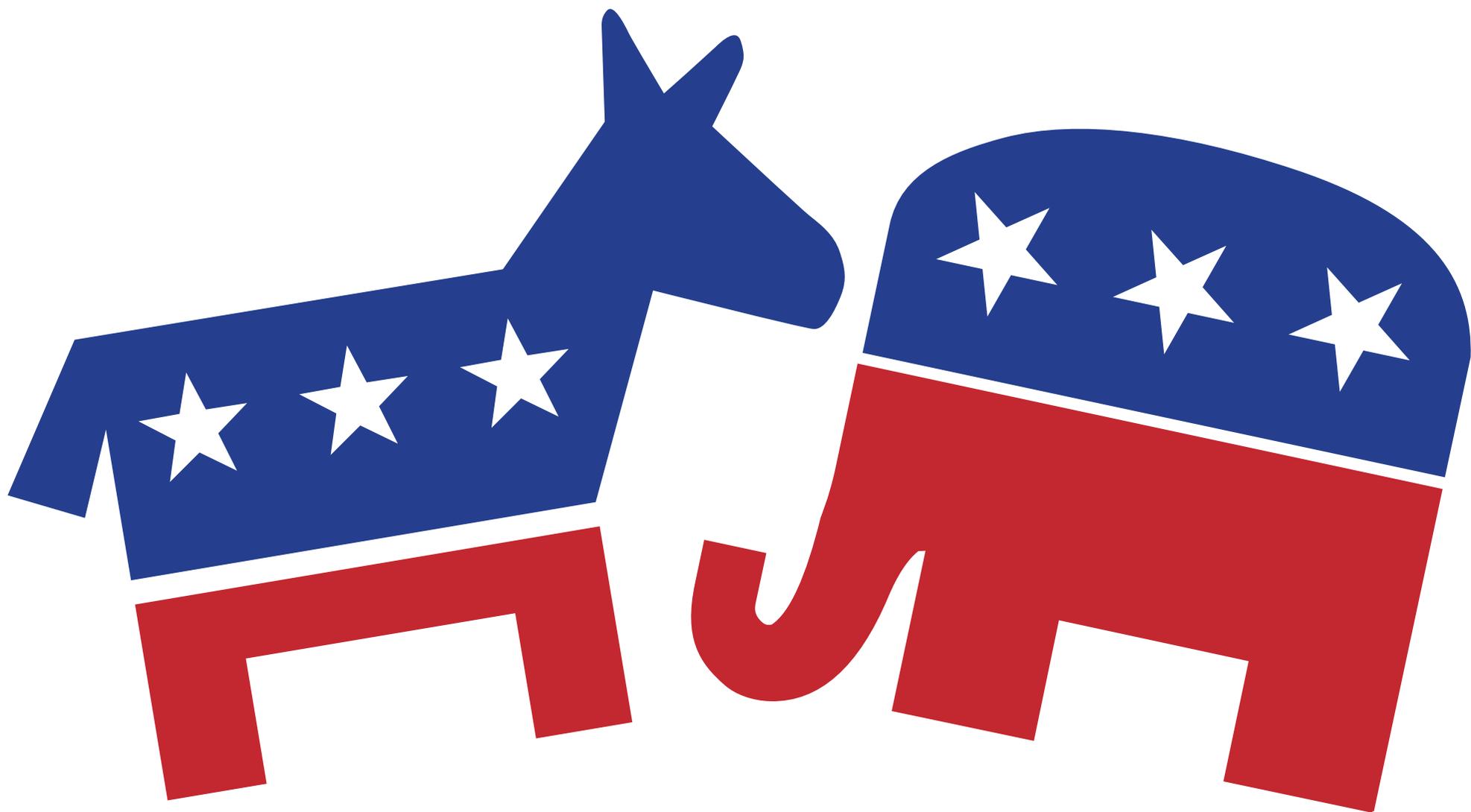


A PENDULUM SPECIAL EDITION

ELON ELECTS 2012

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2012



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

ALAMANCE COUNTY VOTER'S GUIDE

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum news organization is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, magazine and web show. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to pendulum@elon.edu as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. The Pendulum is located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center on Williamson Avenue.

Elections Editor
Rachel Southmayd

Editor-in-Chief
Caitlin O'Donnell

Managing Editor
Natalie Allison

Online Managing Editor
Jeff Stern

Contributors
Jonathan Black
Katherine Blunt
Casey Brown
Stephanie Butzer
Kassondra Cloos
Eric Dinkins
Zachary Horner
Rebecca Iannucci
Kyle Maher
Kristen Olsen
Daniel Quackenbush
Kate Riley
Rebecca Wickel
Andrew Wilson

Social Media Editor
Elizabeth Nerich

Design Chief
Madison Margeson

Photo Editor
Claire Esparros

Copy Chief
Ashley Fahey

Business Manager
Trevor Nelson

Public Relations Director
Madeline Monaco

Adviser
Colin Donohue

For a complete list of The Pendulum staff, please visit ElonPendulum.com/staff.

Table of Contents

NC Stakes page 3

Candidates across the state of North Carolina have very different visions of how the future will look. Decisions made by the new governor could have a major impact on how the education system and the economy could change.

Alamance page 4

Alamance County is a complicated place, with three different state congressional and two national congressional districts.

Money Trail page 8

North Carolinians have donated millions more to Obama than to Romney, but are still neck and neck in the polls.

Answers page 10

In the candidates' own words, answers to questions about why they're running, the economy, their plans if they take office and why members of the local community should vote for them.

Elon View page 13

Elon students are basing their voting decisions on a number of factors and some are still making up their minds.

Opinions page 14

Columns from leaders of student political organizations, top tweets and why the public must demand better from elected officials.

As results roll in, stay tuned to Elon student media

On election night, join The Pendulum and Elon Local News for comprehensive coverage of local, state and national election results.

For the first time in the history of the two organizations, ELN and The Pendulum are teaming up. During ELN's seven-hour election night broadcast, The Pendulum will be home to the "Fast Track Data Center." Don't forget to pick up The Pendulum's election results edition on Thurs., Nov. 8!



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ELON LOCAL NEWS

Members of the ELN election team from left to right, standing: Katie Maraghy, Nicole Chadwick, Katherine Wise, Steve Roth, Eric Halperin, Scarlett Fakhar and Addie Haney. Seated: Carly Hildyard, Joe Bruno, Jason Puckett and Jeff Ackermann. Wise is the International Editor for The Pendulum and will anchor the "Fast Track Data Center" located in The Pendulum's office in the Elon Town Center.

Follow us on Twitter

@elonpendulum

@pendulumlive

@ElonLocalNews

#ElonElects



PICK A SIDE: COMPARING THE CANDIDATES

Compiled by Caitlin O'Donnell, Editor-in-Chief

Obama publicly stated his support for same-sex marriage. During more recent campaigning, he has endorsed initiatives in three states to legalize same-sex marriage. Obama opposed section three of the Defense of Marriage Act, which prevents same-sex couples from receiving some benefits.

Obama has campaigned on the platform of protecting the middle class by ensuring everyone pays his or her "fair share." If re-elected, he said he would cut taxes by \$3,600 for middle class families making \$50,000 a year. He would also end the war in Afghanistan and split the savings between infrastructure at home and paying down the country's debt. He would also eliminate tax breaks for companies that send jobs overseas.

Obama is for abortion rights but has yet to clarify when he thinks life begins. In interviews, Obama has said he trusts women to make decisions about abortion carefully. On the 2012 anniversary of the Roe v. Wade ruling, the White House issued a statement affirming abortion as a right guaranteed by the Constitution.

March 23, 2010, Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act into law, commonly referred to as "Obamacare." The individual mandate provision requires most Americans to obtain health insurance by 2014 or pay a tax penalty. The Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of most of the health care law in a 5-4 ruling.

In July, Obama signed a bill into law to prevent an increase in student loan interest rates. During his term, Obama introduced a "Pay as you Earn" program, which capped federal student loan repayment at 10 percent of a graduate's monthly discretionary income. On the campaign trail, he has said he knows the burden of student loans, having just paid off his own within the last decade.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Romney said, as president, he would appoint an attorney general who was in support of the Defense of Marriage Act, a bipartisan law signed by President Bill Clinton that defined marriage as a legal union between one man and one woman. He is also in favor of a marriage amendment to the Constitution.

SPENDING

Within his first year in office, Romney said he would bring federal spending below 20 percent of the country's gross domestic product by cutting approximately \$500 billion per year. Romney has emphasized a three-pronged approach to cutting back the spending power of the federal government. Among those include eliminating Title X Family Planning Funding, reducing foreign aid, shrinking the federal workforce by 10 percent and consolidating federal agencies.

ABORTION

Romney is anti-abortion and said he believes life begins at conception. He is in favor of overturning Roe v. Wade, a 1973 ruling by the Supreme Court upholding a woman's right to have an abortion before the fetus is viable. Romney is in favor of allowing states to determine their own abortion laws, rather than having them be dictated by a judicial mandate.

HEALTH CARE

Romney has said that on his first day in office, he will issue an executive order providing Affordable Care Act waivers to all 50 states and then work with Congress to repeal the legislation as a whole. The federal government will then work with states to reform health care in a way that best suits the individual state.

STUDENT LOANS

Romney claims there is too much federal spending in higher education, which is burdening students with debt. He is in favor of simplifying the financial aid system, while encouraging participation from the private sector and less regulation. Romney said students should not expect the government to help pay for education, but he hopes to ensure students find jobs that allow them to pay back their loans.

OBAMA vs. ROMNEY



What's at stake, NC?

Future education, economic policies very different under opposing candidates

Kate Riley
Special Projects Editor

An election season inevitably brings much debate and discussion, especially with such different candidates to choose from. As expected, a majority of the chatter on social media sites, television ads and in-person centers on the presidential election.

But the elections at the state and local level will have a more personal impact on the lives of North Carolinians than some might realize.

For example, the next governor of North Carolina will have the power to appoint individuals to more than 400 different boards and committees, according to the Office of the Governor. These offices include Alamance Community College, Commission for Public Health, Domestic Violence, the State Board of Education and the Local Government Commission.

Job creation and the economy, as well as the state of public and higher education in North

Carolina, are two issues that both Republican gubernatorial candidate and former Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory and Democratic gubernatorial candidate and current North Carolina Lieutenant Governor Walter Dalton find leading their campaigns, according to their campaign websites. On the state level, job creation is vital to the success of North Carolina's economy.

Walter Dalton vs. Pat McCrory: NC Economy and Job Creation

As of September 2012, North Carolina's unemployment rate was 9.6 percent, up from 9.0 percent in January 2009, when current Governor Bev Perdue took office, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The unemployment rate in January 2008 was 5 percent.

But the unemployment rate locally, in Burlington, in January 2009 was higher than the state's average, at 10.1 percent. It has dropped to 9.7 percent as of September 2012, but is still above the state's rate.

Both Dalton and McCrory promise significant job creation.

According to Dalton's campaign website, he "will fight for businesses that make products in North Carolina, not overseas. He will push job training in growth industries like nursing and allied health, biotechnology, and in military contracts."

In September, Dalton outlined his job creation plan, including the offering of tax incentives to companies that provide tax relief to small businesses and who hire long-term unemployed workers, according to a report by The Charlotte Observer.

Dalton also pointed out how his plan comes from numerous meetings he held with business, education and community leaders, helping him take a look back at the state of North Carolina's economy and how he could improve it.

McCrory also offered a job creation plan in July that calls in both personal and corporate income taxes, as well as a more "aggressive energy exploration," according to The Charlotte

Observer's report. Dalton said this plan could result in the increase of consumption taxes, ultimately hurting small businesses.

McCrory's campaign website outlines his "seven-point" economic plan, which includes modernizing the tax code in order to "spur job creation, productivity and innovation" and reforming education to create a solid future workforce. Both candidates seek to alter education to fit the need for good workers in the state.

Dalton vs. McCrory: Education

In the past four years while Purdue has been governor, there have been a lot of questions about her commitment to pushing for more funding in the public education system.

The 2009-2010 final appropriated North Carolina school system budget was \$8,245,341,827 according to Department of Public Instruction reports. The budget was cut for the 2010-2011 school year to \$7,360,833,223, down almost \$800 million. This budget includes everything from central office funding to instructional supplies to funding for the bus system.

The current proposed 2012-2013 school year budget is \$7,444,122,100.

For the Alamance-Burlington School System (ABSS), which surrounds Elon University, this meant a \$4.3 million reduction in federal stimulus dollars from 2011-2012, according to the ABSS website.

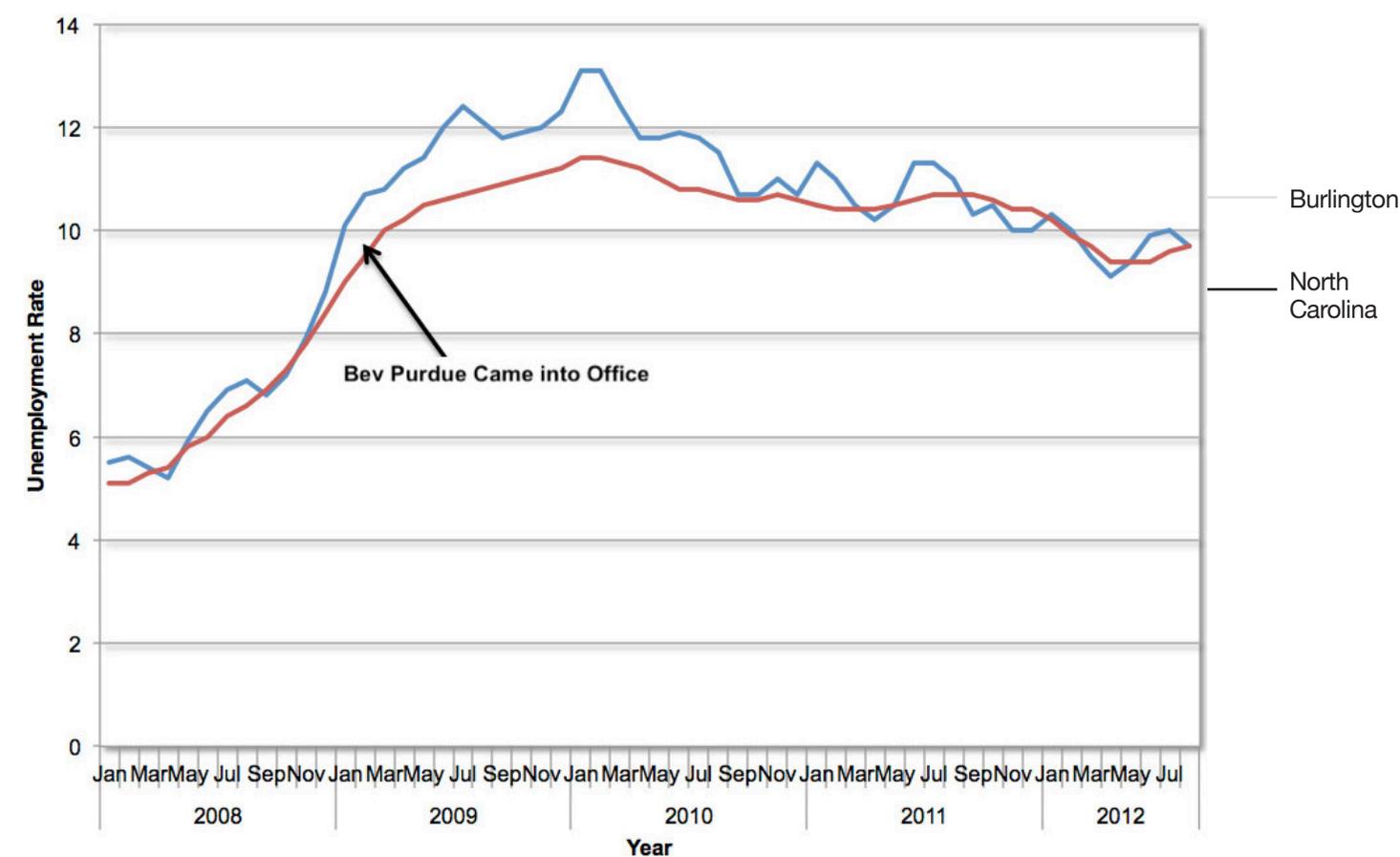
Along with the budget issue, the North Carolina high school graduation rate in 2012 was 80.4 percent, the highest in five years, according to the Department of Public Instruction.

Both gubernatorial candidates have extensive education plans that affect the public school budget, higher education and an overall better educational experience for North Carolina students.

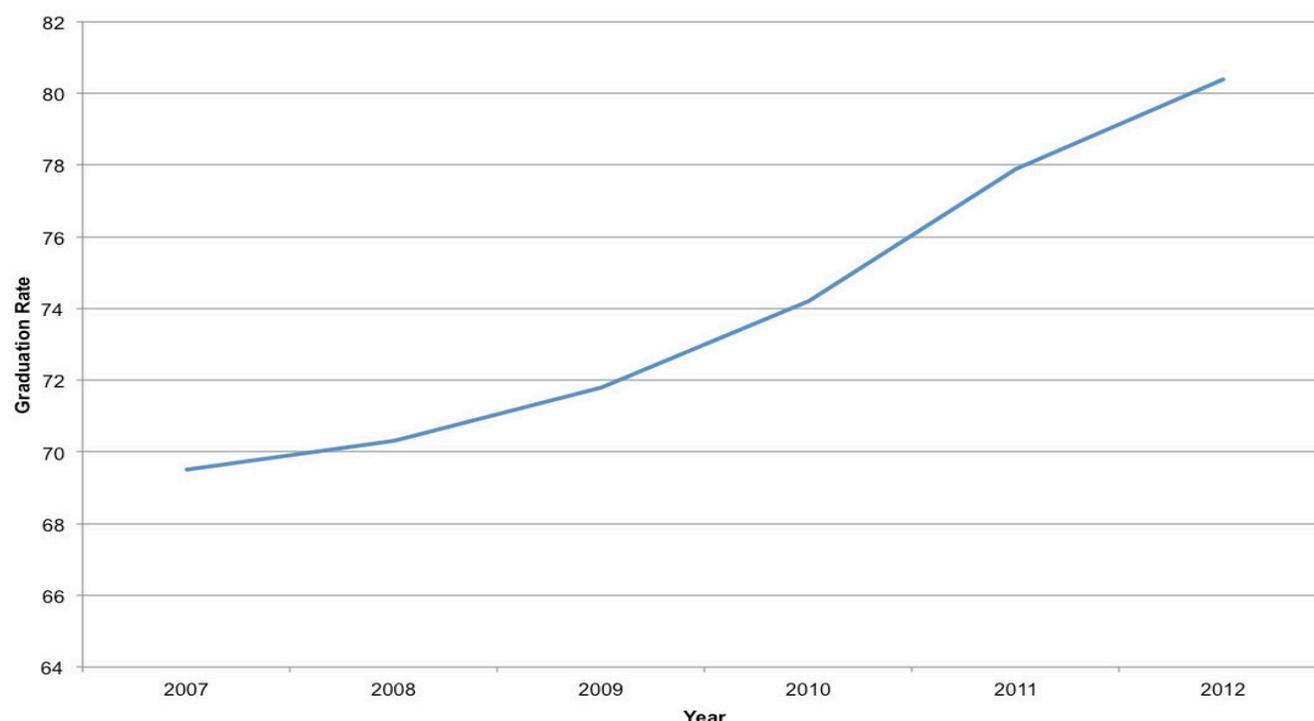
Dalton aims to restore funds to public education, specifically by closing tax loopholes, according to his campaign website, directing revenue from these efforts to bring back funds. This would also give financial aid back to many students in college who lost it, according to WRAL.

In 2003, Dalton wrote the Innovative Education Initiatives Act, pushing for the establishment of the state's early college high school system. This program links students directly with higher education partners, according to Dalton's education plan. After five years, students get a high school diploma and two years of college credit or an associate's degree.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



NC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES



ALL GRAPHS BY KATE RILEY, SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITOR

This helps better prepare students to go to college or to enter the workforce after graduation.

McCrory hopes to develop two “paths to success,” according to his platform, that would allow for high school students to either have a diploma deeming them college ready, or one deeming them career ready. The latter would allow students to have skills to enter the work force or to attend community college.

His plan also calls for the implementation of new tests in the third and ninth grades to ensure students are at the level they should be in the respective grade level. McCrory also believes the only way to measure student success is to test students in basic skills in reading and math. This will allow the state to grade schools to establish “transparent, objective, and easily understood data to parents, educators and the public, and will spur improvement among all schools,” according to McCrory’s campaign website.

Howard Coble vs. Tony Foriest: House Candidates

Republican candidate for the House of Representatives, incumbent Howard Coble, believes stimulating the economy through tax relief creates new jobs, according to his campaign website. Representatives from the House have the power to vote on legislation that would create these types of tax cuts for North Carolinians.

Former Sen. Tony Foriest-D, said job creation has to “supersede partisan bickering,” and according to his campaign website, the issue is finding the best way to do so.

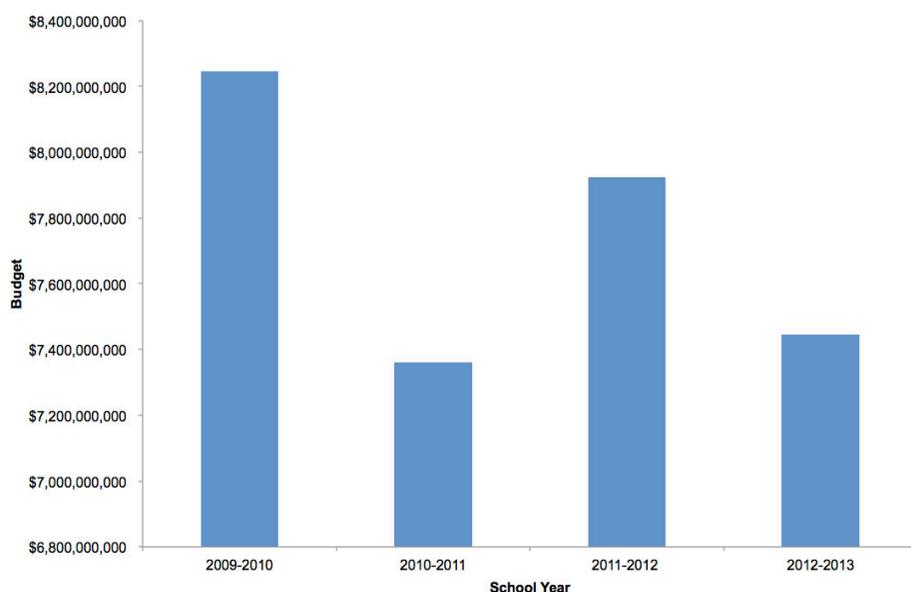
Foriest believes each taxpayer should pay his or her “fair share” without concession, echoing Obama’s views.

Almost five years ago, the North Carolina unemployment rate was at 5.0 percent and between January 2008 and September 2012, the

unemployment rate reached 11.4 percent at its highest point. Whomever wins this race could have a significant impact on the future of job creation both within the state and nationally.

For more on these candidates and others in Alamance County, see pages 10-12.

NC PUBLIC SCHOOL BUDGET



STUDIO APARTMENTS

STARTING AT \$445

The Acorn Residence Inn

www.acornhousingelon.com

UNDERSTANDING ALAMANANCE

Many district divisions make for lengthy ballot in county Elon University calls home

Rebecca Wickel
Features Editor

Alamance County, home to 151,131 people as of 2010, has a lengthy ballot. The 2012 election features 29 positions in six districts, ranging from President of the United States to County Register of Deeds. While campaigning across the county and shading oval spaces, this area of central North Carolina has remained fairly consistent with national trends.

In the 2008 presidential election, 58 percent of Americans voted in the general election, while Alamance County saw 65 percent of its registered voters at the polls. The same year had nearly 8,500 more registered Democrats than Republicans show up to vote across Alamance County, mirroring the national trend. This year, the number of registered Democrats outnumber Republicans again in the Tar Heel state and across the country.

The Alamance ballot includes U.S. House of Representatives districts 6, 2 and 4, as well as the North Carolina House districts 63 and 64. It features North Carolina Governor, Commissioners of Agriculture, Labor and Insurance, Attorney General, Treasurer and others. This year, the ballot also includes two referendums, or proposed policies the public can accept or reject. The two items up for vote are a .25 percent increase on local sales and use taxes, as well as \$15 million to expand and improve the facilities at Alamance Community College.

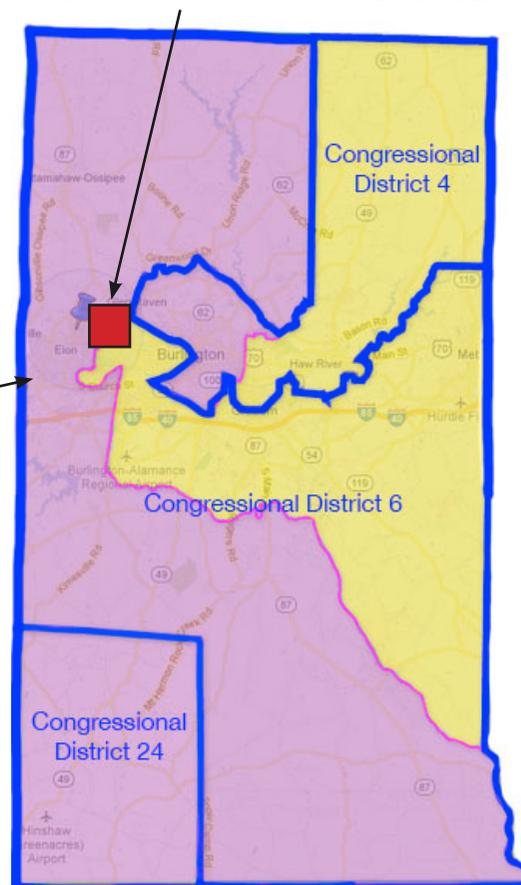


An enthusiastic crowd waves campaign signs at a rally in Burlington in September. Pat McCrory was accompanied by Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, a very popular governor in the Republican Party thanks to sweeping economic reforms he implemented in his state. The visit was part of McCrory's "North Carolina Comeback" tour.



Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and N.C. gubernatorial candidate Pat McCrory (right) addresses a crowd of supporters at a rally inside a Copland Fabrics warehouse in Burlington in September.

Elon University is located in N.C. House District 64, U.S. House District 6 and N.C. Senate District 24.



For a complete listing of the candidates in Alamance County, see back page.

Does your vote really count?

Popular vote determines electoral vote, college decides on actual election result

Dan Quackenbush
Opinions Editor

Contrary to popular belief, citizens of the United States do not directly elect people to the highest office in the land. Presidents are actually elected by the states and the District of Columbia, not by earning the majority of the national tally of votes.

Presidential elections occur on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every four years. On Election Day, voters throughout the nation go to the polls to choose the names of their preferred candidates for president and vice president. Voters who favor the Republican (or Democratic) candidate for president actually vote for the Republican (or Democratic) electors in their state. This system of voting is called the popular vote.

So when Americans cast their vote for a presidential candidate on Election Day, they are really voting for an “elector” — an elected representative who has previously pledged to endorse the same candidate. The collective group is more commonly referred to as the Electoral College.

There are 538 official Electoral College votes in every election, one for each of 435 members of the House of Representatives and the 100 members of the Senate. The District of Columbia, which has no designated congressional representation, has the minimum required three votes.

Because of population size and density in some states, a candidate's likelihood of winning the presidency is often determined by winning or losing the electoral votes of several key states, also known as battleground states. The state with the most Electoral College votes is California, with 55 votes, followed by Texas with 34 and New York with 31. Other historically significant electoral

states include Florida (27), Pennsylvania and Illinois (21 each), Ohio (20), Michigan (17), and North Carolina, Georgia and New Jersey (15.)

In 48 of the 50 states, whichever candidate receives the most popular votes wins all that state's electoral votes. But, in Maine and Nebraska, the state's electoral votes can be divided among the candidates.

To win the presidency, the candidate must receive a majority of the electoral votes in the United States. That is one-half of the total number of votes plus one, meaning a minimum of 270 electoral votes are required to win. In most elections, the candidate who secures the popular vote in a given state also wins the Electoral College votes assigned to that state. In 1984, Ronald Reagan received the most Electoral College votes in electoral history, with 525 votes.

But there is a common misconception among many American voters regarding the impact and power of a candidate winning the popular vote. Critics of the current Electoral College system argue the popular vote should be what determines the outcome of the election, not the candidates' ability to win electorally advantageous states. Fifteen candidates (including three incumbents) have become president of the United States, despite receiving less than 50 percent of the popular vote in all U.S. states.

In 1960, Democratic candidate John F. Kennedy only beat his opponent Richard Nixon by approximately 120,000 popular votes, but won the Electoral College 303-219, claiming the much sought after state of New York, along with 22 other states.

In the event of an electoral tie, or lack of a majority, the decision is given to the U.S. House of Representatives. The degree to which Congress takes into account the results of the popular vote



CLAIRE ESPARROS | Photo Editor

North Carolina is one of only a few states that use electronic touch-screen voting machines. After the voter selects all chosen candidates, he or she must review then confirm the choices before submitting the ballot. The machine prints a record of each selection as it is made so the Board of Elections has a continuous paper trail.

is debatable and unclear, but it is possible for the socially popular candidate to not be selected. In 1824, Andrew Jackson won a plurality of both the popular vote and the Electoral College votes, but lost the election, because the house selected John Quincy Adams instead.

Similarly, if no candidate is able to garner an absolute majority of votes for vice president, then the U.S. Senate is charged with making the selection, choosing from the top two contenders for that office.

This means, theoretically, a president and a vice-president could be picked from different parties. In this year's election, that would mean there could be a Barack Obama/Paul Ryan or a Mitt Romney/Joe Biden presidency and vice-presidency.

In most presidential elections, the winner is determined by the following morning. But election results are not technically official until weeks following Election Day.

On the third Monday in December, the winning electors meet in their state capitals to vote for their choices of president and vice president. They then send the sealed results to Washington, D.C. On Jan. 6, the results are announced and tabulated in the presence of the entire Congressional body, officially solidifying the president-elect's public nomination.

Finally, on Jan. 20, the president-elect takes the Oath of Office, administered by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and becomes the new president of the United States. Even in the case of a re-election, the president retakes the Oath.

What happens if there's an electoral tie?

With Romney and Obama running neck and neck this year, it's possible for each to receive 269 electoral votes. If that were to happen and the Electoral College was tied, we wouldn't have to rely on a coin toss. Look no further than the 12th Amendment for the solution. The last time the U.S. had a contingent election, as it's called, was in 1824 when the House awarded John Adams the presidency.



- 1. In January, the newly-elected House of Representatives would be charged with voting on the next president.**
- 2. Each state's representatives would cast a presidential vote for their state.**
- 3. Whichever candidate wins more states is awarded the presidency.**
- 4. The Senate is actually charged with choosing the vice president in such a situation, which, you got it, means a mixed-party president and vice president match is possible (though extremely unlikely). Talk about working across party lines.**

Glossary

Election terms you need to know

Compiled by Melissa Kansky, News Editor

Affordable Care Act - The Affordable Care Act, often referred to as the Health Care Reform Law, has been a contentious topic this campaign season. The law expands coverage under Medicare, mandates all citizens have health insurance and prevents insurance companies from denying insurance to individuals who have pre-existing conditions.

Debt - Debt is accumulated deficits. The current U.S. debt stands above \$16 trillion.

Deficit - Deficit is the difference between the money the government takes in and the money the government spends annually. When there is a deficit, the treasury borrows money to pay the government's bills.

Electoral College - Votes for president and vice president. Members of each state vote according to the popular vote in the respective state.

Electoral votes - Electoral votes determine the winner of the election. Each state is allocated a certain number of electoral votes, which matches the number of representatives the state has in Congress. Candidates need to win 270 electoral votes to win the election.

Federal Election Commission - This regulatory agency is independent and responsible for enforcing federal campaign finance law. The laws govern the finances of the federal election and restrict how much individual organizations can donate to a political campaign. The law also concerns the FCC, IRS and DOJ with matters that relate to the election and political activity.

GDP (Gross Domestic Product) - GDP is the value of goods and services produced by the nation. It is measured annually and valuable when comparing it to the nation's previous GDP. Evaluating the change in GDP indicates the direction of the nation's economy.

PAC (Political Action Committee) - These committees are not directly related to a political party, but rather affiliated with corporations, labor unions and other organizations. They provide financial support for candidates in order to advance legislative agendas.

Third party - Any political party that is not Republican or Democratic, the two dominant parties in United States politics. The term typically connotes this party could have some influence in the results of the election.

NC deadlocked, but money flowing freely

Kassondra Cloos
Copy Editor

Time's running out, but the campaigns for President Barack Obama and Republican candidate Mitt Romney have not stopped fighting for their shares of electoral votes in the swing states.

North Carolina is one of the battleground states that's been pegged as "leaning Republican," but there's no way to tell which way the state will actually vote until tomorrow, Election Day.

If campaign donations were any indication, Obama would take the state by a landslide, as he raised more than \$1.1 million here in September alone, while Romney pulled in less than \$500,000. But the most recent Elon University Poll, released Oct. 29, found voters were evenly split 45-45, with 5 percent still undecided. And it's that small, undecided minority that's going to ultimately decide

who gets North Carolina's 15 electoral votes.

Charlotte was Romney's biggest donor in September, giving almost \$57,000, according to data from the Federal Election Commission. But the same city gave Obama more than twice as much, forking over about \$125,000. Only Chapel Hill and Durham outshone Charlotte's efforts, giving Obama nearly \$140,000 and \$135,000 respectively.

The local community's money has been largely going toward Obama, too, with Elon, Burlington and Greensboro giving their dollars to Obama. The Town of Elon didn't give a cent to Romney in September, and contributed \$579 to Obama.

But even when playing with such large sums, it's not safe to say Obama will secure more votes. Jeff Colbert, an adjunct instructor of political science, said campaign contributions aren't always an accurate measure of support.

"It certainly indicates a level of enthusiasm," he said. "It's hard to imag-

ine, for example, someone who would write a \$25 check and would not go to the polls to vote, or would not tell people they're supporting a particular candidate."

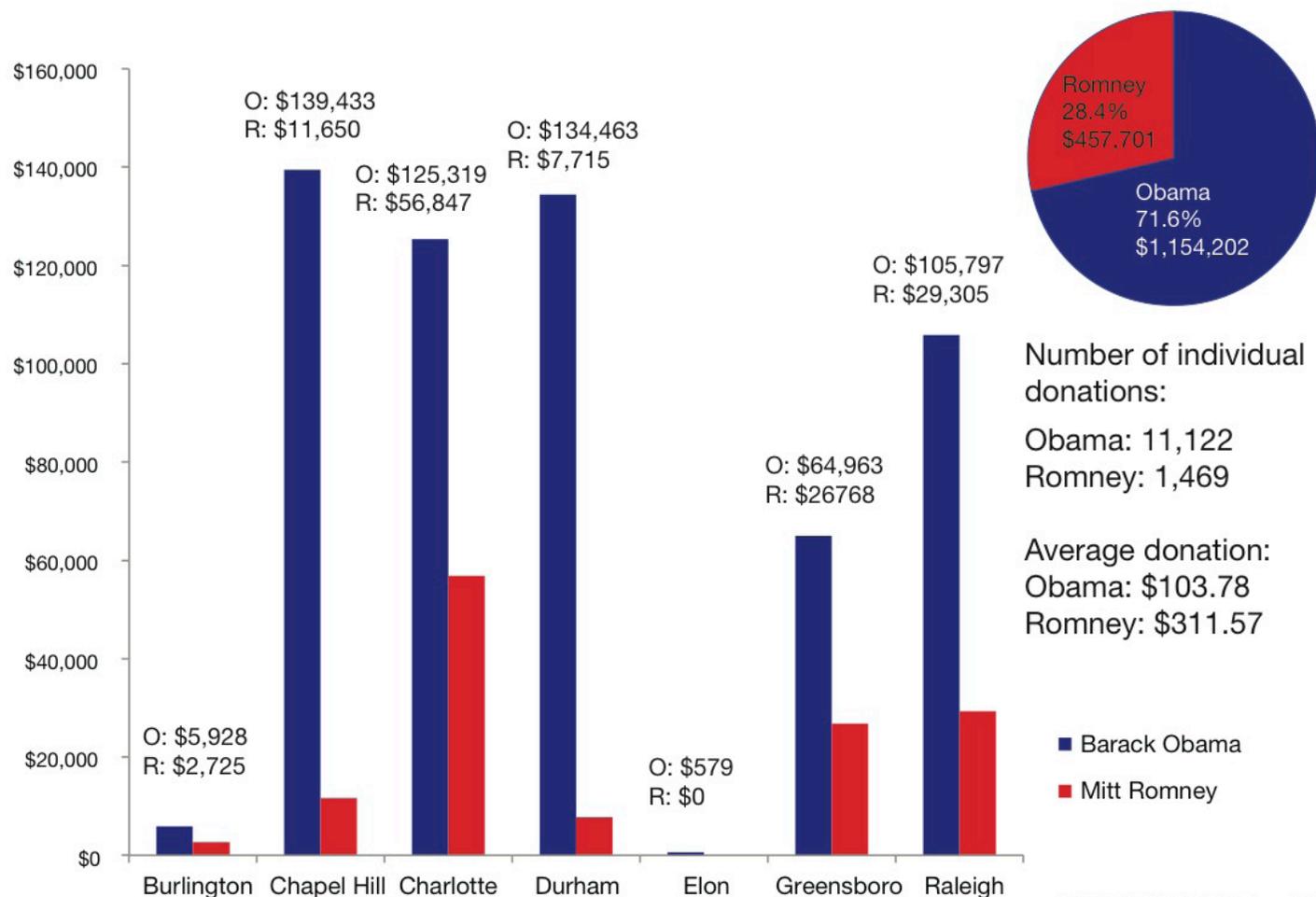
Even though it's still too soon to call, Colbert said North Carolina has a long tradition of voting Republican in presidential elections, and he thinks Romney will win the state this time.

"Certainly, the Democrats hoped that Obama would be the beginning of a trend to North Carolina being a perpetual blue state," he said. "But that seemed more hopeful than logical."

North Carolina's unemployment rate has been above the national average, and Colbert said he thinks voters will consider that seriously when voting.

The way this election is going, with the candidates consistently neck and neck and 89 electoral votes still considered to be up for grabs, those 15 votes could make a major difference in the outcome of the election.

North Carolina donated **\$1,611,903** to Obama for America and **Romney for President** in September 2012



Long road to November: At peak, 11 challengers fought for GOP presidential nomination

Katie Blunt
Senior Reporter

The long race is almost over. Over the course of nearly two years, President Barack Obama's Republican challengers have dropped one by one, and on Nov. 6, the contest between Obama and former Mass.

governor Mitt Romney will be decided.

When the Republican primary contest began in mid-2011, the field of candidates was fairly wide, but by March, only four contestants remained in the race: Rick Santorum, Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul and Mitt Romney.

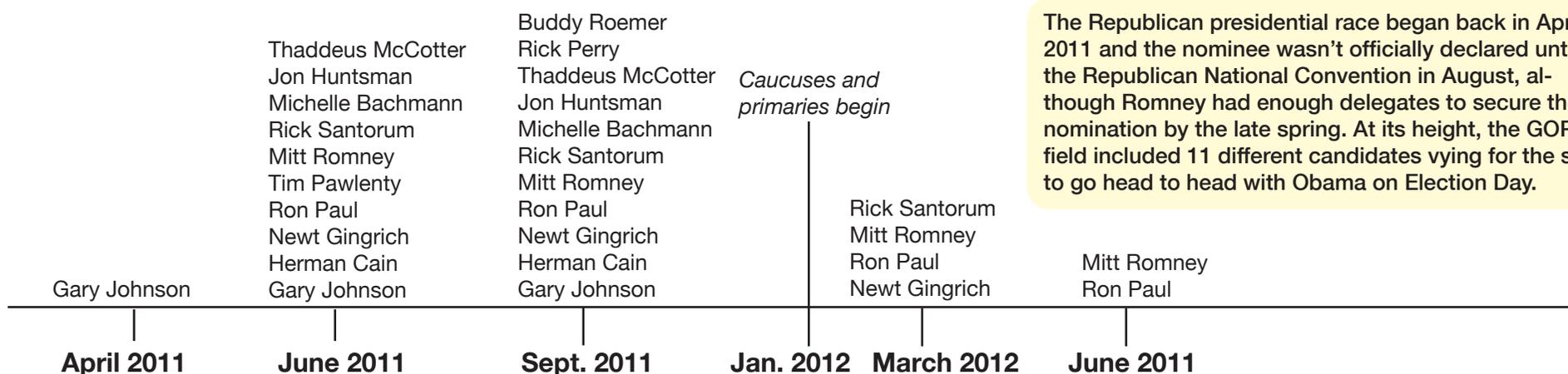
Santorum, a former Pennsylvania senator, ran on a platform of social conservatism.

His strong opposition to same-sex marriage and abortion earned him the endorsement of prominent conservatives. Santorum suspended his campaign in early April, but said he was "not done fighting" during the announcement of his withdrawal from the race.

Gingrich, former Speaker of the House, withdrew next. After a campaign built on

promises of health care reform and energy independence, he announced the suspension of his campaign in early May.

The race was between Romney and Paul until mid-July, when Paul failed to win a plurality of delegates at the final convention, which eliminated his speaking slot at the Republican National Convention.



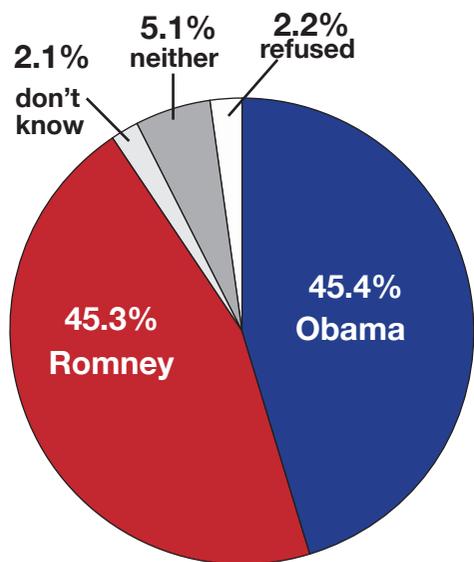
The Republican presidential race began back in April 2011 and the nominee wasn't officially declared until the Republican National Convention in August, although Romney had enough delegates to secure the nomination by the late spring. At its height, the GOP field included 11 different candidates vying for the spot to go head to head with Obama on Election Day.

WHAT THE ELON POLL HAD TO SAY ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA VOTERS

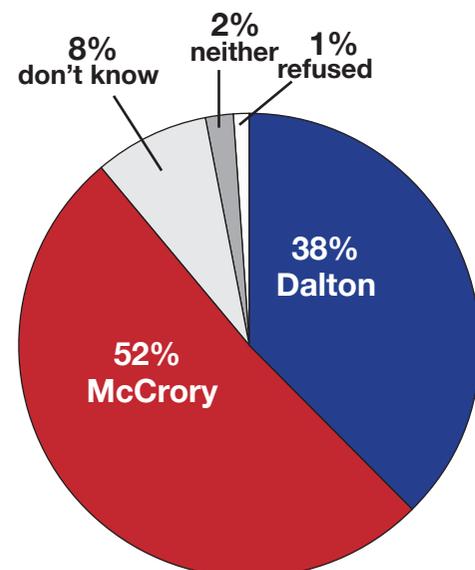
According to an Elon Poll landline and cell phone survey conducted between **Oct. 21-26**. The survey consisted of a random sample of **1,238 likely voters**, including respondents who stated they had voted early.

If the 2012 presidential election were today, who would you vote for?

ROMNEY V. OBAMA



McCRORY V. DALTON

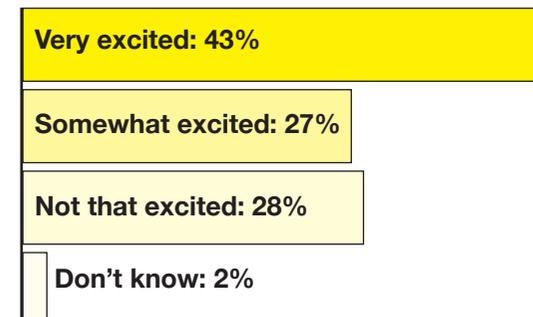


According to an Elon Poll landline and cell phone survey conducted between **Aug. 25-30**. The survey consisted of a random sample of **1,230 registered voters**, including 1,089 likely voters.

What is the most important issue in determining your presidential vote?

- ECONOMY OR JOBS: **48%**
- HEALTH CARE: **16%**
- FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICIT: **13%**
- EDUCATION: **10%**

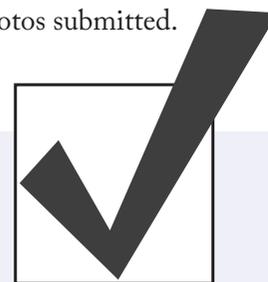
How excited are you about the upcoming election?



MEET THE CANDIDATES IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Our reporters and editors asked the candidates a series of questions. Their answers may have been edited for length, but not content. All photos submitted.

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?



U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 2

STEVE WILKINS (DEM.)

Compiled by Rachel Southmayd, Elections Editor

I'm running for office because I believe that we need leaders in Washington that will work for the people in their district instead of playing partisan games. I was called to run during the debt ceiling crisis of 2011 when the US House, instead of fulfilling their Constitutional duty of responsible budgeting, held our nation hostage and damaged our credit rating for partisan gain. The Budget Control Act will be dramatic and damaging to North Carolina. We can't afford two more years of that kind of irresponsible leadership. We need Congress to focus on passing a Jobs Bill, a Farm Bill, and establishing a reasonable budget.



RENEE ELMERS (REP.)

Compiled by Rachel Southmayd, Elections Editor

I ran for Congress in 2010 because, as a nurse, I was very concerned about the president's healthcare bill and the impact it would have on our healthcare industry and the economy as a whole and I remain committed to repealing it. I am also very concerned about our economy and the path our country is currently on. We have to get spending under control, reduce the size of the federal government, and get our economy growing again.



BRIAN IRVING (LIB.)

Compiled by Rebecca Ianucci, Arts and Entertainment Editor

I'm running for Congress because I believe it's time to stop all wars and bring back the Constitution. That just doesn't mean stop our interventionist wars in Afghanistan and other nations. Stop the war on the American taxpayer, stop the war on American entrepreneurs, stop the war on drugs, stop the war on alternative lifestyles, and, most critically, stop the war on our civil liberties and the Constitution.



Democrats and Republicans routinely manufacture the fear of real or imaginary enemies, both at home and abroad, to divide us and to pit one racial, religious or social group against another in order to manipulate us into surrendering our precious liberties for the false promise of safety and security.

Congress has been derelict in its duty to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution," surrendering its authority to the President and neglecting its responsibilities by granting unlimited and unchecked power to unelected bureaucrats.

U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 4

DAVID PRICE (DEM.)

Compiled by Rebecca Wickel, Features Editor

Over the last four years, we've pulled our economy out of recession and created over 4.5 million new private sector jobs. We've put in place new rules for Wall Street. We've reformed student loans to cut out the middle men, lower loan rates and give more students access to education, and we've provided new consumer protections for all Americans in health care reform. We have made tremendous progress, but work remains to be done. I'm running for re-election to protect these achievements, and continue the task of ensuring we have an economy that works for people who work for a living.



The Pendulum was unable to contact candidate Tim D'Annunzio (Rep.). He will also appear on the Alamance County ballot.

U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 6

HOWARD COBLE (REP.)

Compiled by Zachary Horner, Sports Editor

I have been the U.S. Representative for the Sixth District for 14 terms. I am seeking a 15th term because I feel that I have been an effective advocate on behalf of the citizens who live here. We have maintained a strong and consistent, fiscally-conservative voting record. We have been accessible and have provided quality constituent services to all who seek our assistance. I would like to continue that work for another two years.



TONY FORIEST (DEM.)

Compiled by Jonathan Black, Assistant Opinions Editor

I am running for Congress because of my belief that our state needs credible representation in Washington that reflects who we are and what we truly stand for as a people here in North Carolina. We need new ideas and a different direction from the way our government is presently behaving. This is the least productive Congress since the end of WWII. Partisan bickering, name calling and a lack of desire to work as a team is divisive and will not solve our problems. We need representation that reflects our values and the interest of average middle class families.



GOVERNOR

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

WALTER DALTON (DEM.)

Compiled by Katherine Blunt, News Editor

I am running for Governor to ensure that North Carolina is a state of opportunity, to protect education and to create jobs



and put our people back to work. We are fortunate to have the best community college system and the best public university system in the nation, but that's at risk in this election. I want to move us forward into the 21st century economy and make

us a leader not only in the southeast, but also in the nation and the global economy. This means creating jobs now and jobs for the future and creating great schools that will produce those great jobs. I am the only candidate who has a specific, detailed plan to put people back to work and build those jobs for the future. I hope you'll go www.daltonfornc.com and read my plans to improve our schools and create new jobs. There's no question that the legislature's harmful cuts to education, healthcare, and economic development have set us back. My opponent would be a rubber stamp for those devastating policies. But by working together and implementing a real plan to create jobs, we will bring North Carolina back.

PAT McCrORY (REP.)

Compiled by Kate Riley, Special Projects Editor

I am running for governor of North Carolina because I firmly believe we need to fix North Carolina's broken economy and



clean up state government to make it more efficient and accountable. North Carolina has the 5th highest unemployment rate in the nation and private sector job growth has been five times slower than state government job growth over the last decade. While other

states are turning around their economies by supporting private sector job growth with business friendly policies, North Carolina's executive leaders believe growing government is the only answer.

It's going to take a leader with a different mentality to fix North Carolina's broken government and economy, not the same old mindset that has our state in economic quicksand. As governor, I will work tirelessly to create an economic environment that will allow our job creators to put people back to work. I believe fixing North Carolina's broken economy requires new vision and new leadership from its governor. If other states can successfully rebound from the economic collapse, so can the greatest state in the country.

LT. GOVERNOR

COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE GRADUATING TODAY WITH MORE DEBT THAN EVER BEFORE. WHERE DO YOU THINK THE BLAME LIES AND HOW CAN WE CORRECT THIS PROBLEM?

DAN FOREST (REP.)

Compiled by Kristen Olsen, Senior Reporter



I have a son in college right now so I am familiar of the cost of a college degree. Many factors figure into the increasing cost of a college education. Costs to pay their employees, invest in capital improvements on campus, upgrade facilities and infrastructure, bring more research into larger labs, offer more scholarships, etc., have all increased. I'd like to see businesses and universities partner - creatively - to the benefit and profitability of both. Savings will be passed down to students, and that will in turn help students get out of debt faster and start building the lives that they've always wanted.

LINDA COLEMAN (DEM.)

Compiled by Rachel Southmayd, Elections Editor



College students are also graduating today without a job due to the failed policies of the Obama Administration. Young people have been some of those hardest hit by this Obama economy. The solution is to get government out of the way of our business and innovators and return some certainty back to our job creators so students can graduate and find jobs or start their own businesses.

N.C. DISTRICT 64

HOW WILL YOU HELP TO BRING JOBS TO THE AREA AND STIMULATE THE ECONOMY?

DENNIS RIDDEL (REP.)

Compiled by Rachel Southmayd, Elections Editor



The economy and jobs are the number one issue. I have worked in the private sector for 35 year and am a small businessman. I am endorsed by the National Federation of Independent Business in NC. The best way to bring jobs to our area and stimulate the economy is: 1) Maintain a balanced budget without raising taxes 2)

Reform our tax code so that it rewards initiative

and does not penalize achievement. NC currently has the highest corporate tax rate and highest individual tax rate in the southeast. 3) Reform the regulatory burden that has been placed onto businesses in NC. Over 15,000 new or amended regulations have been saddled upon businesses here in NC over the past 10 years. These regulations require increased compliance costs to businesses and divert their resources from business expansion to less productive areas. This is especially hard on small businesses. 4) Education reform must move forward to ensure our young people have the necessary skills to succeed in a competitive economy. A good education is the apprenticeship of life. We must make sure our education dollars are getting to our classrooms where they belong.



MORRIS McADOO (DEM.)

Compiled by Rebecca Iannucci, Arts and Entertainment Editor

We must be creative in making North Carolina a business-friendly state. We must look at incentives for job-producing businesses that will benefit the

area and increase our revenue. I also propose the "NC First" program that will reward those businesses that keep jobs in the state.

N.C. DISTRICT 63

The Pendulum was unable to contact candidates Patty Phillips (Dem.) and Stephen Ross (Rep.) by press time. Both appear on the Alamance County ballot.

U.S. SENATE

HOW WILL YOU HELP TO BRING JOBS TO THE AREA AND STIMULATE THE ECONOMY?



BRANDON BLACK (LIB.)

Compiled by Hannah DelaCourt, Senior Reporter

The government does not create jobs. People and companies do. The best way for the government to help in this area is to lower taxes and get rid of burdensome regulations.

If spending is cut back as much as I like, can move to a Fair Tax structure and eliminate all other taxes while only having a slight, if any, increase in the sales tax.

RICK GUNN (REP.)

Compiled by Kyler Maher, Senior Reporter

We must have comprehensive tax modernization to make our tax structure competitive in the southeast...a major 2013 session initiative. By broadening the tax base we will be able to lower our sales, corporate and individual taxes.



This is very important to businesses seeking to relocate or expand in our state. Our tremendous community college system will play a major role in economic development with workforce initiatives, job training, and helping to improve the high school graduation rates. Seventy-five percent of jobs will require two-year degrees, certificates, or on the job training. The community college system, given the resources and guidance, can play an important role in job creation. Costly, burdensome regulations will continue to be curtailed or eliminated.

SECRETARY OF STATE

IF ELECTED, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR FIRST PRIORITY?

ED GOODWIN (REP.)

Compiled by Casey Brown, Senior Reporter

The first priority would be to get to work. There are 100 quality control checkpoints in this state concerning this office which are the 100 counties. Every county should be surveyed to determine the detrimental factors to business that exists in each county. Meet with each county manager, economic development director, Chamber of Commerce, and representatives of the business community to identify these detriments to business. After compiling this list, analyze and assess the list and identify the items that are low hanging fruit and could be changed the quickest.

Then go to the General Assembly and seek a change to remedy the situation. Another part of this intelligence gathering operation is to visit with our neighboring states to determine what each state is doing that NC is not doing, thereby determining why NC is not as successful and seek a remedy at every level necessary.



ELAINE MARSHALL (DEM.)

Compiled by Stephanie Butzer, Senior Reporter

My top priority is to remain a dynamic organization that adapts to changing economic and technological realities. As your Secretary of State, my foremost mission is to serve the people and businesses of North Carolina in the most efficient and effective manner.



When I first became Secretary of State, I began an effort to modernize the office by embracing technology and streamlining processes. We have been recognized by organizations across the country for reducing red tape and making it easier for businesses to start in North Carolina.

We've cracked down on con artists who use Ponzi schemes to prey on our citizens, especially seniors. We've protected investors and charitable organizations from those using deceptive sales practices.

We've promoted transparency in government by strengthening lobbyist disclosure laws. We recently received an "A" from the Center for Public Integrity for our lobbying work. I believe that open government is good government.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER (3 SEATS AVAILABLE)

EDDIE BOSWELL (DEM.)

Compiled by Rachel Southmayd, Elections Editor

First off I am concerned for the welfare of Alamance County and all its citizens. I am involved in a number of community programs such as Habitat for Humanity,



United Way and am on the Alamance Partnership for Children and do recognize that there are many needs in our county that we must work to better. As a local official it is my privilege to serve the people in the county and work to provide much needed services for those that are having a hard time coping with the economy as well as making the county a better place to live for all who choose to call Alamance County home.

ANN VAUGHAN (DEM.)

Compiled by Zachary Horner, Sports Editor

Elon University students and residents of the town of Elon should vote for me because I have a vision for Alamance County. We must strive for the priorities that are critical to maintaining a high quality of life and job creation. I have no ulterior motive for wanting to be on the Board except wanting what is best for the county, our citizens and the future. I have four years of experience on the



Board and would like four more.

WHY SHOULD ELON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF ELON VOTE FOR YOU?

LINDA MASSEY (DEM.)

Compiled by Jonathan Black, Assistant Opinions Editor



I am for all citizens of Alamance County. I also have a grand daughter and grandson who are students at Elon University. I care about the students and residents of Elon and Elon University. If you have problem, I will try to help you solve it. I may not can solve it, but I certainly will help anyone that I can.

MARK HOPP (REP.)

Compiled by Andrew Wilson, Assistant Sports Editor



As for the students and young people I believe I represent an honest viewpoint about the concerns over what is of concern to them, freedom of choice and liberty. Generally speaking if you live in Elon then a vote for me will mean a vote for someone who will hold the line on tax rates and regulation while ensuring that their hard earned money is well spent.

TOM MANNING (REP.)

Compiled by Kate Riley, Special Projects Editor

My history with Elon College, now University, goes back many years. I served on the Love School of Business Advisory Board for nearly 25 years, working with five different Deans



and experiencing the tremendous successful growth of the business school. I am proud of my relationship with the university. I have developed excellent relationships with the officials at the town of Elon, as well as other municipalities across the county. I am appreciative of the input and feedback we receive from our local governments and citizens, as that allows us to formulate plans for the future based on the needs and desires of all Alamance County citizens.

The Pendulum was unable to contact candidate David I. Smith (Rep.). He will also appear on the Alamance County ballot.

MORE online

For full candidate Q&A's, visit <http://pend.lu/candidateprofiles>

Andrew Kidd, senior



1. I haven't really put much thought into it at all really, and that's sad, with one week left. I feel like abortion and gay marriage aren't as big a deal as the economy is because we're all affected by the economy. I would say the economy in a broader scale.

2. Nope, not yet. One week left, I've got to decide that. First time I can vote, don't know who I'm going to vote for. Undecided.

What do YOU have to say about the election?

Elon students have had a lot to say about politics during this election season. These five shared their thoughts about who they were planning to vote for. Each answered the same two questions.

1. What do you think is the most important issue in this election?
2. Do you know who you're voting for?

Compiled by Zachary Horner,
Sports Editor

Frankie Campisano, freshman



1. For me personally, it boils down to the Supreme Court nominations, because we're going

to have up to three, at least two. That's the big differing factor between the two candidates. There is some stuff they overlap on. But at the end of the day, Romney would pick conservative, big business people and Obama wouldn't.

2. Obama. I'm farther left than he is, farther left than most people in American politics. I've got to take what I can get.

Eric Carroll, senior



1. A lot of people would say the economy, but since Richard Nixon was in office, there's been a great shift from purely economical to more social issues. I think social issues are just as important in the election. Really what we're deciding is the path we want to go down in the future and I think this is a very important (election) in terms of deciding if we want limited government or big government. This is the tipping point. The biggest issue in this election is determining if you want limited government or big government.

2. I'm actually voting for Gov. Gary Johnson. I think it's a shame the way this country runs on a bipartisan system, the way other candidates aren't allowed to attend debates and things like that. I think there's a lot of good ideas out there from all aspects. Every single candidate has good ideas, every single candidate has bad ideas. It's just finding which one lies best with you. And that, so far for me, has been Gary Johnson.

Lizzy Ballard, junior



1. For me, social issues. I'm probably going to vote for the candidate I agree on most with social issues.

2. Romney. I'm voting for Romney because I believe he has the skills needed to get this country back on track economically. I also agree with his stances on issues such as social welfare and immigration. And I always look for a candidate that is pro-life because I think that says a lot about the kind of person he is and God he serves, which means a lot to me.

Lindsey Lanquist, freshman



1. Probably health-care. I think that is probably one of the biggest issues in the election. I watched a lot of the Republican debates between the candidates before Mitt Romney got the candidacy, and they kept talking about how if one of them wasn't elected, Obamacare would take over, and if one of them was, they could reverse Obamacare in time.

2. Obama. I agree with his healthcare, and generally speaking, I'm liberal on most issues.

Political organization leaders address party stances

Republicans identify Romney's 5-point economic plan, say it's key to campaign

In a few short days, our nation will face a decision. We will decide whether to continue on our current path of failed policies,



D. Patrick Brown
Guest Columnist

false promises and uncertainty, or whether it is time to make a change by electing a man of principle and dedication who has the ability to return the United States to a position of economic strength and confidence.

It may seem cliché, but this election will have a major impact on the future of our nation, and our generation is fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in this decision.

The driving issue in this election is most certainly the economy. While President Barack Obama has allowed the United States economy to remain stagnant, unemployment to hover at 8 percent and the federal debt to rise by \$6.5 trillion to more than \$16 trillion in total, Mitt Romney has a plan for our economy. This plan, consisting of five points, would achieve North American energy independence by 2020 and work to open new markets for trade, while confronting nations, such as China, that take American jobs.

Gov. Romney will also help Americans gain the skills they need for new jobs through improved higher education and job training. His plan will reduce the deficit and the size of the federal government while championing small businesses to stimulate growth at the heart of our economy. This will get the federal debt under control while stimulating economic growth.

An issue of particular importance to us at Elon University is that of higher education and student debt. Under Obama's presidency, in three and a half years, the cost of a college education has increased by 25



WILLIAM KENYON | Staff Photographer
D. Patrick Brown was one of five Republican representatives at a student political debate Oct. 25.

percent and total student debt has reached a record \$1 trillion. Mitt Romney will have higher education focus on skills of importance to the growth of our economy, while encouraging private sector participation in education and student loans.

These improvements, combined with Romney's economic plan, will allow students such as ourselves to focus on preparing for our future jobs rather than worrying about whether we will have a job and how we will pay off our debt. I hope you will consider what is best for our country's future, and I am sure you will see that the Republican Party is the best choice.

I encourage you to vote for Mitt Romney, Paul Ryan and the Republican ticket on Nov. 6.

Patrick Brown is the president of Elon College Republicans.

Democrats claim Obama's success during first term qualifies him for 4 more years

As a community, Elon University encourages us to be global-minded thinkers that question the world and make decisions on our own. This



Jordan Thomas
Guest Columnist

upcoming election is important because the next four years will determine the proper course for America. I urge you to cast your vote for President Barack Obama not only because of his previous accomplishments, but because he wants to move the country forward in the right direction.

The first piece of legislation Obama signed was the Lilly Ledbetter Act, which is designed to give women equal pay regardless of race, age or gender. Obama welcomes equal rights for men and women and openly supports gay marriage, as a firm believer that everyone is equal. This is further evident in the Affordable Care Act, which created a blueprint for universal health care that will cover 32 million uninsured Americans and cut healthcare cost growth during the next few decades.

After inheriting the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, Obama has helped to set the country on the right path domestically. When the economy looked as though it would

collapse in 2009, President Obama bailed out the auto industry and adjusted properly to regulate the financial market by signing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. He recognizes the problems associated with student loan debt and refused to let Congress raise interest rates for students.

Obama has had similar success within the international community. Overseas, we have seen the rise of soft power and a new meaning for the world "America." No longer are we casually using the phrase "war on terror" and refusing to act on significant international affairs. Obama reversed the Bush-era torture policies, ended the war in Iraq, started the process of relieving troops from Afghanistan and brought Osama bin Laden to justice. Obama has crippled Iran's capability for nuclear weapons by initiating sanctions, limited our nuclear weapons trade with Russia and worked to decrease our military spending as a nation.

If elected, Obama has claimed he will keep taxes low for the middle class, create more jobs and eliminate tax cuts for businesses that ship jobs overseas. Most importantly, he has repeatedly pledged to put the citizens first and has proven that he has the ability to be a strong commander and chief, while abiding by his own moral code.

Jordan Thomas is the president of Elon College Democrats.



RACHEL SOUTHMAYD | Elections Editor
Oct. 25, four teams of Elon University students, faculty and staff met for a debate on some of the most pressing issues of the 2012 election, including the economy, same-sex marriage and health care.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY ON CAMPUS

Elon University students attended the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla. and the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte in August and September, respectively. Students also contributed to the campaign in other ways.

Junior Patrick Brown, president of College Republicans, said his organization has had activities at "Super Saturday" events at the local GOP "Victory Center," calling voters to encourage them to vote Republican. Other events included volunteering at a local rally for

North Carolina gubernatorial candidate Pat McCrory.

The Elon administration has also fostered numerous politically-themed events and will continue to do so throughout the fall. Some recent events have included a panel on religion in the

election and a visit from David Walker, former United States comptroller, who is on his nationwide "\$10 Million a Minute" tour educating people about the national debt crisis.

In a different vein, the philosophy department hosted "Young, Wild and

Free: A celebration of democracy and pluralism" on the lawn of the Academic Pavilion Oct. 5. It was an informal event and included a performance by a blues band and a microphone where students could stand and express their views on any issues.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

There is no 'good' or 'bad,' just people who care

Last week, I drove with several other student journalists to Smithfield to a Republican rally in a large tobacco ware-



Rachel Southmayd
Elections Editor

house. I stood listening to the cheers of thousands of North Carolinians calling for the elections for the elections of Pat McCrory and Mitt Romney, among others. Just two months ago, I was on the streets of Charlotte at the Democratic

National Convention, watching Democrats sing songs about Barack Obama and why he deserves another four years in office.

You've seen and heard them, maybe not in person, but on television, the radio or on the other end of a phone call. Who are these people exactly? They're impassioned voters, and no matter their ideological or political differences, one thing is clear: these people love their country.

That's what all this is about, isn't it?

It's about fighting for the best course of action for a country and people who we hold dear and want to see protected? I fear that in this election cycle, as in others, we've lost track of the fact that every candidate thinks he or she has the best intentions and truly believes he or she can make lives better.

But instead of taking this reasonable approach, we get all fired up and start labeling people as "good guys" or "villains."

Let's look at this with a wider perspective: There's no "hero" or "enemy," just people with different opinions about taxes and the power the federal government should have over the states. Is that worth spewing hatred? If we learn anything from this election cycle, perhaps it should be how to mourn the apparent death of reasonable debate and civil discourse.

The Pendulum does not endorse candidates in any race. We do not believe that is our job. What we do believe is that we have the rare privilege of acting as the voice of a community. And that community deserves, and ought to demand, better from our elected officials, whomever

they may be after Nov. 6.

When Charlie Cook, a renowned political analyst, visited Elon University in September, he said "compromise" has become a four-letter word in Washington, D.C. This can't happen anymore. Our elected officials must learn to cross aisles, figuratively and literally, put aside differences and actually work to move this country along. It is not acceptable to make it your sole objective to oust another person four years down the road. It is not OK to draw lines in the sand and refuse to budge.

Our government officials must first remember that we employ them. We are the "We the people" part of the equation that makes our democracy tick. And this isn't a wrestling match where we keep pushing until someone eventually collapses. These are people's lives and they deserve to be treated with respect.

So let the next four years, the next eight years and the rest of our lives be a change from the last few decades. Let us demand more from the people we put in power. And let us remember that we're all in this together.

A fragile 'Republic'

Informed citizens a must to preserve U.S. democratic system

Amidst the scorching summer of 1787, Benjamin Franklin left Independence Hall on what was the final day of deliberation at the Constitutional Convention. Upon his departure, he was confronted by a woman, who asked, "Well, Doctor, what have we got — a Republic or a Monarchy?" The significantly aged Franklin replied, "A Republic, if you can keep it."



Greg Honan
Guest Columnist

This underscores a point often lost in the rhetoric and imagery of politics in the United States — that our democracy is not inevitable. In fact, no democracy is inevitable (i.e. Athens), nor is a government of any type inevitable (i.e. the Roman Empire). Contrary to the subconscious conviction of many, even the human race is susceptible to destruction. Mankind nearly faced extinction around 70,000 B.C. when a volcano, so massive that it dimmed the sun for six years, erupted in what is now Indonesia and left Earth with fewer than 10,000 humans.

Our democracy, like human life, is fragile and requires constant tending by its citizens. Unfortunately, we Americans are notorious for our apathy toward politics and public affairs, perhaps because of innumerable preoccupations, real or imagined. As stated by the late Kansas City Star columnist Bill Vaughan, "A citizen of America will cross the ocean to fight for democracy but won't cross the street to vote in a national election."

Needless to say, many Americans feel no sense of civic duty and express disdain for our politics and politicians. Although many find the partisan gridlock in Washington a valid reason for their discontent, I believe this frustration toward politics is misguided.

We complain that our politicians get nothing done, yet only half of Americans vote in national elections, and even less in state and local elections. We condemn the lack of compromise in our Congress, yet a majority of Americans say they prefer politicians who stick to their beliefs. Perhaps the least discussed fact, yet the most significant, is that the American populace is angered by the lies and deceit of political campaigns but is so poorly informed.

Almost 30 percent of Americans can't name the current vice president, and 65 percent can't name one Supreme Court justice. As of 2011, almost one fourth of Americans still believed President Barack Obama was Muslim.

Our fragile democracy needs informed citizens. Citizens who are willing to sacrifice a few moments in their day to build political knowledge and, come election day, make the trip to the voting booth. I would imagine the 25,000 Americans who died during the Revolutionary War fighting for our ability to select our own government would be unsympathetic to our complaints about the inconvenience of voting and staying informed. This is our republic, if we can keep it. Let's start by casting a ballot Nov. 6.

Greg Honan is the president of Elon's Politics Forum.

Top Tweets

@MittRomney

.@paulryanvp and I will take responsibility to solve the big problems that everyone agrees can't wait any longer. mi.tt/SK5rxT

@JOssoff

#EUdebate A question all the way from London, England. What do the Republican debaters propose as an alternative to Obamacare?

@MadisonTaylor

New Elon poll finds Romney-Obama knotted at 45 percent each in North Carolina with one week to go. #ncpol #politics #obama #romney

@BigBirdRomney

Injustice. Binders full of women sold for \$0.77 at Staples. Binders full of men selling for \$1.00. #bindersfullofwomen

@BarackObama

President Obama: "I'm not giving up on the fight, and I hope you're not either. I still need you fired up." #WeDecide

@Poynter

"MSNBC was more negative in its treatment of Romney than Fox was of Obama," Pew data show: <http://journ.us/VhR8Ft>





Who's on the ballot?

President:

- Barack Obama (Dem.)
- Mitt Romney (Rep.)
- Gary Johnson (Lib.)

Governor:

- Walter H. Dalton (Dem.)⁺
- Pat McCrory (Rep.)⁺
- Barbara Howe (Lib.)

Lieutenant Governor:

- Linda D. Coleman (Dem.)⁺
- Dan Forest (Rep.)⁺

U.S. House District 2*

- Steve Wilkins (Dem.)⁺
- Renee Ellmers (Rep.)⁺
- Brian Irving (Lib.)⁺

U.S. House District 4*

- David Price (Dem.)⁺
- Tim D'Annunzio (Rep.)

U.S. House District 6*

- Tony Foriest (Dem.)⁺
- Howard Coble (Rep.)⁺

N.C. State Senate District 24

- Rick Gunn (Rep.)⁺
- Brandon Black (Lib.)⁺

Attorney General

- Roy Cooper (Dem.)

Secretary of State

- Elaine Marshall (Dem.)⁺
- Ed Goodwin (Rep.)⁺

N.C. House District 63

- Patty Phillips (Dem.)
- Stephen M. Ross (Rep.)

N.C. House District 64

- Morris McAdoo (Dem.)⁺
- Dennis Riddell (Rep.)⁺

County Commissioner

- Eddie Boswell (Dem.)⁺
- Linda H. Massey (Dem.)⁺
- Ann Vaughan (Dem.)⁺
- Mark Hopp (Rep.)⁺
- Tom Manning (Rep.)⁺
- David I. Smith (Rep.)⁺

N.C. Auditor

- Beth A. Wood (Dem.)
- Debra Goldman (Rep.)

N.C. Commissioner of Agriculture

- Walter Smith (Dem.)
- Steve Troxler (Rep.)

N.C. Commissioner of Insurance

- Wayne Goodwin (Dem.)
- Mike Causey (Rep.)

N.C. Commissioner of Labor

- John C. Brooks (Dem.)
- Cherie Berry (Rep.)

N.C. Superintendent of Public Instruction

- June Atkinson (Dem.)
- John Tedesco (Rep.)

N.C. Treasurer

- Janet Cowell (Dem.)
- Steve Royal (Rep.)

Register of Deeds

- Becky H. Mock (Dem.)
- Hugh Webster (Rep.)

Supreme Court Associate Justice

- Sam J. Ervin IV
- Paul Martin Newby

Court of Appeals Judge (Bryant seat)

- Wanda Bryant
- Marty McGee

Court of Appeals Judge (McGee seat)

- Linda McGee
- David S. Robinson

Court of Appeals Judge (Thigpen seat)

- Chris Dillon
- Cressie Thigpen

District Court Judge District 15A

- Tom Lambeth

District Court Judge District 15A

- Kathryn (Katie) Whitaker Overby
- John P. Paisley, Jr.

District Court Judge District 15A

- James K. (Jim) Roberson

Board of Education

- Greg Beavers
- Jackie S. Cole
- Patsy Simpson
- Pamela Tyler Thompson
- Steve A. VanPelt

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor

- David Michael Spruill
- Roy J. Stanley, Jr.

⁺For more on these candidates, see pages 10-12

*Your address within Alamance County will determine which U.S. Congress candidate will appear on your ballot. See page 6 to identify your district.