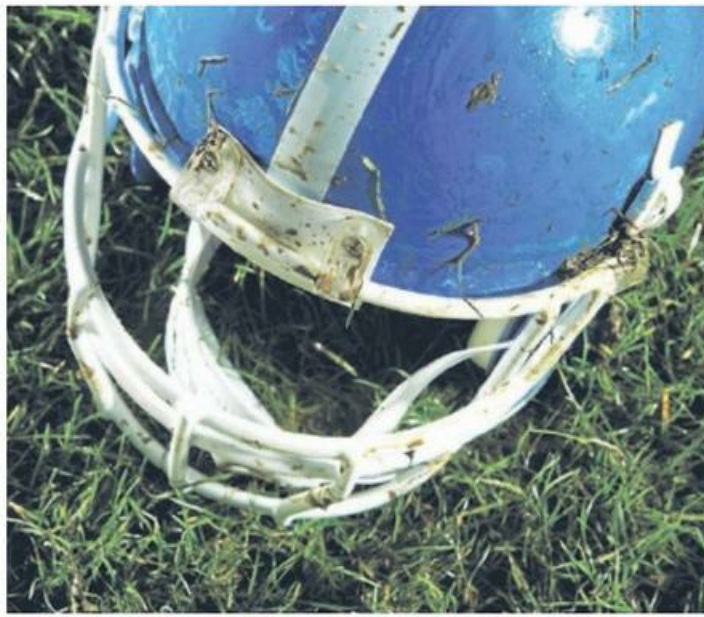


NEWS & RECORD

A storied
football rivalry
could soon end.

SPORTS, B1



Harris faces
inevitable
comparisons
to Biden.

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Friday, October 11, 2024

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Helene help will be ‘unprecedented’

Roads, highways top
a long list of needs for
\$273M relief funds

RICHARD CRAVER
Staff Reporter

Paying for repairing roads, highways and water and sewer infrastructure are the top priorities for the bulk of the \$273 million “rainy-day” funds approved Thursday for Hurricane Helene relief efforts in western North Carolina.

Gov. Roy Cooper signed into law Thursday House Bill 149, titled “Disaster Recovery Act of 2024,” which represents the first round of disaster relief funding. The state House and Senate voted unanimous Wednesday for HB149.

Those priorities represent the realities of helping affected western N.C. communities to return to normal life, according

to legislators and Cooper administration officials.

The rainy-day fund exceeded \$4.75 billion before Helene. Legislators have established a limit on how much rainy-day funds can be spent at any one time.

“Recovery for Western North Carolina will require unprecedented help from state and federal sources, and this legislation is a strong first step,” Cooper said in a statement.

“Hurricane Helene caused catastrophic damage, but also showed the resiliency of North Carolina’s people and its communities, and we must continue the bipartisan work to help them build back strong.”

About \$250 million is going to state agencies and local governments toward relief and recovery operations in the 25 affected counties that include Alleghany, Ashe, Watauga and Wilkes.



ERIK VERDUZCO, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connecticut Army National Guard members, accompanied by civilian volunteers, deliver supplies to residents in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene on Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024, in Burnsville, N.C.

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THREE’S COMPANY



WOODY MARSHALL, NEWS & RECORD

The Visual and Performing Arts Elementary will open in August 2025.

After some consternation and controversy, Guilford will have a trio of magnet programs

CAMDYN BRUCE
Staff Reporter

GREENSBORO — Guilford County Schools will operate three elementary-level arts magnet programs next year under a map unanimously adopted by the school board on Tuesday.

The map creates three feeder zones, each with an arts magnet that will draw from about 20 other elementary schools in that part of the county: Morehead Elementary would be the magnet for students centrally located in Guilford County; Parkview Elementary would be the magnet for students

living in High Point and the western part of the county; and the planned new Visual and Performing Arts School (VPA) would be the magnet for students in the eastern part of the county.

The vote was a victory for the Morehead PTA and staff who had fiercely opposed Superintendent Whitney Oakley’s original recommendation to eliminate the school’s magnet status. Many Morehead supporters remain concerned, however, that the school will see decreased enrollment with the new zones resulting in teaching positions at the school being eliminated.

Under the new plan, parents can apply for their child to attend the magnet within the feeder zone they live in, but they can’t request reassignment for their child to attend a different magnet. An exception is being made for the 46 students who currently attend Morehead and are now outside the school’s feeder boundary.

Oakley said all 46 would be able to remain at the school but will not be provided transportation.

Sabrina Hinson, a teacher at Morehead, said in an interview

Please see **MAGNET**, Page A4

Fifth District race gets heated

GOP incumbent
Virginia Foxx is vying
for an 11th term

KEVIN GRIFFIN
Staff Reporter

For the past two elections, all of Guilford County has been a part of the Sixth Congressional District represented by Democratic Rep. Kathy Manning.

That will change this year under the new maps adopted by Republicans in the N.C. General Assembly last year.

Now, Guilford County is split into three congressional districts, all of which are heavily Republican. The change in the map prompted Manning to opt out of the race for another term.

In terms of population for Guilford County and the city of Greensboro, the largest district is the Fifth Congressional District, which stretches west to the mountains and includes Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, Alleghany, Ashe, Watauga, Caldwell and Alexander counties.

An analysis by the nonprofit advocacy group Common Cause found Republicans have a 13-point advantage in the new district that will be used in this year’s election.

Rep. Virginia Foxx, a Republican from Banner Elk, is seeking her 11th term representing the district. Foxx is known for conservative views and support for former President Donald Trump.

During the certification of the 2020 election in January 2021, Foxx voted against accepting electors from the state of Pennsylvania, citing election-law changes in Pennsylvania that she felt violated the Constitution.

Foxx’s Democratic opponent is Chuck Hubbard, a retired journalist

Please see **RACE**, Page A4

A top county official stresses the
need for more affordable housing.

NEWS, A3



Weather
Plenty of
sunshine

High 70
Low 46

FORECAST • A12

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