Beloved niece lacks respect for relatives' time



JEANNE PHILLIPS

Dear Abby: We live 500 miles from our nearest relatives, but a niece is attending a university about 50 miles away. We invite her to join us for holidays and weekends, and sometimes she asks to visit to escape from roommate drama.

We love having her, but she often says she's coming at one time only to arrive hours or days later. Last time, she told us she was coming on Friday afternoon and didn't show up until Sunday afternoon (she does keep us updated).

We have busy lives and often set aside our regular activities to shop for special meals or make reservations for activities to do with her. Instead, we end up sitting home because our other activities were canceled to spend time with her.

Her parents, when they travel to this area, also do this or expect us to travel to meet them within about 100 miles, but they keep changing the plans, so our schedules are disrupted. They try to cram so many things into a day that visits to a special place are often pushed to the end of the day, and we must rush through before closing.

When we visit them, they rarely alter their plans for us and seem surprised when we show up on time. Sometimes, we have to wait hours for them to come home when we agreed on our time of arrival. We love spending time with them, but this just makes us feel used. I don't know how to express this to them without alienating them. - On schedule in California

Dear On Schedule: What boorish, disrespectful relatives you have been catering to. Worse, they have passed their disregard for the feelings of others along to their daughter. You are long overdue for a conversation with that niece, informing her that if she can't show up on the agreed-upon date, she should cancel rather than leaving you hanging for two days. Make sure she understands that you won't be home if she arrives hours late.

Deliver a similar message to her parents. If you are left waiting for more than 30 minutes (and I think that's generous), you will carry on without them or go home.

Dear Abby:: I have a 7-year-old daughter who hasn't seen her dad in years. Her own father wants nothing to do with her. He has always hidden our child from his family and tries to keep us a secret. I'm getting sick and tired of this behavior, and the department of child support can't do anything because he ignores their calls. What can I do? Is it best to move on and cut off contact for good since he's not interested in our daughter? - Done with non-dad

Dear Done: Sadly, you can't force a deadbeat dad to have a relationship with his daughter. You would be justified in cutting him out of your life completely. I must ask, though: Have you consulted a lawyer about any of this? Even if he's unwilling to be present as a parent, a father is legally required to provide financial support in most cases.

Dear Readers: It's Halloween, a time for fun and fantasy! I hope that any celebrating you do tonight will be creative, fun and safe for everyone involved. Happy Halloween!

And a reminder that daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour at bedtime tonight. And while you're at it, be sure to put fresh batteries in your fire alarms and smoke detectors. - Love, Abby

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren. For nearly four decades, Jeanne Phillips penned this column, which was founded in 1956 by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 270135, Kansas City, MO 64127.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 102, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CHUCK D. CHARLES, MAYOR, TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY AND GEORGE AND SANDI ARNOLD FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1013 CARTER AVENUE BY THE CITY OF ASHLAND IN THE AMOUNT OF $55,000.00 AND AUTHORIZING CHUCK D. CHARLES, MAYOR, TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH AND/OR NECESSARY TO COMPLETE SAID PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY

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ORDINANCE NO. 103, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CHUCK D. CHARLES, MAYOR, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH TRI-STATE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ALL LABOR, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR THE DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF ALL DEBRIS OF 3100 MORGAN AVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,880.00 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO BE PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND

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ORDINANCE NO. 104, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CHUCK D. CHARLES, MAYOR, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH TRI-STATE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ALL LABOR, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR THE DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF ALL DEBRIS OF 2418 ROBERTS DRIVE IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,250.00 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF UTILITY OPERATIONS TO BE PAID FROM THE UTILITY FUND.

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ORDINANCE NO. 105, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CHUCK D. CHARLES, MAYOR, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHLAND AND COSBY CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR THE HICKMAN STREET SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF $147,620.00 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO BE PAID FROM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS.

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ORDINANCE NO. 106, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY AND C. J. HUGHES CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. FOR THE 2022 WATER AND SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN SEWER LINING AND REPAIR PROJECT BY INCREASING THE CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $23,424.65 AND 265 DAYS.

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ORDINANCE NO. 107, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CHUCK D. CHARLES, MAYOR, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHLAND AND PRICHARD LAWNCARE, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF ALL LABOR & MATERIALS FOR TREE TRIMMING FOR A TWO (2) YEAR PERIOD FOR THE DEPARTMENTS OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITY OPERATIONS.

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ORDINANCE NO. 108, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 4 BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY AND JUDY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE ROBERTS DRIVE SCREEN REPLACEMENT PROJECT INCREASING THE CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $41,285.00 AND 275 DAYS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING.

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ORDINANCE NO. 109, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 BETWEEN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY AND JUDY CONSTRUCTION CO. FOR THE JOHNSON FORK, BAUGESS DRIVE AND FLORIDA STREET WATER BOOSTER STATION INCREASING THE CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $82,513.00 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES.

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ORDINANCE NO. 110, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, ADOPTING THE AMENDED AUTHORIZED POSITIONS LIST, THE REVISED JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE POSITION OF PARATRANSIT DRIVER, THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE POSITION OF SENIOR BUS DRIVER AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE POSITION OF CREW LEADER, ALL IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, DIVISION OF MASS TRANSIT, OF THE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN AS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 31, SERIES OF 2023, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED, AND SPECIFICALLY ORDINANCE NO. 82, SERIES OF 2023, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED.

/s/CHUCK D. CHARLES
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/SUSAN W. MADDIX
CITY CLERK

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:
September 24, 2026
READOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:
September 28, 2026

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the titles of Ordinance Nos. 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109 and 110, 2026 are true and accurate summaries of the contents of the ordinances prepared by the Legal Department of the City of Ashland, Kentucky, consisting of attorneys licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

/s/Andrew K. Wheeler
Corporation Counsel

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Andrew K. Wheeler this 28th day of September, 2026. My commission as a Notary Public will expire April 9, 2028.

/s/CHRISTINA DANAE TRAVIS
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF KENTUCKY AT LARGE
ID# KYNP87437

Published: October 31, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 100, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ORDINANCE NO. 59, SERIES OF 2026, WHICH IS COMMONLY KNOWN AND REFERRED TO AS THE "FY2026-2027 BUDGET ORDINANCE" OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND.

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BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY:

SECTION 1. That Section 2 of Ordinance No. 59 Series of 2026, being an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2026-2027 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING REVENUES ON HAND AND TO BE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 2026-20277 FOR THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027 AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH," which is commonly known and referred to as the "FY2026-2027 Budget Ordinance" be and said section is hereby amended as follows, such amendments shown by underscoring all newly inserted language and by a single broken line through all deleted language:

SECTION 2. That the following appropriations be and the same are hereby made from revenues on hand and to be received during the year 2026-2027 by the City of Ashland, Kentucky:

FROM GENERAL FUND

FOR:	
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT	~~$18,001,683~~ 18,136,682
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE	780,309
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES	7,355,181
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	1,263,122
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE	~~9,123,358~~ 9,063,358
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE	8,421,902
DEPARTMENT OF CITY ENGINEER	450,502
TOTAL FROM GENERAL FUND	~~$45,396,582~~ 45,471,056

FROM TAX INCREMENT FINANCE FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCING	$297,400

FROM STATE TAX INCREMENT FINANCE FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF STATE TIF	$236,000

FROM BROWNFIELD GRANT

FOR:	
DIVISION OF BROWNFIELD GRANT	$143,474

FROM MUNICIPAL AID ROAD FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL AID PROGRAM	$354,100

FROM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF GENERAL CDBG	$100,000
DIVISION OF CDBG ACTIVITIES	787,945
TOTAL FROM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT	$887,945

FROM AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN	~~$1,650,500~~ 6,227,303

FROM CONFERENCE CENTER FUND

FOR:	
CONFERENCE CENTER	$25,050,000

FROM OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND	~~$280,350~~ 340,350

FROM SECTION 8 VOUCHER PROGRAM FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF SECTION 8 VOUCHER PROGRAM	$4,339,983

FROM FLOODWALL OPERATING FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF FLOODWALL MAINTENANCE	$715,677

FROM UTILITY FUND

FOR:	
DEPARTMENT OF UTILITY ADMINISTRATION	$8,995,949
DEPARTMENT OF WATER SERVICES	22,198,332
DEPARTMENT OF WASTEWATER	24,515,991
TOTAL FROM UTILITY FUND	$55,710,272

FROM ASHLAND BUS SYSTEM FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF BUS SYSTEM	$1,746,565

FROM RECREATION OPERATING FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF CENTRAL PARK	$1,049,332
DIVISION OF DAWSON PARK POOL	231,298
DIVISION OF SPORTS PARK	186,110
DIVISION OF OTHER PARKS (RECREATION)	254,972
TOTAL FROM RECREATION OPERATING FUND	$1,721,712

FROM ASHLAND CEMETERY FUND

FOR:	
DIVISION OF CEMETERY	$252,744

FROM PARKING GARAGE FUND

FOR:	
PARKING GARAGE	$126,489

REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
ORDINANCE NO. 100, 2026 CONTINUED

FROM CONFERENCE CENTER

FOR:	
CONFERENCE CENTER	$3,750,925

FROM PARAMOUNT ARTS CENTER FUND

FOR:	
PARAMOUNT ARTS CENTER	$3,485,394

FROM CAPITAL PURCHASE / IMPROVEMENT FUND

FOR:	
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT	$1,079,000
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES	7,115,000
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE	~~416,000~~ 495,999
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE	~~800,000~~ 855,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING	0
TOTAL FROM CAPITAL PURCHASE / IMPROVEMENT FUND	~~$9,410,000~~ 9,544,999

SECTION 2. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict only, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption, readoption, and publication as required by law.

/s/CHUCK D. CHARLES
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/SUSAN W. MADDIX
CITY CLERK

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: September 8, 2026
READOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: September 10, 2026

Published: October 31, 2026