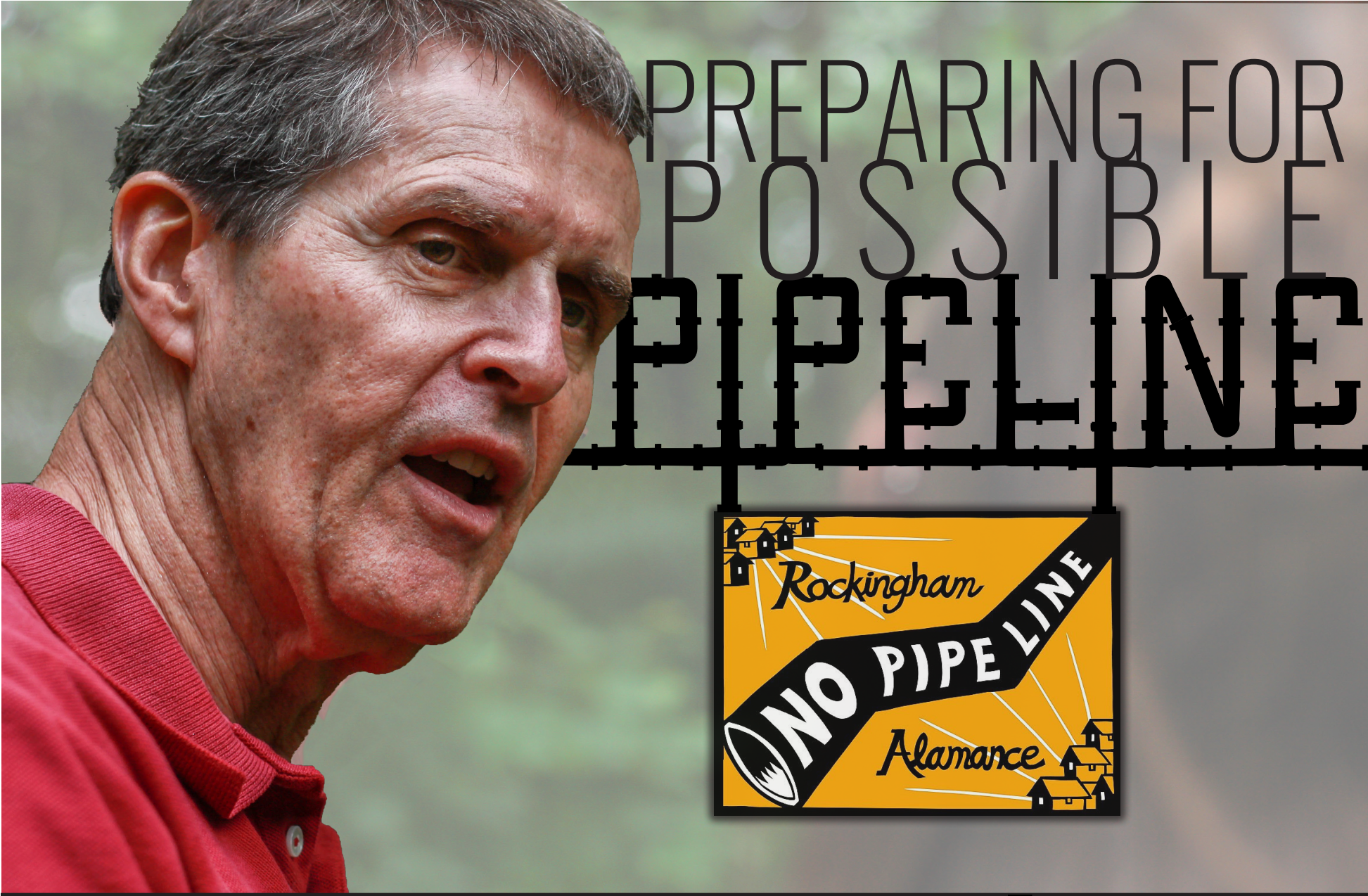


WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019  
VOLUME 44, EDITION 34  
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

# THE PENDULUM



ABBY GIBBS | MANAGING EDITOR

Alamance County members voice their opposition  
for the potential gas pipeline installation  
projected to run through their community

CATE MCCAILL | Elon News Network | @cmccahill21

RESIDENTS OF ALAMANCE COUNTY have been working hard to fight against a potential pipeline extension that would run through much of their land and propose a threat to the environment around them. The extension of Mountain Valley Pipeline "Southgate" is set to be decided by 2020. Until then, community activism is set to continue.

MVP proposed its "Southgate" project in May 2018, an extension of the preexisting MVP pipeline that currently spans 73 miles from southern Virginia to central North Carolina.

The 73-mile extension would expand into southern Virginia and cross into central North Carolina in Rockingham County and end in Alamance County.

The pipeline will transport vast amounts of natural gas supply from the Marcellus and Utica shale production (located in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia) to markets in the mid- and south-Atlantic regions of the United States, according to MVP.

Much of community concern derives from the notion that the pipeline extension would be a

gas-fracking system. Fracking is a "drilling technology used for extracting oil, natural gas, geothermal energy, or water from deep underground," according to the Independent Petroleum Association of America.

Caroline Hansley, an organizer for the Sierra Club — the largest environmental organization in the country with more than 3.5 million members — said the pipeline "is a high-pressure fracked-gas pipeline."

But, MVP Southgate does not mention anything about a gas-fracking system.

"This is an interstate natural gas transmission line, and it does not involve any natural gas production in Virginia or North Carolina," said Shawn Day, MVP's media representative.

The 24-by-16-inch pipeline is designed to transport 375 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to the Public Service Company of North Carolina Energy (PSNC) now known as Dominion Energy to customers as well as to new and existing markets in southern Virginia and central North Carolina.

Above: David Naylor is a landowner in Alamance County. His property could potentially be directly affected by the Southgate Pipeline Extension.

See PIPELINE | pg. 4



NEWS • PAGE 5  
Teacher Appreciation Week coincides with the march in Raleigh.



LIFESTYLE • PAGE 9  
Furniture shop owner builds faith-driven relationships.



SPORTS • PAGE 10  
Softball prepares for CAA tournament as the No. 2 seed.



# THE PENDULUM

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ENN seeks to inspire, entertain and inform the Elon community by providing a voice for students and faculty, as well as serve as a forum for the meaningful exchange of ideas.

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ENN is committed to accurate coverage. When factual errors are made, we correct them promptly and in full, both online and in print. Online corrections state the error and the change at the top of the article. Corrections from the previous week's print edition appear on this page. Contact [enn@elon.edu](mailto:enn@elon.edu) to report a correction or a concern.

#### WHEN WE PUBLISH:

**The Pendulum**  
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**Elon Local News**  
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broadcasts Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.

**ENN Radio Podcast**  
publishes Friday afternoon

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## COMIC

### PRO PROCRASTINATION



COMIC SAMS – SAM POROZOK

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY – CAMPUS BURGLARY

**MAY 3, 2003.** Campus Safety and Police arrested two juveniles for stealing \$6,000 worth of instruments and accessories on Saturday night. Items stolen included a clarinet, drumsticks and a flute. The juveniles were charged for several violations, including felony breaking and entering, possession of burglary tools, resisting a pub-

lic officer and injury to personal property. Chuck Gantos, then-chief of Campus Safety and Police, reiterated that more charges would be pending. “These charges are numerous, and they’re not done,” Gantos said. After the individuals were spotted and reported by Michele

Hamilton, then-sophomore resident of Staley Hall, they were immediately questioned by police on their way to the Greek court, which is now called Loy Center. “That’s why we encourage students to call if you see someone suspicious,” Gantos said. “You’re helping us, and you’re helping yourselves.”

## CORRECTIONS

### NEWS

In the article titled, “Finding Common Ground,” the number of college applications has increased, not the number of applicants. Elon News Network regrets the error.

## GAMES

**How to Play:** Guess the missing word in the five clues, then find them in the word search below. Words can be found backward, diagonal, etc.

1. The extension of Mountain Valley \_\_\_\_\_ “Southgate” is set to be decided by 2020. *See Page 4 for answer.*
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ search committee announces four potential candidates who are scheduled to speak on Thursday, May 9. *See Page 5 for answer.*
3. A study from the Urban Institute, published in 2014, found that 15 states do not report \_\_\_\_\_ on arrest forms. *See Page 6 for answer.*
4. Every nail, screw and piece Garrett Carnes constructs is done in \_\_\_\_\_. *See Page 9 for answer.*
5. Tony \_\_\_\_\_ coached football at varying levels for 23 years and is now settling into his new role as Elon’s new head coach. *See Page 10 for answer.*

G B U R Q P T T R L C U S G  
B E L F Y O P Q S F S C C V  
J M L W U L P D W N P C B H  
B M U M U W S B J V J D Y C  
Y H P I P E L I N E E A L U  
D O P P S C D I Q C I T S I  
K E A R R P Q E E E N O Q M  
G T T F A O M C L U A F Y Z  
L H B E Z Y V J A F I Y U L  
B N D P W L E O S L C B E O  
E I C X G V V R S D S B D N  
J C S H K O B O J T I W O Q  
C I D F I A A E V E R D Q X  
H T J Z G Z H O A Z T K S C  
X Y C J A N S A X L X F Y K

## CALENDAR: MAY 8 – MAY 15

<b>FOOD TRUCK FRENZY   11 A.M.</b> Koury Parking Lot & Koury West Lawn <b>8</b>	<b>ELON ELECTRIC ENSEMBLE: SOUNDS OF THE 70S   7:30 P.M.</b> McCrary Theatre <b>8</b>	<b>OPERA WORKSHOP SPRING SCENES AND CONCERT   7:30 P.M.</b> Whitley Auditorium <b>9</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES AWARD CEREMONY   4:30 P.M.</b> Carlton Commons <b>10</b>	<b>BASEBALL VS. UNCW   6 P.M.</b> Latham Park <b>10</b>
<b>TECHTRONICA SPRING CONCERT   10:30 P.M.</b> Elon Taphouse <b>10</b>	<b>ELON MUSIC AMBASSADORS SPRING CONCERT   7:30 P.M.</b> Yeager Recital Hall <b>12</b>	<b>PHOENIX WIND ENSEMBLE   7:30 P.M.</b> McCrary Theatre <b>14</b>	<b>READING DAY STUDY SESSION   6 P.M.</b> The First Baptist Church of Elon (across from Danieley Center) <b>15</b>	<b>CRAM JAM   9 P.M.</b> Moseley Center & Lakeside Dining Hall <b>15</b>





JON SARVER JR. | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Katie Arbogast passes the baton to fellow senior Meagan Henderson during the women's 4x400 final in the CAA Championship hosted by Elon University. The Phoenix finished second in the final with a time of 3:43.14.



ALEX REYNOLDS | SPORTS DIRECTOR

Sophomore Kyle Frankel returns the ball against the University of Georgia's Philip Henning on Friday May, 3 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Phoenix eventually fell 4-0 to the Bulldogs.



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students celebrate as colors fill the air at the Truitt Center's 2019 Holi celebration on Friday May, 3.

Truitt Center employee Carrie Seigler laughs as she is covered in color at the Holi celebration on Friday, May 3.



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



ABBY GIBBS | MANAGING EDITOR

Elon University freshman Alex Tudor fixes Northeastern University junior Olivia Robbins' face paint before taking a photo together at the CAA Championship meet on Saturday, May 4. Tudor and Robbins were former teammates at Shenendehowa High School in Clifton Park, New York.





ABBY GIBBS | MANAGING EDITOR

# POTENTIAL **GAS PIPELINE** EXPANSION TO RUN ADJACENT TO **HAW RIVER**

## PIPELINE | from cover

Before any construction begins, MVP must obtain necessary regulatory authorizations from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The MVP Southgate team will also seek review from other federal, state and local agencies.

### Debating about the pipeline necessity

Many environmental activists and members of the Alamance community believe the extension is unnecessary.

Hansley called the pipeline an “unneeded project.” But data may suggest the opposite.

The region’s existing infrastructure is constrained during periods of high demand, and the North Carolina Utilities Commission has recognized the need for additional interstate natural gas pipeline capacity.

Between 2015 and 2035, North Carolina’s population is expected to increase by nearly 2 million people. As the population and communities continue to grow, local gas and energy distribution companies also increase the number of customers they must serve.

Alamance County, in particular, has recently annexed an additional 28,999 acres of land where a new residential neighborhood will be built to house almost 50 families.

Dominion Energy, a local energy company, has added nearly 100,000 new customers over the past decade, and it needs an additional supply of natural gas to meet residential and commercial demand.

“The proposed MVP Southgate project would provide PSNC Energy customers and the region with an additional supply of clean, affordable natural gas, enhancing the region’s natural gas system and providing more supply to meet current and future demand,” Day said.

Despite the potential need for the pipeline extension, members of Alamance County are wary of the possibility of the pipeline.

### Concerns and opposition

It usually takes between two and

three years to get permits and begin construction on the pipeline. During that buffer time period is when most opposition enters. Several local government officials and environmental organizations have voiced their opposition.

The Alamance County Commissioners unanimously voted to approve a resolution opposing the MVP Southgate project on Sept. 4, 2018. Chairwoman Amy Scott Galey openly opposes the construction of the project.

Galey’s biggest concerns with the pipeline regarded property owners who would be impacted by it and the environmental impact it may have.

“I was concerned about the pipeline crossing streams and the disruption of water quality from that activity,” Galey said. “Although the company said that they had plans for protecting the water quality, I find it hard to believe that they can clear such a large area of stream bed and not have any lasting impact on the water quality.”

Elon University is one of the few colleges that could possibly be impacted, along with Alamance Community College. Elon’s Student Government Association joined Galey and the county in their opposition by also passing a resolution to oppose the pipeline on March 21, 2019.

A petition opposing the pipeline installation was created by Elon’s Sierra Student Coalition, an environmental organization on campus and received almost 300 signatures.

“Elon students are very passionate about certain causes, and they care about the Elon community, especially with Alamance County being very close and the pipeline within six miles. It’s not just going to impact taxes, but your daily lives,” said Miki Salamon, historian of Elon Sierra Student Coalition.

There has also been opposition from the Haw River Assembly and the Sierra Club.

Emily Sutton, member of the Haw River Assembly in North Carolina, is one of many activists opposing the pipeline.

“This pipeline is a threat to the Haw River watershed and the people and ecosystems that depend on it,” Sutton said, who is the Haw River-keeper.

There are several potential environmental concerns associated with the installation of an interstate pipeline system.

The proposed route of the pipeline would cut through many streams and tributaries, including the Stoney Creek Reservoir and the drinking water supply for the many parts of the city of Burlington, according to Sutton.

Horizontal Direction Drilling methods would be used to cross this wetland and reservoir. The process involves coating the drills with industrial fluids to lubricate the

“

I AM A FIRM BELIEVER IN ECONOMY AND PROFIT AND ALL OF THOSE THINGS THAT MAKE OUR TOWN BETTER, BUT I BELIEVE IN IT FOR THE PEOPLE AND BY THE PEOPLE. I DON’T BELIEVE IN IT AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PEOPLE.

**JASON CRAZY BEAR**  
**TIRCUIR KECK**  
OCCANEECHI-SAPONI TRIBE  
MEMBER

machinery, which has often caused significant water contamination, according to Sutton.

Sutton also pointed out that not only is the Haw River a habitat to many different species, but it is also a popular outdoor recreational stop for many local residents.

On April 27, the Haw River Assembly and the Sierra Club united to host “Paddle Against the Pipeline.” The event was essentially a protest in which about 20 attendees kayaked down the Haw River, following along the path where the potential pipeline would be.

Jason Crazy Bear Tircuir Keck and his wife, Crystal, who are mem-

bers of Occaneechi-Saponi tribe in Pleasant Grove, also attended the protest. The couple led the group in a traditional Native American ceremony, which included tribal songs and praying for the water of the Haw River.

Keck previously told the Time-News, “I’m going to end this, real quick, by letting you know that I am a firm believer in economy and profit and all of those things that make our town better, but I believe in it for the people and by the people. I don’t believe in it at the expense of the people.”

Another risk that accompanies natural gas pipelines is leaks and explosions.

On April 11, 2019, a natural gas pipeline in Durham leaked and eventually exploded, killing one and injuring 17. The pipeline explosion in Durham was only an eighth of the size of the Southgate extension.

Aside from environmental concerns and other hazards, landowners near and on the projected path of the pipeline could potentially face major impacts as well.

MVP stated that both permanent easement and temporary construction easement processes will be necessary for this project.

“An easement provides an operator with limited use of the property for defined, specific purposes. The acquisition of an easement does not transfer ownership of the land to MVP Southgate; it does, however, give the project the right of access for construction, maintenance, and safe operation of the pipeline,” according to MVP’s website.

Eminent domain, wherein the government is able to take private property and convert it to public use, may be enacted if an agreement cannot be made over the easement process between the landowner and MVP.

A landowner who would be potentially affected by the pipeline is local chiropractor David Naylor, who walked to the bank of the Haw River behind his property to speak to protesters.

Naylor has a white oak tree located on his property that is nearly 300 years old, with a canopy that stretches 104 feet wide. The tree has a lot of sentimental value as his daughter

## PIPELINE BY THE NUMBERS

**73**

is the number of miles the proposed extension would expand into southern Virginia and cross into central North Carolina.

**375M**

cubic feet of natural gas per day is designed to be transported to the Public Service Company of North Carolina Energy.

—

and others said their wedding vows underneath the shade of the old oak.

Compared to the land on his property, Naylor does not want to sacrifice the oak tree’s health.

“I’d rather give up [land], rather than that,” Naylor said in regard to the oak tree.

The construction of the pipeline would dig too close to roots of the tree, and the oak would most likely not survive.

The estimated time for constructing the 73-mile pipeline is around a year. During this time period, local residents face many threats and inconveniences.

Virginia landowners had many complaints during the construction of the original pipeline back in 2018 ranging from traffic, loud noises, foul smells and pollution.

Residents and officials still have a few more months to voice their opinions before the FERC officially permits the construction of the MVP Southgate project.

“I believe it’s very important for people to make their opinions heard,” Hansley said. “I think because of that is even more important that people contact their elected officials at all levels.”

—

**Top: The Haw River runs along chiropractor David Naylor’s property, which would run adjacent to the Southgate Pipeline Extension.**



# North Carolina educators, supporters rally in Raleigh

Alamance-Burlington School System teachers rally at Red4Ed

**Mackenzie Wilkes**  
Elon News Network | @macwilkes

This week is dedicated to celebrating and acknowledging the work of educators. The first full week in May is Teacher Appreciation Week. One future educator at Elon University said that teachers deserve the recognition this week brings.

Junior education major Paige Knapke thinks the week is good for teacher morale.

“It’s just a good reminder for teachers too, because teacher burnout is a real thing,” Knapke said. “So also encourage them to keep going and remind them they are respected and appreciated.”

Knapke said she will be teaching in North Carolina after she graduates next year.

Teacher Appreciation Week comes in the shadow of North Carolina teachers and supporters marching and rallying in the State Capitol. The Red4Ed NC teacher march and rally comes exactly a year after teachers, school staff and supporters marched and rallied for the first time on May 1.

A handful of Alamance County teachers and staff piled into a bus last week to headed to Raleigh. Some planned to rally for better pay, others wanted better health benefits.

A total of 34 school districts and 10 charter schools canceled



MACKENZIE WILKES | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

school on May 1 because of the rally. At the Alamance-Burlington School System (ABSS) Monday meeting before the rally, they decided against canceling classes for the march. After the decision, bus drivers in the county protested, which forced a cancellation.

Crystal Bailey, an elementary school teacher for ABSS who attended the march, was at first disappointed after the board’s meeting Monday night.

“Honestly, I cried when I read the email, in the news, about how it was our bus drivers that shut down Alamance County today,” Bailey said.

Bailey said she went to Raleigh specifically to advocate for better pay for non-teacher staff like bus drivers. In Alamance

County, the starting salary for a bus driver or monitor is \$12 per hour.

The Red4Ed organizers were asking to raise the minimum wage for all school personnel to \$15 per hour, according to a letter they published. They also wanted to expand Medicaid to improve the health of those working in the schools and the students and families of the schools.

Senate President Pro Tempore Phillip Berger has called the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) a “far-left” group that is “calling on teachers to strike despite historic increases in teacher pay and education spending under Republican leadership,” in an interview with WRAL.

The state Superintendent of Public Instruction Mark Johnson asked for educators not to attend the rally. In a letter sent to educators, he suggested a march could be organized “one day in June” rather than during the school year.

One person in attendance at the march held up a sign with an image of Johnson saying “You’re the reason we can’t have nice things.”

But Patsy Simpson, member of the ABSS Board of Education, was along for the ride to support the teachers. To Simpson’s knowledge, she was the only person from the seven-member board to attend.

“I made it clear to the board that I will walk in unity with the teachers,” Simpson said.

**Teachers and supporters march down West South Street heading toward the the North Carolina Capitol building and the legislative building during the North Carolina Red for Ed teacher march and rally.**

Simpson said her job as a member of the ABSS is a reason why she should march and rally with Alamance County teachers in the county she represents.

“In order for me, as a member, to make policy, I would need to know what’s impacting our students,” Simpson said.

In a sea of red shirts, flags, posters and signage, teachers and allies marched down West South Street and Fayetteville Street in Raleigh with signs in hand, chanting phrases such as, “This is what democracy looks like.”

Those rallying marched from the North Carolina Association of Educators to the Legislative Office to meet with their representatives.

Allies from Alamance County met with Dennis Riddell, representative of House District 64, where Elon University is located.

The teachers and supporters brought up the issue of minimum wage to Riddell, and he said he was not in favor of increasing it.

“A \$15 minimum wage? I do not support it,” Riddell said.

Robert Alvis, a teacher at Williams High School in ABSS, said to Riddell that students needed more support for their mental health.

But Riddell said the problem lies in the family dynamic of students.

“It is a large contributor, most directly connected to juvenile delinquency, dropping out of school drug use, erratic, vile behavior is fatherlessness,” Riddell said.

# Provost search committee announces final candidates

The first of the four potential candidates is scheduled to speak on Thursday, May 9

**Christian Galvano**  
Breaking News Manager | @cgalvanotv

Elizabeth Hudson, Aswani Voley, Deborah D. Ricker and Jason W. Osborne have been announced as finalists to become the next Elon University provost, according to the provost search committee.

All four candidates will be on campus this month for interviews and opportunities to engage with the community.

Hudson is the dean of the College of Arts, Media and Design and professor of music at Northeastern University. She will be on campus to do a presentation for the Elon community at 4:15 p.m. this Thursday in McKinnon Hall. The committee invites all community members to attend.

Hudson said she “is very happy to be considered.”

Voley is the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, professor of biology and marine biology and executive director of the Center for Marine Sciences at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. He will be on campus Thursday, May 16.

Voley could not be reached for comment.

Ricker is the provost and vice president of academic affairs and professor of biology at Hood College. She will be on campus Monday, May 20.

Ricker said it was an “honor”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNC WILMINGTON, NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY AND HOOD COLLEGE

to meet the search committee. Ricker called Elon a “wonderful community” with “engaged faculty and students.”

Osborne is the associate provost and dean of the graduate school and professor of applied statistics at Clemson University. He will be on campus Wednesday, May 22.

Osborne could not be reached for comment.

The university provost is in charge of all academic programs, including Elon’s six academic schools and the library.

This candidate announcement comes five months after current provost Steven House announced

his resignation from the position. House will step down at the end of the calendar year.

The provost search committee is comprised of 20 members, including co-chairs Eric Hall, professor of exercise science, and Jean Rattigan-Rohr, professor of education and incoming vice president of the Center for Access and Success.

The committee has met five times since its formation in February. According to the search committee’s explanation on Elon’s website, it hopes to make a recommendation on who to select for the next provost before Commencement later this month.

## PROVOST CANDIDATES

(above, from left to right)

**Aswani Voley:** dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, professor of biology and marine biology and executive director of the Center for Marine Sciences at the University of North Carolina Wilmington  
**Elizabeth Hudson:** dean of the College of Arts, Media and Design and professor of music at Northeastern University  
**Jason Osborne:** associate provost and dean of the graduate school and professor of applied statistics at Clemson University  
**Deborah Ricker:** provost and vice president of academic affairs and professor of biology at Hood College

## VISITING SCHEDULE

(chronological order)

**Elizabeth Hudson:** 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, in McKinnon Hall  
**Aswani Voley:** Thursday, May 16  
**Deborah D. Ricker:** Monday, May 20  
**Jason W. Osborne:** Wednesday, May 22



# LACK OF DATA ON LATINX AMERICANS

Latinx Americans underrepresented in criminal justice system because of race and ethnicity categories on papers

Maggie Brown  
Politics Editor | @maggieabrown\_

Lucia Jervis, a senior at Elon University from Ecuador, said she never thought of herself as White until she came to Elon. But when she was applying to college in the United States, she had to place herself into a category.

“I remember asking my mom, I don’t know what to fill in,” she said. “And my mom was like, ‘Well, white. All our family’s from Europe.’”

On many federal and state forms, Hispanic or Latino is not an option to the answer — What is your race?

The U.S. Census Bureau uses two categories to identify a person — race and ethnicity. Race is focused on outward appearance and ethnicity is focused on country of origin. The Bureau tracks a person with origins from Spanish-speaking countries as “Hispanic,” and people with other origins as “Non-Hispanic.”

Race is a different category. “White,” “Black,” “Asian” and “Other” are common race labels. To those who identify as Latino, like Jervis, the question of race that the U.S. Census Bureau poses can be difficult.

Jervis said that her mom told her to check off “Hispanic” on forms when applying to college, since she is from a Spanish-speaking country. But she reported her race as White.

Researchers argue the difference between race and ethnicity on forms becomes a major problem when states are tracking arrests. The Urban Institute, a social and economic policy research organization, has been analyzing the impact of the difference in race and ethnicity in state and county criminal justice systems. In a study published in 2014, it found that 15 states do not report ethnicity on arrest forms.

The report said, “A state’s failure to collect and report ethnicity data affects not only Latinos but the entire criminal justice system. States that only count people as ‘black’ or ‘white’ likely label most of their Latino prison population ‘white,’ artificially inflating the number of ‘white’ people in prison and masking the white/black disparity in the criminal justice system.”

North Carolina is among the 15 states that Urban Institute found did not collect and report the ethnicity of an individual arrested.

Eddie Caldwell, executive vice president and general counsel of the North Carolina Sheriff’s Association, said that the reason North Carolina sheriffs’ departments don’t track ethnicity data is because they aren’t required to. When someone is arrested, the first piece of documentation they will show is their license, Caldwell said.

Ethnicity is not used to identify an individual by the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles. Race is. To Caldwell’s knowledge, there is no push for change in the way race and ethnicity is collected and reported in the sheriff’s association.

Caldwell said race is easier to report than ethnicity.

“Ethnicity is something that is very difficult to determine,” Caldwell said. “People are easily, and often wrongly, criticized for making assumptions based on how they think somebody looks.”

Vanessa Bravo, associate professor of communications at Elon, with specializations in government-diaspora relations and migrations, said leaving



MAGGIE BROWN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Assistant Burlington Police Chief Brian Long speaks at the community forum, “Resisting ICE in Alamance County.”

“

IF THEY REALLY ARE COUNTED AS WHITE, THEN THEY BECOME INVISIBLE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO UNDERSTAND.

VANESSA BRAVO  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AT ELON UNIVERSITY

## BY THE NUMBERS

>60%

of people arrested for a sex crime were labeled White in court records.

<2%

of people arrested for sex crimes in Alamance County were labeled Hispanic in court records.

15

states do not report ethnicity on arrest forms.

out ethnicity on arrest forms leaves the door wide open to the possibility racial profiling.

“If they really are counted as white, then they become invisible, for example, to understand,” Bravo said about Latino Americans.

Bravo said if a police department is arresting Latinos at a higher rate, it would be impossible for researchers to tell. When Latinos are reported as white she said they are hidden.

Brian Long, assistant Burlington Police Chief, said his department is “very much interested” in analyzing his office’s arrest data to make sure they are not racially profiling. He said his office is constantly checking its numbers to ensure they are not arresting those marked “Black” more than “White.”

When filling out an arrest form, Long said officers are trained to ask individuals to identify their race or use the race listed on someone’s license.

“On the front side, we train people to investigate not based on race, but positively on the individual,” Long said. This is to avoid racial profiling, he said.

But, it is impossible for them to see if they are arresting Latinos at a higher rate since their office does not track ethnicity.

“We can’t break down Latino,” Long said. “We struggle with that.”

He said his office would “not object” to tracking ethnicity on its forms. Burlington Chief of Police Jeffrey Smythe has been vocal about bettering its relationship with the Latino community in the area. Reporting ethnicity would be a step in that direction.

Many forms the Burlington Police Department (BPD) uses come from the State Bureau of Investigations, Smythe said.

“The state has never been real clear on those,” Smythe said about race and ethnicity on the SBI forms.

He said when he began at the police department in 2013, the office only had two Spanish-speaking officers. Now his department has six. He said he worked hard to build trust through community programs and police academies held in Spanish.

Felicia Arriaga, assistant professor in sociology at Appalachian State

University, studies racial profiling in relation to traffic tickets. In North Carolina, it has been state policy to gather and report ethnicity, race and sex of each person stopped, searched and given a citation at a traffic stop since 1999, according to Senate Bill 76.

Arriaga’s research focuses on examining racial profiling at traffic stops because there the data is more available to her. But she said that gathering data on ethnicity is about more than getting an accurate representation of a population.

“Is it just a challenge to the point of like, data accuracy? Or like, is actually a challenge because there are systematic and disproportionate types of things happening,” Arriaga said.

## How race and ethnicity affect Alamance County

Alamance County’s Hispanic population is 4 percent higher than the state average, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Alamance County Sheriff’s Office (ACSO) and all the police departments in Alamance County — Graham Police Department, Town of Elon Police, BPD and the Gibsonville Police Department — do not record someone’s ethnicity when arresting them. They each only report and collect race.

Mark Dockery, sergeant for the ACSO, said that it is not necessary for their office to record ethnicity, so it doesn’t.

“Basically, we do not collect ethnicity data because it has historically not been a part of standardized state forms,” Dockery said in an email. “There is a way to track it with modern software — although the forms still do not call for it — but we simply do not collect that data just as we do not collect other data that is unnecessary for our purposes.”

Terry Johnson, Sheriff of Alamance County, is a vocal member of the community. He often refers to the Hispanic population in public meetings and in

## AN EXAM

Agency Name

Taken: ☐ Prints  
☐ Photos

Name (Last, First)

## AN EXAM

Vehicle Driver

Driver’s Age

Driver’s Sex

Driver’s Ethnicity

## AN EXAM

NAME ON

LAST

RACE

SEX

media interviews.

Most famously, Alamance County Board members meeting in January said criminal aliens is raising many, many ways.” Arriaga specifically to Johnson. His claim was a presentation to show that they were committing traffic — and other crimes.

But the ACSO doesn’t track ethnicity. It only tracks race. Police departments in North Carolina claim it is difficult to tell what ethnicity the most sex crimes are committed in the counties.

Frank Baumgartner, professor of sociology at North Carolina State University, is an expert in racial profiling. He said the ACSO is “on steroids” and claims that the H. R. 1632 commits a high number of crimes in Alamance County.

Baumgartner, who has worked at the North Carolina Courts’ records for five years less than Johnson, said that 60 percent of people arrested for sex crimes in Alamance County were labeled as white.



# ICAN ARRESTS, RESEARCH SHOWS

## MPLE **ARREST REPORT** OBTAINED FROM THE BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

ARREST REPORT

	ORI	Date/Time Arrested			OCA	
Fingerprint Card Check Digit # (CKN)		Arrest Tract		Residence Tract		Arrest Number
(Last, First, Middle)	D.O.B.	Age	Race	Sex	Place of Birth	Country of Citizenship

Only race is required on the Burlington Police Department's arrest form. Ethnicity does not have a box.

## MPLE **TRAFFIC STOP REPORT** OBTAINED FROM THE BURLINGTON POLICE, MADE BY THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

Information

Driver's Race

☐ White

☐ Black

☐ Native American

☐ Asian

☐ Other

☐ Male

☐ Female

Ethnicity

☐ Non-Hispanic

☐ Hispanic

Person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish Culture

Ethnicity and Race are both reported in traffic stop forms at the Burlington Police Department.

## MPLE **DISPOSTION REPORT** OBTAINED FROM THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

FINGERPRINT CARD SUBMITTED TO SBI

	FIRST	MIDDLE
	DATE OF BIRTH	
	SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	

Only race is listed in the SBI's Disposition Report. Ethnicity is not required to report.

he said at an Alar of Commission-uary that “illegal pping our citizens in Johnson was refer-Latino immigrants. rt of an hour-long ow that Hispanics he most sex crimes — in the county. es not track ethnic-ace, like all sheriffs rth Carolina. Local t is almost impossi- nic group commits s in North Carolina

rtner is research- or the University of Chapel Hill and ex- ing. He claims that haky ground,” with hispanic population mber of sex crimes y.

hose research looks olina Division of and that in the last 2 percent of people rimes in Alamance ed Hispanic. Over e arrested for a sex

crime were labeled White in court records.

This data is available because when a Latino is arrested and processed, they are labeled by the courts as Hispanic. But rather than Hispanic being listed as an ethnic category — as the U.S. Census Bureau identifies Hispanic — it is a race on its own in the Division of Courts. This identification is unique.

The ACSO reports ethnicity in its traffic reports because of the state's policy. In 2014, the office was sued by the Department of Justice for racially profiling Latino Americans during traffic stops. The DOJ dropped the lawsuit, but according to calculations from Elon News Network in 2016, from January 2009 to 2012 the ACSO was twice as likely to stop a Hispanic as a non-Hispanic.

**A community responds**

The non-profit organization Faith Action International House in Greensboro is working to develop a solution and represent Latino Americans across the state. Faith Action asks local police, hospitals, banks and more other entities to accept its community ID.

Some international residents may struggle getting basic identification

“

WE TRY TO HAVE THAT BRIDGE-BUILDING WORK BECAUSE OTHERWISE WE REALIZE THESE COMMUNITIES WILL NOT TALK TO EACH OTHER.

SOFIA MOSQUERA  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY FOR  
FAITH ACTION INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

like a license because of the paperwork required from the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles. While the community ID does not replace a state ID like a license, it helps these organizations identify international people.

Though these IDs do not represent ethnicity, they do list “country of birth.” The program does not advertise itself as a solution to a systemic problem of how Latinos are recorded in the criminal justice system, but Faith Action said it believes it is headed in the right direction.

Sofia Mosquera, director of community education and advocacy for Faith Action, said that the point of the program is to build trust between local law enforcement and the Latino community.

“We try to have that bridge-building work,” Mosquera said, “because otherwise we realize these communities will not talk to each other.”

Smythe said he understands the value of representing Latinos with this ID. He decided to make it a corporate policy to take the Faith Action ID into consideration when citing or arresting a person. The BPD hosts ID drives and forums in addition to this policy.

“The first and most valuable part of the program is that it builds trust with

the local police department,” Smythe said.

Local pharmacies and hospitals have also agreed to accept the community ID. But, the ACSO does not have the same policy. Instead, it is up to the discretion of each officer in the field.

The North Carolina state House also recently passed a bill to conduct a statewide study to examine criminal justice data and how it is collected. It is still under review. Neither race and ethnicity are directly stated in the bill.

House Bill 885, if passed, would study data being collected by each local and regional detention facility. The study would look at admission to the facility, population, revenue and costs and the process each jail collected, recorded, maintained and searched this information.

Arriaga is interested in the direction of the bill. She said she hopes that the state, along with the NCSA, will take a closer look at traffic stops and arrest forms to reduce the chance of racial profiling.

“There should be a broader conversation between the Sheriff’s Association and Police Chiefs Association to have a conversation around people who are tracking some of these things,” Arriaga said.



# OPINIONS

## DID JUUL LABS INC. ALLOW THE JUUL TO BE COOL?



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MEGHAN KIMBERLING



**Isabella Abdullah**  
@elonnewsnetwork

My younger sister Elyssa's 12-year-old friends are addicted to nicotine. Elyssa shared with me that students in her class go to the bathroom to sneak a puff of their JUULs as part of their daily routines.

This addictive habit has become so excessive that children have started to hide JUULs in their sleeves in order to smoke in school.

Many children hide the device from their parents because they know that their use is illegal and inappropriate. "I don't go anywhere where there isn't a parent in the audience who isn't concerned about the JUUL," Matthew Myers, the president of the nonprofit Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, told Business Insider. "I've never seen a phenomenon like this before."

The stated mission of the JUUL is to serve as a healthy alternative for adults who are active smokers. Instead of acting as an aid for adults to stop smoking, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) says that the majority of JUUL users are children under the ages of 18. JUUL Labs Inc. claims it did not see this coming. "This company is here to improve the lives of smokers," Ashley Gould, JUUL's chief administrative officer, told Business Insider.

According to the FDA, from 2017 to 2018, e-cigarette use increased by an alarming 78% for high schoolers and 48% for middle schoolers. A study published in Tobacco Control revealed that 15- to 17-year-olds have over 16 times greater odds to be current JUUL users compared to those of 25-34 years of age.

As a college student-athlete, it's difficult for me to watch my peers and young people de-

velop an unhealthy addiction. On Elon University's campus, I regularly see students carrying this e-cigarette in their hand at all times.

JUUL, introduced in 2015, is too new to have significant data concerning its product risk, but outside research has shown dangers of its use. Researchers from the University of California, San Francisco, found that teens who use the JUUL are at risk of breathing in cancer-causing chemicals, especially in flavored pods.

Even when the product does not contain nicotine, these e-cigarettes are found to have just as harmful cancer-causing substances that are found in tobacco cigarettes.

My classmates should consider this information the next time they want to hit a JUUL for the short "buzz" they hope to receive.

The slick packaging of the product is one of the main contributors to its popularity. Another worrisome contributing factor to youth addiction is that JUUL provides such appealing flavors.

Providing attractive vapor pod flavors such as mango, fruit medley and mint is dangerous, and easily leads to addiction due to the high nicotine content. One JUUL pod is equivalent to one pack of 20 individual cigarettes. The device delivers the nicotine 2.7 times faster than the average e-cigarette, giving an instant "buzz" feeling.

JUUL posted a series of ads between the years of 2015-2017 on YouTube and social media of young people enjoying their products. The FDA mandates users to be at least 18 years of age to use tobacco products,

but some states and cities have raised the age to buy them to 21.

JUUL's advertising was seen as controversial because of the models used for the ads who looked as young as 18 years old, appealing to young teens.

According to an article on nicotine and addiction from Smokefree Teen, a government initiative, teens are especially sensitive to nicotine's addictive effects because their brains are still developing, increasing the risk of them getting hooked. The use of nicotine can also allow the mind to become accustomed to being addicted to other drugs easily. It has long-term effects on brain development creating concentration, impulse control and learning challenges.

Altria, the company that produces Marlboro and other cigarettes, has a 35% stake in JUUL.

Scott Gottlieb, who recently stepped down as the Food and Drug Commissioner, called this teenage JUUL addiction an "epidemic." He announced that his team would strive to put an end to the selling of e-cigarettes to minors and warned of a possible ban on flavored e-cigarette liquids. He believes that the use of tobacco products by the nation's children is a "pediatric disease" that introduces new generations of tobacco-dependent children and adults.

In September 2018, the FDA gave JUUL Labs 60 days to show it can prevent minors from obtaining its products. JUUL decided to stop selling the majority of its flavored nicotine pods for its e-cigarette use in retail stores. A CNBC Health and Science article noted JUUL CEO Kevin Burns said that users of 21 years

of age and older would still be able to buy any pods on JUUL's website, and its four tobacco- and menthol-flavored pods in retail stores.

The FDA singled out JUUL to ban sales to anyone under 21, even where the state's legal age is lower. Clerks now must electronically scan IDs and verify consumers are 21 years of age or older, regardless of local laws.

I understand that JUUL has attempted to find neutrality with the FDA, but the work that they have done is not going to achieve the FDA's request to put an end to teen nicotine addiction. The age restriction of 18 years old did not stop the distribution of this product to minors, and neither will the limitation to 21 years old. Many kids can easily ask an older sibling, a friend or an adult to buy it for them, or even go to the extent of purchasing a fake ID.

Raising the age restriction to a higher age might be more helpful in order to end minors' nicotine addiction. According to the 2014 Surgeon General's Report, nearly 9 out of 10 adult smokers starts by the age of 26.

I believe 26 is a reasonable minimum age to distribute the JUUL and other e-cigarette products, especially if JUUL is truly meant to be a healthy alternative for current smokers to help them stop smoking. A 26-year-old is less likely to assist a minor in illegally purchasing the product than a 21-year-old.

E-cigarettes like JUUL create an addiction that's spreading to young people, and this must come to an end. Raising age restrictions is a good place to start curbing this problem.



# CONSTRUCTING FURNITURE ONE PRAYER AT A TIME

Heartwarming family project turns into a dedicated local business

**Diego Pineda**

Elon News Network | @diego\_pineda19

IN SILENCE, GARRETT CARNES plugs his headphones in, sweating and bleeding at times while he works on furniture. Every nail, screw and piece he constructs is done in prayer.

He considers every moment at his shop in Burlington to be a spiritual experience. All the pieces he has made since he began his business in 2014 have a unique stamp on it — a Bible scripture. Garrett said this scripture is laid in his heart for the family or person for whom the piece is made.

“It’s not just building a piece of furniture, collecting a check and then sending it on,” Garrett said. “I’m connected to each piece of furniture that I make. It means something to me in more ways than one.”

Not only does it have a meaning for him, but it is also important to his wife Courtney and sons Easton and Chase. Before any piece is shipped out or delivered, they gather as a family and pray over it.

“We pray for whatever God lays on our heart for that family to be prayed about,” Garrett said. “Everything we do is faith-based.”

The North Carolina Department of Commerce considers North Carolina the “furniture capital of the world” with the largest furnishing trade show in the world, the largest furniture store in the world and major international manufacturers. But Hammer and a Prayer is the Carneses’ family business. Instead of focusing on money and competing with other local companies, the Carneses focus on the relationships they make for their clients and the heart they put into every piece.

## Starting from scratch

In 2014, Garrett had the idea of building a toy box for Chase’s first Christmas. He recalls that he had a lot of toys but nowhere to keep them and had the desire to make something by hand for him.

“I spent way too much money making it because I destroyed all the materials that were going into it, but I had a great time,” Garrett said. “It is the piece I am most proud of because it started the journey that we are on.”

After learning how to make the toy box, Courtney suggested that Garrett start a woodworking business. He quickly began learning through YouTube tutorials, magazines, forums and local workshops.

“I would get to a point where I could see progress and it would excite me and fueled the motivation to do even more,” Garrett said.

Through trial, error and dedication, Garrett and Courtney slowly started to get clients. Their name “Hammer and a Prayer” was Courtney’s idea to connect the woodworking aspect with their Christian faith.

When Garrett began his business, he sought guidance from Jim Young, a friend and the owner of



Left: Garrett Carnes, his wife Courtney (not pictured) and his sons Easton and Chase gather as a family around every piece of furniture and pray over it before it is shipped out.

Salvation Coffee Co., which is also a Christian-owned business in Burlington. Young considers Garrett an inspiration, and has given him and Courtney advice on the lessons he learned from his own mistakes.

“We are Christian, and we don’t hide that fact,” Young said. “But we are not shoving that down anybody’s throat. If given the opportunity to give our testimony, we will, but it is not like we’re going to use that to exclude anybody.”

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2017, North Carolina is one of the top five states in the country for residential furniture — the type of furniture found in homes. The Carneses deal with this type of furniture by building dining tables, benches, stools, cutting boards and wine displays, among other pieces. They are mainly known for their tables. The prices vary on the material they use and the size of the piece.

Garrett said he tries to make the tables and other pieces with love, care and attention to detail. He does not like building a project and shipping it within a couple of days because he wants to be personal and spend his time with it.

“As I’m building this tabletop and the legs and the frame,” Garrett said, “I understand that there will be laughs that are going to be shared, tears that are going to be shed, tough conversations, fun conversations, Thanksgivings and Christmases.”

## A bonding experience

While Garrett focuses on the woodworking, Courtney deals with promotions on social media and gives him artistic ideas on how to create certain pieces. From there, Garrett said he figures out how to put his own twist on them.

Through their posts on Instagram and Facebook, Jonathan Oliphant, head football coach of Lake



PHOTO COURTESY OF GARRETT CARNES

a toy box.”

Garrett said both sons have done something of note to every piece they have sold despite their young ages of 2 and 4 years old. When Young met the Carneses at a veterans’ benefit banquet, he was amazed at the prayer one of the kids led as well as their family dynamic.

“You can tell he loves those kids to death,” Young said. “Garrett participates in their lives all day and every day, and that is a reason of why he’s so blessed with the company.”

Garrett hopes the boys’ experience at the shop can create a work ethic in them as well as provide them with trade skills and a “do-it-yourself mentality.” For him, the biggest reward is to work with his wife and see his kids enjoy the shop.

“They haven’t just banged the plastic hammer,” Garrett said. “They’ve drilled the screws into something. They’ve malled dovetails together. I know it’s memories that I’ll never forget and, hopefully, they’ll never forget growing up.”

## Defying a stigma

Garrett said his biggest challenge is juggling the different aspects of his life which include fatherhood, woodworking, church ministry and being a military veteran.

Garrett lost both of his legs in the U.S. Marines after stepping on an improvised explosive device (IED) while deployed in Afghanistan in 2012.

He said it is tiresome to be in the wheelchair at the shop as well as with his prosthetics since his legs tend to hurt for hours after a long day of work.

“It’s definitely troublesome,” Garrett said. “One of my slogans is, ‘You hire a legless woodworker. I promise you that I will be a lot slower, but I will take a lot of time and care.’”

When Garrett visited the Lake Norman football team, he talked to them about his personal experiences in Afghanistan.

“

YOU HIRE A LEGLESS  
WOODWORKER. I  
PROMISE YOU THAT I  
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BUT I WILL TAKE A LOT  
OF TIME AND CARE.

**GARRETT CARNES**  
OWNER & FOUNDER OF HAMMER  
AND A PRAYER

Norman High School in Mooresville, North Carolina, reached out to have a war hammer done for his football team.

“A lot of teams have the turnover chain, the weight room, the WWE belts, and we wanted something different that was kind of ours,” Oliphant said. “We wanted something with a little bit more meaning behind it, and so we carry it [the hammer] with us to every game.”

Oliphant said Garrett came to Lake Norman to deliver the hammer in summer 2018 and gave the football team a talk about the process that went into making the piece and the story behind it.

“It’s cool for me to see that they enjoy a piece of me out there,” Garrett said. “I never thought that I would embark on this after building

“A man who lost both of his legs talked about perseverance,” Oliphant said. “Knowing his story and how he has overcome adversity and has turned something tragic into something special in his life meant a lot to my guys.”

The U.S. Small Business Administration found in the 2012 U.S. Census that about 2.52 million businesses around the country were majority-owned by veterans. Of these, about 7.3 percent of veteran small-business owners had service-connected disabilities.

Young’s business, Salvation Coffee Co., is also veteran-owned.

“Jim ate, breathed and slept Army for a long portion of his life, and he is still a soldier, and I am the same way about the Marine Corps,” Garrett said. “But he’s not going to hang his hat on his military career for the rest of his life.”

Not only are these businesses locally sourced, but they also want to be known for more than just the title of being veteran-owned.

“This is an example that we aren’t just here because we’re veteran-owned businesses,” Young said, “but because we wanted to do something, and that is what we are doing.”

Garrett said he enjoys getting to know veterans who come home and beat the stereotypes of being broken veterans. He acknowledges that their experiences in the military to give them a lot of intangible skills in character, leadership, discipline and relationships that have helped him in connecting with the community.

## Becoming a trailblazer

Garrett is also a mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter. He does MMA not only because he enjoys it but because he wants to show how a disabled fighter can climb in the cage and fight able-bodied people.

“It’s not about me going in there,” Garrett said. “It’s about what it can do for other folks and the dreams and goals that they have for themselves.”

Through all his roles, Garrett said he has blazed trails for others like him. This is something that excites and humbles him.

“I think about not just military veterans, but kids that maybe grow up in a wheelchair or have some type of physical quote-unquote disability or mental disability,” Garrett said. “They’ll be able to see guys like myself and my peers that are moving forward as their examples of what they can do with their lives.”

With all that he does, Garrett said his family has been so blessed by their community that they aspire to give back to them through Hammer and a Prayer.

The family’s ultimate goal in the future is to open a shop in the Burlington area where other makers and creators can have a platform to either bring their products, do demonstrations, teach and take classes to grow in their crafts. They hope to become a home for current and future woodworkers.





LIAM O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Then-defensive coordinator Tony Trisciani talks strategy on the sidelines of the Homecoming game against the University of Rhode Island on Saturday, Nov. 3.

# TRISCIANI SET TO GO AS NEW FOOTBALL COACH

Trisciani is poised to use lessons from his past to propel the program forward

**Emmanuel Morgan**  
Elon News Network | @emmanuelmorgan

Julie Trisciani didn't want to get her hopes up. She's seen this process involving her husband's employment play out before. And, as she said, all she could do was hold her breath and pray because her family's future was "at the mercy of one person's decision."

"It's like waiting for Christmas," Julie said. "Are you going to get everything you asked Santa for?"

Eight days before Christmas and less than 72 hours after Elon University head football coach Curt Cignetti abruptly resigned, Elon elevated Julie's husband and Elon's former defensive coordinator, Tony, to become the new head coach.

Now, almost five months into the new role, the Triscianis are adjusting along with the entire football program. Tony said being head coach here presents both opportunities and challenges he's ready to tackle.

"There are no self-imposed limitations here," Tony said. "We can win a national championship here. We have the resources to do it. We have a campus and a reputation academically where we can recruit players that we can win with."

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The first conversation the Triscianis was about sports.

In 2005, Julie lived in Pennsylvania after moving from Chicago seven years earlier. Waiting for a friend, she sat by herself at Starters Pub — a sports bar just outside Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Julie said Tony, who'd just been hired as linebackers coach at Lehigh University, approached her asking to know her favorite sport. A diehard Chicago Cubs fan, Julie said baseball.

Julie soon learned Tony was four days on the job and had eaten dinner at Starters each night. He asked for her number, and they went on a date the next day. Four years later, they were married.

Being the wife of a coach is hard, Julie said, and coaches' wives across the country deserve respect for their dedication.

"It's not a 9-to-5 job," Julie said. "It's a lifestyle."

For the next 11 years, the two traversed the east coast with their two children as Tony accepted jobs at Elon, Whitehall High School and Villanova University.

"There's a lot of loneliness when your husband's on the road recruiting," Julie said. "December and January can also be a stressful time because when they get offered the new job, they're gone, so then you're left with having to sell the house and the thousand things that come along with the relocation."

Julie said she's found ways to cope with this lifestyle, finally settling two years ago when Tony returned to become Elon's defensive coordinator. When he accepted the job, Julie said she embraced her new surroundings.

But that comfort was jeopardized this past December.

Cignetti, Elon's second-year head coach revered for rebuilding the underachieving program and leading it to two consecutive Football Championship Subdivision playoff appearances, resigned to accept the James Madison University head coaching job on Dec. 14.

While it was a shock to players and fans, Director of Athletics Dave Blank said he'd discussed with Cignetti before he made the decision.

"I don't think this was about anything that's wrong with Elon," Blank said. "It was an opportunity he saw would be better for him to be able to pursue a national championship quicker."

In October, the Phoenix defeated the then-No. 2 Dukes 27-24, ending its 22 CAA-game winning streak.

When she heard Cignetti left, she said she was devastated. She thought the entire coaching staff would follow him there. She wanted to stay.

"We're home now, and I didn't want to leave home," Julie said.

Neither did Tony. After he overcame the initial shock, he soon told Blank he was interested in taking

charge. After coaching for 23 years, he felt this was his opportunity to lead a college program.

Soon came a series of interviews with senior administrators. Julie stayed up with Tony for two nights straight, making trips to Office Max to help perfect every aspect of his presentation.

Blank, who wouldn't reveal the other candidates for the role, said he didn't seek the help of a national search firm to build a pool of prospects as he did in his last search. Blank said he was impressed with Tony's familiarity of the program.

"His body of work made him a good person to talk to right away," Blank said. "If you can get continuity, then that's what you want. He was prepared for conversations and had a good idea of where our program is. Our players are very familiar with him, and he certainly has done a great job directing our defense."

When he was hired, Tony said it was a stressful but exciting transition. But now, he's excited to get to the X's and O's and leave his personal mark.

"That honeymoon phase is over," Tony said. "Now it's all football. A lot of the things that have been important to us the last two years are going to continue to be important to us. But this program will have my signature on it, and there will be some things that will certainly be different, but nothing drastic."

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In early 2006, when Julie first met Tony's family at their home she saw something she said embodies the person he is. In his mother's kitchen was an excerpt of the poem "Attitude" by Charles Swindoll.

*Life is 10% of what happens to me, and 90% of how I react to it.*

"When I saw that," Julie said, "I knew that was how he was raised."

Tony brings those lessons into his coaching too.



ANTON DELGADO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

During the press conference officially announcing his appointment as head coach, Tony Trisciani discusses his lifelong love of football and the future he has in store for the Phoenix on Monday, Dec. 17.

At the first team meeting in January, Tony outlined his vision for the program. He didn't want to give players an fancy speech. And ultimately, his players said he didn't need to.

"Everybody knew right then when he walked in — just by his presence of being the head coach — we all respected him," said freshman running back Jaylan Thomas. "He didn't have to win us over. He gave us the blueprint, and we're going to follow the blueprint."

The blueprint this offseason centered around three words, "Attitude, Effort and Discipline" on the field and in the classroom. The slogan was posted on the team's social media accounts and preached during practices — something Tony also tweaked.

In the spring, Tony diverted from Cignetti's practices. Rather than relying heavily on scrimmages, spring practices focused more on rotating drills. Junior defensive back Greg Liggs Jr. said while it's only a minor change, he noticed a difference.

"He's focusing on keeping everything in the moment that it's supposed to be," Liggs said. "We can move from one station to the next station efficiently and maximize the time we have while we're out here."

Tony's methodology is based on sports science and decreasing soft-tissue injuries, which defined the Phoenix's 2018 campaign.

Season-ending injuries to key players — most notably to sopho-

more quarterback Davis Cheek and senior running back Malcolm Summers — left Elon wondering what could have been.

"We weren't the same team at the end of the season that we were at the beginning," Tony said. "We were in position to win football games, so that was disappointing."

The key in all of this, Tony said, is developing depth. While Cheek continues to recover, the five other quarterbacks on the roster, including three freshmen, earn valuable reps.

"If the injuries were a big part of it, then we need to make sure the next man up is ready to play," Tony said. "Right now, we're developing mental toughness. The harder you work in the offseason, then the harder it is for you to give up on that field on a Saturday when it comes to the fourth quarter."

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Players said they haven't questioned Tony's commitment, saying he's been an all-around coach, caring about his players on and off the field. As a program, three seniors on the 2018 team have been given opportunities to play in the NFL. For the Phoenix, things look bright.

"I'm happy here," Tony said. "I want to coach you. I want us to be successful here. In the end, I think this brought our team closer together."





JESS RAFFOGLI | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Phoenix celebrate junior left fielder Morgan Reich's diving catch to end the inning against the University of North Carolina at Greensboro at Hunt Softball Field on Sunday, March 17.

# SOFTBALL HEADS TO CAA TOURNAMENT

The Phoenix will enter the championship bracket as the No. 2 seed

**Caitlin Rundle**

Elon News Network | @caitlinr\_21

On May 4, the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) officially announced the seedings for the CAA Championship tournament, with the Elon University Phoenix sitting in second as expected. James Madison University sits at first, and under the Phoenix in order sit Towson University, Drexel University and the College of Charleston. The Phoenix will be traveling to Harrisonburg, Virginia, for play to start on May 8 against Towson, its first opponent.

The CAA softball tournament works differently than other tournaments in that it follows double-elimination play. Should the Phoenix lose against Towson, they would have one more chance to advance later on opening day. There they would play against the loser of the Drexel-College of Charleston game. If the Phoenix win against Towson, then they would not have to play again until the next day where they would most likely be playing No. 1 James Madison University.

Head coach Kathy Bocock is excited for her young team to play in the CAA tournament and said she thinks her team is prepared for this new kind of play.

"I feel like with our tournaments that we played in the beginning of the year and when we went to some other tournaments, we prepared ourselves for the CAA tournament, but the good thing is we've beat everybody that's going to be there at least once, so that helps our confidence,"

Bocock said.

This year has been an exciting one for the dark horse Phoenix team. Following the departure of valuable leaders from last year as well as the addition of eight new freshmen, sophomore Ally Repko said even her expectations changed as the team became more confident in themselves.

"When season hit and we had that opening tournament where we had six home runs I think, that set the bar high, I don't think anyone predicted how we came out," Repko said.

“

BEFORE WE TAKE THE FIELD, WE DON'T HAVE THIS BIG TALK. INSTEAD, WE'RE JUST LIKE, 'ALRIGHT, LET'S GO PLAY SOFTBALL,' AND BOOM — WE KEEP THINGS SIMPLE, AND I THINK WE TRY TO KEEP THAT CONSISTENT. I THINK THAT HELPS THEM.

**KATHY BOCOCK**  
HEAD COACH

One freshman that stuck out to Repko and coach Bocock was freshman Megan White.

Redshirt junior Abby Barker has taken a special liking to White. "For me personally, Megan White has really stood out to me," Barker said. "I'm a pitcher, and she's a catcher, so she's really stepped into a big role in a really big way."

"To have that role of one of the people that have that view of the whole field, she's fit in amazingly," Repko said. "Even if she's having a bad day at the plate hitting-wise, you can't tell."

Going into CAA tournament

play, the team is looking to keep defying expectations with help from White and the rest of the explosive freshmen who have stepped up this season.

Bocock is particularly excited. "They've been talking about us missing the tournament for the past two years," Bocock said.

Bocock said it has made her team determined to exceed expectations, and she is proud of how her team has handled the hardships thrown at them this season and how this team acts how a true team should.

"Team sports are kind of funny because it might not be your day, it might be someone else's day, and you should be excited for each person all the time because that's why you play a team sport," Bocock said. "We want everybody to show up, and if someone is having a bad day, then someone else is picking them up, and I feel that we've done that a lot this year."

Repko and Barker are also excited to be going back to CAA play and recognize that while they will be playing the same teams they have been all year, the tournament will throw different challenges at them.

## SEASON RECORD

# 31-18-1

The girls' softball team finished the regular season with 31 wins and 18 losses.

"I think we're going to be playing harder, but I don't think the game plan that we have when it comes to how we handle hitting and stuff like that, that'll stay the same," Repko said. "What we're good at, those strengths, those will change based on how much energy we bring."

"We've worked hard all fall and winter, and I think we wanted to, of course, make it to the CAA tournament," Barker said. "I think it's turned just as good, if not better, than we had hoped to so far."

For Bocock, she said she wants to keep things as consistent as possible — something she said comes along with simplicity.

"Before we take the field, we don't have this big talk. Instead, we're just like, 'Alright, let's go play softball,' and boom — we keep things simple, and I think we try to keep that consistent. I think that helps them," Bocock said.

The last time the Phoenix played its series was on April 27-28, where the Phoenix won the series 2-1 (8-0, 2-4, 3-1). The Phoenix played the No. 1 seed JMU once this season as well, and while it lost that series, the Phoenix still managed to get one 5-3 win over the Dukes. This will be the first CAA tournament that the Phoenix have appeared in since 2016, where the team lost its first two games against the University of Delaware and the College of Charleston.

## First-round loss ends historic year for men's tennis

The Phoenix fell to the No. 18 University of Georgia Bulldogs in the NCAA Tournament to end its 2019 season

**Alex Reynolds**

Sports Director | @Reynolds14

Elon University men's tennis lost to the No. 18 Georgia Bulldogs 4-0 in the first round of the NCAA Tennis Tournament at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill last Friday. The loss to the Bulldogs ended the Phoenix's historic run after securing its first-ever CAA conference tournament on April 20.

The matchup would be the final match for four seniors — Mario Paccini, Felipe Osses-Koning, Felipe Sarraasague and Taylor Foote — who all competed as a part of the team's starting six singles lineup. For head coach Michael Leonard, this matchup in the NCAA tournament was a special moment for these players who have given their all for four years.

"We got four seniors here that have given a lot to this program, and to be a part of this and feel this environment, I know it's something they'll never forget," Leonard said.

The NCAA tournament featured the toughest competition the Phoenix had seen all season. Two-time defending CAA Player of the Year and No. 104-ranked Sarraasague took on Georgia's No. 38-ranked Emil Reinberg in singles competition. The Phoenix's top doubles team of Paccini and Sarraasague took on the No. 61 doubles team in the country, Reinberg and Walker Duncan. Paccini said it was a great experience to compete against this level of competition.

"It's amazing to play against people that are better than you. I think we all prefer that because you don't have anything to lose," Paccini said. "In the conference, we were nervous, we wanted to win, but here it was all about hitting the ball and the experience and getting a sense for what these good teams can do."

The seasoned veterans on the team were not the only ones faced with tough competition. Younger players, such as sophomore Camilo Ponce, competed in both singles and doubles competitions. His doubles teammate and classmate, sophomore Kyle Frankel, was tasked with facing Georgia's No. 115-ranked Philip Henning. While it was a challenge overall for the young players, Ponce said the crowd of Elon students, parents and faculty helped give him energy.

"There were a lot of Elon fans over here. It was a hot day, and a lot of energy was being wasted, but the fans gave a lot of good energy to keep playing," Ponce said. "That helped me keep going in my match."

Though the Phoenix fell in a shutout, they had a remarkable season. The team held a record of 21-5, won its first CAA conference championship and took home postseason awards of CAA Player of the Year and Coach of the Year. Leonard said it was moments like these that will define the 2019 season for his players and departing seniors.

"I'm just so happy for them, for them to get a championship," Leonard said. "We've had a fabulous year. We're not letting one moment against a team like Georgia in the NCAA tournament define our season."



ALEX REYNOLDS | SPORTS DIRECTOR

Senior Mario Paccini serves during the NCAA tournament against the University of Georgia on Friday, May 3.



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