



High school football Week 9 breakdowns and predictions

SPORTS, 1B

SNAP cuts hit more than 100,000 Ohioans

Samantha Hendrickson and Esther Launstein
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

More than 100,000 Ohioans are no longer receiving government help to buy food after federal overhauls to the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program.

According to state data, 137,000 few-

er Ohioans were enrolled in SNAP from July 2025, when President Donald Trump signed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, through July 2026. That includes roughly 60,000 children, and under drastic changes to the program's eligibility requirements, likely veterans, young people aging out of foster care, and certain noncitizen populations.

The loss comes at a time when Americans, regardless of financial status, are

struggling to afford basic needs like groceries, rent, utilities and health care. Since 2019, at-home food costs have risen 33%. According to the Economic Policy Institute, the average cost of groceries per month for a single person in Franklin and Hamilton counties is more than \$350. The average monthly SNAP benefit for an Ohio household is \$191.

See SNAP CUTS, Page 6A



A Stark Area Regional Transit Authority bus pulls into the Phyllis Beyers Alliance Transit Center in Alliance.
BENJAMIN DUER/THE CANTON REPOSITORY

Voters to decide SARTA sales tax renewal to keep bus service

Robert Wang
Canton Repository
USA TODAY NETWORK

CANTON – The future of Stark Area Regional Transit Authority is again on the ballot for the Nov. 3 general election.

SARTA is asking voters to renew the existing 0.25% sales tax for another 10 years to continue funding bus service

and public transportation across Stark County.

Approval would not increase what shoppers now pay when purchasing taxable items in Stark County.

If voters decline to renew the tax, collections would end on June 30 and the sales tax rate would drop by 0.25%. Because of a three-month lag in payments, SARTA's sales tax payments

would end in September.

SARTA, which has about 200 employees and provides about 1.4 million rides a year, "can't function without it," said SARTA CEO Ralph Lee. The agency "would be out of business in a couple of months if (we) don't have the sales tax to continue to come in."

See SARTA, Page 6A

Detour during Jackson Twp. roundabout construction to begin soon

Aaron Hughes
Canton Repository
USA TODAY NETWORK

JACKSON TWP. – Construction of a new roundabout in Jackson Township will begin Oct. 16.

The new roundabout will be at state Route 241 (Wales Avenue NW) and Shuffel Street NW near the Akron-Canton Airport.

The Ohio Department of Transportation project is one of eight the agency planned this year in Stark County. The state is investing nearly \$36 million in roadway improvements, signal upgrades, lane additions and other projects this year.

When does roundabout construction begin?

According to a Facebook post by the Jackson Township Board of Trustees,

See ROUNDABOUT, Page 5A

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