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FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026 | BEACONJOURNAL.COM

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Chief Brian Harding delivers remarks during a news conference about the City of Akron Police Department's use of force final report at Ocasek Auditorium in Akron on May 7.

ANDREW DOLPH/AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Akron businesses avoid sting from high gas costs



Charly Murphy, owner of multiple food trucks including his Snakron food truck at Firestone Stadium in Akron, talks May 6 about his actions to combat rising gas prices

LISA SCALFARO/AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Review of policing advises changes

Malik: City aims to adopt 58 use-of-force practices

Bryce Buyakie

Akron Beacon Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

After months of reviewing policies and interviews, the city of Akron has unveiled the long-anticipated comprehensive review of the Akron Police Department's use-of-force policies.

The 125-page report offers 58 recommendations for APD, the city and the Office of the Independent Police Auditor, ranging from policy and training to use-of-force investigations and new transparency requirements. The Washington-based nonprofit PERF, short for the Police Executive Research Forum, conducted the review and

See REVIEW, Page 5A

Alternative fuel trucks, bulk buys among savings strategies

Patrick Williams Akron Beacon Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Charly Murphy says he expects summertime fuel costs to nearly double from last year for the food truck enterprise he owns and operates with Alicia Kennedy.

They have four Akron-based food trucks – Akron Pickle, Big Blue BBQ by Stray Dog, Snakron and The Buzzy Bee – and also run Stray Dog Cafe and Bob's Hamburg brick-and-mortar locations in Akron.

Gas prices have skyrocketed in recent weeks, with the average price per gallon in Greater Akron reaching

\$4.803 as of May 7, a 53.4% increase from \$3.132 the same time a year ago, according to the AAA Fuel Prices online tracker.

While soaring fuel prices have captured attention across the globe, figuring out how to cope with their volatility has long been a survival strategy for businesses and government entities – whether their focus

See GAS PRICES, Page 9A



Dave Yost speaks at the 38th Ohio Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony in London on May 7. Yost will step down as attorney general June 7.

SAMANTHA MADAR/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

AG Yost resigns to join Christian legal group

Haley BeMiller and Laura A. Bischoff

State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost will resign from office to join a Christian legal group, a move that could shake up statewide leadership months before the November election.

Yost is joining Alliance Defending Freedom as its vice president for strategic research and innovation, according to a May 7 news release from the organi-

zation. The surprise announcement means Gov. Mike DeWine must appoint someone to serve as Ohio's top law enforcement official for the rest of the year.

"I've been passionate about religious liberty, free speech, parental rights and human dignity for a long time, and to now bring my legal and advocacy skills to bear alongside the best constitutional lawyers in the world is an extraordinary opportunity," Yost said in the release.

Alliance Defending Freedom has fought against transgender rights and

advocated for private school vouchers and wedding industry businesses that deny same-sex couples services. The group was instrumental in overturning the landmark Roe v. Wade abortion decision.

Yost will step down effective June 7, according to the governor's office.

"Having served as Ohio attorney general, I know how important this office is and the great work done by its

See YOST, Page 6A

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