



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Democrats Dominating in Wake County

Raleigh, N.C. – Democrats are leading up and down the ballot in Wake County, the newest survey from Public Policy Polling finds.

The most notable result is in the County Commissioner race between incumbent Republican Kenn Gardner and challenger Stan Norwalk. Norwalk leads 46-36. His victory would shift the balance of power on the board to the Democrats.

Gardner has been beset with controversy recently about his role in trying to direct public money toward a swimming pool project that then paid him design fees. Only 38% of voters reported awareness of the issue.

“Kenn Gardner is trailing by ten points even though most voters aren’t aware of the recent ethics issues that have come out about him,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “As that becomes more of an issue in the campaign it seems his chances for reelection will be even dimmer.”

In the other two County Commissioner races Democratic incumbents Betty Lou Ward and Harold Webb lead 50-35 and 46-36 respectively.

In 2004 George W. Bush won a narrow victory in Wake County. This year Barack Obama leads John McCain 55-38. Additionally Kay Hagan leads 56-37 and Bev Perdue leads 50-41.

“If North Carolina goes blue this year it’s going to be on the back of Wake County,” said Debnam. “The county’s rapid growth and Democratic tilt are contributing heavily to the potential statewide realignment.”

PPP surveyed 541 likely voters from September 23rd to 25th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-4.2%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.





Wake County Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for President are Libertarian Bob Barr, Republican John McCain, and Democrat Barack Obama. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Bob Barr, press 1. If John McCain, press 2. If Barack Obama, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

Barr 3%
McCain..... 38%
Obama..... 55%
Undecided..... 3%

Q2 The candidates for Governor are Republican Pat McCrory, Libertarian Michael Munger, and Democrat Bev Perdue. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Pat McCrory, press 1. If Michael Munger, press 2. If Bev Perdue, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

McCrory 41% *Perdue* 50%
Munger..... 5% *Undecided*..... 4%

Q3 The candidates for US Senate are Libertarian Christopher Cole, Republican Elizabeth Dole, and Democrat Kay Hagan. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Christopher Cole, press 1. If Elizabeth Dole, press 2. If Kay Hagan, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

Cole 4%
Dole 37%
Hagan..... 56%
Undecided..... 4%

Q4 The candidates for one County Commissioner seat are Republican Venita Peyton and Democrat Harold Webb. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If you would vote for the Republican Venita Peyton, press 1. If you would vote for the Democrat, Harold Webb, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Peyton 36%
Webb 46%
Undecided..... 18%

Q5 The candidates for another County Commissioner seat are Republican Larry Tilley and Democrat Betty Lou Ward. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If you would vote for the Republican, Larry Tilley, press 1. If you would vote for the Democrat, Betty Lou Ward, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Tilley 35%
Ward..... 50%
Undecided..... 15%

Q6 The candidates for the third County Commissioner seat are Republican Kenn Gardner and Democrat Stan Norwalk. If the election today, who would you vote for? If you would vote for the Republican, Kenn Gardner, press 1. If you would vote for the Democrat, Stan Norwalk, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Gardner..... 36%
Norwalk..... 46%
Undecided..... 18%





Q7 Are you aware of the recent story about Wake County Commissioner Kenn Gardner advocating for public money to support the building of a private swimming pool that then paid him over \$200,000 in design fees? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2.

Yes 38%
No 62%

Q8 Are you more or less likely to vote to reelect Kenn Gardner this fall because of the swimming pool controversy, or does it not make any difference? If you are more likely to vote for him, press 1. If you are less likely to vote for him, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Likely 8%
Less Likely 54%
No Difference 38%

Q9 Do you approve or disapprove of Commissioner Kenn Gardner's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 14%
Disapprove 23%
Not Sure 63%

Q10 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 56%
Man 44%

Q11 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 50%
Republican 32%
Independent/Other 18%

Q12 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If you are Hispanic, press 3. If other, press 4.

White 71%
African-American 21%
Other 8%

Q13 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29 14%
30 to 45 32%
46 to 65 44%
Older than 65 11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
President			
Barr	3%	2%	5%
McCain	38%	38%	37%
Obama	55%	56%	54%
Undecided	3%	3%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Governor			
McCrory	41%	40%	42%
Munger	5%	4%	5%
Perdue	50%	51%	50%
Undecided	4%	5%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Senate			
Cole	4%	3%	5%
Dole	37%	37%	36%
Hagan	56%	55%	57%
Undecided	4%	5%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Peyton/Webb			
Peyton	36%	35%	37%
Webb	46%	47%	45%
Undecided	18%	18%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tilley/Ward			
Tilley	35%	33%	37%
Ward	50%	50%	50%
Undecided	15%	17%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gardner/Norwalk			
Gardner	36%	33%	40%
Norwalk	46%	48%	44%
Undecided	18%	19%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Aware of Pool Issue			
Yes	38%	34%	42%
No	62%	66%	58%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Pool Effect			
More Likely	8%	7%	10%
Less Likely	54%	56%	51%
No Difference	38%	38%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gardner Approval			
Approve	14%	11%	17%
Disapprove	23%	22%	25%
Not Sure	63%	67%	58%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
President				
Barr	3%	1%	2%	13%
McCain	38%	14%	85%	21%
Obama	55%	83%	12%	56%
Undecided	3%	2%	2%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Governor				
McCrory	41%	16%	84%	33%
Munger	5%	2%	4%	14%
Perdue	50%	78%	9%	45%
Undecided	4%	4%	3%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Senate				
Cole	4%	1%	3%	12%
Dole	37%	14%	83%	20%
Hagan	56%	82%	11%	62%
Undecided	4%	3%	3%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Peyton/Webb				
Peyton	36%	11%	79%	29%
Webb	46%	74%	4%	42%
Undecided	18%	15%	17%	29%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Tilley/Ward				
Tilley	35%	11%	77%	23%
Ward	50%	77%	9%	49%
Undecided	15%	11%	14%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gardner/Norwalk				
Gardner	36%	14%	78%	26%
Norwalk	46%	71%	6%	44%
Undecided	18%	15%	16%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Aware of Pool Issue				
Yes	38%	41%	32%	39%
No	62%	59%	68%	61%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Pool Effect				
More Likely	8%	8%	10%	6%
Less Likely	54%	57%	44%	62%
No Difference	38%	35%	46%	32%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gardner Approval				
Approve	14%	11%	21%	8%
Disapprove	23%	27%	14%	29%
Not Sure	63%	62%	65%	63%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
President				
Barr	3%	4%	0%	5%
McCain	38%	47%	12%	24%
Obama	55%	45%	87%	67%
Undecided	3%	4%	1%	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Governor				
McCrory	41%	50%	13%	28%
Munger	5%	5%	2%	8%
Perdue	50%	40%	81%	58%
Undecided	4%	4%	4%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Senate				
Cole	4%	3%	3%	11%
Dole	37%	45%	12%	28%
Hagan	56%	48%	80%	58%
Undecided	4%	3%	4%	3%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Peyton/Webb				
Peyton	36%	43%	13%	32%
Webb	46%	38%	72%	48%
Undecided	18%	18%	15%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Tilley/Ward				
Tilley	35%	42%	11%	29%
Ward	50%	42%	76%	54%
Undecided	15%	16%	13%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Gardner/Norwalk				
Gardner	36%	44%	12%	27%
Norwalk	46%	38%	72%	51%
Undecided	18%	18%	16%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Aware of Pool Issue				
Yes	38%	41%	29%	31%
No	62%	59%	71%	69%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Pool Effect				
More Likely	8%	9%	7%	6%
Less Likely	54%	56%	42%	67%
No Difference	38%	36%	51%	27%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Gardner Approval				
Approve	14%	15%	9%	19%
Disapprove	23%	24%	19%	25%
Not Sure	63%	61%	72%	56%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
President					
Barr	3%	6%	4%	2%	1%
McCain	38%	29%	34%	41%	49%
Obama	55%	62%	57%	55%	43%
Undecided	3%	3%	4%	2%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Governor					
McCrory	41%	32%	39%	42%	54%
Munger	5%	12%	6%	3%	-
Perdue	50%	53%	50%	53%	38%
Undecided	4%	3%	6%	3%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Senate					
Cole	4%	3%	7%	3%	-
Dole	37%	32%	34%	38%	45%
Hagan	56%	62%	54%	56%	52%
Undecided	4%	3%	6%	2%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Peyton/Webb					
Peyton	36%	21%	39%	36%	43%
Webb	46%	52%	42%	49%	39%
Undecided	18%	27%	19%	14%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tilley/Ward					
Tilley	35%	30%	37%	32%	45%
Ward	50%	48%	46%	55%	44%
Undecided	15%	21%	17%	13%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gardner/Norwalk					
Gardner	36%	27%	38%	37%	42%
Norwalk	46%	48%	44%	48%	39%
Undecided	18%	24%	18%	16%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Aware of Pool Issue					
Yes	38%	24%	29%	47%	45%
No	62%	76%	71%	53%	55%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Pool Effect					
More Likely	8%	3%	8%	9%	9%
Less Likely	54%	56%	50%	54%	61%
No Difference	38%	41%	42%	37%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gardner Approval					
Approve	14%	6%	16%	15%	12%
Disapprove	23%	15%	23%	24%	31%
Not Sure	63%	79%	61%	61%	57%

