

WHAT'S UP IN RALEIGH

11/7 to 11/27

- 11/7:
--Broadway Series South: Catch Me If You Can @ Memorial Auditorium (through 11/11)
- 11/8:
--Law School Fair @ NC State Talley Center
- 11/9:
--NCSU Basketball vs Miami (OH) @ PNC Arena
- 11/10:
--Veteran's Day Parade @ Downtown Raleigh
--NCSU Football vs Wake Forest @ Carter-Finley Stadium
- 11/13:
--Talbot's Fall Fashion Show @ Talbot's Cameron Village
- 11/15:
--Open House @ Cameron Village
- 11/17:
--Raleigh Christmas Parade @ Downtown Raleigh
--St. Jude's Give Thanks Walk @ Crabtree Valley Mall
--Tree Lighting Celebration @ North Hills
--Carolina Roller Derby @ Dorton Arena
- 11/22:
--Carolina Ballet: The Nutcracker @ Memorial Auditorium (through 11/25)
- 11/23:
--A Christmas Carousel Holiday Festival @ Graham Building, Fair Grounds
--NCSU Basketball vs UNC Asheville @ PNC Arena
--NC Symphony: The Wizard of Oz @ Meymandi Concert Hall (through 11/24)
- 11/24:
--NCSU Football vs Boston College @ Carter-Finley Stadium
--Trolley Rides @ North Hills
- 11/27:
--Broadway Series South: Shrek @ Memorial Auditorium (through 12/2)

Who Else Could Have Won? -- Third Party Candidates in 2012

Monique Kreisman, staff writer

Third party candidates very rarely win elections, but they do serve an important function in politics. At times, they have been able to tip the balance by drawing votes away from the major parties. Ralph Nader, the 2004 Green Party candidate, played a major role in the presidential election; he siphoned votes from Al Gore, who lost to George W. Bush by a very narrow margin. Other third-party candidates have likewise been surprisingly successful. In 1992, Ross Perot, a wealthy Independent candidate who financed his own campaign, managed to receive an astonishing 18.6% of the popular vote. There also have been instances where third parties have become major parties after an election. In 1852, the Democrats and the Whigs were considered the two major parties, but after the first Republican Presidential candidate, John C. Fremont, ran in 1856 and Abraham Lincoln won the presidency in 1860, the Republicans replaced the Whigs as a major party. Although often lesser-known, third party candidates can wield an unexpected amount of influence.

For the 2012 election, third party candidates were Dr. Jill Stein of the Green Party; Gov. Gary Johnson, a Libertarian; Rocky Anderson of the Justice Party; and Virgil Goode of the Constitution Party. They financed campaigns, travelled the country, and participated in their own debate. Although they were not nominated by one of the major parties, they all made thoroughly planned and carefully organized bids for the presidency. Gary Johnson and the Libertarians are perhaps the most well-known challengers to the two-party system. Johnson claims he will balance the budget in one year. He wants to cut

military spending by 43% and replace the income tax with a national expenditure tax. He strongly supports Second Amendment rights, saying, "If you outlaw guns, only outlaws will have guns." He would repeal the Patriot Act and legalize marijuana. He also supports same-sex marriage.

Jill Stein and the Green Party propose a "Green New Deal" for America. She wants to create 25 million green jobs, phase out coal and nuclear power, and invest in clean energy. She supports unions, a more progressive tax code, legalizing medical marijuana, and expanding public housing. She plans to cut the military budget, change the minimum wage to a "living wage," break up Bank of

America, and create publically-owned banks. She is in favor of establishing tuition-free colleges and education reform. Her website states, "Stop denying students diplomas based on tests," indicating her strong opposition to the traditional way of regulating the public school system.

Rocky Anderson of the Justice Party has a plan to create jobs and break up "too big to fail" banks. He wants to make the tax system more progressive and create a single, government-run health insurance program. He would close Guantanamo Bay and ban the death penalty and torture. He is also in

favor of marriage equality.

Virgil Goode of the Constitution Party promises to balance the federal budget immediately and repeal Obamacare. He proposes either a flat income rate tax or the Fair Tax, which is a national sales tax. He supports gun ownership rights and opposes same-sex marriage. He would delay giving green cards to immigrants until the unemployment rate is under 5% and deny citizenship to children of illegal immigrants born in the US. He



Dr. Jill Stein of the Green Party
Image via gp.org

supports energy independence and American development of oil, nuclear, and alternative energy sources. He is also pro-life.

The Green, Libertarian, Justice, and Constitution parties pride themselves on their differences from the major parties and from each other. Although they have no realistic chance of winning the presidency, these third party candidates chime in on important issues and keep the democratic election process interesting.

Wake County School Board Members Involved In Scandal

Lizzie Wood, staff writer

Two Raleigh public officials are engaged in a controversy after claims that the two pursued a romantic relationship despite their both being married. Debra Goldman and Chris Malone, both members of the Wake County School Board, were reportedly involved in a "very heated" relationship, according to Malone.

The drama began in 2010 when Goldman called the police to report a break-in at her private residence. She claimed that \$130,000 of jewelry and cash was stolen and that Chris Malone was the culprit. The other suspects Goldman named were all people in opposition to the Republican school board's proposed student assignment plan. After the robbery, Debra Goldman acted as the swing vote when she voted in opposition to the plan which would divide the area into 16 school districts. Ron Margiotta, the school board chairman of 2010, argues that Goldman's belief that Malone was involved in the robbery her vote, telling the News and Observer that "she was trying to push back against him

and show her independence." Goldman has stated that she was suspicious of Malone's involvement in the robbery and that her suspicions were fueled by the fact that Malone bought a new truck and new clothes just days after the robbery when he was reportedly suffering from money problems. Malone disputed these claims with receipts showing he paid his bills and had no current money problems.

After news of the robbery broke, news of Goldman's and Malone's alleged affair came to light. According to News and Observer reports, the couple shared their first kiss at the Clarion Hotel in Raleigh in 2009. Malone claims that he and Goldman were involved for a little over a year. They reportedly shared many emails, ran de vous in cars, and overnights in various hotels. Margiotta reported of the school board understanding that "it seemed to be common knowledge that there was a relationship going on."

The 2010 story of Goldman and Malone is being unearthed

again, and Goldman claims that her estranged husband is the source of the sudden influx of media coverage discussing her affair. She told the News and Observer that "There is one person who has peppered the media for over a year" and claims that her husband is releasing confidential police reports because of her campaign for state auditor. On October 27, during the first interview to which Goldman agreed since news of her affair broke, Goldman vehemently denied her relationship with Malone. She also expressed that her veto of the assignment plan in 2010 was because of "concerns about the plan's effect on families, not on antipathy to Malone." Goldman claims that her sudden compliance to speak with media was because of fear that the information being covered is becoming harmful to her children. Further questions are being raised because Goldman's robbery case, which was closed due to lack of evidence, has been reopened.