# TOP FIVE STORIES

## **Oct. 26-Nov. 1**

## Rank-Headline

- 1. Sex-crime charges abundant in Greenup indict-
- 2. Person jumps off bridge Monday
- 3. Some trick-or-treat times change
- 4. OHSAA confirms sanctions for Ironton football
- 5. Run it back: Ashland uses big scoring streaks to sweep Rowan

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

# **Vets Day celebration Friday**

Boyd County High School's annual Veterans Day Celebration will be at 2:50 p.m. Friday in the Boyd County High School gymnasium.

The band, choir and NJROTC will perform; veterans and their families are welcome.

Staff report

# 9 injured in gunfire at teen party in Ohio rental home

BATH TOWNSHIP, Ohio (AP) Gunfire erupted early Sunday at a large rental home where teenagers had gathered for a birthday party that was promoted on social media, injuring nine people. The scene in northeastern Ohio was chaotic as some people fled and first responders performed life-saving measures, police said.

The shooting happened at around 12:15 a.m. in Bath Township, about 15 miles (24 kilometers) northwest of Akron.

At a Sunday morning news conference, Po-

lice Chief Vito Sinopoli said the seriousness of the victims' injuries was not clear. It also was not immediately clear if all nine people were shot — one person's leg injury may have been caused by a fall, he said. Sinopoli said the large home had been rented

out on Airbnb, which is not allowed under local zoning ordinances, and most of the people at the party were under 18. He said the victims may include a mix of juveniles and adults. Social media posts about the party drew a big

It was not immediately known what sparked the shooting and how many people fired guns, he said. No arrests were announced.

"The Bath Township community experienced a tragic and senseless act of violence early this morning," Sinopoli said.

Airbnb said in a statement Sunday that it prohibits "unauthorized and disruptive gatherings," and it has suspended the property listing and removed the account of the person who rented the home. It said it has seen a 50% decrease in the rate of reported parties since 2020, when it put into effect a global party ban policy.

"We are heartbroken by this senseless act of gun violence, and our thoughts are with the injured victims and all those affected by it," the company said, adding that it was cooperating with the police investigation.

Sinopoli said another shooting at an Airbnb rental home in town in 2017 wounded a person, who suffered a leg injury.

"It's pretty much an indicator that no community is immune from violence, and this happened to be in Bath Township again unfortunately," he said.



When your local school board is going to meet to discuss the safety of your children, you need your community newspaper to keep you informed.

Fight to keep public notices public!

Remain aware of decisions being made in your community.

# **DON'T FIND OUT TOO LATE!**

Public notices in newspapers help ensure open government by informing citizens about meetings, taxes, projects up for bid, and other important local and state activities. Without them, the public's ability to access accurate records and hold government accountable would be greatly diminished.

# **Independent**

#### ASHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

**ASHLAND** Ashland Fire Department reports from Oct. 17 through Thursday.

#### **Fires/Hazardous Conditions**

Oct. 18: 3101 Winchester Ave. for a commercial fire alarm. Crews found the cause of the alarm was cooking smoke. The alarm was reset.

Oct. 20: 5242 Williams Ave. for a residential fire alarm. Crews found the cause of the alarm was cooking smoke. The alarm was

Oct. 23: 3101 Winchester Ave. for a commercial fire alarm. Crews found the cause of the alarm was cooking smoke. The alarm was reset.

Oct. 23: 3101 Winchester Ave. for a structure fire. Crews were dispatched for a fire alarm followed by a call reporting a fire in the mechanical room. Upon arrival crews found that a pump in the mechanical room had caught fire. No fire extension occurred to the building, and all damage was isolated to the pump. Crews removed smoke from the building.

Oct. 25: 1324 Central Ave. carbon monoxide incident. Crews arrived to find readings of carbon monoxide in the residence. Crews shut down all appliances and notified Columbia Gas to respond.

Oct. 26: 2333 Court Street for possible structure fire. Crews arrived on scene to find no fire, but found severe damage to the breaker box and fire extension into the home around the breaker box. It appeared that the incident had occurred earlier in the day.

### Motor vehicle accidents

Oct. 22: 1224 Carter Ave. for a two-vehicle accident. Crews assisted with packaging and loading one patient and removing debris from the roadway.

Oct. 22: 3131 Winchester Ave. for a vehicle vs. utility pole. Crews arrived to find utility pole lines down in the roadway and the occupant out of the vehicle denying injury. Crews stood-by until AEP arrived to begin re-

Oct. 23: 13th Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard injury accident. Crews arrived to find a non-injury accident.

Oct. 24: 2841 Lexington Ave. alleyway for a vehicle vs. a utility pole. Upon arrival, one vehicle struck a pole with minor damage. Driver denied injury.

Oct. 30: 29th Street and Central Avenue allevway for a vehicle vs. wheelchair. Upon arrival, crews found minor injuries and patient was in care of BCEMS.

Oct. 30: 2100 block of Lexing-

ton Ave. for a vehicle vs. utility pole. Crews arrived to find utility pole lines in the roadway. Crews provided treatment for one subject until BCEMS could transport the patient. Crews stood-by until AEP arrived to begin repairs.

#### Rescues

Oct. 19: 1441 Lexington Ave. for an elevator rescue. Crews arrived to find one subject trapped in the elevator on the seventh floor. Crews isolated power to the elevator and manually operated the doors to free the victim. The elevator was placed out of service pending repairs.

Oct. 26: Mutual aid I-64 191 mile marker for a bridge jumper reported to be in the Big Sandy River. Marine 1 responded and searched the area for several hours until released by com-

Oct. 27: Mutual aid I-64 191 mile marker. Continued search for a bridge jumper reported to be in the Big Sandy River using Marine 1 and the Dive Team. Marine 1 responded and searched the area for several hours conducting numerous dives in the area searching until released by command.

#### Emergency medical incidents

AFD responded to 44 emergency medical incidents.

#### **Public Service**

Twenty-two requests from the public for assistance. Ten fire/carbon monoxide

alarms with no hazard existing Four burning complaints.

One utility line incident. One elevator malfunction unoccupied

Installed smoke detectors in five residences.

### Fire prevention

AFD Fire Prevention Office completed eight inspections, one public education event and four consultations.

Fire Safety message for the

week: Change your clocks, change your smoke alarm batteries! If your smoke alarms are more than 10 years old, they should be replaced. You can buy new smoke alarms with a 10-year battery that never needs to be replaced.

#### Training

This week, crews successful-

ly completed Drivers Training this consisted of driving an obstacle course and then completing a road course along with reviewing safe driving techniques.

### In other news

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Retired Senior Captain Mike Hale of the Ashland Fire Department.

Mike joined AFD on December 1, 1979, and honorably served our community until his retirement on August 1, 2004. His dedication to the fire service led him to also serve several years as Chief of England Hill Volunteer Fire Department and taught many years for Kentucky State Fire Rescue Training, helping train countless firefighters across the Common-

Mike was known as a hardcharging firefighter, the kind of person you wanted beside you on every call. But just as much as he was respected for his work ethic and leadership, he was loved for his wild humor. He was always ready with a prank or a joke, and his visits to the firehouse after retirement brought smiles and stories every time he walked through the door.

His presence, laughter, and friendship will be deeply missed.

Please keep the Hale family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

So far Ashland FD has responded to 2,162 Calls in 2025.

# SNAP benefits cut off during shutdown, driving long lines at food pantries

LOUISVILLE (AP) People across the country formed long lines for free meals and groceries at food pantries and drive-through giveaways Saturday, after monthly benefits through the federal Supplemental **Nutrition Assistance** Program, or SNAP, were suddenly cut off because of the ongoing government shutdown.

In the New York borough of the Bronx, about 200 more people than usual showed up at the World of Life Christian Fellowship International pantry, many bundled in winter hats and coats and pushing collapsible shopping carts as they waited in a line that spanned multiple city blocks. Some arrived as early as 4 a.m. to choose from pallets of fruits, vegetables, bread, milk, juice, dry goods and prepared sandwich-

Mary Martin, who volunteers at the pantry, also relies on it regularly for food to supplement her SNAP payments. She said she usually splits her roughly \$200 a month in SNAP benefits between herself and her two adult sons, one of whom has six children and is especially dependent on the assistance.

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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The Boyd County Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for surplus items. A complete list of surplus items can be found on the district website: www.boyd.kyschools.us

Interested buyers must submit sealed bids by 10 a.m. on November 14, 2025, to the Boyd County Board of Education at 1104 Bob McCullough Drive, Ashland, KY 41102.



JOHN UDO-OKONA VIA AP

People wait in line for free food at the World of Life Christian Fellowship International food pantry in the Bronx borough of New York, Saturday.

"If I didn't have the pantry to come to, I don't know how we would make it," Martin said. "I'm not gonna see my

grandkids suffer." The Department of

Agriculture planned to withhold payments to the food program starting Saturday until two federal judges ordered the administration to make them. However it was unclear as to when

the debit cards that beneficiaries use could be reloaded after the ruling, sparking fear and confusion among many recipients.

In an apparent response to President Donald Trump, who said he would provide the money but wanted more legal direction from the court, U.S. District Judge John J. McConnell in Rhode Island ordered the government to report back by Monday on how it would fund SNAP accounts.

McConnell, who was nominated by President Barack Obama, said the Trump administration must either make a full payment by that day or, if it decides to tap \$3 billion in a contingency fund, figure out how to do that by Wednesday.

The delay in SNAP payments, a major piece of the nation's social safety net that serves

SEE SNAP | A3

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