

## Chief Lewis hangs Ornament in Memory of Covington Victims



Covington Police Chief Buddy Lewis attended the Tennessee Chiefs of Police Meeting in Nashville recently. Chief Lewis holds a place on the TCP Board of Directors. While in Nashville, he also attended the Tennessee Season to Remember ceremony, which is a beautiful event led by Gov. Bill Haslam (left) in remembrance of homicide victims. Families from all over the state go to Nashville to place an ornament on a wreath that will hang in the Capitol throughout the holiday season. Chief Buddy Lewis (right) was there to hang a hand painted ornament by local artist, Eleanor “Chubby” Whitesides, remembering those who lost their lives in Covington to a violent crime.

## WestStar Reunion brings Alumni Together in Memphis for Tours and Information



WestStar Alumni Deborah Reed, Mary Jones, Mayor Justin Hanson and Alderwoman Minnie Bommer attended the WestStar Reunion last week in Memphis.

[WestStar](#) is a program offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin to build leaders throughout West Tennessee. The WestStar mission is to identify, encourage and equip community-minded people who want to become more involved, who want to help West Tennessee become a better place, and who are willing to accept assertive and dynamic leadership roles. A reunion of alumni from across West Tennessee was held in Memphis last week where they listened to Millington Mayor Terry Jones and Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell, among others, about economic and retail growth. The group toured FedEx Forum where they heard from The Grizzlies and St. Jude officials about the economic impact of those agencies in West Tennessee and throughout the Mid-South, as well.

## Covington National Guard serves Christmas Meal to local Service Men and Women



The Covington National Guard Armory was the setting for a Christmas dinner served to Service men and women and their families. The dinner was served by local guardsmen and volunteers. Covington Police Officers James Perry and Tony Doss (above) are guardsmen who participated in this service. Mayor Hanson stopped by to thank them for their service and show his appreciation for the dinner and the servicemen and women. The meal was well attended and appreciated (top left). Mayor Hanson also thanked those working, including Representative Debra Moody and Marianne Dunavant (left).

## “Dickens on the Square” this Weekend in Covington



Alderman Jere Hadley and Mayor Justin Hanson are dressed in “Dickens” attire (left) and will be just two of many who will welcome you to the Dickens Christmas on the Covington Square this Saturday and Sunday. Check out the [characters of this Christmas classic](#) and come as your favorite. You can expect to see Tiny Tim, Mr. and Mrs. Cratchitt, The Ghost of Christmas Past, The Ghost of Christmas Present, and Ebenezer Scrooge, among others going about their day on our square! Merchants will have “Dickens” specials and it is sure to be a weekend filled with fun and reverie for all!

## Norfolk Named Officer of the Month

Congratulations are in order for Covington Police Department's Marvin Norfolk, who was named officer of the month for October. Officer Norfolk is pictured here with Police Chief Buddy Lewis after being presented with this honor.



## Christmas Parade Planning gets Final Touches



A few final decisions were made by the Christmas Parade Committee for this year's procession scheduled for Monday, December 12, at 7:00 pm in Covington. Special Events Coordinator Karen Griffin worked with other Covington officials to put the finishing touches on plans for a successful and fun family event.

The regular monthly meeting of the Public Works Committee was held at Covington City Hall on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Alderman Mac McGowan, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Alderman William Timberlake and Mayor Justin Hanson. Also present were Public Works Director David Gray, Code Enforcement/Building Official Lessie Fisher, David Gwinn, Alderman John Edwards, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn.

Chairman Alderman Mac McGowan called meeting to order.

Public Works Director David Gray distributed the requirements for the compliance of The Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Transition Plan. These notice and grievance procedures have been posted on the City's website and in City buildings. An update on the new Asset Management and Supply Agreement for natural gas was given by Director Gray, and the proposal from BP was attached. Other proposals will be received and a recommendation will be brought to the next Public Works Committee Meeting in January.

There was discussion on the account name change policy. The TDOT Bridge Inspection report for July, 2016 was attached showing all bridges to be in fair condition. More detailed information is to be gathered and brought back to the next meeting. An update on the speed sign was given.

Motion was made by Mayor Justin Hanson and seconded by Alderman William Timberlake to recommend to the Board to bring back to the next Public Works Committee Meeting a revised Account Name Change Policy. Motion passed.

Code Enforcement/Building Official Lessie Fisher presented the Codes Division report for November, 2016 Workshops attended have been the WTCEA Dilapidated and the ADA Compliance. It was noted when considering next year's budget; a line item for ADA Compliance will need to be budgeted.

Motion was made by Alderman William Timberlake and seconded by Alderwoman Minnie Bommer to recommend to the Board to accept the report from Public Works Director David Gray. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m



## CIAA Presents THE LION KING at the School's Theater Next Week



Look closely – those are elementary students behind those masks and costumes and they are prepared to give you quite a show next week as the CIAA Drama Club presents The Lion King! Drama Club sponsor and play director Deborah Walker, has been working with the students for weeks and they have a show put together that will inspire all! Go see what your local school kids can do! The play will be performed at 9:00 am and noon next Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and an evening performance Thursday night. Adult tickets are only \$5 and kids are \$2. Scroll down for more details or call Assistant Principal Dr. Bonnie Wright at 901-840-9150.



Mayor Justin Hanson donated to the WMC Action News 5 Food Drive this week by donating items of non-perishable food, cash, *and* his time on location at the Covington Kroger.

This was the 9th year for WMC Action News 5 to hold a drive across the Mid South to benefit the Mid South Food Bank. Reporter Chris Luther (L) spent the day at the Covington Kroger Wednesday to encourage people to fill the truck with donations from Covington. Mayor Hanson paid them a visit and made his donations, as well. Also on hand to help donors were the Covington High School basketball cheerleaders and their sponsor Ms. Kizzie Young (L). Clubs and organizations, such as these cheerleaders, often assist in the food drive as part of their community service requirements. They are on hand to take donations so people won't even have to get out of their cars, and it's also quite nice to have smiling faces greeting the supporters! These ladies are working in the Food Bank over Christmas break to help sort, pack and distribute food. Ms. Young also has the cheerleaders working locally with the St. Luke iCare Ministry. The Mid South Food Drive raised over \$60,000 and collected 21,600 pounds of food this year. That is enough for 200,000 meals.



**The Covington Fire Department held their first annual Christmas Dinner and Awards Banquet. They recognized members for the levels of certification/education that they have received thus far. In the coming years, Chief Michael Naifeh said they will recognize those levels of accomplishment, plus other awards as nominated by their peers for acts above and beyond requirements and the call of duty. Mayor Hanson, Alderwoman Bommer, Alderman McGowan, and Alderman-elect Sullivan also attended.**

## Dates to Remember...

- December 9 & 10 – Pictures with Santa – Wildflowers – scroll down for more information
- December 10 – Santa at Oaklawn in Brighton – 9:00 to 12:00
- December 10 & 11 – Dickens on the Square in Covington
- December 12 – Covington Christmas Parade – 7:00
- December 13 – Coffee with the Mayor – 7:30 – 9:00 – Coffee in the Attic on the Square in Covington.



- December 13 - Crestview Middle and Covington High School Bands will present "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas" concert at the high school at 6:30 p.m. **FREE ADMISSION!**
- December 13-14-15 – THE LION KING presented by CIAA and Tipton Arts Council. Scroll down for more info or call 901-840-9150 for show times.
- December 15 – Third Thursday at Chamber Center on the Square – hosted by Covington Parks and Recreation
- December 16 – Christmas Open House – Covington City Hall – 9:00 – 11:00 – open to the public! **Y'ALL COME CELEBRATE WITH US!**



- December 22 – Lifeblood blood drive – 9:30 – 2:00 – Covington City Hall – scroll down for more info.
- Christmas Holidays at Covington City Hall – Closed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26, as well as Monday, January 2.
- January 14 – Ty's Heart 5K – scroll down for more information.



Keep up with News, Events, and Information from Covington and Tipton County

[City of Covington](#)

[Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Tipton County](#)

[Covington Sportsplex](#)

[Tipton County Schools](#)

[South Tipton Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Boys and Girls Club of the Hatchie River Region](#)

[Covington Aquatic Center](#)

[Tipton County Museum](#)

Tipton County Veterans Services Officer Alex Jones has announced new hours at the Munford location. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact his office 901.476.2456.

Monday: 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

Tuesday: 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday: 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

## Covington High School is Sponsoring a Book Drive for Area Students.

Covington High School wants your books! They are sponsoring a drive to collect books that will be re-distributed to area school libraries. The drive is intended to provide more books for students and give them a wider variety of choices. As seen in the picture below, the grade levels are collecting and are in strict competition for this project. Please collect books for this project and take by the school or call the sponsor, Megan Young at 901-475-5850 or 901-552-8336 for more information. She can provide a collection box and pick-up, if needed.



Dear Covington Community:

Literacy development is a critical piece in preparing students to be college and career ready. Therefore, Covington High School --in an effort to improve literacy and put books in the hands of students --is hosting a school and community-wide book drive. All books for all ages are welcome and will be distributed throughout the schools in order to give students more reading choices. Donations of books may be brought directly to Covington High. If you would be willing to partner with us and place a collection box at your place of business, we would be most grateful and will supply you with a flyer and collection box.

Covington High School would like to thank the community in advance for supporting this worthy cause and for coming together as a community to benefit our young people.

Sincerely,  
Covington High School





# Covington High School Book Drive

*Please donate any unwanted books to a local Chamber of Commerce, business, or directly to Covington High School.*



All books will be used throughout Tipton County to promote literacy among students. Books not age appropriate will be sent to other Covington schools or traded in for more age appropriate material.

**Thank you for your support of our students!**

Please call Megan Young at 901-475-5850 or 901-552-8336 for more information.  
She can provide a collection box and pick-up, if needed.

The Historic  
**RUFFIN**  
Theater

901-504-8889

[www.officialruffintheater.com](http://www.officialruffintheater.com)

Written by  
Barbra Robinson

The  
Best  
Christmas  
Pageant Ever!

Directed by Rick Perry

December 2, 3, 9, & 10 at 7pm  
December 4 & 11 at 2pm

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER! IS PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

# SANTA IS COMING TO WILD FLOWERS!!



Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 12pm

Photos to be taken by a professional photographer. Photo packages offered below or just tell Santa what you want for Christmas (no purchase required)!

Appointments are available if you don't want to wait!

Package 1: \$25

One disc per child  
(You can print any  
size photo and as  
many as you want)

Package 2: \$47

1 – 8x10  
2 – 5x7  
4 – 4x6

Package 3: \$57

2 – 8x10  
2 – 5x7  
3 – 4x6  
8 – Wallets

## Wild Flowers Florist and Gift Boutique

1702 Highway 51 South in Covington, TN

(Across from Maley Yarbrough Funeral Home)

901-399-9131



## Dickens on the Square

Covington's  
Historic Court  
Square

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – 10AM to 5PM  
Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> – 1PM to 5PM

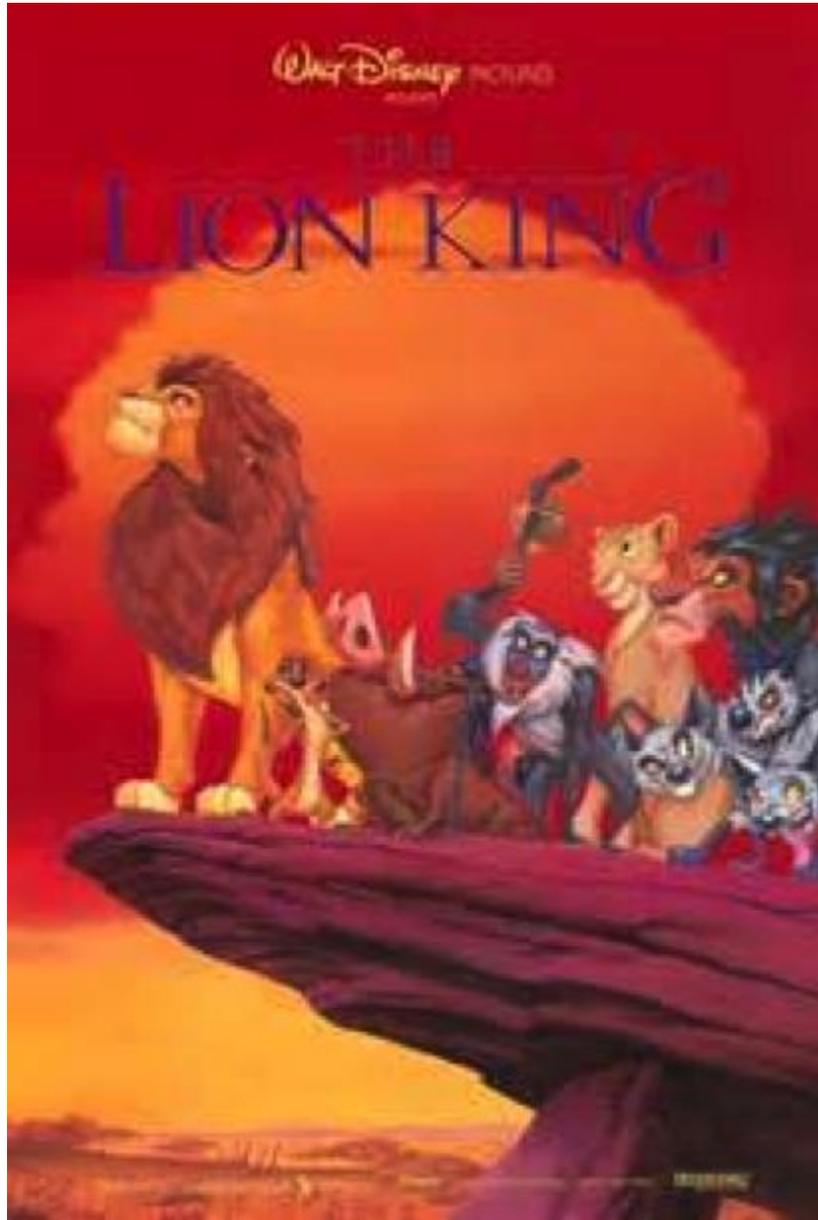
Join us for a unique and magical Christmas celebration on Covington's Historic Court Square as we bring Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" to life. Delight your senses with carolers, storytellers, puppet shows, carriage rides, performers and visits with Father Christmas as you explore the shops all decked out in their Christmas finery. There will be activities for the entire family and the event is

**FREE** to all!



# CIAA presents Disney's Lion King, JR

Director – Deborah Walker  
Performers – Students of CIAA



**PERFORMANCE DATES 2016: December 13<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>**

**TIMES: 9:00 am and 12 noon shows on December 13<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 pm show on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

**\$2 per student and Chaperones are FREE for field trip groups  
\$5 for adults**

**Contact Dr. Bonnie Wright to reserve a time for your group at [bwright@tipton-county.com](mailto:bwright@tipton-county.com)**



Mix • Mingle • Learn • Share • Network

*mark your calendar...*



# **Business** *After Hours*

Where our community is our business

***December 15, 2016***

***5PM***

***The Chamber Center***

***This month's sponsor***

***Covington Parks and Recreation***



**Want to give back but don't  
know how?**

# **DONATE BLOOD**

**Date:** Thursday December 22, 2016

**Time:** 9:30 AM-2:00 PM

**Place:** Covington City Hall-200 West Washington  
Street 38019

**Contact:** Mayor Hanson's Office or go to:  
Clublifeblood.org & enter sponsor code L198.  
to schedule a appointment. Thank you!!!!!!!

### **Who does your blood donation help?**

Meet Allie. She was born 8 weeks premature and weighed just over 3 pounds. Her doctor knew right away that she needed a blood transfusion. Thankfully, she didn't have to wait because of the generous act of blood donors like you.

Today, Allie is a vibrant 7-year-old who loves going to the park and reading.

Thank you for donating blood and saving local lives.



**Successful donors get a t-shirt!**

For more information call 901-522-8585 or visit [www.lifeblood.org](http://www.lifeblood.org)

**Lifeblood**  
A red blood drop icon is positioned below the word Lifeblood.

REGISTRATION SHEET AT FIRST WINDOW IN COVINGTON CITY HALL

# Covington [Parks and Rec](#) Announces Holiday Hours of Operation



## Covington Parks and Recreation Christmas Hours of Operation:

Friday December 23, 2016: 5 am - 1 pm

Closed Saturday December 24 and Sunday December 25

Monday December 26 8 am- 12 noon

**\*\* The Covington Sportsplex and the Covington Aquatic Center will operate on the same schedule.\*\***



Free Admission during Holiday Break for School Employees



**ALL SCHOOL  
EMPLOYEES**

**Free** admission to the Covington Sportsplex &  
Aquatics Center

Christmas Break 2016–2017



Offer good from December 21, 2016 – January 2, 2017 only

School employee ID required for admission

The Sportsplex and Aquatics Center will have abbreviated hours during the holidays please check our website or social media pages before you leave for your workout or swim.



TY'S HEART



Online Registration ends  
December 30, 2016

## RUN TO GLORY SERIES



Garland Baptist Church, and the City of Covington Parks & Recreation Department have partnered to Host "Ty's Heart 5K" to assist the family of 2 year old Richard Ty Bryan who is under going -I Transposition of the great arteries for Pulmonary Atresia with VSD.

\*Info for this defect can be found at [www.chw.org](http://www.chw.org)

Run thru Covington's beautiful Cobb-Parr Park & Munford Cemetery

# Ty's Heart Inaugural 5K

5K

*Garland Baptist Church*



ONLY \$30

To register or go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/TN/Covington/TysHeart5K>

January 14, 2017



10:00 AM @ the Covington Sportsplex

790 Bert Johnston Ave

Covington TN 38019

Sign up before  
December 30, 2016  
for a Ty's Heart T-shirt

\* Information in this newsletter is an overview of events. All official minutes and documents can be viewed at Covington City hall at 200 West Washington Street, Covington, TN.

or on our website at [www.covingtontn.com](http://www.covingtontn.com)

The City of Covington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

LIFEGUARD CLASSES STARTING AT COVINGTON AQUATIC CENTER  
901-476-9178



**Become a Lifeguard**

- Lifelong lifesaving skills
- Hands-on training
- Certification in as little as 24 hours of training
- American Red Cross certification, a name employers know and trust

**Sign Up Today**

**American Red Cross**

\* You must be at least 15 years old.

## What's Happening at the Museum?

# “My Responsibility to America” Essay Contest

On Thursday morning, David Quinn from the Tipton County Veterans of Foreign Wars brought several **Voice of Democracy** essays to the Tipton County Museum for judging. The theme of this year's essay contest was “My Responsibility to America.” This contest was open to high school students, and the Grand Prize nationally is \$30,000 in scholarship funds. The judges were (left to right): Sherri Onorati, Museum Archivist and retired Navy Veteran; Dorothy Robinson, life member and past State Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary; Barrie Foster, Director of the Tipton County Museum and life member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary; and Stephan Foster, Capt. (Ret), U.S.P.H.S. and life member of the Disabled American Veterans. David Quinn, past



Commander of the Tipton County Veterans of Foreign Wars, is sitting on the far end. Sherri Onorati is a previous winner of this event. She won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in 1981 in Denver, Colorado. The winners of this year's contest will be announced on January 15, 2017 at the VFW Awards Luncheon in Union City.

MUSEUM DOLLARS



TIPTON COUNTY  
M·U·S·E·U·M  
VETERANS MEMORIAL  
NATURE CENTER

**At the Tipton County Museum  
In Covington!**

Museum Dollars! We now have Museum Dollars at the Tipton County Museum in Covington. They may be purchased for any amount and may be used towards Museum Memberships, our Gift Shop, and Art Classes. They make great gifts and may be purchased at any time. Just call the Tipton County Museum at (901) 476-0242 and we will be glad to help you.

**The Tipton County Museum,  
Veterans Memorial & Nature Center  
751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN 38019  
(901) 476-0242**

**The Tipton County Veterans Council and the Tipton County Museum, Veterans  
Memorial and Nature Center**



**Veteran of the Month for December 2016**

## **Ernest Bowling**

Ernest Bowling was born in southeastern Kentucky on October 30, 1931. After graduating from high school and with his only other options for employment being in the coal mining or timber industries, he joined the U.S. Army. In October 1950 he completed basic training in Ft. Knox and was shipped directly to Korea. He was there when the Chinese attacked and earned his Purple Heart on February 11, 1951 in a battle against North Korean and Chinese enemy forces at Sang-Sok, Korea. That September Ernest transferred to Ft. Benning, Georgia, where he was honorably discharged in 1953. He returned home to Kentucky where, in November 1955, he completed vocational school to become a machinist. With no jobs available, Ernest joined the U.S. Air Force in January of 1956. His duty stations included Freising, Germany; Hamilton AFB, San Francisco; and Pease AFB, Illinois. Following his honorable discharge in 1960, he worked for the Kentucky State Highway Department for several years. In September of 1967, he joined the U.S. Navy and served two tours of duty in Vietnam. His other Navy duty stations were Bermuda, Diego Garcia, Memphis, Hawaii, and Japan. After his retirement in 1984, Ernest enjoyed a 10-year civilian career as a private contractor working for the Navy. During his military career, Ernest earned the Combat Infantryman Badge, Korean Service Medal (four awards), Air Force Longevity Service Award, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal (two awards), Fleet Marine Combat Operations Insignia, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Navy Good Conduct Medal (four awards).

In 1994, Ernest and his wife, Amy Jean Couch Bowling, retired to their home in Munford. They have one son who lives in Tipton County and one daughter who lives in Florida. Sadly, Amy Jean passed away 15 months ago. Ernest attends the Chapel at NSA Mid-South in Millington and is a member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 116 in Munford. He was nominated for Veteran of the Month by his son Lonnie.

**VETERANS** – Clinics are held WEEKLY to provide you with information – click [here](http://www.tiptonco.com/veterans_services/index.php) to learn more:  
[http://www.tiptonco.com/veterans\\_services/index.php](http://www.tiptonco.com/veterans_services/index.php)