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I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream

Getting the scoop on the best ice cream options in the Elon community

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when temperatures begin to rise around this time of year. As we flock to the nearest parlor for a cold treat the biggest decision we usually need to make is what flavor we want. Obviously size and toppings are based on this crucial decision. But members of the community are now faced with another challenge: to choose whether to support a local store or a chain when getting their fill of creamy goodness.

The first contender is Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream located on 2603 South Church Street in Burlington. This little place began with a day of free ice cream in 2002 and has since become a part of the local community. How could they not be when they offer sprinkles for free?

The store began when owner Tom Lambeth, also a local district court judge and attorney, met Richard "Smitty" Smith at a ranch in Arizona. "Smitty" had started several ice cream stores in the North. Lambeth had always wanted to do something like open an ice cream store, and thought this was his opportunity.

Feeling inspired, Lambeth started to plan for the store and sought assistance from sister-in-law Amy Nakhle to be the manager. At the time Nakhle was living in Africa, but was planning to move back to America. She had always been self-employed and liked the idea of working at the store. After figuring out the logistics of her new position, she agreed and moved back soon after. But there was no time to settle in – the next day they were painting the store.

As the store has progressed, Smitty's has made efforts to create community relationships. They often do fundraisers for non-profit organizations and strive to support the area.

Nakhle said that they are proud of the "local atmosphere" that Smitty's has and would like to further make it a "community place." The store features a community board, articles about the store and artwork from local schools.



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check it out...

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Do's and Dont's

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What you didn't know about tanning



smitty's vs. cold stone

...what is this anyway?

The Elon Edge is a new, magazine style insert associated with The Pendulum that will be printed monthly starting in the fall of 2010. Each insert will feature writing and photography to fit different themes that apply to the Elon University community. Enjoy this insert as a preview for later editions coming in September.