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### DECISION 2007

## Reaching out as primary closes in

### Busy candidates knock on doors, visit last events before Tuesday

APRIL BETHEA  
[abethea@charlotteobserver.com](mailto:abethea@charlotteobserver.com)

Heading into the last hours of Tuesday's Republican primary, some candidates plan to post more yard signs today. Others will make a few calls or shoot e-mails to would-be supporters.

Still, many hopefuls for Charlotte mayor and city council said the expected low turnout for the primary makes last-minute campaigning somewhat difficult.

"I'm not sure where you could focus your energy," said John Lassiter, who is running for another at-large term on the council. "(But) my record speaks for itself, so hopefully people recognize that I work hard for the city."

Over the weekend, several candidates spent time reaching out to potential voters.

Warren Cooksey, who is running for City Council District 7, attended Saturday's Ballantyne Breakfast Club meeting and did door-to-door canvassing. On Sunday, Mayor Pat McCrory attended the Greek Festival. City Council hopeful Dan Ramirez, a Mecklenburg County commissioner, spoke at two churches.

Ramirez and other candidates say they plan to be deliberate in the last hours of the campaign.

Ramirez will visit polling sites in heavily Republican districts on Tuesday, as will District 7 hopeful Dick Yoder.

Meanwhile, Edwin Peacock III, also running in the at-large race, said his campaign will target phone calls to people with "one and two degrees of separation from me" to encourage them to vote Tuesday.

But McCrory and his challenger, Ken Gjertsen, said work and other responsibilities will limit their campaigning.

Gjertsen, a Charlotte-Mecklenburg school board member, said he's working both days and watching his kids tonight while his wife is at school. On Tuesday, the school board meets. McCrory also has a full agenda. Today's schedule includes working at Duke Energy, conducting an evaluation of the city attorney and attending a City Council meeting.

"I've still got to be mayor during this process," he said. "So my Monday is working." Decision 2007

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