

# Palestinians in Gaza express relief and caution as ceasefire deal raises hopes of ending the war

WAFAA SHURAF AND  
MARIAM FAM  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — Eager for the bloodshed, displacement and destruction to stop, many Palestinians in Gaza were relieved to hear news that Israel and Hamas agreed to a pause in their devastating two-year war. But it was mixed with pain from staggering losses and concern about what comes next.

“Once we heard the news about the truce, we felt happy,” said Ibrahim Shurab from Khan Younis. “We ask God for the happiness to continue for us and for our Palestinian people and for us to return to our homes despite the pain and suffering,” he added, speaking in Muwasi, an area crowded with tents sheltering Palestinians who were forced to flee their homes.

Nevin Qudeh said she felt the greatest sense of relief since the war erupted two years ago. She’ll be even happier, she added, when she can return home.

“We’re staying on the streets.”

Israel’s offensive in Gaza, launched in response to Hamas’ attack into Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, has killed tens

of thousands of Palestinians and caused vast destruction, displacement and suffering in Gaza. The war also brought famine to parts of the territory.

In Deir al-Balah, some children greeted the news with whistles, claps and celebratory chants of “Allahu akbar,” the Arabic phrase for “God is great.”

Mahmoud Wadi said he received the news with “massive happiness and an indescribable feeling.”

Others in the Gaza Strip wrestled with mixed emotions.

“I am happy and unhappy,” said Mohammad Al-Farra. “We have lost a lot of people and lost loved ones, friends,” relatives and homes that are about a lot more than stones and physical buildings, he said.

One cannot help but wonder what the day after would look like, he said — or where to even begin picking up the pieces. “The situation is very difficult.”

But he said they would overcome future hardships just like they’ve been doing.

Taghreed al-Jabali, displaced from Khan Younis, shared the mixed feelings.

“We don’t know whether to feel happy or sad,” she said,

lamenting the killings and losses of the last two years, including children missing two full years of school.

“Our sons and daughters didn’t receive education. A whole generation was lost. Two generations were lost, not just one. May God make it up for us,” she said.

Mohamed al-Nashar from Gaza City said people feel “very cautious and we are fearful of what is to come.”

He worried that a truce could be violated at any moment, adding that Israeli strikes have been persistent in areas where the army is still operating.

Some were skeptical about Israel following through on a deal but held out hope.

Explosions were seen Thursday morning in northern Gaza as Israeli strikes continued. The Israeli military did not immediately comment on the strikes but earlier in the day said it had begun preparations for the implementation of the ceasefire and that troops were planning to shift to “adjusted deployment lines.”

Israel and Hamas have agreed to a pause in their war and the release of the remaining 48 hostages, around 20 of them believed to be alive, in exchange for hundreds of Palestinian prisoners.

## SCARES

CONTINUED FROM 1

— the idea is a simple one: Be spooky.

“We’ve changed it up completely from previous years,” said Molden.

In particular, Molden expressed appreciation for Nathan Nelson and Kevin Hall, both parents of former SWHS players and dedicated volunteers who play a crucial role in making the haunted house come to life.

“They have spent the last three months really working hard to prepare this year’s haunted house,” said Molden. “It’s their mind and their ideas that come to fruition when we’re doing this, so we’re just grateful to have them. ... They dive in every year and come up with a crazy idea. They’re the reason we keep doing it.”

Parents and volunteers from the two sports programs and even Lady Warrior players all take part in the haunted house, playing roles and spreading frights from room to room.

“That’s a big part of our camaraderie to start the season every year,” said Molden. “It’s our biggest fundraiser every year, and it gives us a chance to kind of get together. Our kids love scaring people and making some money while we’re doing it.”

“We’ve got speakers in each room this year, we’ve got cameras in every room,” he added. “Each room is going to be a little different.”

Danny Bray, Burnside Little League President, also noted that the haunted house



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**Creepy characters** of all sorts can be found in the Burnside Haunted House, which begins this Friday, October 10.

represents one of their organization’s key fundraising efforts annually.

“We have fun with it,” he said. “We’ve found it to be very beneficial, and 100% of the proceeds all go back toward Little League and (SWHS) Girls Basketball.”

He added that the event isn’t too far out when it comes to its frights, so it’s appropriate for kids as well.

“It’s more like a scare house than a haunted house,” he said. “(People) just go through and get you startled around each corner. ... The people enjoy it, and they enjoy the decorations and all the different scenery. Most people enjoy to be scared a little bit.”

Bray said that Burnside Little League participates in fundraisers like this and Christmas Island each year so parents don’t have to worry about things like selling candy bars to raise money during the season.

“I want them to enjoy the season and enjoy watching their kids play and not have to worry about raising money,” he said. “We kind of do this in (what is) our off-season.”

Hours for the haunted house each day it’s open are 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15 each for adults, \$10 each for kids age 8 and under.

Visit the Burnside Haunted House Facebook page for more information and updates.

“The Burnside Haunted House is a treasured fall tradition in our town,” said Burnside Tourism Director Jerrica Flynn. “So many residents and visitors get excited when the air turns cool and Haunted House flyers go up. We are happy to have two great organizations choose our town to host their event and bring in visitors who may not have come to Burnside before.”

## REACTS

CONTINUED FROM 1

later years.

Cain said he has known Maguire all his life, and knew him well throughout the various stages of that life.

“Walter was a tremendous athlete in high school, and in college. He was a very fair judge, he was a good judge, and he was a caring judge. He cared about the people. He was just a good man,” Cain said.

Cain remembered back to 1959 when the SHS football team won the district play-offs. He noted that the school didn’t have buses back then, and the players had to get to their games using the city of Somerset buses.

In addition to football, Maguire set records in high school track, and went on to go to college at Wake Forest for one year, where he set track records there, Cain said.

But Maguire navigated his way back to Kentucky, where he attended the University of Kentucky and UK Law school, together with Cain and Jerry Cox, who passed away just last week.

The three graduated from law school in 1968, with Cain noting that future Kentucky governor Steve Beshear was also in their class. “I think Steve and Walt were roommates,” at one point, Cain said.

Cain called Maguire’s death a shock and a great loss for the community, as did many of Maguire’s other fellow judges.

Some of them, like current Family Court Judge Marcus Vanover, was able to see Maguire’s work when he himself was a family court judge.

Vanover said he prosecuted child welfare cases for the Pulaski County Attorney’s office, and as such worked with Judge Maguire for around six years.

“He was very helpful for me in encouraging me to step into family court as a judge after he retired,” Vanover said. “He was always there

to lend insight and advice if I had questions. I remember, as an attorney in front of him, thinking, ‘I’m glad he’s having to make that decision instead of me.’ I kind of understood quickly, when it became time to start making the decisions myself, the stress and the thoughtfulness he had put into everything, appreciating, truly, how much thought he gave to each decision and how much he cared for the people in front of him. He set a good example when we were trying to follow.”

Vanover added: “He’s going to be greatly missed. He was on the bench so long, he knew the families and knew the histories of people. He utilized his wealth of knowledge in making decisions through the generations. That kind of background and history can’t easily be replaced.”

Pulaski District Judge B.J. Hardy may not have worked cases in front of Maguire when Hardy was an attorney, but he said that he considered Maguire a good friend.

“He offered me advice on several occasions, good advice that I felt like would make me a better judge,” Hardy said.

When asked for specifics, Hardy said, “I do recall, regarding juvenile court, he told me one time, ‘Always take your time and consider the effects your decisions are going to have on not just the family you’re dealing with, but the child.’ ... It was good to know that he was someone — as all our previous judges have been — that we could go to with questions. You knew you would get good, solid legal answers, and he was not just a great judge, but he was a great man. He certainly had compassion.”

Retired Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Dan Venters called Maguire a “judicial legend” for his work in establishing the district court in Pulaski.

“He was one of the original set of district court judges that started in 1978, when the new

district court system was put in to place,” Venters said. “... He, more than anybody else, is responsible for getting that court system off, to establish it as a court of high integrity and fairness and honesty. There was a lot of controversy at the time about how that court should operate and how it should run, and Judge Maguire made sure that it ran honestly and fairly and treated everybody the same, no matter what social status or political power they had. And he did that at some expense to his own career, because he got beat in the election a few years later by people who didn’t want the system to change. But he came back, and he served probably longer than any judge in Pulaski County history, certainly longer than anyone I can remember. And he just deserves to be remembered for that. We have a great court system in Pulaski County and a lot of that is because of Walter Maguire’s integrity and fortitude to make sure it did run fairly and honestly.”

On Thursday afternoon, U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell made a statement on the passing of Judge Maguire, saying: “I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of my good friend, Walt Maguire. Walt and I attended law school together at the University of Kentucky, and his impressive judicial career spanning 29 years is a testament to his public service. His devotion to others was evident by his extensive involvement in the community — teaching classes at UK and Somerset Community College, as well as serving on several state judicial councils. Walt’s friendship meant a lot to me, and I always enjoyed seeing him when I was in Somerset. Elaine and I are thinking of his family and friends during this difficult time.”

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## MAGUIRE

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Office, according to KSP.

Toxicology results are pending for both Collett and Witt, according to KSP.

No other injuries were reported among the occupants of the involved vehicles, according to KSP.

Kentucky State Police Detective Shane Bowling is continuing the investigation. He was assisted at the scene by KSP personnel, the Pulaski County Coroner’s Office, and the Shopville Fire Department.

Maguire had 29 years of judicial experience, having served as District Judge for the 28th Judicial District representing Pulaski and Rockcastle Counties from 1978-82 and 1986-2004. Starting in 2007, he was a Family Court judge before retiring in 2013. He ran again for the 28th Judicial Circuit judgeship in 2020 after David Tapp was confirmed to serve on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, but the seat was won by Teresa Whitaker.

The grandson of a former county judge, state legislator and commonwealth’s attorney for the 28th Judicial Circuit, Maguire was a high school athlete and attended the University of Kentucky on a track scholarship. He earned his law degree at UK as well.

As an attorney, he represented many as a public defender and served as an assistant state attorney general.

He also taught courses at the University of Kentucky and Somerset Community College.

Over the course of his career, Maguire served as a member of the Kentucky Juvenile Code Review and Implementation Task Force, state Judicial Council, and Kentucky District Judges Association Executive Council.

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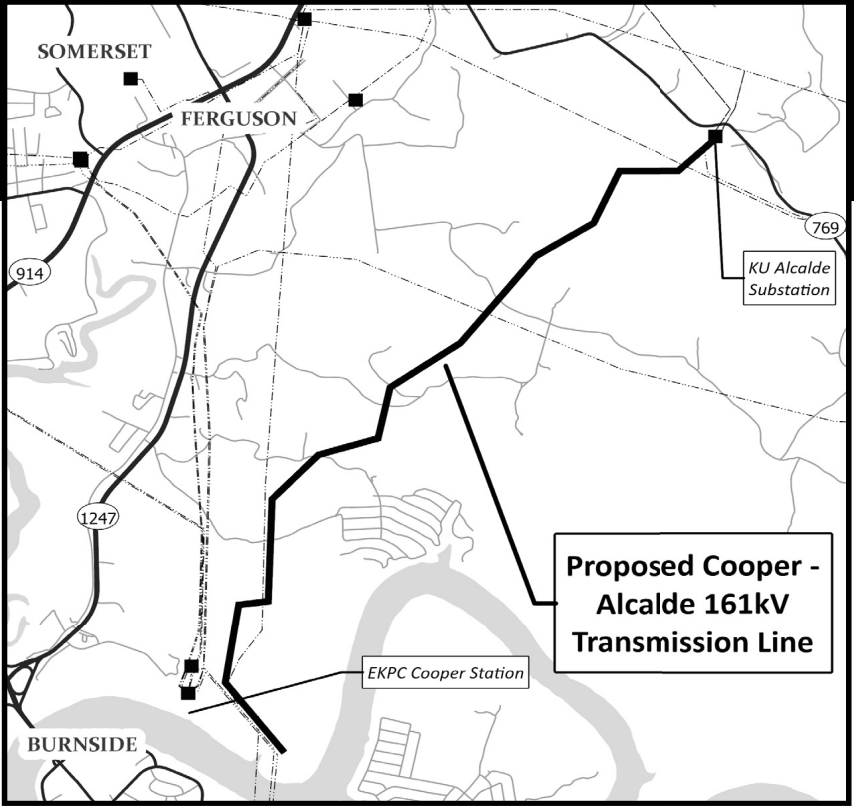
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# Notification of Intent to Construct Transmission Line



East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) soon will conduct a project in Pulaski County, Ky., to construct approximately 5.25 miles of new double-circuit 161-kilovolt electric transmission line. From EKPC’s Cooper Station power plant located south of Somerset, the planned line will extend northeast to an existing substation owned by Kentucky Utilities (KU) located on Rush Branch Road (KY 769.) This project will provide electric transmission capacity to reliably deliver electricity from EKPC’s planned expansion of Cooper Station in Somerset. EKPC plans to add a new 745-megawatt generating unit at the power plant. These power plant and transmission line projects will enhance reliability of the electric transmission grid in southern Kentucky.

The transmission line will require a certificate of public convenience and necessity to be issued by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC). This process will proceed on PSC Docket 2025-00311. EKPC plans to file the application on or about Oct. 27, 2025. You have the right to request a local public hearing and interested parties have the right to intervene in these proceedings. Should you have any questions concerning this process, please contact Linda C. Bridwell, Executive Director, Kentucky Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615, telephone (502) 564-3940.



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