

THE PENDULUM

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Master plan brings major changes to Town of Elon

Jonathan Black
Editor-in-Chief

The Town of Elon has proposed a new revitalization plan that would restructure the eight-block area known as downtown Elon.

The plan calls for the construction of 10 mixed-use buildings, six residential buildings, an office space and a civic/hospitality space.

The first floor of the mixed-use buildings will house retails and restaurants, while the upper floors will serve as either offices or residential spaces depending on the building. The area will surround a green space called Town Commons. However, the plan is subject to change.

Davis Montgomery, a member of the Elon Board of Aldermen, said the board began to ask why businesses didn't want to move their locations to downtown Elon. As a result, a committee was formed four years ago to discuss the revitalization of downtown Elon.

The committee was made up of Montgomery, Alderman Mark Greene, Elon resident Clark Bennett, Town Planner Sean Tencer, former Town Manager Ed Wyatt and Gerald

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Elon's new budget raises tuition, financial aid

The Elon University Board of Trustees met Tuesday to approve the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget, which includes a 3.69 percent increase in undergraduate tuition. Next year, tuition will cost \$30,848 with the total cost of living on campus adding up to \$41,914.

In an email sent out to the faculty and staff, President Leo Lambert said next year's tuition will remain lower than the national average. Additionally, the cost of tuition will be between \$5,000 to \$15,000 lower than Elon's peer institutions.

According to Lambert, financial aid will increase by 6.88 percent with a commitment to increase need-based aid to support the university's goal of providing complete access to a global experience.

Phoenix frozen



CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

With shouts of "Long live Elon!" the right team charged down the hill in an organized attack during a campus wide snowball fight Thursday.

Strong winter weather causes roads, schools to close down

Hannah Wolfe
Senior Reporter

2014 was rung in with excitement, resolutions and an unexpected cold front. This winter season has been unseasonably cold in North Carolina, and authorities have had to go the extra mile to combat the frigid temperatures and snow.

Temperatures in Raleigh reached the single digits this winter for the first time since 2000, only 18 degrees away from the record low of -9 degrees. Similar temperatures have been report-

ed in other parts of the state.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has surpassed their \$30 million budget for winter weather this year. The storms have required the assistance of extra employees, the purchase of more salt and the use of more heavy-duty machinery in order to recover.

Jennifer Brandenburg, the state asset management engineer at the NCDOT, reported that \$30 million is set aside annually for winter weather snow and ice removal. Usually only about \$12 to \$15 million of this budget is spent.

It's not unusual for this budget to be extend-

ed. In one particularly snowy year, the NCDOT spent \$60 million, twice its budget.

"We see what we have planned when spring comes and skip some other activities," Brandenburg said.

The average North Carolinian would be unlikely to notice the spring cutback. Public grass won't be cut as often, and less will be done to manicure the state in order to make up the lost funds.

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