



Katie Kimbrough, left, and Corbin Kimbrough, 10, run in the Monster Dash 5K Run/Walk on Oct. 25 at the Southern Boone Area YMCA. “I wanted to move my body, and it was something fun to do,” Corbin said.

# Monster Mash 5k brings Halloween action to Ashland

STORY AND PHOTOS BY AIYANA MASSIE • Boone County Journal



Colleen Finney, Miss Boone County, decorates her pumpkin before the race Oct. 25 at the Southern Boone Area YMCA. “It was a good way for the community to come together,” Finney said.

From superheroes to sports figures, the 8th Annual Monster Dash 5K Run/Walk was a kaleidoscope of costumes.

On Oct. 25, the Southern Boone Area YMCA held the Monster Dash 5K Run/Walk, with participants encouraged to dress in Halloween costumes and celebrate the season. The race began at 9 a.m. at the Southern Boone Area YMCA, with the top three runners in the adult, youth male and youth female categories awarded medals. Additionally, prizes were awarded to the best individual, group and dog costumes.

Katie Kimbrough raced in

a Captain Marvel costume alongside her 10-year-old son, Corbin Kimbrough.

“It’s an easy way to support a community, and it’s just a fun thing to come out and do,” Katie Kimbrough said.

Beginning in 2018, the annual race benefits the Southern Boone YMCA Outreach Program. Jake Katnik, the health and wellness director of the Southern Boone Area YMCA and organizer of the race, said the program helps get the youth involved.

“Those outreach dollars give people membership so that they can actually come to the gym, use the facility, and then get involved in programs,” Katnik said.

This year, the race drew in more than 70 community members to participate and support the event.

Miss Boone County Colleen Finney joined community members to support the race and the Southern Boone Area YMCA. Finney recounted fond memories of her local YMCA growing up and wanted to help support the community.

“When we engage with the community, we not only feel really good intrinsically but we’re also kind of helping each other along the way,” Finney said.

In the future, Katnik shared his goal of expanding the divisions of winners to accompany the growth of the race.

“The biggest thing is just getting to see the kids that come through,” Katnik said. “Over the years, we’ve seen more and more youth getting involved.”

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From left, Everly VanLoo, 10, receives a medal from Katie Villanueva on Oct. 25 at the Southern Boone Area YMCA. Everly placed second in the youth female division of the Monster Dash 5K Run/Walk, which was hosted by the Southern Boone Area YMCA.

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