

ELON POLL FINDS HURRICANE HELENE MOTIVATES VOTERS



Candidate campaign signs line Elon University's South Gym — one of Alamance County's early voting locations.

ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR

Democrat Josh Stein leads governor race by 21 points against Republican Mark Robinson

Abigail Hobbs
Elon News Network

The third Elon Poll of the 2024 election season found that Democrat Josh Stein now has a 21-point lead in the governor race against Republican Mark Robinson and North Carolina is still in a deadlock for the presidential election. The poll also found that Hurricane Helene is motivating North Carolinians to vote, which Director of Elon Poll Jason Husser said is usual after natural disasters.

The presidential election is still tied 46 to 46% between former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris, which is not a significant difference from the Sept. 24 poll.

The poll was made up of 800 registered

North Carolina voters, conducted from Oct. 10 to 17.

Early Voting

Forty-one percent of North Carolina voters said they will participate in early voting this year, while 46% plan to vote in person.

“North Carolina has set a record number of early voting compared to past elections. Early voting is a fairly recent historical phenomenon, not just in North Carolina, but in other states as well,” Husser said.

In the 2020 presidential election, 65.5% of ballots cast in North Carolina were from early voting, according to the North Carolina Board of Elections, which was due to safety concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of Oct. 29, there were 3,102,408 total ballots cast in North Carolina, showing a 39.7% voter turnout one week before the election, according to the North Carolina Board of Elections. In Alamance County, 46,608 people have voted early and by mail.

After early voting started Oct. 17, over 2,936,297 people voted early and 166,111 people cast their absentee ballots. Over 45% of registered North Carolina Republicans have cast their vote, while 41.92% of registered North Carolina Democrats have voted, according to the North Carolina Board of Elections.

“What’s interesting about this election cycle is it’s one of the first times we’ve seen Republicans — particularly Republican campaigns — emphasizing early voting,” Husser said. “A lot of what we’re seeing in the uptake in early voting is driven in part by Republican campaigns pushing it.”

Husser said because of this increase, it’s harder to tell how an election is looking based on who is early voting.

In the last general election, people were more likely to vote early due to safety concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic, Husser said.

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Elon volunteers pack meals for hurricane relief

Students, faculty, staff travel to Winston-Salem to pack meals, supplies for communities

Charlotte Pfabe
Elon News Network

“Everyone deserves to eat” is painted on the warehouse wall of the Second Harvest Food Bank in Winston-Salem. Volunteers from Elon University took that motto to heart as they packaged meals and supplies on Oct. 25 for those impacted by Hurricane Helene — including disaster relief workers — in western North Carolina.

In a partnership between Elon University’s Kernodle Center for Civic Life and Second Harvest, students, faculty and staff boarded

a bus and traveled to the central center of Second Harvest in Winston-Salem.

Second Harvest is a regional food bank responsible for providing food and supplies to 18 counties in NC, from Boone to Burlington. According to Second Harvest, eight of the counties it serves are considered hurricane impact areas by FEMA.

Assistant Registrar Hannah Southern ’22 volunteered alongside her colleagues from the Registrar’s office. She said she saw this event as an opportunity to support communities western North Carolina without having to travel far.

“It’s really humbling to think about the opportunities that I have access to, the resources I have and how difficult it must be to not have easy access,” Southern said. “So I felt really grateful that I was able to contribute and make a difference and help

provide that to somebody else who might not have it.”

Two weeks after the hurricane hit communities in the west, Second Harvest began packing meals. With five meals in each box, volunteers and employees have packed around 10,800 ready-to-eat meal boxes, according to Second Harvest staff.

The food in the boxes comes from Feeding America and the food bank’s partners, including local and national grocery stores.

For two hours, Elon volunteers — and a few students from Wake Forest — checked expiration dates, organized goods, broke down cardboard and packed over two pallets worth of boxes.

See KERNODLE | pg. 7

Elon ’24 alumna remembered as devoted friend, hard worker



ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR

Juliana Kuhno ’24 at commencement on May 24. Kuhno died Oct. 19 at 22 years old.

Celebration of life to be held on Nov. 3 in Wake Forest, Juliana Kuhno died Oct. 19

Avery Sloan
Elon News Network

Juliana Kuhno ’24 is remembered as fearless, adventurous and a fierce friend by her father Chuck Kuhno. Her mother Deana Kuhno said she was creative and always involved — whether she was working on her own passion projects or leading student organizations at Elon.

Juliana died Oct. 19 after complications from surgery. She was 22 years old and living in Wake Forest with her family after having graduated from Elon in May.

Juliana was involved with Limelight Records, Net Impact and The Edge Magazine on campus. She studied communications design and strategic communications and has worked in social media with multiple different brands, including Breakaway Music Festival and DG Creative Media.

“She just wanted to do things all the time, and she always felt like she had to keep going, keep going, keep going,” Chuck said. “She was a very resilient, persistent person.”

Both her parents said Juliana was always looking to move to New York, as that is where their family is originally from and she previously had interned there with Roc Nation entertainment company.

Morgan Hack ’23, who now lives in New York, said she had been excited for Juliana to move there as well so they could once again live near each other.

“I was really looking forward to living near her, and just cheerleading her more and watching her career,” Hack said. “She’s been learning from mine, and I learned, little did I know I was learning from her, and I’m still learning from her.”

Hack said Juliana had many friends and her personality allowed her to connect with various types of people. Hack said Juliana was great at bringing people who previously did not know each other together.

Juliana and Hack met Juliana’s freshman year and stayed friends ever since, Hack said.

“Jules kind of just became my little sister, since we both didn’t do the whole greek life thing and took on this relationship of big sister with her,” Hack said. “From helping her with her four year plan and her resume and her internships, we really bonded over having a career after Elon.”

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Original Hollywood Horror open until Nov. 2

PAGE 9 LIFESTYLE



Residence Life holds first ResFest event

PAGE 10 LIFESTYLE



Students share mixed opinions on Ticketmaster

PAGE 11 SPORTS

THE PENDULUM

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CORRECTIONS POLICY:

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Students, staff look forward to Homecoming events, activities

Alumni groups, organizations, campus locations prepare for students, alumni to arrive

Kate Gray
Elon News Network

A busy schedule of tours, reunions and open houses will kick off Nov. 1 at Elon University for Homecoming Weekend 2024. For sophomore Amelia Totaro, she is looking forward to meeting fellow students and alumni involved with the Catholic Campus Ministry.

"I'm setting up the tailgate with CCM, and I'm very excited for it," Totaro said. "We're going to have lots of food and we're going to have lots of friends come, and it's going to be a good time."

Assistant Director for First Generation Student Support Services Kenneth Brown Jr. '19, is most excited to reconnect with his former classmates.

"People talk about how different classes have different energies, and we were the class that graduated right before COVID," Brown said. "During my class, there's just a certain energy

that was there that we kind of cultivated. I was class president for two years, and I hold a deep appreciation for my classmates, and I can't wait to see them back."

Elon's Student Union Board runs on-campus programming and one of its divisions — Late Night — offers evening activities for students every Thursday through Saturday. Late Night chair and junior Katherine O'Connor said its programming for Homecoming will include similar activities.

"Drinking is a part of college life on campus, but not everyone does it," O'Connor said. "What we want to do is host things for students that don't always want to do that."

Paint 1010 — a teacher-led painting session with supplies included — is also a main event this Homecoming

"This is something fun people are doing on Halloween," O'Connor said. "You can come dressed up to it, get candy, hang out with your friends on Halloween for free, and do that instead of going out, which I think a lot of students should take more advantage of."

SUB Homecoming activities begin Oct. 28 and range from a special College Coffee to movie showings at Turner Theatre.

Outside of annual Homecoming traditions,

there is still room for new activities and events. Related to his job, Brown would like to see first generation student reunions incorporated into future Homecoming Weekends at Elon and wants to create more opportunities for first generation students to come together, during Homecoming or throughout the year. A main appeal for Brown is the ability for certain identity groups to come together as well, he said.

"Homecoming, for me, I also enjoy because you get to see people that you have heard legends or stories about," Brown said. "Being a Black student at Elon, you hear the stories of these Black Elon legends, but to see them and meet them in person, like, 'You're this person,' or 'You're on the wall,' or 'You're doing this.'"

Brown suggests students take advantage of all the opportunities at Homecoming to meet alumni and build connections.

"Homecoming, it means a lot for me. It's a cool way to just see old friends and to be reunited with friends that I went to school with. It means the whole world," Brown said. "Being able to have a space to come together, to be able to reminisce about days of old and to just catch up about how life is going for them. It's a blast. It's a joy"

Homecoming Weekend Calendar of Events

* Registration required
\$ Payment required

NOV. 1

Alumni HQ

8 a.m. to 7 p.m. | Martin Alumni Center

Check in at the welcome center for giveaways, the Homecoming & Reunion Weekend t-shirt, refreshments and other information.



Reunion Check-In

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Martin Alumni Center
Alumni celebrating reunions can grab buttons and other reunion-specific information.

Flashback Friday and History Harvest

Noon to 5 p.m. | Belk Library Archives & Special Collections, Room 204
Look through past yearbooks and historical records and help identify people and places in unidentified Elon photos. People can add photos and memorabilia to digital collections via a "history harvest," where archivists will provide on-demand digitization. Answer trivia questions to win Belk Library swag and grab snacks.

Freedom Footprints Walking Tour *

3 to 4 p.m. | Martin Alumni Center
Learn about Elon's Black history through the Freedom Footprints Walking Tour, adapted from Elon's Juneteenth celebration. Sign up for a guided walking tour with Elon's local historians or take a self-guided tour at any time throughout the weekend by following the yard signs around campus. Guided walking tours have limited availability and will be offered for those who are registered.

Friday Alumni Campus Tour

3:30 to 4:30 p.m. | Martin Alumni Center

Join a campus tour led by student tour guides to get an inside look at Elon's award-winning campus and relive some of your favorite memories as you walk the bricks again.

Women of Elon Networking Event

4 to 5:30 p.m. | Elinburg Room & Patio, Student Professional Development Center in the Moseley Center
Women of Elon and the Student Professional Development Center invite all alumni to connect with current Elon students during brief, one-on-one conversations. The event will include a reception for continued conversation and networking. Anyone is welcome to join.

Loy Farm Open House

4:30 to 5:30 p.m. | Loy Farm

Join for a taste test of peppers grown on site. The student housing manager for the Ecovillage will also be available to answer questions about the Loy Farm Living Learning Community EcoVillage. Loy Farm is located at 2635 W Front Street Burlington, NC 27215, which is a short walk from main campus along the greenway path or limited parking is also available on site.

Rock the Block

5 to 9 p.m. | Young Commons & Haggard Avenue

The entire Elon community of alumni, faculty/staff and students are welcome. A variety of food trucks, corn hole, live music performed by Soul Psychedelique and inflatables will be present.

NOV. 2

Alumni HQ

8 a.m. to 7 p.m. | Martin Alumni Center
Check in at the welcome center for giveaways, the Homecoming & Reunion Weekend t-shirt, refreshments and other information.

Welcome Home College Coffee

9 to 10:30 a.m. | Scott Plaza
Celebrate the Elon tradition alongside alumni, faculty, staff and students. Light breakfast pastries, coffee and juice.

Saturday Alumni Campus Tour

10:30 to 11:30 a.m. | Martin Alumni Center
Join a campus tour led by student tour guides to see the campus.

All Alumni Tailgate Village \$

11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. | Schar Center
The ticket price includes a tailgate lunch, lawn games and music. The tailgate includes general seating and reserved areas for all greek, class and cohort reunions. Tailgaters must provide their own alcoholic beverages.

Elon vs. Campbell Football Game *\$

2 to 5 p.m. | Rhodes Stadium
Tickets can be found at elontickets.com.

PostGame Zone

5 to 6:30 p.m. | Schar Center
Snacks and drinks are available after the game for the last main celebration of the evening.

Young Alumni Celebration

7 to 9 p.m. | The Mission
Join alumni of the last decade at The Mission for drinks, food and a photo booth. All current fiscal year donors will receive a free drink ticket.

FULL SCHEDULE OF HOMECOMING EVENTS



CORRECTIONS

There are no corrections from the last edition of The Pendulum.



Two attendees carve pumpkins during the Pumpkin Festival on Oct. 25 at the community garden. The event was hosted by ENS2200: Garden Studio course and included pumpkin carving, live performances, crafting and snacks. ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR



Sophomore midfielder Noah Sonne Kargo and graduate student forward Victor Stromsten hype up the crowd at the Elon men's soccer game against Northeastern University on Oct. 26 at Rudd Field. The Phoenix won 4-2. FELIPE PRADA | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Senior Keali Chang poses with a balloon animal at ResFest on Oct. 25. There was a balloon artist as well as yard games and face painting. EMILY SELIKOFF | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Participants with the Alamance Burlington Association of Educators march to Elon University's South Gym, an early voting location, to motivate voters to support public education this election cycle on Oct. 26. HARRY LEIBOW | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Sorority Zeta Tau Alpha performed at Greek Dance with a theme of Y2K on Oct. 24 in Schar Center. The dance competition marks the end of Greek Week, a fundraiser led by Elon's greek organizations. They raised over \$20,000 for Habitat for Humanity. KATRINA HOLTZ | PHOTO EDITOR

Detaining Futures

Alamance, Guilford juvenile detention rates reach highest in more than a decade; community members emphasize more diversion resources

Photos and story by Ryan Kupperman

Steven Isaiah Bradshaw was 11 years old the first time he went to Guilford Detention Center. After serving six months for a robbery charge, he was detained for another eight months at 13 years old for similar charges. “Shoes, clothes, a car, a house, to live, to survive, to eat some food — everything costs money,” Bradshaw said. “So without no money, what you going to do? Can’t depend on the hand to keep giving you things. Eventually, you got to go get it on your own.”

Bradshaw was born and raised in Burlington, North Carolina. After losing his dad at the age of 10, Bradshaw said his mom tried to support him and his three siblings for the next four years, until she was placed in an assisted living home.

Having entered the justice system at a young age, Bradshaw said he felt like he wasn’t given the resources or support to pull himself up.

“You come back to the same thing,” Bradshaw said. “You come back, momma still struggling, you still need money. You just had to go away for a little bit.”

He went on to serve two more sentences of 18 months at 16 years old and 12 months at 18 years old for felony gun charges.

Identifying the problem

Bradshaw is one of many. In the United States, the recidivism rate — or the likelihood of criminal offenders re-offending — reached 80% in 2023 for prisoners with juvenile records, according to data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Matthew Cappello, Alamance County’s lead juvenile court counselor, said recidivism is one of the state’s biggest concerns within the juvenile and criminal justice systems. To combat this, Cappello said North Carolina has made it a priority to invest in diversion and restoration resources rather than punishment and deterrence techniques such as detainment.

Within the juvenile justice system, diversion methods aim to steer incoming juveniles toward resources other than incarceration or detainment.

“We have a confidentiality component, so the kids coming to us — it’s the kids that are receiving charges like this — it’s not something that’s on their record permanently,” Cappello said. “The point of that is to protect that kid and get them set up for being an adult without these incidents happening when they’re young impacting them for the rest of their lives.”

By diverting offenders to restorative tools, mental health resources and community programs, Cappello said the state’s Department of Juvenile Justice attempts to catch, pinpoint and address the root causes of a child’s criminal behavior when they first come into contact with the justice system.

In 2021, Senate Bill 207 raised the minimum age that a minor can be charged in juvenile court from 6 to 10 years old. Prior to SB207, North Carolina also had the youngest minimum age law in the country.

In 2019, the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act raised the cut-off age that a juvenile could be charged as an adult from 16 to 18 years old.

Despite what seem like legal victories in the fight against juvenile recidivism, both Alamance and Guilford counties have experienced an increase in juvenile detention rates over the past three years.

Guilford County hit a record-low detention rate in 2018 of just over two juveniles for every 1,000 in the county. Since then, the county has seen a steady increase, even through the COVID-19 pandemic, and stands at well over four and a half juveniles out of 1,000 as of 2023 — its highest since 2012.

Similarly, Alamance County hit an all-time low in 2020 at a rate per capita of roughly one and a half juveniles, which had been consistent with the prior few years. But in 2022, the rate reached nearly three juveniles — its highest since 2011.

Out of North Carolina’s 100 counties, Guilford and Alamance had the fifth and the 24th highest juvenile detention rates respectively per population in 2023.

Cappello said he thinks there are a variety of factors that could have contributed to the increase in detention rates.

While Cappello said keeping juveniles out of the adult system is crucial in avoiding recidivism, the change to state legislature in 2019 introduced more 16 and 17-year-olds to the juvenile system — which could explain the rise in detention rates.

Cappello also said that in addition to more juveniles coming in, 16 and 17-year-olds are more likely on average to commit more serious crimes, and are more likely to result in detainment — as opposed to younger juveniles. When considering whether or not to recommend secure custody, Cappello said the Department of Juvenile Justice will evaluate if other appropriate resources exist — though ultimately a judge must approve detainment.

“In my personal experience, the kids that have gone to detention are usually because the severity of the offense that they committed,” Cappello said. “Or it’s a youth that we’ve tried a ton of other things and just been unsuccessful with.”

Other possible factors that could contribute to the increase in juvenile detentions rates, according to Cappello, may be relative to easier access to firearms and a growing influence of social media on children’s brains — brains that are more likely to struggle with impulse control. He specifically pointed to a TikTok video that gained traction a couple years ago for teaching teenagers how to break into cars.

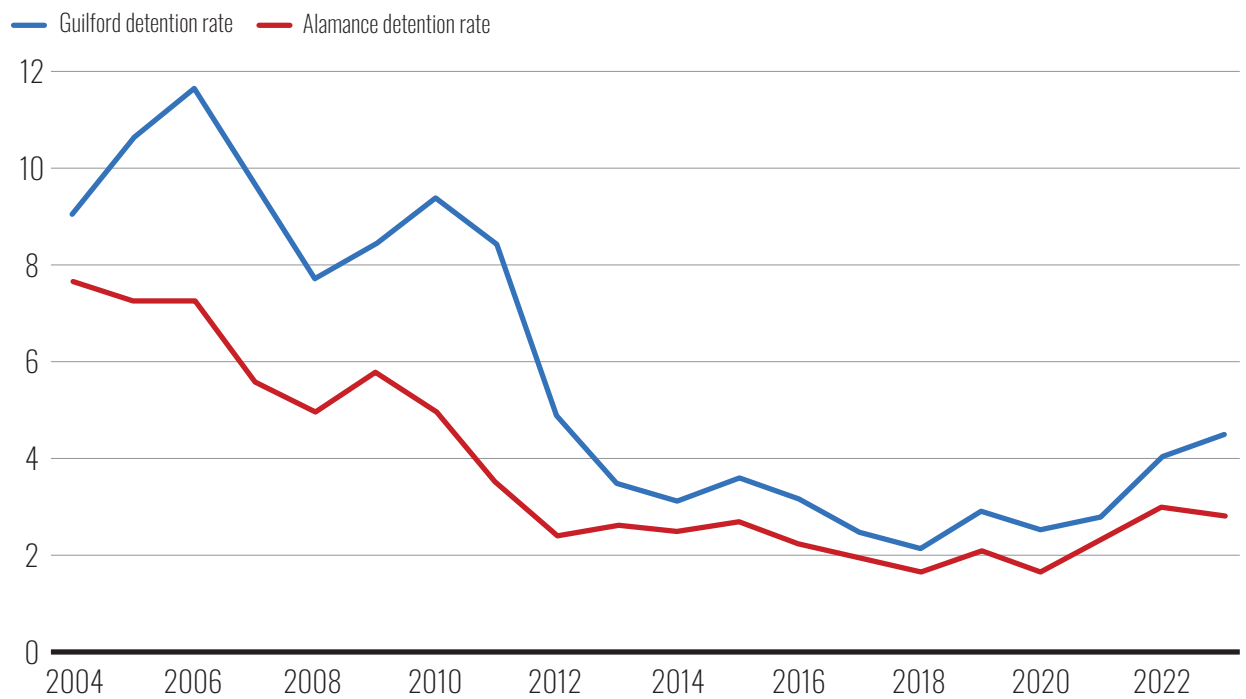
YoLanda Whitted, youth intervention and diversion coordinator for the Burlington Police Department, said she agreed that these could be possible factors but also pointed toward a lack of



Teen Court Judge Roy Dockery addresses a juvenile offender Oct. 14 at the Graham Civil Courthouse in Alamance County. Teen Court is a diversion program that allows juveniles who have been charged with real crimes to stand before other teenage prosecutors, defendants and jury members in an alternative to the juvenile justice system that doesn’t go on their permanent records.

Guilford and Alamance counties’ juvenile detention rates over time

The graph shows the number of juvenile criminal offenders per 1,000 juveniles detained in Guilford and Alamance counties. State law raised the age limit from 16 to 18 in 2019, while also raising the age minimum from 6 to 10-year-olds in 2021.



Data from North Carolina Department of Public Safety.

DATA VISUALIZATION BY RYAN KUPPERMAN

school and community support.

Whitted is one of the first points of contact for juvenile offenders when they interact with the justice system. She said she sees a lot of youth get into trouble because they don’t have structured commitments or positive influences in the community to keep them busy and productive.

She also said this disproportionately affects children of low socioeconomic status, as juveniles whose families can afford to send them to karate, tennis lessons, ballet, gymnastics or more structured activities.

She also said this disproportionately affects children of low socioeconomic status, as juveniles whose families can afford to send them to karate, tennis lessons, ballet, gymnastics or more structured activities.

“One of the first challenges that I came to notice in this particular area is that if you are older than 12, there’s probably not that much that you can do,” Whitted said. “When you’re from a lower socioeconomic status, you need things that are free. Or some type of atmosphere like a community center that you can go to and feel safe and be supervised.”

Bradshaw said this was the one aspect that the juvenile justice system desperately lacks.

“The best way, just show them you care about them,” Bradshaw said. “At an early age with your back against the wall, you don’t know who to trust.”

“It Takes a Village”

Professor Sandra Reid has taught students about juvenile justice in North Carolina for the past two decades. Reid said she goes into every class with the goal of teaching juvenile justice from a rehabilitative standpoint.

“I hope that my students who come into juvenile justice class will walk out thinking, ‘Kids are humans,’ and that we should find ways to work with them in the community and keep them out of being in locked facilities,” Reid said. Reid first visited Guilford Detention Center her senior year of high school. But unlike Bradshaw, Reid wasn’t there to serve out a sentence, she was there to work.

After finishing high school with an internship in the juvenile justice field, she graduated from Elon College in May 1985 and became an Alamance County juvenile court counselor that June.

In that role, Reid worked directly with juvenile offenders and their families to provide



Steven Isaiah Bradshaw, 22 years old, describes his first time going to juvenile detention at 11 years old for robbery charges.

counseling and intervention services in an effort to keep youth out of the criminal justice system. She later became the first Black woman to serve as Alamance County’s chief court counselor.

After roughly 20 years, she said she saw firsthand how much more likely juvenile offenders are to become lifelong offenders.

“The younger you come into the system, the more you’re going to penetrate the system,” Reid said. “That’s why we really need to keep young kids out. ... When I first started in the system, you could work with a kid as young as 6. No. No more. So we are learning as a state, and I think as a country, that prevention is the thing to try.”

Cappello said the state will usually only detain kids as a last resort if they represent a public safety concern.

“These kids are separated from their families, they’re separated from their communities, there’s an increased likelihood that they may develop some kind of mental health concerns,” Cappello said. “All of that can increase the chances of them recidivating.”

According to the Council of State Governments’ Justice Center, recidivism in the criminal justice system cost North Carolina \$323,353,719 in 2021 alone. Both Reid and Whitted said this is money that could be used to restore individuals and their communities instead.

On a state level, Cappello said the Department of Juvenile Justice seeks out community resources to most appropriately address the needs of that youth. Using these resources can be more cost effective than detaining a youth, while also keeping them connected to their communities and families.

For example, Cappello estimated that North Carolina spends roughly \$3 a day to electronically monitor one child — in

comparison to roughly \$300 per day to keep a child in detainment.

“Instead of just sending a kid to detention, we have all these other tools that we can also utilize to keep them out, again, knowing that there are those psychological effects on a youth going to detention,” Cappello said.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils, which are present in every North Carolina county, are also designed to organize community leaders in an effort to reduce and prevent crime.

Reid is currently serving her third year on Alamance County’s JCPC.

“They’re necessary because it gives us the ability to bring different minds together; interdisciplinary ways of thinking,” Reid said. “I don’t know that we can solve the whole ills around juvenile justice and crime, but that’s how we can intentionally develop programs for the kids that are here in Alamance County.”

North Carolina’s Department of Public Safety



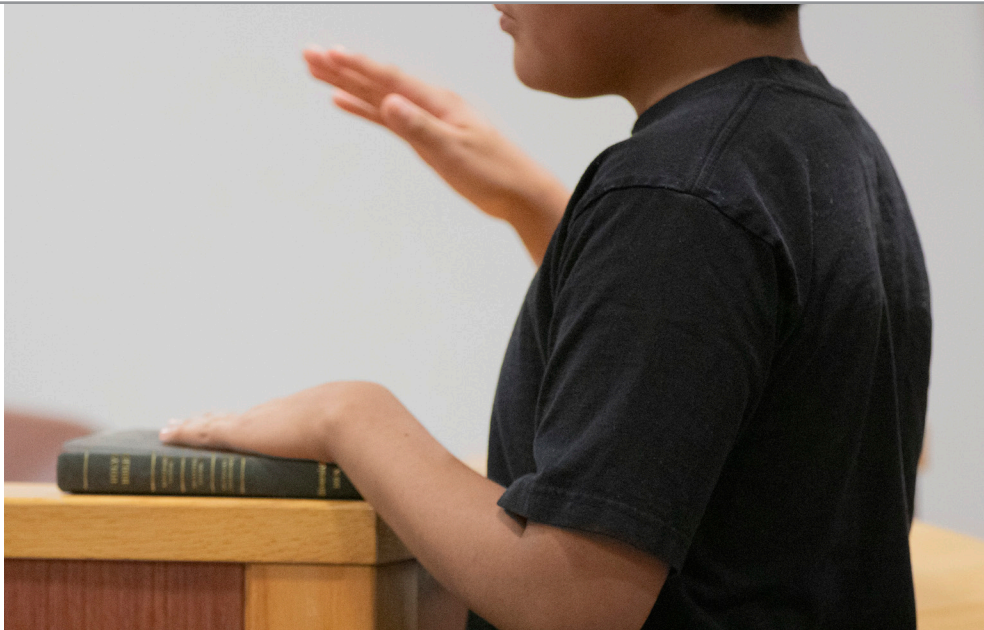
Sandra Reid speaks with Yolanda Whitted, youth intervention and diversion coordinator for the Burlington Police Department, at Alamance County’s Juvenile Crime Prevention Committee meeting on Sept. 17 at the Graham Civic Center.

allocates approximately \$28 million to counties based on juvenile population via its Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention each year. For the 2024-25 fiscal year, Alamance County’s JCPC has an estimated allocation of \$430,442.

But both Reid and Whitted said the JCPC could use more.

“We need more money, so we can have more programming. And that is the piece,” Reid said. “But even if you don’t have a lot of money, it still brings the community together to be able to say, ‘Hey, I can offer this resource. We can offer this resource.’”

The JCPC offers programs such as Alamance Juvenile Opportunity Bridge, which partners



A juvenile offender swears on the Bible to tell the truth as they are called to the courtroom stand on Oct. 14 at the Graham Civil Courthouse in Alamance County.

Alamance Community College and the Alamance-Burlington School System to give students an opportunity to learn job skills through specialty ACC classes — showing youth an alternative route to crime.

But Whitted said it shouldn’t stop there. She said she thinks schools need more money to put into extracurricular and prevention activities for kids, while the JCPC needs more money to fund educational, recreational and rehabilitative programs.

“Back in my day, the village raised the children,” Whitted said. “Everyone in the community had a hand in raising children in their neighborhood.”

The JCPC also collaborates with a Teen Court program, which serves as a diversion resource for first-time offenders who commit crimes that may be more serious than a school suspension, but less than a felony.

According to Alamance County Judge Bryan Ray, youth in the program stand before volunteers of their age group in roles such as the jury, the clerk, the bailiff and the attorneys — with a real judge or attorney presiding over the hearing.

Cappello said county resources such as Teen Court, as well as other JCPC programs, are invaluable to the state’s juvenile justice strategy of providing offenders with the least restrictive sanctions possible — as field research suggests that exposure to more restrictive measures increases the likelihood of recidivism.

“In other words, before a kid even touches our doorstep, we’re already encouraging law enforcement — encouraging these teen court programs and things like that — to work with these kids,” Cappello said.

But like Reid and Whitted, Ray said the extent of support that the county can provide all comes down to funding.

believes philosophically that lock up is the way to go, you’re going to see the pendulum go that way. If you have a leader who believes rehabilitation and treatment is the way to go, you’re going to see it swing that way.”

And as Reid predicted, North Carolina may be seeing the pendulum swing the other way. Initially vetoed by Gov. Roy Cooper and overridden by the state general assembly, North Carolina House Bill 834 will go into effect Dec. 1 and create exceptions to the legislative protections passed in 2021 and 2019.

Under current legislation, 16 and 17-year-olds who commit Class A to E felonies — which can be crimes ranging from murder, assault and common-law robbery — would still originate under juvenile jurisdiction. But with the ratification of HB834, 16- and 17-year-olds under these classifications will go directly to criminal court. Also starting Dec. 1, this will include Class F and Class G felonies.

The bill does create a new possibility of transferring a case from criminal to juvenile court; however, the offender must have committed the alleged crime at age 16 or 17, and the motion for transfer can only be made at the discretion of the prosecutor and defense attorney.

Cappello said he is worried this new legislation will bypass the department of juvenile justice’s ability to divert or support juveniles entering the system under these conditions, since some of these cases will now be originating directly under criminal court and lack the restorative resources that the juvenile division focuses on.

Cycle of recidivism

Now at 22 years old, Bradshaw has children of his own and said if it weren’t for his involvement with Sustainable Alamance — Alamance County’s local re-entry program located in Burlington — he’d probably be serving more time, or even dead.

“I think God sent me here,” Bradshaw said. “I already didn’t give a f-k about nothing that was going on. I was already facing a thousand charges ahead of me. ... I already felt like I was at the edge of the world.”

Despite support from Sustainable Alamance, Bradshaw was allegedly caught with an ounce and a half of marijuana — which happens to be the minimum amount required for a felony charge in North Carolina — just one month before his probation ends in November.

Because of his previous felony gun charges, Bradshaw is in serious jeopardy of being incarcerated for another 12 years if the court decides to charge him.

As a part of Bradshaw’s current probation deal, Bowers pleaded with the court to release Bradshaw under Sustainable Alamance’s supervision and guidance. Bowers said he is not hopeful that this will work again, and in the end, it will fall to the court’s discretion during Bradshaw’s hearing in November.

Bowers said Bradshaw does not deserve to serve after a decade in prison for an alleged ounce and a half of marijuana, and warned that if Bradshaw does go back to prison, he will not come out rehabilitated.

From Bradshaw and Bowers’ perspective, this is not a result of the criminal justice system being broken — but actually operating exactly as intended. And to them, this is the root of the problem.

“I know how it feel to wake up in the morning knowing you ain’t got nothing,” Bradshaw said. “I became a beast in jail. I didn’t become no civilized person.”

Poll finds Stein leads governor race by 21 points

POLL | from cover

In the 2020 presidential election, 65.5% of ballots cast in North Carolina were from early voting, according to the North Carolina Board of Elections, which was due to safety concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of Oct. 29, there were 3,102,408 total ballots cast in North Carolina, showing a 39.7% voter turnout one week before the election, according to the North Carolina Board of Elections. In Alamance County, 46,608 people have voted early and by mail.

After early voting started Oct. 17, over 2,936,297 people voted early and 166,111 people cast their absentee ballots. Over 45% of registered North Carolina Republicans have cast their vote, while 41.92% of registered North Carolina Democrats have voted, according to the North Carolina Board of Elections.

“What’s interesting about this election cycle is it’s one of the first times we’ve seen Republicans — particularly Republican campaigns — emphasizing early voting,” Husser said. “A lot of what we’re seeing in the uptake in early voting is driven in part by Republican campaigns pushing it.”



THERE’S STILL, THOUGH, FOR MANY PEOPLE, SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT VOTING ON ELECTION DAY. THE EXCITEMENT OF DOING IT ON THE DAY WHERE IT IS THE NATIONAL ELECTION DAY, MUCH LIKE OPENING PRESENTS ON ONE’S BIRTHDAY, VERSUS TWO DAYS BEFORE.

JASON HUSSER
DIRECTOR OF ELON POLL

Husser said because of this increase, it’s harder to tell how an election is looking based on who is early voting.

If the 2024 North Carolina governor’s election were being held today, would you vote for?

Data is based on an Elon University Poll of 800 registered North Carolina voters, conducted by web-based survey Oct. 10-17, 2024. The poll has a margin of error +/- 3.99%.



DATA VISUALIZATION BY ERIN MARTIN

In the last general election, people were more likely to vote early due to safety concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic, Husser said. But this year, voters cited convenience or wanting to get it over with as reasons they would cast their ballot early or absentee, while 39% said they would vote early because they have safety concerns about voting at their polling location.

Husser said the trend of early voting is likely to continue in future elections.

“We’re seeing both parties really embrace early voting, I think we’ll likely see that continue into the future,” Husser said. “There’s still, though, for many people, something special about voting on Election Day. The excitement of doing it on the day where it is the National Election Day, much like opening presents on one’s birthday, versus two days before.”

Hurricane Helene

Hurricane Helene has motivated people to vote — 20% said they are more likely to vote.

“When social scientists have studied past natural disasters, they have often found that disasters can increase the amount of civic engagement happening in a community,” Husser said. “That horrible thing like what happened in Helene have a way of pulling people together and pulling communities together, and we’re seeing some of that with our data related to Hurricane Helene.”

The poll found that Republicans are more likely to say the response to the destruction of Hurricane Helene was very poor or poor, while Democrats are more likely to say it was good or very good.

“The incumbent governor is a Democrat, the incumbent president is a Democrat and

Republican politicians have pointed out probably more so than Democratic politicians,” Husser said. “It also has affected large rural areas. To a large extent, also affected the city of Asheville, but many of the areas most heavily impacted were Republican leaning areas. And I think it’s sort of a narrative that had been simmering under the surface for years of rural populations feeling neglected by the federal government.”

Around 59% said they, their families or their close friends have been affected by the damage of the hurricane.

Nearly half of voters said Stein would bring better leadership in recovery after Hurricane Helene, while 27% said Robinson would.

State Elections

Democrat Josh Stein has increased his lead to 21 points over Republican Mark Robinson compared to the 14-point lead Stein had in the last poll last poll Sept. 24. This could account for the inflammatory comments Robinson

had allegedly written on a pornographic site that came to light Sept. 19 — days after the poll had already closed — according to an investigation by CNN.

Seventy-two percent of voters were aware of Robinson’s alleged explicit posts, with 23% believing Robinson did not make those comments. Only 8% of Republican voters said they will now vote for Stein in the upcoming election due to those comments.

“We are definitely finding evidence that Robinson’s comments have harmed Robinson. Robinson was already in a bad place before the comments came out,” Husser said. “There’s still plenty of Republicans sticking with Robinson, but this is a race where Robinson could not afford to lose any more voters. He’d already lost many voters due to his extreme policy positions. And so what we’re finding is that Robinson went from bad to worse, and it also seems that it’s now impacting down ballot Republicans.”

Husser said Robinson’s comments have affected voters for other statewide races. The Elon Poll found a slight Democratic lead for certain statewide races, but it was not statistically significant.

Other

Sixty-two percent of voters also say it is highly likely or somewhat likely that either presidential campaign will try to fraudulently change the outcome of the election.

The poll also found that 54% of voters said the election will have a fair and accurate count of votes, with that being further broken down into 80% of Democrats and only 35% of Republicans.

Democrats were slightly more confident than Republicans that Americans will accept the election results. Over half of voters are very or somewhat concerned that voters will be intimidated or harassed when going to vote.

How will the impact of Hurricane Helene affect your plans or ability to vote in this year’s election?

Data is based on an Elon University Poll of 800 registered North Carolina voters, conducted by web-based survey Oct. 10-17, 2024. The poll has a margin of error +/- 3.99%.



DATA VISUALIZATION BY ERIN MARTIN

Friends, family describe Juliana Kuhno as full of life

KUHNO | from cover

Hack described her as someone who lived in the moment — from her love of music festivals to her overall outlook on life. Juliana loved music in general, particularly Taylor Swift, and Hack said the two of them would regularly drive around Elon in Juliana’s black Jeep singing and listening to music.

“I have this video of her singing at a green light when everybody was waiting, and she just wanted her moment singing before she kept driving,” Hack said. “I felt that that said a lot about her, that people can wait, things can wait. ... That moment showed me a lot that she was just like, ‘Let’s just stay here one second and just finish this lyric.’”

Juliana was always a fierce advocate for others, Chuck said. No matter how busy she was, she always had time for her friends, he said.

“That’s the biggest thing I noticed with my daughter throughout all these years,” Chuck said. “It didn’t matter who it was. If somebody needed a shoulder to cry on, or an ear to listen to, Juliana provided it. Even at her detriment. She would give extra time for people, even some people she didn’t

even know that well.”

Senior Jasper Nadler said she met Juliana her freshman year, when Juliana was a sophomore. They bonded over a love of music, among other things, as Nadler is an artist for Limelight Records and Juliana was on the executive board for the organization.

“I thought to myself, ‘Wow, I didn’t realize cool people actually went to this school,’” Nadler said. “You could see her from a mile away with her big stomper boots and her extravagant outfits, and she was just really one of a kind.”

Nadler said she cannot find one bad thing to say about Juliana, something she said she has never felt about another person.

“If you knew her, you were lucky, and she was just such a light,” Nadler said. “She was so selfless and always radiated the best energy, where you couldn’t help but smile if you were around her. And she was just so compassionate, and her aura was contagious.”

Phoebe Becker ’23 met Juliana her sophomore year, which was Juliana’s freshman year. Becker said Juliana was always a vibrant and colorful person — but also someone who has been there as a friend for her and countless others.

Becker remembered the time Juliana

helped her look after a feral cat she found. Becker said Juliana was the first person she thought of and went to. Becker said Juliana not only took in the cat and looked after it, but gave her medication.

“She was always good at seeing the best in people,” Becker said. “Not just seeing it, she was good at bringing it out of people.”

Deana said Juliana was always involved in creative projects and was working on a song which Juliana’s voice teacher gave to her. Deana said the song makes her feel like she was attuned with life and almost knew what was coming.

“Her song is ‘Wish You Were Here,’ which is what we all are wishing,” Deana said. “There’s a lot of things that point to us feeling like she kind of knew the way her story was gonna turn out.”

Her family will be holding a celebration of life for Juliana on Nov. 3 in Wake Forest, as they decided focusing on her life, as opposed to her death, was what Juliana would have wanted.

Her family also created a GoFundMe to create a foundation in Juliana’s honor.

“We want her beautiful spirit and memories to live on,” the GoFundMe said. “To do that, we will be creating a Foundation in Juliana’s honor so that she can continue to inspire and impact people’s

lives just like she did while she was here with us.”

So far, her family has raised over \$10,085 and has a goal of \$25,000.

Deana said Juliana was sad to have to leave Elon after she graduated, because of how involved she was with different organizations and how close she was with her friends on campus.

“She really felt like Elon was home,” Deana said. “She was very sad, actually, to leave when she graduated. ... That was home. She made it home.”

GOFUNDME
LINK



Feeding Hope: Elon volunteers collaborate with second harvest to aid hurricane survivors

KERNODLE | from cover

At first, Southern felt overwhelmed by the quick pace of the process, but said she eventually got into the rhythm of packing.

“You’re all sort of talking through it together, trying to figure out what we were doing,” Southern said. “It was just a good community environment.”

As a partner of Feeding America, Second Harvest is a member of a larger network of food banks across the country.

Second Harvest’s sister organization, MANNA FoodBank, serves communities in western North Carolina. During the storm, MANNA’s headquarters in Asheville was destroyed, which left Second Harvest responsible for bridging the gap.

According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, about 10.9% of the population — roughly 1.2 million people — are experiencing food insecurity in the state. With homes and resources destroyed after the storm, this number has significantly increased.

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services reissued 70% of the September’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits on Oct. 6 to help replace food that had been destroyed or was no longer safe to eat.

The trip to Second Harvest was freshman Eli Karpas’ first time volunteering with the Kernodle Center. Karpas said he volunteered with food banks back home in Houston, Texas, and wanted to continue volunteering at Elon.

“It’s a great way for people to get together, to not only support other people, but also to feel good about

yourself,” Karpas said. “I mean, you’re helping other communities. What’s better than that?”

Bob Frigo, assistant dean of campus life and director of the Kernodle Center for civic life, said the Kernodle Center chose to travel to Winston-Salem rather than western North Carolina in order to be supportive, but not intrusive. Frigo said it’s important to not overwhelm the local communities.

However, Frigo said the Kernodle Center is planning on offering an alternative spring break trip to western North Carolina which focuses on providing relief assistance.

Annica Gaebel, assistant registrar, said it was a rewarding experience to be able to give back to communities in need.

“I think it’s really important to just really support your community — big or small,” Gaebel said. “We’re not directly out in the community to give this to them, but no matter what, you’re helping.”

As people still work to rebuild after the storm, the Kernodle Center will return to Second Harvest to pack more boxes on Nov. 8 and Dec. 6.



CHARLOTTE PFABE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Assistant Registrar Hannah Southern '22 checks expiration dates to make sure the food is safe to eat while packing donation boxes on Oct. 25 in Winston-Salem for those directly impacted by Hurricane Helene in western North Carolina.



CHARLOTTE PFABE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Elon volunteers pack meals and supplies at Second Harvest Food Bank in Winston-Salem on Oct. 25.



CHARLOTTE PFABE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
“Everyone deserves to eat” is Second Harvest Food Bank’s motto as seen on Oct. 25. The food bank serves 18 counties in North Carolina.

Charlotte Law Flex exceeds enrollment goals in first year

Elon University launches Law Flex, sport management programs in Charlotte

Leela Cherukuri
Elon News Network

Elon University’s campus in Charlotte has launched its new Law Flex program this fall. Alan Woodlief Jr., vice dean of Elon Law, said the program has already exceeded its enrollment goal for the first year.

“Our goal was 35 students this year, and we had 36 students, so we exceeded that goal, and we projected a class size of between 35 and 40 for several years to come,” Woodlief said.

Woodlief also said in order for the program to be successful, he wants to focus on incremental, slow growth.

A flex law program is an in-person, part-time program. According to Elon Law’s website, this program is designed to meet the needs of working professionals and is designed to take four or more years to complete.

Woodlief said experiential learning for students in Charlotte is part of the goal of the flex program.

“Charlotte is noted for its banking and finance, its health care and its sports and entertainment opportunities,” Woodlief said. “A

lot of our students are interested in those types of opportunities, and so we’ll be able to provide them experiential opportunities.”



WE WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SOME UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES THAT CHARLOTTE PRESENTS, BOTH THERE IN THAT PROGRAM, BUT ALSO PROBABLY TRANSFERRING THAT BACK EVEN TO GREENSBORO.

ALAN WOODLIEF JR.
ELON LAW VICE DEAN

He said establishing a strong law program had always been a top priority for the faculty at Elon University and reflected on the program in Greensboro.

“Our priority would be to establish an excellent law school, a first rate program, bringing the Elon law student centered, experiential based legal education to Charlotte,” He said. “We want to take advantage of some unique opportunities that Charlotte presents, both there in that program, but also probably transferring that back even to Greensboro.”

Woodlief said three Elon faculty are teaching in Charlotte as of now, intending to expand the program to include more staff.

He also describes some of the courses that are being taught and explains that these courses are beneficial for students because the professors have experience in what they are teaching.

“We have a criminal law class that’s being taught this fall, but another class is a criminal law lab, OK? And that criminal law lab is designed to expose students to real world practice,” Woodlief said. “So we have two adjuncts who are practicing attorneys in the criminal law field who are coming in to teach that class.”

Ashley Pinney, director of national campus programs, said Elon wanted to move in this direction to include Charlotte.

“Before us, there was no law school at all in Charlotte. We wanted



ENN FILE PHOTO
The inaugural class of Elon Law Flex program in Charlotte has 36 students, one above its goal.

to move into a great location, and we saw it as such an opportunity for growth within the city,” Pinney said. “The Greensboro program is a great program, and so we wanted to bring it to Charlotte.”

The sport management program in Charlotte has also started its second year this fall.

In 2023, Elon University established its Charlotte campus, welcoming 12 students — primarily sport management majors — to the

new campus.

“We chose Charlotte specifically because there are so many sports teams that Elon University doesn’t have within the main campus,” Pinney said. “Students are also interested in interning, and there is no better place to do it. A lot of alumni who work in sports can offer all types of jobs for undergraduate students so that they can get that first hand exposure to an experience they wouldn’t get in Elon.”



In the 12,000 square foot facility, The Original Hollywood Horror Show features a life-size pirate ship.

ABIGAIL HOBBS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brothers Dean, Starr Jones use makeup, special effects background to create film-quality sets

Abigail Hobbs
Elon News Network

Dean and Starr Jones were 7 years old when they had their first taste of special effects makeup when their parents pulled them out of school to watch the production of the 1968 movie “Killers Three.”

The brothers watched as an FBI agent got shot three times, fake blood spewing from his chest. Immediately, they both took an interest and learned how to recreate the scene by high school.

After growing up watching horror movies and creating haunted houses for church and boy scouts, the duo went on to Hollywood and garnered a combined total of two Emmys, six Emmy nominations and 162 makeup credits for both movies and shows — most notably “Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides” and several

of the Star Trek movies.

In between films, the brothers came back to their hometown in Alamance County to do a one-off haunted house.

“It was going to be a one-time event, and we came back and found this place,” Starr said. “We did it for the first year, and then it grew. And 35 years later, we’re still doing it.”

The Original Hollywood Horror Show has 12,000 square feet of space, filled to the brim with haunted attractions such as a haunted house, maze, pirate ship and magic shows. Every year, new attractions are added.

“We have different rooms and sets that you see as you walk through the show, it’s much like walking through a film set,” Starr said. “We actually use this as a back lot on some of our productions that we’ve done.”

Details from horror films — both classic and modern — are packed into every corner of the house, including “Scream,” “Pirates of the Caribbean,” “American Horror Story” and “The Ring.”

“There’s so much going on when you walk through the show. You can walk through and miss things you didn’t think

that were there,” Starr said. “That’s the fun part. They walk around and say, ‘I didn’t see that was there. I didn’t see that character, I didn’t see that prop.’”

The brothers didn’t let go of their roots, though. All of the makeup, costumes and sets are built in-house.

“It’s so much visual to see when you come through the show,” Starr said. “We build everything here that we have.”

Over the last 35 years, Starr said the horror show has built a community in Alamance County. Both scare actors and customers come back year after year.

“One of the main reasons we do this is because of the community involvement kids like when we were little,” Dean said. “You’ll see back here tonight, we’ll have small children with their adult parents working on the show. It’s a big influence.”

Dean said he will often ask children if they want to see behind the scenes to get them interested in the special effects.

“I’ll pull kids in and ask, ‘Have you ever done makeup?’ They’ll see something they’re interested in, like making that monster. They’ll have hands-on experience working a fog machine, working the lights,” Dean said. “It’s a lot of opportunities here to get involved in things you may have not had an opportunity to do in your lifetime.”

Part of building a community is to give people a place where they feel like they fit in, according to Dean, just like how horror helped him fit in when he was young.

“My favorite part is watching the families that come here and the kids have the experience like we did when we were kids. We have a lot of people who are not extroverts. They’re social misfits,” Dean said.

Starr attributes the success of haunted houses to the thrill people feel when they walk through it.

“I associate it much like going on a roller coaster. People love to go on a roller coaster and feel that thrill of going down that hill at a very rapid speed, very quickly, and it’s just adrenaline rushing,” Starr said. “That’s what it is for haunted houses — to walk into somewhere and see if you’re going to get scared and see what’s around the corner.”

Dean said horror will always bring in a crowd.

“Even when the economy is bad, even when all other movies are failing, horror movies are always doing well because it drives you emotionally,” Dean said. “It does something to you psychologically. It’s such a strange thing.”

“

IT’S BECOME A TRADITION IN ALAMANCE COUNTY, AND IT’S SOMETHING PEOPLE REALLY ENJOY COMING BACK TO AND VISITING EVERY YEAR. WHEN THE WEATHER GETS COLD AND THERE’S A LITTLE BIT OF CHILL IN THE AIR AND THERE’S FOG, THEY LOVE TO COME OUT TO THE HAUNTED HOUSE.

STARR JONES
OWNER OF THE ORIGINAL HOLLYWOOD HORROR SHOW

After 35 years, The Original Hollywood Horror Show has become an iconic part of the county, Starr said.

“It’s become a tradition in Alamance County, and it’s something people really enjoy coming back to and visiting every year,” Starr said. “When the weather gets cold and there’s a little bit of chill in the air and there’s fog, they love to come out to the haunted house.”

IF YOU GO

Tickets are \$35 and can be bought at hollywoodhorrorshow.com or at the door and must be printed. It is open Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and Nov. 2.

6333 Bass Mountain Rd. Snow Camp, NC 27349



ABIGAIL HOBBS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Original Hollywood Horror Show makes all the makeup, costumes and sets in house.

ResFest shows off new residential neighborhood competitions

First-time event meant to inspire residential neighborhood pride in students

Megan Walsh
Elon News Network

Festival foods, crafts, partnership tables and live music filled Young Commons for Elon University Residence Life's first ResFest event. ResFest was created as part of a new Residence Life initiative to increase engagement between the different residential neighborhoods on campus. The event took place Oct. 25 and featured a competition to see which neighborhood and Living Learning Community had the highest attendance while fostering pride in students' individual neighborhoods and meeting new people.

“

WE WANTED TO CREATE AN INITIATIVE TO BRING EVERYBODY TOGETHER IN ONE BIG SPACE, HAVE FUN AND KIND OF MAKE IT SORT OF A COMPETITION.

ANNA KYLES
STATION AT MILL POINT COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

This event was created to bring students from different neighborhoods together, event organizers, Anna Kyles, community director of the Station at Mill Point, and Jasmine Hill Evans, community director at East, said. “I know it can feel a little siloed with the neighborhoods,” Kyles said. “So we

wanted to create an initiative to bring everybody together in one big space, have fun and kind of make it sort of a competition.”

The idea of neighborhood competitions started last year with rebranding the neighborhood logos and choosing neighborhood colors, Sarah Ann Chapman, associate director of Residence Life for residential education and community development, said.

“We wanted to try to focus on a way to help students have pride in their neighborhoods,” Chapman said. “We wanted to have students make connections in their neighborhoods, and we want them to be excited about wherever they live.”

Unlike the Global Neighborhood's structured house cup competition for the first six weeks of the school year, Chapman said the neighborhood competition initiative does not have a formal system.

“For us, it was more about celebrating each neighborhood, but then providing opportunities throughout the semester, throughout the year, for neighborhoods to come together and either celebrate or have challenges and competitions,” Chapman said.

This school year, the initiative kicked off with a partnership with Elon Athletics to create neighborhood nights for sporting events including home football, men's soccer, women's soccer and volleyball games. Elon Athletics Assistant Director of Marketing Zoe Mooney said the nights are a great collaboration for both parties.

“It kind of was benefiting both sides,” Mooney said. “So we got more students, but they also get a free and fun event that they can have as a community.”

As for ResFest, Kyles said the event was about bringing together the neighborhoods for some fun.

“It just kind of goes back to that sense of belonging, and making meaning,

making sense of your experience here and definitely building those meaningful relationships,” Kyles said. “This is just a way to bring everybody together into one place to have fun and to be safe while you do it.”

“

THE WAY OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ARE SET UP, THEY'RE KIND OF SPLIT, IT'S GOOD FOR EVERYBODY TO MEET AND MINGLE AMONG THE NEIGHBORHOODS. YOU GET TO REALLY MEET THE FULL COMMUNITY AND ALL THE PERSPECTIVES.

GRAYCE BECHTEL
ELON FRESHMAN

The event included many activities, among them a variety of food offerings such as popcorn, cotton candy and Pelican's Snow Cones. There were also yard games, face painting and a balloon artist. An area called the Chill Zone was also set up with many different craft activities such as rock painting, stress ball making and coloring. Music was provided by both 89.3 FM WSOE and student band Yard's Davis.

Evans said it was important that the event's partners had tables at the event, including Counseling Services, Elon Athletics, Student Conduct and the Residence Hall Association.

“It was really important for

us to partner with a lot of different people for this program,” Evans said. “I would love to see greek organizations and clubs out here in the future, just so there's a staple event similar to an org fair or something that happens every year.”

For freshman Grayce Bechtel, the event was a good opportunity for the neighborhoods to be together.

“The way our neighborhoods are set up, they're kind of split,” Bechtel said. “It's good for everybody to meet and mingle among the neighborhoods. You get to really meet the full community and all the perspectives.”

In the end, East Neighborhood came out as the winner with the highest percentage of the neighborhood in attendance. Global Neighborhood was awarded second place and Historic Neighborhood placed third. The Living Learning Community awarded for the highest percentage of attendance went to the Communications Living Learning Community.

Residence Life plans to continue these neighborhood competition events in November with the Neighborhood Food Fight food donation competition from Nov. 11 to Nov. 15. Students can participate in this event by taking non-perishable food items to its neighborhood office during that week.

IF YOU GO

Students can bring non-perishable food items to Residence Life's office from Nov. 11 to Nov. 15.

Located at the Janice Ratliff Building.



ResFest set up on Oct. 25 at Young Commons. The event included yard games, face painting and a balloon artist.

EMILY SELIKOFF | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon Athletics sees mixed success with Ticketmaster

Elon University is using the platform for various campus events and for football, basketball, baseball games

Miles Hayford
Elon News Network

It's been a few months since the start of Ticketmaster's partnership with Elon University, and Elon Athletics has seen mixed results.

Elon University announced a partnership with the leader in the ticketing industry in late July. The partnership was created to allow for an enhanced ticket-buying experience for Elon Athletics, cultural programs and other campus events.

The collaboration with Ticketmaster has allowed for ticketing for all Elon events to be in one place, and this streamlined site is located at elontickets.com.

In a July press release, Elon said that the collaboration would increase the availability of ticketing services to others hosting events on campus. Elon Athletics promised to streamline the user experience. Ticket purchasers are now able to transfer tickets to friends or family and resell tickets through Ticketmaster's technology.

Along with various campus events, the primary sporting events that utilize Ticketmaster are basketball, baseball and football.

The early numbers for Elon football shows students using Ticketmaster, but remain skewed. Elon Athletics still allows students to just show their Phoenix Card and enter without scanning. Since not everyone who attends games uses Ticketmaster, the number of students using Ticketmaster doesn't match attendance estimates. According to Jason Knavel, associate athletic director for strategic communications, on Sept. 14 against Western Carolina, 1,119 students used Ticketmaster, whereas the estimated total student attendance was 1,519. Similarly, 427 students used Ticketmaster to attend the Sept. 21 game against East Tennessee State University, but a total of 927 are

estimated to have attended. On Family Weekend against Richmond University, many students entered with their families and just showed their ID without claiming their ticket through Ticketmaster, so the number was massively skewed with 2,114 total students attending but only 536 using Ticketmaster.

The Athletics department is allowing students to use their ID just for the time being as people get used to the new system, Elon professor of sport management Alex Traugutt said.

“

THERE'S GOING TO BE A LEARNING CURVE FOR EVERYBODY. I THINK THEY PROBABLY WENT INTO THIS FOOTBALL SEASON AS A KIND OF TEST, AND I IMAGINE BY THE BASKETBALL SEASON, THEY'LL HAVE IT KIND OF DIALED IN.

ALEX TRAUGUTT
ELON SPORTS MANAGEMENT PROFESSOR

“I would imagine by this time next year, in the football season, that won't be an option, and there will be more of an onboarding process for returning students and for new students,” Traugutt said. “They want to be able to track everyone that kind of comes in and Ticketmaster would have allowed us to do that more easily because of all of the scans, and when we're not able to do that, that obviously hurts the attendance numbers.”

Traugutt said faculty members were also originally supposed to use Ticketmaster to go to football games but have reverted back to giving faculty members tickets for the time being until they get a better handle on

the system.

Traugutt said Ticketmaster's ability to track attendance and gather data on who is attending their games is a primary reason for the partnership.

“Everything that the partnership is geared toward is more granular, tracking of fans in and out of the stadium,” Traugutt said.

Traugutt, whose expertise is in college athletics sales and fundraising, said the change on the consumer side is beneficial both as it allows transferring tickets to others easier, and because many Elon students are likely familiar with the platform.

“It should theoretically create a more streamlined kind of process from the fan perspective from the start to the end,” Traugutt said. “Everyone's pretty familiar with it by now because if they've been to a concert or a different kind of sporting event, they probably have a Ticketmaster account.”

However, Ticketmaster is not universally beloved. Ticketmaster has been involved in a number of recent controversies including price gouging, anti competition claims and data breaches.

Traugutt doesn't think these scandals will affect Elon, though.

“We won't be subject to that kind of backlash because we're not using it on a concert-level kind of scale,” Traugutt said. “I think for us, it's just when people hear we're using a Ticketmaster now, if it's a younger individual who's had experience with them in the past, they're going to have a kind of bias toward them, generally not positive.”

Traugutt said he believes the end goal of the partnership is Elon getting a better profile of their fans while driving ticket sales and retention.

Student opinion of the change has been mixed. Freshman Janiya Hickman, who attended the Oct.12 football game, said she hasn't had any issues with Ticketmaster but believes it is easier to just use a Phoenix Card.

“It would be easier for us to come in and tap our Phoenix Card,” Hickman said. “I feel like it could be a little more smoother if we just use our Phoenix Card.”

Janey Smith, a freshman, isn't a fan of

the change. She cited website glitches where she isn't able to sign in and the fact that the barcode doesn't always work, making it hard for ticket workers to let them in. She also said that Ticketmaster doesn't always work properly to give the student price.

“I was trying to help my friend and his wouldn't let him get the student discount and they were telling him to pay the \$15, but we're students, we get it for free,” Smith said. “So, he actually ended up not getting a ticket for a musical that we all wanted to see.”

Freshman Harry Denehy is happy with Ticketmaster, though, and said it's made things very easy.

“It only takes two minutes to get my tickets and I get emails every week from Ticketmaster to get the free tickets.

Traugutt acknowledged the issues students have had with Ticketmaster but thinks people will get used to it as it becomes more integrated into Elon's ticketing process.

“I think there probably could have been some more of an onboarding process for everybody,” Traugutt said. “There's going to be a learning curve for everybody. I think they probably went into this football season as a kind of test, and I imagine by the basketball season, they'll have it kind of dialed in.”

Anjolina Fantaroni contributed to the reporting of this story.

BY THE NUMBERS

73.67%

of students used Ticketmaster for the Sept. 14 football game against Western Carolina.

46.06%

of students used Ticketmaster for the Sept. 21 football game against East Tennessee State.

25.36%

of students used Ticketmaster for the Sept. 28 football game against Richmond University over Family Weekend.



Photo illustration of Elon's Ticketmaster logo. Elon University announced a partnership with Ticketmaster in late July, which allows for an enhanced ticket-buying experience for Elon Athletics, cultural programs and other campus events. ETHAN WU | PHOTO EDITOR

vote for

Mother

**KAMALA HARRIS CAST THE TIE-BREAKING
VOTE TO PASS THE LARGEST INVESTMENT IN
CLIMATE ACTION IN HISTORY.**

- 37% IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
- + 1.5M NEW JOBS
- + \$3,562 INCREASE IN REAL DISPOSABLE
INCOME PER CAPITA

**THE OTHER GUY SAID CLIMATE CHANGE IS A HOAX
INVENTED BY CHINA.**

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