



Thank you to everyone in the community who voted in the Best of Grant County 2025!

375 BALLOTS WERE TURNED IN THIS YEAR!

Congratulations to all winners and finalists.

Look inside this edition for the special section listing winners and finalists.

Grant County News

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025

Jackson voted Volunteer of the Year in Reader's Choice Awards

BY BETSY SMITH
EDITOR

If you catch a glimpse of Judy Jackson out and about, there's a good chance she's doing volunteer. Her dedication to the many groups she helps has not gone unnoticed. Jackson was voted Volunteer of the Year in this year's Grant County News Reader's Choice Awards.

Whether it's for Grant County Homemakers, her church (Elliston Baptist), Williamstown Senior Center, the Community Action Commission or DREAM Grant County, Jackson spends a lot of time serving others.

Her office at the Grant County Extension Office is crowded with bags of plastic sacks, craft supplies, boxes of Koolaid drinks, boxes of baby wipes and other paraphernalia associated with her many activities.

Last week she was busy preparing

to host for the Northern Kentucky Area Homemakers 2025 Triennial Meeting at the Extension Office on Oct. 16. She is also the organization's president-elect.

Diana Morgan, who recently succeeded Jackson as president of the Grant County Extension Homemakers, has volunteered with Jackson for many years.

"When she volunteers for something you can be assured she'll see it through," Morgan said.

She also described Jackson as a "people" person—and she volunteers with people of all ages.

In addition to cooking meals at her church, she works with children, leading a Wednesday night group called "Littles, Middles and Youth" that includes all ages. In summer, she accompanies kids to GA/RA church day camp in Gallatin County.

Jackson can also be found at the Williamstown Senior Center leading craft projects and card-

making for the residents of Grant Manor.

She participates in road clean-ups with her church (3 miles) and Flat Creek Elliston Homemakers (2 miles) to help fundraise. She's also involved in Homemaker activities to raise funds for sending kids to 4-H camp and to fund the organizations' two annual scholarships for high school seniors.

When's she's not busy volunteering, Jackson enjoys playing word games and June's Journey on her phone. She also loves crafting.

Crafting, too, allows her to help others. She takes plastic grocery sacks and turns them into "plarn" (plastic yarn). A friend then crochets the lengths of plarn into sleeping mats for unhoused individuals.

If you see Jackson out and about, make sure and thank her for all she does to help make Grant County a better place!



Betsy Smith

Halloween at the Fair

If you're ready for some spooky fun, don a costume and head out to the fairgrounds for Halloween at the Fair this Saturday, Oct. 25, from 5 to 9 p.m. There will be a movie, costume contest, hayride, and plenty of music and food.

Local businesses and organizations will be set up

for Trunk or Treat.

For \$1 you can try your luck at the cake walk, hosted by Grant County Pageants, One Special Day Pageants and Marigold Day Pageants.

This is the first time the fair board has offered the event, so plan on coming out and making it a great success!

Crittenden considers changes in zoning, parking and park security

BY DEBORAH LUCAS ANGEL
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Crittenden City Council met on Oct. 14 with a full agenda, including setting "Trick or Treat" for Friday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 8 p.m.

ACTIONS

- Ordinance 346-2025 amending Crittenden Code of Ordinances to add "Recreation and entertainment facilities" allows for "Little Sand Seekers Indoor Sand Play." The ordinance was approved with in a three to two vote with both Councilmembers Mary "Ange" Morris and Bobby Tanner voting no.

- The second reading of Ordinance 347-2025 amending Crittenden Motor Vehicle Regulation Article VII prohibits "parking on or along the side of any street within the limits of the City of Crittenden" was approved. It also calls for signs to be installed.

The fine for improper

parking was removed; however, violations will still be noted and "towing and storage" will be at the expense of the owner of the vehicle.

- A text amendment of Central Business District Zoning had been requested to allow Short Term Rentals (STR's). Council discussed and approved the text change to allow STR's in the Central Business District of the city.

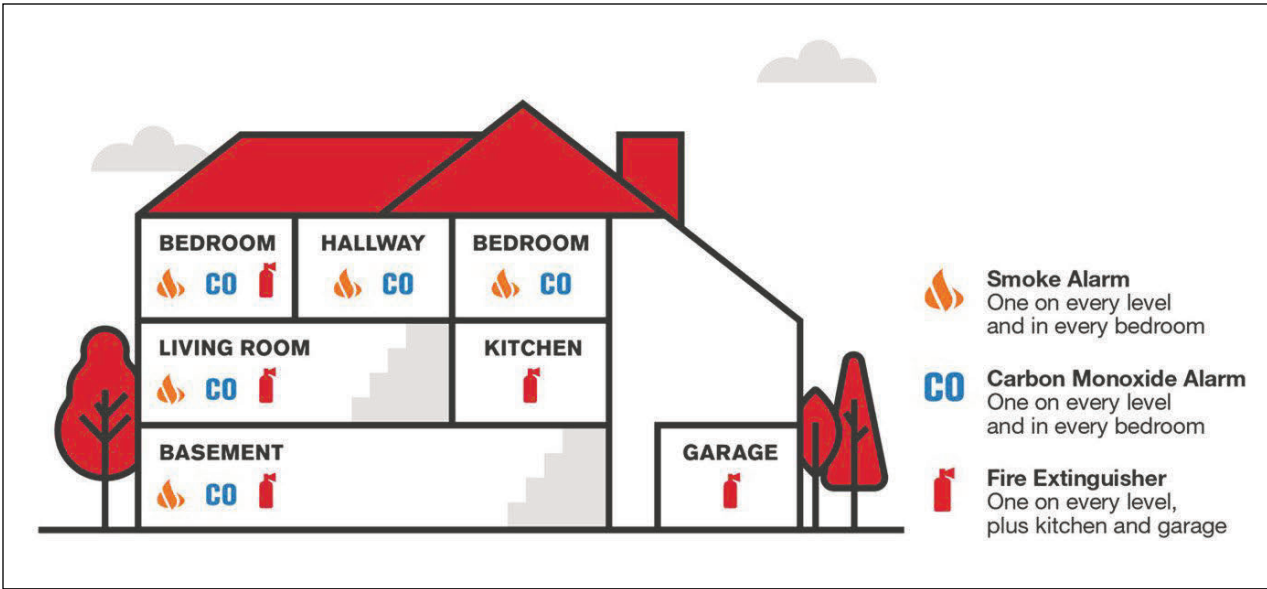
- Municipal Order 02-2025, the "nomination of Ken Henke to the Crittenden Ambulance District Board," was unanimously approved. Apparently, board member Greg Livingood stepped down from his seat. Both he and Crittenden Fire Chief A. Lee Burton had recommended Henke finish the unexpired term.

SECURITY FOR THE NATURE PARK

Vandalism has already occurred at the new Crittenden Nature Park, including writing in permanent markers on some of the swings' posts and "pink stuff" on the swings. Council discussed using cameras and signs to prevent future vandalism.

Mayor Jim Purcell suggested creating a "seasonal, part-time" position for someone to monitor the park after hours. Council approved the position for this year. With winter coming, they will revisit the issue in the spring. The position may also be used to assist City Maintenance.

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First Alert graphic created by Resideo Technologies Inc.

First Alert offers a guide to the placement of smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Readying for a safe winter and holiday season

BY DEBORAH LUCAS ANGEL
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Each year as the weather cools and winter sets in, we turn on furnaces, fireplaces and heaters; about the same time, house fires and carbon monoxide poisonings begin to occur more frequently. Yet, we can protect ourselves and our loved ones by following some simple steps.

Beginning in 1922, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) designated October as Fire Prevention Month. With the goal of raising fire safety awareness and helping to protect homes and families, the month was designated in commemoration of the 1871 Great Chicago Fire.

During the month of October, fire departments and Red Cross units across the nation share fire safety tips to raise fire awareness. Warned that "every moment matters," folks are encouraged to discuss fire safety awareness, test and purchase fire detectors as well as what to do in case of fire in the home.

The American Red Cross conducts an annual "Sound the Alarm Save a Life" campaign. Working smoke

alarms cut the risk of death from home fires in half.

The campaign includes the installation of free smoke alarms in your home. Call 1-844-207-4509 to arrange for a free smoke alarm to be brought to your house and installed by a professional.

According to the First Alert® fire equipment website, "installing reliable detection and being proactive is important to help keep your loved ones safe from a fire or carbon monoxide (CO) emergency."

Statistics concerning fire and carbon monoxide include:

- Almost three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms (according to NFPA). Home fires are so dangerous that they claim more lives in a typical year than all natural disasters combined. (ARC)
- Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of cooking fires (NFPA).
- A fire department responds to a fire every 24 seconds in America (NFPA)
- Carbon monoxide is a leading cause of accidental poisoning in the US, according to the Centers for

Disease Control.

ARC suggests steps to help keep your home safer:

- Place smoke alarms on each level of your home, including inside and outside bedrooms and sleeping areas.
- In addition to testing your alarms once a month, change the batteries at least once a year, if your model requires it.
- Check the manufacturer's date of your smoke alarms. If they're 10 years or older, they need to be replaced because the sensor becomes less sensitive over time. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- If you have an emergency, call 911.
- For more information, contact your local fire department or Red Cross:
- Corinth Fire Department, Chief Lonnie Kuhn: (859) 824-9886
- Crittenden Fire Rescue, Chief A. Lee Burton: (859) 428-1767
- Dry Ridge Fire Department, Chief Allen Cammack: (859) 824-9158
- Jonesville Fire Department, Chief Doug Clifton: (859) 823-2121
- Williamstown Fire Department, Chief Todd Anderson: (859) 824-4959
- Grant County Red Cross, Diana Morgan: (859) 393-0216

Williamstown Council votes to install speaker system on Main Street

BY BETSY SMITH
EDITOR

If all goes to plan, a wireless speaker system will be installed along Williamstown's Main Street in time for Country Christmas. Council approved the expenditure in a special meeting

Oct. 15. At the same meeting, an engineer was chosen for the raw water intake project to deal with the issue of zebra mussels.

The invasive zebra mussels in Williamstown Lake have become a significant threat to the water plant in recent years. Former Williamstown

Planning Commissioner Laura McClanahan addressed the council on the findings of the Request for Qualifications Committee, which was charged with making a recommendation for an engineering firm to "assist the

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