like they want them. And you're sitting here praying every night about it."

The decision to use donated eggs was not the end of the journey. That was still more than two years away.

A potential match was found, oddly enough, on a Mother's Day. But





the would-be donor failed a drug test. So, the fertility clinic went to a previous donor.

"They try to match your skin tone, your hair color, your eye color," Gela said. "They try to match your height as much as possible. My donor was quite a bit shorter than I am, maybe 5-4 or 5-6."

Her height is a little hazy, which is understandable.

The Weavers have never met her.

Confidentiality rules are in place to protect the identity of both donors and recipients. That means it's likely that none of the Weavers will ever know the woman that helped make their family possible.

"She doesn't realize that she completed our - I don't want to say life, but our children are our life now," Scotty said. "For her to be blessing us the way she did, it's sad that (she'll) never know what joy she's given us. It would be nice to be able to thank her for giving us the greatest gift."

In January of 2007, 10 days after the fertilized eggs were implanted, Gela and her mother went to her doctor for blood work.

Despite some differing opinions between her Raleigh and Tennessee doctors, she was, in fact, pregnant.

"My mom teared up on the couch, but I had learned through six years of fertility and disappointment that you just keep your emotions even," Gela said. "So, I didn't respond that much emotionally because, for me, it wasn't over yet."

"Yes, I was pregnant. But I wouldn't be truly accepting of the idea until they were in my arms."

Then, she got to tell Scotty.

"I had to wait for Scotty to get home," she said. "It took him forever to get home. He went and ran errands, he went and got some lunch. And he finally gets home and I met him outside. I said, 'where have you been?' He starts telling me all the places he's been, and I said, 'welcome home, daddy.'"

"He said, 'are you kidding?' And I said no. Then, he fell to the ground. He started crying and said, 'Don't you be playing with me, Gela.'"

Pregnancies involving egg donation require an even higher number of prenatal visits than the norm, resulting in, as Gela puts it, "more ultrasounds than you would believe."

During the pregnancy, Gela had to deal with



Mason and Amrynn enjoy a Spring stroll.

Photo by D.J. Griffin

diabetes. Then, at 36 weeks, she developed preeclampsia, or a high blood pressure condition.

So, at 36 weeks and four days, it was time for them to become parents.

Gela was induced on a Wednesday morning, and the next night at 7:10, Amrynn arrived.

It would be another three hours and 17 minutes before they would get to meet Mason.

"I was holding her, and pushing for him," she said.

Usually, twins are born 20 minutes to an hour apart. But because it was still early, the

kids weren't quite ready yet.

"Physically, they hadn't dropped," Gela said. "That's what the doctor told me. He said, 'yeah, they're in Canada.'"

Mason, wandering by within earshot when this portion of the story was being recounted by his parents, found the tale interesting.

"Was I in Canada?" he wondered aloud.

A room full of laughter kept Gela and Scotty from having to explain the metaphor to their son, who instead turned his attention to the possibility of playing the Wii.

"I didn't sleep that night," Gela said of the



night her twins were born. "I think it was the adrenaline kicking in, thinking, 'oh my goodness. This is real. They're here.' Reality started kicking in, but I can tell you, I was still guarded. They weren't home yet.

"I don't remember when the guard went down."

Two things were hanging around Gela's neck as she shared her family's story. One was her daughter's arms, as Amyrnn climbed in her mother's lap and hugged her tight while she recounted the days during which it wasn't clear that they would ever get the chance to become parents.

The other was a necklace, featuring a mustard seed.

Matthew 17:20 reads, "He said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.'"

That was the idea behind the gift from

Scotty to his wife.

"It really is a good symbol for us, because we did have faith," Gela said.

That faith had rewards beyond even the birth of Amyrnn and Mason.

Gela's grandmother, on her father's side, died in Kentucky on the morning of one of Gela and Scotty's scheduled visits to Tennessee.

Her funeral was on a "bitter cold" Monday, and the Weavers found out leaving that funeral that it was time to go back to Tennessee and receive the fertilized eggs.

As it turns out, the twins were born the day before her granny's birthday – and on the same date her other grandmother died in 1978.

Gela's maternal grandmother died when she was very young, and, according to Gela, her mother took it very hard.

"Well, maybe they both had something to do with it," Gela said. "I said, 'well,

momma, maybe grandma doesn't want you to be sad on that day anymore. You have to celebrate that day from now on."

Between cheerleading, softball and dance classes for Amyrnn and football, basketball and hunting for Mason, there's plenty of celebrating around the Weaver house.

"We've been blessed with some good babies," Scotty said.

A blessing made possible through egg donation, a process that carries a stigma that Gela would very much like to see erased.

"I just feel like, if more women would share and be open about it, then more women out there who are struggling wouldn't feel so embarrassed about it," she said.

"You think about back centuries ago when if a woman couldn't (have children), then they weren't considered valuable. Well, sorry. I don't want women to be ashamed of any infertility problems.

"I think it's a great option."





## County Health Department seeks feedback

The 2014 Community Health Assessment (CHA) Committee met on Jan. 30, 2015. During the meeting, the CHA reviewed Johnston County statistics relating to survey results, demographics, socioeconomic, mortality, morbidity and community input and identified priority areas for 2014-2018.

These are:

- Access to healthcare, both medical and behavioral
- Obesity
- Nutrition and physical activity
- Mental Health and substance abuse
- Access to dental care

Johnston County Public Health Department is seeking community input on ways to improve county services in these areas.

Comment online at [www.johnstonnc.com](http://www.johnstonnc.com). For more information, call (919) 989-5200.



**20% OFF  
Exam**  
With this coupon

**Quality Care Animal Hospital**  
5941 US Hwy. 301 South, Four Oaks  
**919.963.3044**  
One coupon per household. Expires 12/31/15.

---

**REACH YOUR  
NEIGHBORS!**  
Call **919-618-4405** to advertise  
**TODAY!**

---



Moms. Your lives are so busy with the demands of taking care of family that often you don't take the time to take care of yourself.

Johnston Health reminds you that the best thing you can do for your family is to stay healthy.

We offer a wide array of specialized women's services and physicians to handle anything from mammograms and exams to robotic surgical procedures.

Visit us online for more info.

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

919-934-8171

 **JOHNSTON**  
UNC HEALTH CARE







**BEATRIZ TREJO**  
7TH GRADE

# LOCAL ART

## Dedicated to All the Mothers By: LaSa Williams of Four Oaks

There are many ways to show love  
There are many signs that it is true  
There are many doubts when it comes to love  
But not of a mother's love, because it's true  
Mothers have a way of nurturing  
Like no one else can  
Mothers have to be strong  
Trials, burdens, and all the tough times, they  
withstand  
A mother's hugs and kisses differ  
From any other hug or kiss you receive  
A mother knows best, even when we disagree  
We find out the hard way, best believe  
To all the mothers near and far  
This poem is just for you  
I speak on behalf of all the children  
And say we love you  
I'll even go as far as to apologize  
For all the times that we did wrong  
And I'll speak on behalf of every child and say  
A special place in my heart is yours and in my  
life you belong



**JAWUAN SMITH**  
8TH GRADE



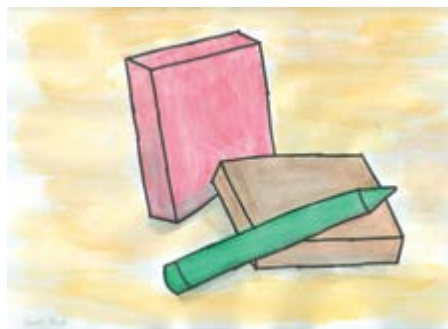
**CARLYE DURHAM**  
7TH GRADE



**HARVEY ANDERSON**  
7TH GRADE



**MICHAEL VELAZQUEZ**  
8TH GRADE



**SARAH BYRD**  
7TH GRADE



**LOLA HALES**  
7TH GRADE

## SAVE THE DATE

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### **Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.**

#### **Story Time**

James Bryan Creech Public Library  
Listen to a fun story and enjoy singing songs.  
For more information, visit  
[www.fouroakslibrary.webs.com](http://www.fouroakslibrary.webs.com) or  
call (919) 963-6013.

### **May 2**

#### **Ham & Yam Festival**

Downtown Smithfield  
[www.hamandyam.com](http://www.hamandyam.com)

### **May 2, 3 to 7 p.m.**

#### **Cruise In**

Main Street, Four Oaks

### **May 4-7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

#### **Gordon Allen – Sporting Artist**

Exhibit at Frank Creech Art Gallery at Johnston  
Community College. Free to the public. For more  
information, visit [www.johnstoncc.edu](http://www.johnstoncc.edu).

### **May 13, 3 to 5 p.m.**

#### **Parenting Class (Session 1 of 2)**

Johnston County Public Health Department. The  
session topics include sick babies, immunizations,  
CPR, first aid, dental health, lead safety, car seat  
safety, child development and discipline.  
For more information, call (919) 989-5200 or visit  
[www.johnstonnc.com](http://www.johnstonnc.com).

### **May 14, 4 to 7 p.m.**

#### **Homebuyer Workshop**

Johnston County Cooperative Extension Service.  
What you need to know before you consider  
making a home purchase. Participants will gain  
knowledge and skills in money management and  
financial planning in this free class to help make  
better home buying decisions. Call the Extension  
Office at (919) 989-5380 to register.

### **May 15, 6:30 p.m.**

#### **Acorn Festival**

Concert and pig pickin' by Carolina Tradition  
Bluegrass in Barbour's Grove Park - Barbecue by  
White Swan.

### **May 16**

#### **Acorn Festival**

10 a.m. - Parade of Children  
10:30 a.m. - Acorn Festival Parade  
Noon - Acorn Festival - Rides, food, vendors,  
entertainment by The Martin Davis Beach Band,  
Dr. T Bone Tommy Tucker, Bobby Adams and Carlie  
Barbour. Also, the Four Oaks Chamber Ambassa-  
dor Scholarship Award and Acorn Festival \$5,000  
raffle drawing will be held.  
For more information see the ad on  
Page 2, call (919) 963-4004 or email  
[fouroaksareachamber@gmail.com](mailto:fouroaksareachamber@gmail.com).

### **May 16**

#### **Full Throttle Car Club 4th Annual Car Show**

Held at Dunn-Benson Ford. Proceeds benefit the  
Autism Society of N.C. \$20 entry fee for show  
vehicles and motorcycles. For more information,  
contact John Martin at (919) 410-3944.

### **May 16**

#### **Beginner Kayak & Canoe Lessons**

Howell Woods

If you've always wanted to kayak or canoe, but  
were not sure where to start, this program is  
for you. Participants (ages 13 and older) will be  
taught paddling techniques and paddler safety  
while on the calm waters of Swan Pond, located  
on the Howell Woods property. Seats are limited,  
so sign up early. Cost: \$15. Register by contacting  
the Learning Center at (919) 938-0115.

### **May 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

#### **Welcome to the Neighborhood Event**

Freedom Family Fellowship, 2595 Lassiter Road,  
Four Oaks. Freedom Family Fellowship wants to  
introduce itself to the community, meet new peo-  
ple and minister to those in need. There will be a  
special service with music and information about  
the fellowship and hot dogs and sides immedi-  
ately after. For more, contact Pastor Scott Johnson at  
(919) 795-9045.

### **May 18, 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

#### **Water Conservation and Composting**

Howell Woods. Protect our natural resources and  
become a friend of the environment. Learn the  
benefits and uses for installing rain barrels at  
home. Also, learn the techniques for producing  
rich compost for your gardens using items that  
otherwise contribute to the burden placed on our  
landfills. Cost: \$10. To register, contact Howell  
Woods Environmental Learning Center at  
(919) 938-0115 or [jtastoske@johnstoncc.edu](mailto:jtastoske@johnstoncc.edu).

### **May 20, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

#### **Parenting Class (Session 2 of 2)**

Johnston County Public Health Department. The  
session topics include sick babies, immunizations,  
CPR, first aid, dental health, lead safety, car seat  
safety, child development and discipline.  
For more information, call (919) 989-5200 or visit  
[www.johnstonnc.com](http://www.johnstonnc.com).

### **May 22, 11 a.m. to noon**

#### **Clothing Closet and Food Pantry**

Four Oaks Farmers Market  
For details, contact John Jernigan of Lighthouse  
Christian Fellowship at (919) 320-7387.

### **May 30**

#### **Beginner Creek Paddle**

Howell Woods. In this trip (ages 13 and older),  
we'll kayak the narrow and slow-moving waters  
of Hannah Creek. This trip is only a few hours,  
making it perfect for beginners or kayakers that  
may not want to endure longer hours of paddling.  
Cost: \$25. Register by contacting the Learning  
Center at (919) 938-0115.

### **June 6**

#### **Neuse River Kayak Trip**

Howell Woods. The Neuse River runs right along  
the back of the Howell Woods property and makes  
for the perfect paddling route for more experi-  
enced kayakers. The course of this trip stretches  
through 12 miles of Johnston County, ending at  
the Richardson Bridge boat landing. Our guides  
will provide history of the Neuse, as well as identi-  
fy wildlife along the way. Cost: \$35  
Register by contacting the Learning Center at  
(919) 938-0115.

### **June 6, 3 to 7 p.m.**

#### **Cruise In**

Main Street, Four Oaks

### **June 22, 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

#### **Organic Pest and Weed Control**

Howell Woods. It is well known that integrated  
pest management is the safest practice for man-  
aging pests in your lawn and garden. Integrated  
Pest Management or (IPM) looks at pest control  
from a variety of methods with chemical control  
as a last resort. Cost: \$10. Register by contacting  
the Learning Center at (919) 938-0115 or email  
[jtastoske@johnstoncc.edu](mailto:jtastoske@johnstoncc.edu).

### **June 26, 11 a.m. to noon**

#### **Clothing Closet and Food Pantry**

Four Oaks Farmers Market  
For details, contact John Jernigan of Lighthouse  
Christian Fellowship at (919) 320-7387.

### **June 27**

#### **Neuse River Kayak Trip**

Howell Woods. The Neuse River runs right along  
the back of the Howell Woods property and makes  
for the perfect paddling route for more experi-  
enced kayakers. The course of this trip stretches  
through 12 miles of Johnston County, ending at  
the Richardson Bridge boat landing. Our guides  
will provide history of the Neuse, as well as identi-  
fy wildlife along the way. Cost: \$35  
Register by contacting the Learning Center at  
(919) 938-0115.



# Realo offers a personal touch

Some things in life are meant to be impersonal.

Renewing the sticker for your license plate and getting money from an ATM come to mind right away.

Getting a prescription filled doesn't necessarily need a personal touch either, but the people at Realo Discount Drugs in Four Oaks believe offering one makes a difference.

Carl Edwards has lived and worked in Johnston County for most of his adult life, and Amber Woodall, a Four Oaks native, is on staff as well.

"When you walk into (a larger store), they're not going to know who you are," Edwards, manager and pharmacist, said. "They're not going to take that extra step to try to take care of them if there's something they're out of stock on. They come in here, we're going to take care of them – regardless if it's here or we have to go outside of here to try to make sure the patient's taken care of."

With its biggest competitor, Walmart Express, sitting across the street, a locally-owned pharma-

cy has to find ways to stand out.

One such concept is free delivery.

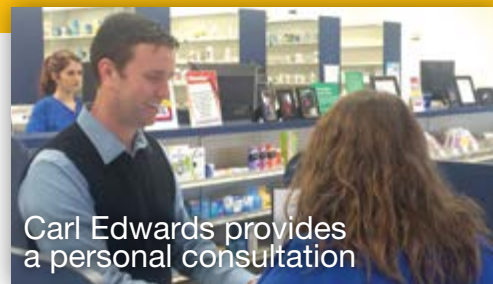
The Four Oaks store offers free delivery – both in town and the surrounding area – and it has become a popular service since the location opened last June.

"The elderly patients are the ones that really, really love it," Edwards said. "Because there's no one else in Four Oaks that does daily delivery. So, we have an edge there."

The biggest obstacle, aside from its proximity, is the perception that Walmart always has the lowest prices. A perception, Edwards contends, that may be more true for clothes than for medicine.

"We are up against the wall with the concept that Walmart is the cheapest around," Edwards said. "What people don't understand is that, if they're looking for a cash price, then our prices are typically cheaper than Walmart across the street."

There's also a drive-thru at the Four Oaks location, which is great for rainy days. And sick ones.



Carl Edwards provides a personal consultation

"I'm amazed, because I have a 14 month old myself," Edwards said. "You carry the child to the pediatrician. They're sick. The last thing I want to do is get them out of the car, go into the store, wait in line, pick the medicine up and then bundle them back in the car. I don't know why folks would do that when we have the drive-thru sitting here."

The Four Oaks location also offers flu shots and immunizations and has a staff member that speaks fluent Spanish to help serve the town's Hispanic population.

"That's been a big draw," Edwards said. "We have some folks come in and they don't want to see the pharmacist, they want to see Erica (Depaz)."

"Having folks that are local to the area, and completely understand it, is a huge asset."

**Carolina Comfort Air Inc.**

**"Comfort is Our Middle Name"**

NC Lic #31589, 29077

**\$85 per system**

One Time Maintenance

Maximum 2 systems. Does not include any system diagnostics. Not valid with any other special or offer. **F0J201501**

**\$300 off**

Complete System Replacement

(Indoor/Outdoor/Comfort Control) – per system, up to 2 systems. Not valid with any other coupon, special or manufacturer's promo. One time only with this coupon. **F0J201502**

**\$25 off**

any HVAC Service Call

Not valid on diagnostic fees, not valid with any other specials or offers. One time only with this coupon. **F0J201503**

**CarolinaComfortAir.com**  
**(919) 701-5728**

**Locally owned and operated!**

ACC A KATE DUKE ENERGY PREQUALIFIED CONTRACTOR BBB

Find us on Facebook

**A gift for you!**

**\$25 Off ANY Service**

**EVANS TIRE AND AUTOMOTIVE CENTER, INC.**

Expires 6/15/15  
(Excludes NC State Inspections)

919-912-5024

*Don't take our word for it! Here's what a client said:*

**"My wife and I have been coming to Evans Tire and Automotive for car repair for years and have always been satisfied with the professionalism and service."**

— Dennis and Vickie Stanley

**EVANS TIRE AND AUTOMOTIVE CENTER, INC.**

207 N. Bright Leaf Blvd.  
Smithfield  
919-912-5024

# FRESH MAKE PIZZA INGREDIENTS BETTER

## WE DELIVER! 919.963.9999

### PIZZA-PASTA-SUBS-CALZONES

<p>Two Medium 2-Topping Pizzas</p> <p><b>\$18.99</b></p> <p>Plus add Garlic Knots for only \$2.99</p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Two Large 2-Topping Pizzas</p> <p><b>\$20.99</b></p> <p>Plus add Garlic Knots for only \$2.99</p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Two X-Large 2-Topping Pizzas</p> <p><b>\$22.99</b></p> <p>Plus add Garlic Knots for only \$2.99</p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Two Lasagnas or Spaghetitis with Meat Sauce 2 Side Salads &amp; Garlic Bread</p> <p><b>\$16.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>
<p>20 BBQ or Hot Wings, Garlic Knots &amp; 2-Liter Drink</p> <p><b>\$19.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>	<p>One Large 1-Topping Pizza &amp; 10 Wings</p> <p><b>\$20.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>	<p>One Large 1-Topping Pizza, 1 Reg. Cheese Stix &amp; 10 Wings</p> <p><b>\$25.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Two Large 2-Topping Pizzas, 20 Hot Wings &amp; 12 Garlic Knots</p> <p><b>\$39.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expires 5/31/15. Must present coupon. FOJ</small></p>
<p>Dos Pizzas Medianas con 2-Ingredientes</p> <p><b>\$18.99</b></p> <p>Añadir nudos de ajo por \$2.99</p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Dos Pizzas Grandes con 2-Ingredientes</p> <p><b>\$20.99</b></p> <p>Añadir nudos de ajo por \$2.99</p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Dos Pizzas Extra Grandes con 2-Ingredientes</p> <p><b>\$22.99</b></p> <p>Añadir nudos de ajo por \$2.99</p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Dos Lasañas o Espaguetis con Salsa de Carne, 2 Ensaladas y Pan de Ajo</p> <p><b>\$16.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>
<p>20 Alitas BBQ o Picantes, Nudos de Ajo y Bebida de 2-Litros</p> <p><b>\$19.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Un Pizza Grande con 1-Ingrediente y 10 Alitas de Pollo</p> <p><b>\$20.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Un Pizza Grande con 1-Ingrediente, 1 Regular Cheese Stix y 10 Alitas de Pollo</p> <p><b>\$25.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>	<p>Dos Pizzas Grandes con 2-Ingredientes, 10 Alitas de Pollo y 12 Nudos de Ajo</p> <p><b>\$39.99</b></p> <p><small>PAPA'S PIZZA Expira 5/31/15. Debe presentar el cupón. FOJ</small></p>

**PAPA'S** SUBS & PIZZA

**WE DELIVER!\***  
**919.963.9999**

5831 U.S. Hwy. 301 South, Four Oaks  
\* Limited area. Charges may apply.





## TREATING YOUR FAMILY LIKE OUR OWN

We are your hometown pharmacy. We will take care of all your pharmaceutical needs in a professional and timely manner. We strive to fill your medications in 15 minutes or less and at a fair and competitive price. We know your time is valuable and we treat you like family.

# FREE LOCAL DELIVERY



**REALO**  
DISCOUNT DRUGS  
[realodrugs.com](http://realodrugs.com)



6030 US Hwy 301 South • Four Oaks, NC  
**919.980.4031**  
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm | Sat 9am-3pm



601-D North 8th Street • Smithfield, NC  
**919.934.2111**  
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm | Sat 9am-2pm