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The Daily Tar Heel

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A CALL FOR MORAL CHANGE



People join together to advocate for voter rights Saturday.

By Sam Killenberg and Audrey Wells **Staff Writers**

Thousands joined together to advocate for the expansion of voter rights in North Carolina at the 10th annual Moral March on Saturday.

Many attendees of the rally felt voting rights in North Carolina are at risk, including Jeff Lauer of UNC-Asheville's chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

We're pissed off about voter ID laws and trying to redraw districts and (making) people's votes not count, so we came out here to voice our opinion," he said. "For so long voting was used to keep power at first in the hands of property-owning white males, and over time we've been able to fight and get that right to every citizen."

Defeating voter ID legislation and expanding early voting and same-day registration are some of the main objectives of the Historic Thousands on Jones Street, known as HKonJ, People's Assembly Coalition,

SEE **VOTER ID**, PAGE 4

Turning out for the vote in Raleigh Immigration debate close to home



Activists call the N.C. General Assembly anti-immigrant.

DTH/NICHOLAS BAFIA

By Marisa Bakker Assistant State & National Editor

Protesters at the HKonJ People's Assembly Coalition Saturday criticized the N.C. General Assembly for being anti-immigrant, calling for immigration reform and the repeal of House Bill 318.

The law, passed in October, bars the use of the matricula consular as a valid form of identification, often used by undocumented immigrants for minor traffic violations or hiring processes. A result of the law is that undocumented people can be deported for a minor traffic infraction, undocumented resident Carmen Rodriguez told the crowd in front of the legislature through a translator.

Rodriquez said HB 318 has caused undocumented immigrants to live with an ever-present fear of deportation. She also condemned the law for exploiting migrant laborers and shielding the agricultural sector from fair labor laws.

SEE IMMIGRATION, PAGE 4

Discrimination issues brought to light



Activists carry the LGBT pride flag to protest discrimination.

By Eric Schwartz

Whether it was holding hands with her partner or feeling accepted in her workplace, Sarah Gage has faced discrimination for her sexual identity in her home of Wilmington.

"Not being able to feel comfortable in your own gender or presentation is a pretty difficult place," she said. "It's hard to focus on other things when you can't feel safe."

Saturday's HKonJ People's Assembly Coalition was an opportunity for many local LGBT advocacy groups to demonstrate their support.

"We hope to bring visibility to the queer movement," said James Miller, executive director of the LGBT Center of Raleigh.

Jaloni Martin, a student at N.C. State University and leader of a campus LGBT group, said the march was a chance to illuminate unseen

SEE **LGBT**, PAGE 4

Minimum wage is maximum issue



Activists gather to advocate for a higher minimum wage.

DTH/NINA TAN

By Olivia Slagle

Activists rallied for a higher minimum wage during Saturday's HKonJ People's Assembly Coalition rally, boasting signs calling for change.

Protestors in attendance called for the N.C. General Assembly to raise the state's minimum wage from \$7.25 the requirement set by the federal government - to \$15 per hour.

An increase in wages was featured as a prominent piece of the HKonJ People's Assembly Coalition's 14 Point People's Agenda for North Carolina. Several speeches preceding the rally referenced this goal for a livable wage and support for low income people.

The agenda calls for the state to adjust the minimum wage in relation to inflation rates and to expand social welfare programs like food stamps for lower-income citizens. It also emphasized the need for employers to offer basic workplace benefits like

SEE MINIMUM WAGE, PAGE 4

Homelessness: not only a chronic issue

Those who couch surf go undetected by the county's homelessness services.

By Benjamin Albano Staff Writer

The 2015 Point-In-Time Count for people experiencing homelessness in Orange County amounts to 129 people, according to a report released by the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness on Jan. 28.

But this data, based on a description from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD, leaves out a broad population without stable, consistent places to live.

Couch surfers, people who move

from place to place, are often invisible in the eyes of those who apportion local and federal aid.

Desmond Frierson, an outreach case worker for Housing for New Hope in Durham, said federal programs run by the agency don't typically consider couch surfers eligible.

"Couch surfing is one of those behind the scenes things," Frierson

Frierson added that a system of keeping track of people who are couch surfing could help the agency better understand what the barriers are and how Housing for New Hope could be helpful.

Finding stable housing

Chapel Hill Town Council member

Nancy Oates, a proponent of expanding public transportation in lieu of the light rail, said other factors come into play when offering assistance to those who are unable to find stable housing.

'When you're thinking about affordable apartments that people would move into, they need to be on an affordable transit line," Oates said. "Transitional housing prepares people to live independently, but in Chapel Hill we don't have affordable living for couch surfers, and that's a real issue."

Oates suggested that fixing this problem is complicated because it involves more than just fixing issues with affordable public housing.

According to Jamie Rohe, SEE HOMELESSNESS, PAGE 4

Consulting firm reports to BOG

The firm outlined preliminary feedback to board members Friday.

By Hayley Fowler State & National Editor

UNC-system stakeholders have abandoned their respective swim lanes, instead opting for disorganized cannon balls.

Members of the Board of Governors, the system president, legislators and the general administration, among others, told the Boston Consulting Group — hired to audit the system after Margaret Spellings was selected — they understood what defined each stakeholders' "swim lanes."

"But you were also clear that those swim lanes have not always been honored over the last couple years," said J. Puckett, senior partner and managing director for the firm. "And that people have gotten out of their swim lanes, and that they've done that because they've been uncomfortable."

Puckett presented preliminary findings Friday at the BOG's retreat. The Boston Consulting Group

SEE CONSULTING, PAGE 4



WINSTON CHURCHILL

VOTER ID

FROM PAGE 1

hosted by the North Carolina NAACP and Democracy North Carolina.

North Carolina's controversial 2013 law, requiring a valid form of photo ID at the polls, is currently being challenged

make it harder to be civically engaged," she said. "I think a lot of people don't understand

by the state NAACP and other

plaintiffs in federal court.

Rally participant Kyra

Rubin, a first-year at UNC-

Chapel Hill, questioned the

"I don't know why you'd

motives of the law.

Raleigh resident Brandon Norwood said he was protesting on behalf of his neighbor who was recently deported, leaving behind his

Others emphasized the

immigration reform and worker's rights, race, LGBTQ

that, and so it's really impor-

tant to have a lot of people

out here to show there are

very insidious reasons why

this law is going into place."

Rubin, along with fellow

UNC first-years Abbey Cmiel

and Sean Kurz, attended the

to vote is protected.

rally to make sure their ability

Lia Kaz, from Asheville, said merging these issues

"The protest is changing the moral consciousness of

"A lot of college students don't realize the power that comes with voting and don't take advantage of that," Cmiel said. "It's really important to convey those ideas to our leadership."

From Page One

Signs at the rally read 'Voting Rights Now" to evoke imagery of voting rights

Rights Movement. Courtney Parker, a Raleigh native, said she was participating in honor of her father.

marches during the Civil

"When my father was growing up as a Black Panther he had to fight for voting rights and I think the state of North Carolina is going backwards

with regard to voting rights," she said. "It's kind of ridiculous that I have to protest that which my father's generation and his father's generation protested, but I am out here so I can do better for my children's generation."

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IMMIGRATION FROM PAGE 1

"We make America great," she said. "I live day after day with the consequences of the policy of a government that doesn't want us, but still wants to use us to take advantage of our labor without

recognizing our rights ... No papers, no fear!"

wife and son.

intersection of issues like

North Carolina work-

places highlight LGBT dis-

rights and voting rights.

could give power back to the

the state and it's a leader for

the South, as well as the rest of the country. Moral marches have been as far north as Connecticut and it's really changing the way communities work together instead of against each for social progress," she said.

UNC sophomore Riley Foster said engaging in state politics will be crucial to reform immigration laws and improve worker's rights.

"North Carolina and the United States — especially the South — have a history of systemically impoverishing minority individuals specifically," Foster said.

The march was an oppor-

tunity for constituents to voice their priorities before the General Assembly, she said.

"Advocating, getting involved in the politics of the state is really important going forward to some of the issues we believe in."

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LGBT

FROM PAGE 1

"The biggest issue for the LGBT community is definitely discrimination," he said. "Some people don't always understand everything

crimination, said attendee social issues. Joey Lopez, who is a faith organizer for More Light Presbyterian Church.

"(Equality would be) the ability to go to work and not worry that you're going to (be)

fired because you go home and

"Minimum wage is such

an important issue because

you live with someone who is the same gender as you, or you're partnered or married to someone who is the same gender as you," he said.

Lopez and his group were among a range of organizations united at the march for seemingly different causes.

since the Vietnam War,

Spirakis, who is also a mem-

ber of the Yancey-Mitchell

chapter of the NAACP, said

his presence represents more

"I am here fighting for all

the people that don't have a

Asheville resident Ted

than his own opinions.

right now," he said.

"I think that intersection-

ality between queer rights and human rights, especially with what we're doing here with poverty — with poverty alleviation, with immigration, with employment rights are all tied together," Miller said. "And I think we all need to stand together."

Societal awareness will

Mary Dooley, a member

of Democratic Socialists and

Triangle Women for Bernie,

said the issue of minimum

because many of her family

members are currently work-

"I think that this is at the

heart of why many people are

wage is personal for her

ing for minimum wage.

drive legal action and create protections for oppressed demographics like the LGBT community, TR Nunley, a Wilmington resident, said.

come out in his workplace as transgender and expects others feel the same as well. "It happened to be that (my

having a terrible time in the

United States today," Dooley

said. "This affects blacks;

it affects women; it affects

Latinos. It's a wide, cross-

And Dena Papazoglou, a

Chapel Hill resident, said she

attended the rally because she

is concerned about the state

demographic issue."

He said he was afraid to

ing ... But I know a lot of my other trans friends in the community, they cannot do the same," Nunley said. "They cannot make physical changes because they're too scared to lose their jobs."

workplace was) very accept-

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moving in the wrong direc-

tion on a number of issues.

"I have kids, and I'm con-

cerned about the future," she

said. "(The state legislature)

that make our state a great

place to live."

is dismantling the protections

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MINIMUM WAGE

FROM PAGE 1

about it."

paid sick days. Brianna Whitfield, a member of the NAACP's chapter at Duke University, said the Fight for \$15 movement is ultimately advocating for a living wage for all North Carolinians.

CONSULTING

has completed around 140 of

with board members, general

administration leaders, chan-

cellors, faculty and student

leaders and legislators. The

firm's representatives visited

its intended 150 interviews

\$7.25 just doesn't make sense," Whitfield said. "You can't raise a family, you can't move forward and you can't take steps to better your life if vou have to work two or three jobs to survive." An attendee of protests

Stakeholders agreed the

UNC system is the crown jewel

of North Carolina but said it

has lost a sense of direction. "It is a quadrilateral of mistrust, between and across the legislature, the board, the GA and the institutions," one interviewee told the group.

Puckett said many spoke of the system's glory years — "A

voice or can't be here," he said. bit of the bloom is off the rose

Those interviewed spoke of a "significant, system-wide culture shift," with emphasis on establishing clear system priorities and better trust and granting a greater level of autonomy to universities.

You have great pockets of talent, and a lot of it's sitting out in your institutions," Puckett said.

System priorities were categorized under five themes - access, affordability, student success, economic impact and excellency and diversity in institutions. The UNC system's general administration was also criticized for being too

reactionary and far removed

"The programs that are

from institutional nuances and lacking clear communication. "In any environment where

you have (a) lack of clarity and where you have a build up of misalignment and lack of trust, anybody that sits at the middle is going to get squeezed," Puckett said. "And that has happened, and (the general administration) have felt the

Spellings said the final report will be released mid-March, along with several recommendations to move the system forward.

pinch of being in the middle."

This is not our viewpoint on you," Puckett said. "This is your viewpoint on you."

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HOMELESSNESS

UNC-Chapel Hill Jan. 7.

FROM PAGE 1

the programs coordinator with the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness, those who experience homelessness and those who are declared homeless by the government are separate.

"(The definition) concerns people who are living in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, streets, camps, unheated

buildings. It also includes people who are staying in shelters," Rohe said.

Rohe, who has worked with the partnership for six years, is in the process of leaving and has agreed to stand in until a new coordinator takes her place later this month. With her extensive experience in supporting people experiencing temporary or chronic homelessness, she emphasized that these people are capable, regardless of their current

living situation.

"You don't want to define a person by their current lack of housing. They are people first," she said. "People experience homelessness but they are not homeless. This is part of a bigger issue about how we think about people."

Rohe explained that adjusting people's way of thinking is vital to the effectiveness of initiatives improving living conditions for those in need.

the most effective are those

that see a very capable person first, with many positive qualities, and then giving those people an opportunity to help themselves," she said.

Collecting accurate data

Rohe said while there should be more assistance provided to those who do not fall under the written definition of homelessness, counting people who move place

to place, and tracking that number year-to-year is nearly impossible. "Year-to-year, there is too

much gray area and imprecision to capture the numbers of couch surfing people. But, if you are comparing people in the way the HUD does, we can capture this data," she said.

This 'rock and a hard place' scenario is in part due to the broader issue of homelessness and the lack of affordable housing in Orange County.

Rohe said that while the situation is troubling, it is a reality in the United States.

But the 100,000 Homes Campaign, which operates on a national and local scale, is working to develop a byname list of people who are chronically homeless and to find housing for them.

"It's about triage," Rohe said. "It is not about decent safe housing for all — that isn't a reality in our country."

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HOROSCOPES



If February 15th is Your Birthday... Win with your team this year. Take advantage of

springtime abundance (after 3/8) to reconsider travels and research (after 3/23). After 9/9, take off for two educational years. Rising shared accounts (after 9/1) offer new personal financial opportunities (after 9/16). Work together for love

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)
Today is a 7 – Read, write and study over the next two days. Keep written records, as communication glitches may arise. Learn new tricks. Choose privacy over publicity. Concentration comes easier. Put your charm and affection into your work

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is an 8 – Compute expenses. Over the next two days, there's cash to be made. Ask for what was promised. Send invoices, and organize accounts. Learn from an elder. Travel beckons. Work it out with your

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Today is an 8 – Energy surges are predicted. You're more powerful and confident for the next two days, with the Moon in your sign. Get creative. Innovate at work. Come up

with a new way to do something. Cancer (June 21-July 22) Today is a 6 — Finish a project in private to-day and tomorrow. Slow down and consider options before making plans and decisions. Avoid reckless investments. You're in charge,

remember? Determine what you want. Get

into a pensive phase

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 6 – Social activities occupy you over the next few days. Group and community efforts go far. Networking opens new possibilities. Share your thoughts and

dreams. Creative work pays well. Strengthen your infrastructure. Listen and learn.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7 – Focus on professional opportunities for the next few days. Forge ahead. Anticipate changes. Keep your wits about you. Prepare for inspection. Dress the

part. Avoid someone else's ego battle. Reach

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Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 6 – Travels and studies keep you

busy today and tomorrow. The news could affect your decisions. Follow your itinerary, and keep to the plan. Do complete work. Add illustrations. Avoid buying stuff you don't need.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 7 – Compromise comes easier over the next two days. Work out budget issues, and decide on priorities together. Don't lose what you've got to get more. Scrutinize something nebulous. Research financial

consequences before committing

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is an 8 – Collaboration percolates over the next two days. Work together. Make changes as necessary. Find new commonali-ties. Who would have ever guessed? Patience with practical details serves you well. Make

sure your partner feels appreciated. Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 7 – Handle work issues today and tomorrow. Take charge, and provide great service. Don't neglect your health to do it. Cut stress with a walk outside. A friend's expertise comes in handy.

Aguarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 5 – Take time for love today and tomorrow. Get together with family and friends. Relax and play together. Prioritize fun. Generate enough to cover expenses. Practice your game to increase your skill level. Follow your heart.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 6 – Make home upgrades today and tomorrow. Delegate some elements to an expert. Put your own talents to best effect. Read up on best practices, and determine style

and colors. Your family appreciates the results.

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