APD identifies stabbing suspect

STAFF REPORT

ASHLAND Ashland Police detectives identified a suspect in a Halloween night stabbing that left a women in need of lifesaving medical care, according to an APD social media post.

Stephen Robertson, 43, of Ashland, is the suspect. He was still at large as of 4 p.m. Monday, according to APD.

On Saturday night around 8:48, APD received notification that an adult woman with a stab wound to the chest had arrived at King's Daughters, where she received lifesaving care before being transferred to the nearest trauma center.

Detectives have determined the stabbing occurred in the alley between Winchester and Greenup Avenues in the 2700 block.

Investigators have named Robertson as an at-large suspect. He was last seen on a bicycle in the downtown area, according to APD.

Notify 911 if you see him. Do not approach him.

According to APD, he is currently charged with first-degree assault.

RUSSELL

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before retiring in 2010. All of my siblings (Christa Campbell, Josh Cassity and Ashley Cole) attended school at Russell, with Christa recently retiring from the district as well. My aunt, Jetta Cassity, has taught and subbed here since 1982. For over 20 years, our family has worshiped together at Russell Baptist Church.

Our children, Gabrielle (and her husband, Luke Bailey) and Gunner, were educated right here. Looking ahead, I hope to see my grandchildren, Emmett and Ellis, alongside future grandchildren from Gunner and his fiancée, Laney Sorrell, grow up as Red Devils, too.

If you are looking to add a politician to the council, I am not your candidate; I am the least political person you will meet. However, if you are looking for someone dedicated to doing the right thing the right way, bringing transparency and an accessible voice to city governance, someone whose family ties run deep here, I am ready to serve."

Vincenzo Fressola

"A Russell resident since 2007 living in Kenwood Hills, I relocated here from Corbin/London, where I lived four years prior with my wife, Dr. Michele Friday, and where our two children were born — Vinessa at UK Hospital and Enzo at Marymount Hospital in London. Our children both attended Little Angels preschool at Bridges Christian Church, then graduated from Holy Family School in Ashland and transferred to Russell High School where they graduated salutatorian and valedictorian, respectively.

I have been actively engaged in the greater area community for years as a board member of Ashland Main Street and the Highlands Museum to The Paramount Arts center committees. Locally, I have been a board member of Russell Flatwoods Little league, coached Upward sports and Marvin Meredith basketball and am the current Assistant Governor of the Rotary clubs of East Kentucky, including Ashland and Russell.

I have an Associate's degree, an accredited Bachelor's of Architecture degree from Pratt Institute in NYC and a graduate MBA degree from Ohio University. I have designed local projects here such as the OLBH Emergency Room expansion and modernization, the ACTC Early Childhood Development Center in Ashland and, recently, the new AIM Wellness Med-Spa in Flatwoods.

What made me get engaged was the anticipated replacement of the Ironton-Russell Bridge and with the lack of planning to save the historic downtown, coupled with rising tax rates. Visiting city council meetings and witnessing lack of pro-active energy inspired me to run.

Currently, the Russell water plant is a top priority to rebuild bigger and better along with all the aging infrastructure systems for future generations. Area stormwater drainage and flooding is an issue long overdue to address and fix. Being involved and showing up in person to make the changes from honest conversations and being transparent and accountable is what government should be.

My goal is to be the elected representative voice of the citizens and question the status quo of how things work in city municipal operations."

Steve Hines

"I am running for re-election at Russell city council. I am married to my high school sweetheart, Peggy Hines, (50 years) and have two children (Amy Frasure and Nathan Hines). We relocated to Russell from Rocky Mount, North Carolina, with my insurance job in 1992. We are originally from Portsmouth, Ohio.

I retired in 2019 after a 37-year career with Western Southern Life Insurance Company. We have made Russell our home and love this small-town community. I've also been a Rotarian with Russell Rotary Club since 1993. After retiring, I sought out the city council seat because I wanted to give back to my community. I truly believe my experience in financial services and management can be an asset to our city government.

The Rotary motto of "service above self" is what my inner self strives to be. We are also members of First Baptist Russell and active in our church activities. I hope to make a difference in our city government by making decisions that will benefit our community now and for future generations. The people are who we were elected by and we must listen to them while making decisions based on facts gathered through research.

My passion is to, one, maximize use of city financial resources, two, attract new business partners while also helping our existing businesses grow, three, working to develop a plan to improve existing outdated infrastructure utility systems, and, four, support our police, firefighters, and city employees by maintaining competitive wages and benefits. Russell's future is bright and with the right leadership team in place, great things will happen."

Ron Simpson

"I am a lifelong resident of Russell, married 39 years to Janet McCormick. I have three children and three grandchildren. I graduated from Russell High and the University of Kentucky. We attend Fairview Baptist Church in Westwood.

My qualifications: current mayor (eight years), city councilman (seven years), Russell volunteer fireman (12 years), nuisance committee (one year), current chairman of GCEC, current chairman of East Greenup County Emergency Ambulance Service, member of Greenup County Water Commission and attend FIVCO meetings.

Accomplishments: Revived downtown working with local business group, second phase of safe route to school sidewalk project, obtained grants for downtown lighting, park project, paving for commercial areas, culvert projects, and temporary water intake.

Also, there has been no increase in property taxes for five years and lowered taxes last three years while dealing with Covid from 2020-24 navigating OLBH closing, AK Steel closing, CSX downsizing, Progressive Steel downsizing, losing revenue from payroll tax all while having a balanced budget without cutting city services and now have excess where we can invest.

We annexed the AK Steel property, go live for council meetings on Facebook, updated the city webpage, established the City of Russell Tourism Board with foresight of making Russell a destination, and established the first controlled deer hunt in the City of Russell.

I'm stepping down from Mayor after two terms (eight years) after seeing my prayer in 2018 of making Russell shine answered. However, there are a couple of areas I would like to have a strong voice in decisions the city will face with water plant, updating all outdated ordinances, continued infrastructure upgrades and future growth of Russell.

I bring a lot of experience by having served as both councilman and Mayor and I'm asking the voters to allow me to still be their voice."

Alice Kay Thompson

"I am a candidate for re-election to Russell City Council. The following are my goals for the city.

Goal One: City infrastructure — Ensure the safe and efficient operation of all city departments, including the water plant, fire department, street department, and others.

Goal Two: Continue the beautification and growth of the city — Our community has transformed from a run-down, dilapidated area into a place of beauty. For years, I have proudly led the city's seasonal beautification efforts, including planting flowers, displaying hanging baskets, and decorating for fall and other seasons. I plan to continue these efforts to keep Russell beautiful year-round. The city has been blessed with many new businesses that continue to grow and prosper. The next objective is to beautify the surrounding areas of Russell. Russell is not just downtown, but also its subdivisions.

Goal Three: The financial well-being of the city — Always create a balanced budget so the city remains financially strong and in compliance with state and federal laws.

I am a lifelong resident of Russell. I earned my Master's degree in Mathematics Education from Marshall University, where I also obtained my Rank I in Business Administration and Superintendent Certification. I am a retired educator from Russell Independent Schools and Marshall University, and a professor at Ashland Community College.

I have been involved with credit unions for 35 years, serving in several leadership positions, from president to various committee assignments. I am a member of Russell Meade Memorial Methodist Church, where I serve in several leadership positions.

If re-elected, I will continue to serve Russell to the best of my ability. I love Russell and will contribute my time and energy to its continued growth."

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
BOIL WATER ADVISORY
GREENUP WATER DEPARTMENT

Due to a 10 inch PVC Water Leak there is a boil water advisory at Laurel Street & U.S. 23 to Rt. 1 & U.S. 23. Approximately 25 customers are affected.

Roger Harris
City of Greenup
Line Foreman
Published: November 3, 2026

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