



A beautiful day and community support helped make Paradise Baptist Church Children's Carnival a big success Saturday. Covington Fire Department and Covington Police Department were just two of the vendors who set up informational tents and shared important information with participants. Here, Mayor Hanson visits with Dwain Edwards of the Covington Fire Department, Sargent Andrew Hefner of the Covington Police Department, and Police Chief Buddy Lewis. The carnival was held on Simonton Street in Covington.

Monday



Ronnie Neil of [Municipal Technical Advisory Service \(MTAS\)](#) visited with City aldermen and employees Monday to gather information in preparation for upcoming interviews of applicants for the Director of Parks and Recreation. In this photo, he interviews City Comptroller Tina Dunn.

Tuesday



Mayor Hanson attended the Covington Economic Development Corporation noon meeting at The Chamber Building. He updated the committee on City events including ongoing budget planning, upcoming dates for Music on the Square beginning April 23, plans for the Bar-Be Que Festival in Cobb-Parr Park, and progress on grants including the TDOT grant submitted for Frazier Park and the LPRF grant scheduled to be submitted April 22.

The regular monthly meeting of the General Welfare and Public Relations Committee met in City Hall Tuesday. Chairman Drew Glass welcomed Matt McDaniel and Nikka Sorrell from the Tipton County (Tennessee) Department of Public Health and Robin Racine and Kennisha Stowe of Drug Free Tipton. They addressed the committee about promoting our parks and playgrounds as no smoking areas. It is widely known that second hand smoke causes problems in children, including asthma and other chronic diseases.

The State of Tennessee has made funds available to help provide signage and promotional slogans for this purpose. They will also provide park benches and trash receptacles encouraging a tobacco free environment. The State's focus is on [Knock Tobacco Out of the Park](#), and discourages the use of all tobacco products around children. Robin Racine of Drug Free Tipton asked if this policy includes e-cigs? McDaniel stated that the State

program discourages all smoking around children and Covington's policy certainly can be crafted to include e-cigs. Aldermen John Edwards and Jere Hadley support this project, and encouraged including the e-cigs in the resolution. Alderwoman Bommer supported the project and asked for Frazier Park to receive benches and trash receptacles. The committee voted unanimously to allow Mayor Hanson to move forward with the Health Department to craft a no tobacco resolution for Covington parks.

Interim Parks and Recreation Director Karen Griffin submitted her report to the committee. She reported that Music on the Square plans are coming together and bands have been selected. Music on the Square begins April 23 and continues through May 28. Music will continue at the BBQ Festival at Cobb-Parr Park June 2-3-4, as well.

Griffin also proposed a systematic maintenance plan for all Covington parks and a long-range (5-year) planning document for all City parks. This will be a guiding document for future improvements, but everything will depend on public input and availability of funds. The committee voted to accept Mrs. Griffin's report. Alderman Edwards abstained from voting.

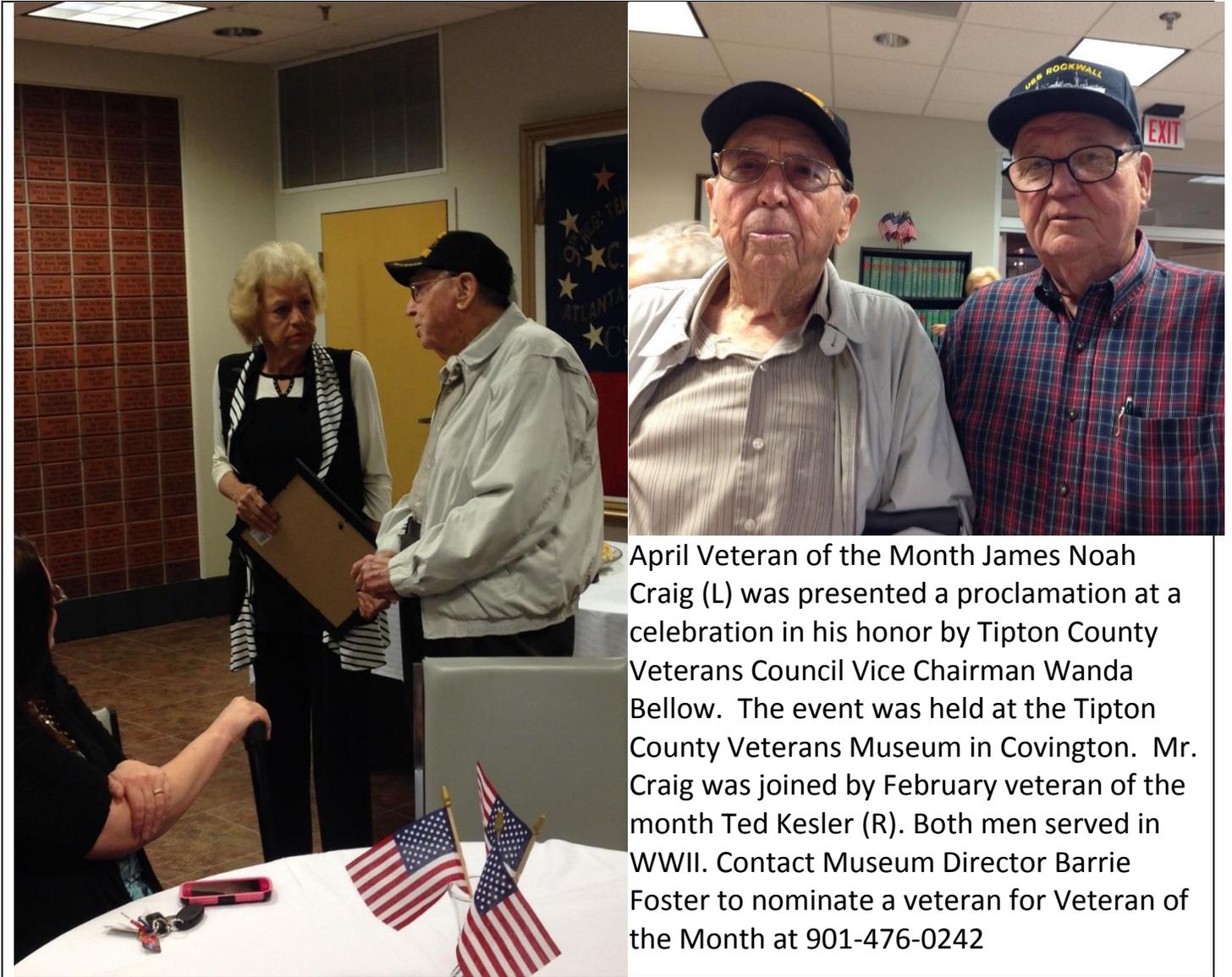
Covington Municipal Airport Director Robin Anderson reported he has met with his Citizen Advisory Committee twice. He invited committee members to join them in these meetings which are held on the first Mondays of each month at 8:00 am at the airport. He went on to report that fuel sales have been good, including the sale of jet fuel. He attributes this to the good prices available at the Covington facility. Anderson also reported that he made application for a grant to address asphalt at the airport. If approved, he expects to open bids later this summer.

Director Anderson attended a Tennessee airport conference in Murfreesboro, Tn last month. He was informed that Covington came in a close second for the most improved airport in Tennessee. He was encouraged by this and distributed pictures to the committee of before-and-after projects completed at the airport this year. The committee voted to accept Mr. Anderson's report. Alderman Edwards abstained from voting.

Chairman Glass asked Sara Gangaware, assistant to Mayor Hanson, to report on the Crepe Myrtle Project. She distributed information and updated the committee on progress. Eight crepe myrtles have been planted along West Pleasant with the assistance of Covington Public Works Department and donations from private individuals. The beautification project continues to accept support and donations. For more information, please contact Sara Gangaware or Tina Dunn at 901-476-9613.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Board of Alderman was held Tuesday night at Covington City Hall. This and all Board meetings can be viewed on our website. Click [HERE](#) for direct access.

The April 2016 Veteran of the Month was honored in a ceremony at the Tipton County Veteran's Museum Tuesday night. James Noah Craig, WWII veteran, was presented with a certificate of honor, a US flag that has flown over the State capitol, and proclamation from State Representative Debra Moody's office.



April Veteran of the Month James Noah Craig (L) was presented a proclamation at a celebration in his honor by Tipton County Veterans Council Vice Chairman Wanda Bellow. The event was held at the Tipton County Veterans Museum in Covington. Mr. Craig was joined by February veteran of the month Ted Kesler (R). Both men served in WWII. Contact Museum Director Barrie Foster to nominate a veteran for Veteran of the Month at 901-476-0242

**Wednesday**

Community members along with city and county officials attended a luncheon meeting at Covington First United Methodist Church to hear a presentation about Human Trafficking in Tennessee. Rick Stout, former FBI and now officer with Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, made the presentation and left the group with flyers and information about this disturbing topic. He reported that Tennessee first drafted a statute against human trafficking in 2007, and amended this law in 2013 making it even more powerful. To report sexually exploited or abused minors, call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children Hotline at 1-800-THE LOST or report incidences online at <http://www.cybertipline.org>

For suspected instances of trafficking or worker exploitation, contact the Department of Justice Trafficking Office at 1-888-428-7581. Mr. Stout also recommended learning more from and providing support to non-profit groups such as [www.ithastostop.com](http://www.ithastostop.com) and [www.endslaverytn.org](http://www.endslaverytn.org)



Rick Stout of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigations spoke to community members, DSCC students, local clergy, and city & county officials Wednesday about human trafficking in Tennessee. Please refer to content above to learn more.

Thursday

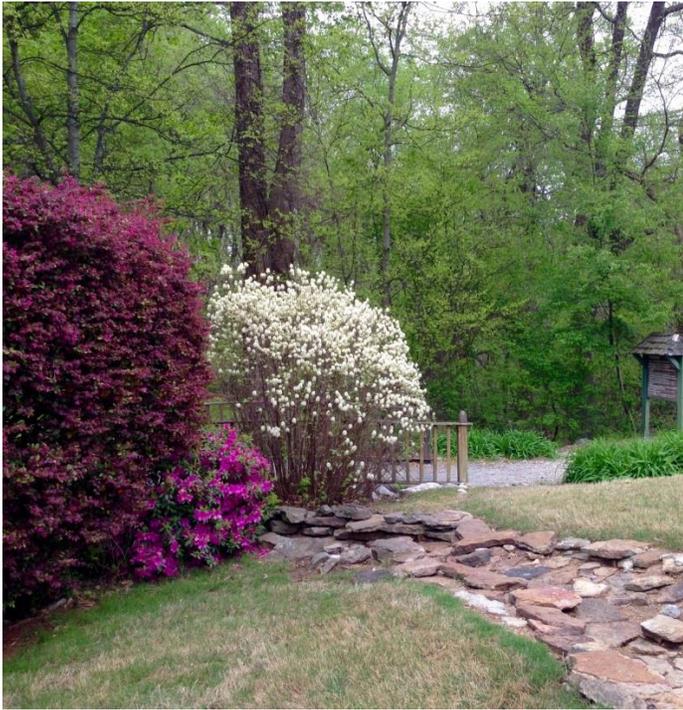


After investigating what was reported as a “sink hole” near Baptist Hospital Tipton, Crews from Covington Public Works Department discovered a broken sewer line. Here, they are putting the finishing touches on this repair.

Friday



Here's our first look at the newly completed Covington Fire Department ladder truck coming our way in less than a month. Pierce Manufacturing just released this photo before our new truck heads to the FDIC (Fire Department Instructor Conference) in Indianapolis, IN. It will be on display at this conference before coming to Covington. Once this ladder truck is delivered, it will enhance our fire service even more for years to come!



[The Tipton County Veteran's Museum](#) on Bert Johnston Avenue in Covington is a-glow with spring blooms and is an exciting place for events and programs, as well. Please see below for more information and be sure to visit!



**You're Invited to the**  
2016 TIPTON COUNTY  
ART EXHIBIT  
"LOCAL COLOR"

**Awards Reception**

**Sponsored by**  
**The Tipton Arts Council, Inc.**  
**And**  
**TN State Representative**  
**Debra Moody**



**When: Monday, April 25**

**6 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Where: DSCC Jimmy Naifeh**

**Center at Tipton County,**

**Learning Resource Center**

**3149 Hwy 51 Bypass S**

**Covington, TN**





The Tipton County Museum,  
Veterans Memorial & Nature  
Center

Presents:

2016 Artist in Residence  
Peggy Kunkel

Artist in Residence Peggy Kunkel is a calligrapher with over 25 years of experience and has taught calligraphy extensively throughout the Memphis area. She is a past President of the Memphis Calligraphy Guild and is a member of the Tipton Art League. Her exhibition, "This and That", is on display in the Conference room of the Tipton County Museum. She and her husband Keith live in Covington.

- March 22     **Reception:** Come out and meet Peggy! 6:30 p.m., **Free**
- June 4        **Lecture:** "Rock, Paper, Stone, plus a Demon" The History of Calligraphy, 10 – 11:30 a.m., Free to Members, \$5 Nonmembers
- July 23       **Workshop:** "Improve Your Handwriting", 10 a.m. – Noon,  
\$10 Museum Members, \$15 Nonmembers
- August 13    **Workshop:** "Celtic Knots Simplified", 10 a.m. – Noon  
\$10 Museum Members, \$15 Nonmembers
- Oct. 27       **Host:** "Museum Merchant Gala", Meet local artists, 6 – 8 p.m.,  
Free and Open to the Public
- Nov. 19       **Lecture:** "The St. John's Bible", The 1<sup>st</sup> handwritten, illuminated Bible in 500 years, 10 – 11:30 a.m., Free to Members, \$5 Nonmembers
- Sept. 6, 20, 27, **Calligraphy Class:** "Italic Hand", Tuesday nights, 6 – 8 p.m.
- Oct. 4, & 18    \$60 Museum Members, \$65 Nonmembers for the 5 week class

**Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center**

**751 Bert Johnston Avenue**

**Covington, TN 38019    (901) 476-0242**

The Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center

Presents:

# Summer Lecture Series 2016

Saturday mornings in June

10 – 11:30 a.m.,

Free to Museum Members

\$5.00 General Public

- June 4      “Rock, Paper, Stone, plus a Demon; the History of Calligraphy.” Peggy Kunkel,  
Artist in Residence
- June 11     “World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893; American Ingenuity on Display Then and Now.” Nancy  
Fosheé, Award Winning Author
- June 18     “A Visual Voyage: The Art & Life of Claude Monet.” Tipton County Museum Director Barrie  
Foster (Optional art class, “Painting with Monet” to follow in the afternoon. Separate  
registration required.)
- June 25     “Everyday Art for Everyday Folk; how to incorporate discarded or reclaimed objects into  
artwork.” Frank Lilly, folk artist & Vietnam Veteran

**Refreshments will be served.**

**Museum memberships start at \$25 and are available at the door.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

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