

{audio}files/preroll.mp3;files/Shows/2014/People In Politics/PNP 2014 JANUARY 25 FINAL SHOW 4650.mp3{/audio} As he begins his second year in office, Gov. Pat McCrory stepped before the microphones and cameras to talk about his accomplishments and 2014 priorities. You'll hear his comments on energy, transportation, and education, as well the 2014 focus for his wife, First Lady Ann McCrory. In this week's "On The Trail" segment, Carolina Journal Managing Editor Rick Henderson tells host Donna Martinez that American Idol runner-up and Raleigh native Clay Aiken looks closer to a run for the Democratic Party nomination in the 2nd Congressional District. The two discuss the growing number of candidates in the race, the role of celebrity in politics, and how Aiken's potential entry could thwart the Democrats' efforts to elevate veteran business expert and former Perdue aide Keith Crisco, who's also seeking the Democratic nomination to challenge Republican incumbent Renee Ellmers. The discussion continues with news about the latest entrants into the U.S. Senate race and the war of words already underway in a key legislative race, where state Senator Bob Rucho has called his Republican primary opponent a liberal Democrat. That's followed by Martinez's in-depth conversation with North Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Randy Voller, who tells Martinez about the party's plans for 2014, why he believes Democrats will pick up seats in the legislature in the fall, why Sen. Kay Hagan can win re-election, and why he doesn't mind it when the state Republican Party says NAACP Chairman Rev. William Barber is the defacto head of the Democratic Party.