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SGA and SPECTRUM draft legislation to speak out against Amendment One.

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This week's editorial calls North Carolina residents to action in the upcoming primary.

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SMALL TOWN CHARM

Local farmer's market takes community back to basics for the fifth year.

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THE PENDULUM

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Controversial 'Kony 2012' films elicit visible response from student activists

Katherine Blunt
Assistant News Reporter

An Invisible Children representative who lived through the experience hiding from the Lord's Resistance Army, a rebel group concentrated in central Africa, as depicted in the "Kony 2012" films, addressed a crowd at Elon University April 23.

As a 5-year-old in northern Uganda, Agnes Aromorach slept alone in the jungle each night, using the brush and the darkness to conceal herself from the LRA led by Joseph Kony.

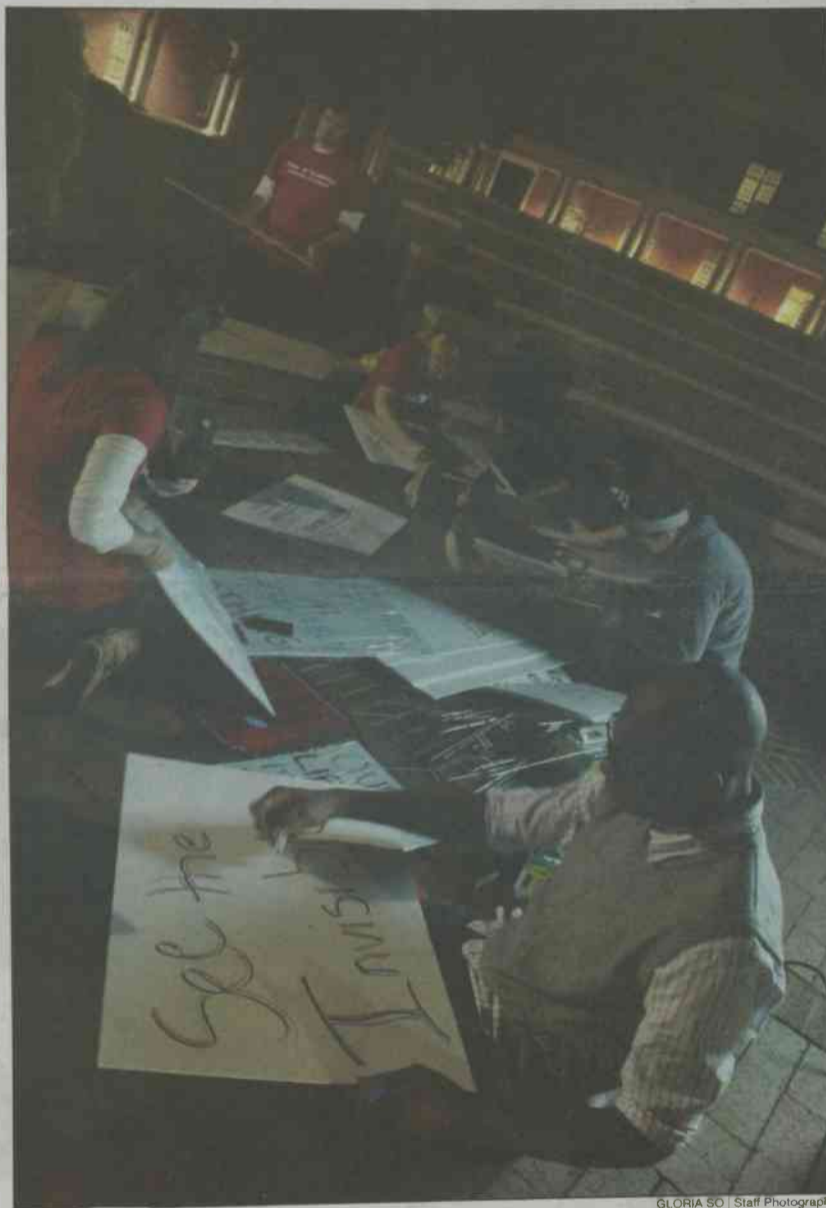
"It was so cold, I had no shelter and I was so scared of the darkness and the animals and just everything," said Aromorach, who now works as a traveling volunteer, or roadie, for Invisible Children. "People lived in total fear of being abducted by the rebel army, of losing their loved ones every single day that passed by."

Invisible Children is an organization dedicated to education about child soldiers in Uganda. In the wake of the organization's viral video "Kony 2012," five roadies with the organization raised awareness of the "Stop Kony" campaign Monday night at Elon University. Through the first-hand testimony of Aromorach and the screening of "Kony 2012 Part II - Beyond Famous," the team condemned Kony for kidnapping thousands of African children from their villages and forcing them to assume military roles in the LRA. They urged students to join the fight against him by appealing to political leaders and spreading information.

Since its online release March 5, "Kony 2012" has been viewed more than 100 million times worldwide. The video incited both activism and criticism, creating a controversy that now surrounds Invisible Children and the cause for which it fights.

While "Kony 2012" moved many to action at the individual and national levels, some argue that the film exaggerates Kony's influence within the region and misrepresents the plight of the Africans affected by the violence of the LRA.

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A group of students take part in the national 'Cover the Night' campaign, sponsored by Invisible Children, by creating posters to raise awareness about Kony April 20.

Pride Week expresses unity within diverse organization



Elon sophomore Ethan Glassman (left) and senior Raafe Purnsley, a member of Spectrum, participate in the National Day of Silence and Pride Parade April 20.

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

Pride Week signifies the unity and confidence within the LGBTQ community, but for sophomore Kevin Moore, the celebratory week at Elon University is a symbol of comfort.

Moore, president of Spectrum, said he was in the closet until the events throughout Pride Week revealed a group dedicated to acceptance and support.

Pride Week signifies unity, said Raafe Purnsley, a member of Spectrum. The rainbow flag, a symbol of the LGBTQ movement, represents the aim of the week and symbolizes different colors coming together.

"It started as a sign of unity to show the community this is what we are, this is what we want to be, let us be this," Purnsley said. "We're not aggressive. We're not foreign. We're not evil."

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'The Station' provokes concern from town

Katherine Blunt
Assistant News Editor

Elon students have infringed upon her space for years. She has found a sorority-branded flip-flop in her yard and a pair of Victoria's Secret underwear in her tree. But only when the university itself crept into her backyard did Jo Grimley get truly upset.

"My husband and I are going to try living here for one year after (The Station at Mill Point) opens, but we're already making plans to move," said Grimley, a former Alderwoman who lives on South Williamson Avenue. "We love this house. My granddad built it himself in 1904. Our children want us to keep it, but we're not sure if we can do that."

The Station at Mill Point, Elon University's new residential neighborhood that will house 324 junior and senior students, is being developed on what was once Firehouse Field, located across from the Town of Elon Fire Department between South Williamson Avenue and Johnson Street. The 14 apartment-style complexes that have been under construction since last summer are scheduled to open August 2012, and an additional 10 complexes will be added by August 2013.

"I'm for (the development) because the university needs it, and I support the notion of contiguity (in a student environment)," said Jo's husband Gene Grimley, a chemistry professor at Elon. "But if there was the opportunity to keep it green, they should have done that."

Although Firehouse Field is Elon University property, it wasn't always reserved for university use. In 2008, the university offered the land to the Town of Elon as a site for a public library, free of cost. The Town of Elon Board of Aldermen considered the offer, but ultimately chose to build the library at Beth Schmidt Park on Cook Road.

"There were a lot of people in town that wanted to build the library at the park," said Mayor Jerry Tolley. "There's a denser population over there in that part of town, and when you build it over there, a lot of people in Guilford County can use it. Libraries like to serve as many people as they can."

A 3-2 vote by the Board of Aldermen left Firehouse Field vacant, and the university capitalized on an opportunity to build new student housing. The Board of Aldermen approved the construction of The Station in March 2011, after which a public hearing was held to discuss traffic and parking concerns surrounding the development.

As requested during the hearing, parking at The Station will be located to the far west of the complexes near Johnson Street, and a turn lane will be added at the intersection of South Williamson Avenue and Ball Park Road. The North Carolina Department of Transportation is considering the addition of a traffic light as well.

But residents located just outside The Station's perimeter still harbor reservations about the development across the street. Rose Ann McLellend,

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