

Highlights from
September 16-22 *

F & A Approves Moving Forward with Conversion of Land for Police Facility and gives \$25,000 to Boys and Girls Club

The Finance and Administration Committee held their regular monthly meeting at Covington City Hall on September 19 at 1:00. Present were Chairman Alderman C.H. Sullivan, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Alderman John Edwards, Alderman Drew Glass, Alderman Jere Hadley, Alderman Mac McGowan, Mayor Justin Hanson, Accountant Kristin Mathis, City Attorney Rachel Witherington, Assistant to the Mayor Sara Gangaware, Engineers/Architects Pat Harcourt and Jeff Eakes of A2H Engineering, Mattie Cushman of Community Development Partners, LLC, Echo Day of The Leader, CPD Chief Buddy Lewis, CFD Chief Michael Naifeh, CPW Director David Gray, Codes Enforcement Officer Lessie Fisher, Walt Downing of USDA, Tommy Green, TML Bond Rep, and citizens.

Chairman Alderman C.H. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 1:00 and called on Mayor Hanson to introduce representatives from A2H Engineering to review proposed Covington Police Department facility plans.

Pat Harcourt and Jeff Eakes used screen to project the proposed color-coded plans and they went through each slide explaining them to the committee.

Jeff Eakes –

- Excited to be working with the City of Covington and Covington Police Department on this project. Has researched police departments and come up with a plan that will serve us for 25 years or more. Facility is slated to be constructed on old Covington Elementary site at the corner of West Church Street and College Street, and Eakes referenced this location and adjacent areas in relation to the plans and needs of the police department.
- Aside from being a protect-and-serve facility, this building will house City Court and provide community space, as well. Plans also include a training room that can be utilized by the CPD as well as other police staffs, and spaces for private conferences and meetings. The plans include handicap accessibility and parking opportunities around the building, as well as secured space for vehicle inspections.
- Eakes explained that the “Community Room” is a multi-purpose room that can be used by the public, for such things as civic organization meetings, neighborhood watch meetings, etc....and will also serve as the City Courtroom.

Alderman Edwards asked the Mayor if he had heard from the State Parks and Recreation Department on whether or not we can use this land for the building of the police department. Back in 1978, there was a grant from the State Department to use a corner of the land for recreation (tennis/basketball courts), and the city will need to go through a conversion process in order to use it for *anything* else– even to demolish the existing building. Mayor stated that process will be discussed later in the meeting.

Alderwoman Bommer asked Eakes if this site cannot be used, could this building be placed on another site, and Eakes stated it can, but any other site would need to be assessed and the plan may need to be adapted.

Alderwoman Bommer asked if this kind of facility is what Chief Lewis thinks the City of Covington needs to have, and Chief Lewis replied that it is. Lewis stated much research has gone into the process and he feels this will serve the CPD and the citizens of Covington very well for the next 25 years or more.

Mayor Hanson went on to discuss the conversion of the property. City Attorney Rachel Witherington had provided an explanation of her research on this property with the State Parks and Recreation Department in the committee agenda, and Mayor Hanson referenced that for committee review. Alderman McGowan asked Attorney Witherington a question regarding the appraisal of the property and why the building would not be included in the appraisal. She explained the

appraisal for conversion is on the land only and the actual conversion of the recreational land area is appraisal price for appraisal price – not acreage for acreage. Harcourt stated there seems to be a spirit of cooperation from the State Department for this conversion and Mayor Hanson stated that the State knows we want to relocate the basketball and tennis courts and build a police facility there, so he expects the process to be accepted. Attorney Witherington explained the conversion process and some of the city's responsibilities for meeting the requirements therein. Alderman Edwards stated we started this process with the Newman Property and asked if this was anything different. Witherington stated we had discussed a conversion for the Newman Property, but we did not proceed with it. She stated it is a process and there are steps to take, but her conversations with the State have led her to believe we can succeed with it. Mayor Hanson stated we can't do anything on that property until the conversion is made – including tear the building down.

Alderman McGowan motioned to proceed on the conversion process on the old grammar school property and Alderman Hadley seconded. Chief Lewis stated his concern is the time it would take for the conversion and the money involved getting the land ready. He stated it is very difficult to operate out of three different locations and he wants to expedite the process as much as possible – right now there are three different sets of utilities. He stated he doesn't have any problem moving forward if he can be assured the process won't drag out. Witherington stated [Gerald Parish](#) told her that no conversion application has ever been turned down on his watch and he assured her he would do everything he can to expedite the process, knowing the urgency for the police department.

Alderman McGowan stated we have to get rid of the current building there regardless what happens and even that will require a conversion, so we might as well get started. He stated he feels we must proceed with the conversion process.

Alderman Edwards suggested the Board look at alternative sites while waiting on the conversion process. Harcourt stated we will have public meetings early on in the process, so he anticipates public input on the location to come sooner rather than later, and that will help guide the decision-making.

Witherington stated she wants to be clear with the board that IF we move forward with the conversion of the grammar school property, we CAN move forward with planning and deliberations and just about everything other than construction/demolition while waiting on State approval.

Alderwoman Bommer stated she feels building on this property will cost more than the Newman Property. Mayor Hanson stated we never got to the real costs on the Newman Property, and it would also require conversion approval from the State. Harcourt stated the anticipated appraisal on the Newman property had the probability of coming in much higher than the grammar school property. McGowan also added that there was a public hearing and many of the neighbors around the Newman property expressed their concern with the department being constructed in their neighborhood. McGowan went on to say that the old grammar school must be demolished no matter what, and reiterated his feelings that this site is the best location for the police department. Sullivan agreed that the building must be torn down so we might as well pursue the conversion process. Alderwoman Bommer stated she will not vote for a conversion at this time because she believes we are putting the cart before the horse.

Chief Lewis stated he will not be upset with whatever the Board decides and he appreciates having a new facility, he is just concerned with the possible time restraints. Eakes stated that the design and building process should be no more than 18 months because they can have everything ready to go when the conversion is approved. Alderman Sullivan stated we need to do this right and Alderman Edwards stated we need to keep our options open for another site. Mayor Hanson stated he likes this site and while he knows there are some challenges, he believes we should proceed with the conversion process. Motion passed with a 5-1 vote with Bommer voting no.

Alderman Edwards asked Harcourt if the demolition of the building was included in the estimate, and he said demolition is included as well as the cost of rebuilding tennis and basketball courts. Eakes went on to explain the information the committee was provided by A2H, which included a breakdown of various parts of the process, including dumpsters, drainage, lighting, and other project costs, and demolition of the existing building. Alderman Edwards asked if it is safe to say the city could save about \$500,000 by building on a different site and Eakes stated there could be some savings, but any site would most likely need site adjustments. Harcourt said that the existing building on old grammar school site

is becoming a liability and one of the worst things a city can do is allow an empty building to stay on city owned property – referenced a book called [Crime Prevention by Environmental Design](#).

Chairman Sullivan called on Walt Downing of USDA to make his presentation on financing the CPD building.

- Looking at about 6.5 million for entire process – including demolition of existing building. They can take the loan out for 40 years with no pre-payment penalties, no penalties for doubling up on payments, and no fees. Current rate is 3.25%. Downing stated no grant dollars could be provided for a project this large, but may be able to provide some grants after facility is completed, such as computers. Downing stated if USDA obligated loan today and interest rates went down by 1st disbursement of monies, they can go down on the rate. This gives the benefit of going **down** on interest, but **not going up**. He also stated USDA will be hands-on all the way through the process and will examine all bidding and construction elements.
- Tommy Green – TML Bond Rep for West Tennessee – started for the sole purpose to assist cities for receiving bonds – with over 4 billion dollars loaned over the years – including all the paperwork and filing. Mr. Green believes it will take about 2 months for loan approval. Total administrative fee is 15 basis points. Rate is on a 25 year schedule with a 5 year fixed rate – rate can either go up or down for another 5 years at which time rate may change or loan could be moved. Today variable rate loan is 2.61% – good for 5 years. Mr. Green had provided information in the committee’s packet and referred to those pages for discussion. He also stated there aren’t penalties for prepayment or early payoff and principle payment can also be delayed. The variable rate can also be converted to a fixed rate.

Alderman McGowan motioned to take the loan opportunities under advisement until the next F & A meeting. Alderman Glass seconded, but stated the 6.5 has some sticker shock for tax payers, especially considering we have about another 6 years left in paying off the CMC, about another 2 years on paying off the Newman Property, and others. He stated he hopes the Board will work together to make sure we make tough choices to meet those obligations. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Sullivan then called on Mattie Cushman. Ms Cushman asked for questions regarding artesian funds usage. Mayor Hanson stated that because she is in touch with ECD about the funds, he wanted her expert advice on the usage. Anything that is [CDBG](#) eligible is also eligible for Artesian Funds. Cushman stated the funds can be used for basically everything except for general maintenance, city halls, government buildings, etc, and referred back to the June 14 letter, which contained 5 general approvals from Kent Archer. Alderman Hadley stated he was working with the City when these funds were set up back in the 80s and expressed his concern with having approval in writing. Cushman stated the oversight comes through our local auditor now and not from the State, so we now have the simple guidelines of CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) – community enhancement and economic development. The current balance in the Artesian Fund is \$92,000. Alderwoman Bommer asked Ms Cushman if funds from the Artesian Fund could be used to pay the grant match for construction at the Boys and Girls Club, which resides in a city-owned building, and Cushman stated they can.

Chairman Sullivan moved on to the next item on the agenda for a discussion on a possible violation of the Sunshine Law, which was brought up at last week’s Board meeting. Chairmen Alderman Sullivan stated he stands by his motion for allocating \$25,000 to the Boys and Girls Club for the purpose of matching the USDA grant they recently received. Alderman Glass stated the original request from the Boys and Girls Club was simply for approval from the city for the grant, but they did not ask for money. Glass asked why all of a sudden was a motion made to give them money that wasn’t asked for. Alderwoman Bommer stated this board took money away from the Boys and Girls Club when the city did not give them the funding they had asked for earlier in the year. The club is in her district and she feels there is a need there to help them meet this grant match. Glass reiterated they did not ask for money and he cannot support allocating additional monies to any group who didn’t ask for it. Alderman Glass asked Mayor Hanson to reiterate a conversation from an earlier meeting in the mayor’s office when the USDA, and Boys and Girls Club reps met with the city on the final loan process. And Hanson stated he specifically asked if they had the money for the match, and Caldwell stated that they did.

Alderman Edwards stated that he speaks for the Boys and Girls Club and although they may have had the money, he knows they are strapped for money and with more money, they can serve more kids. He also stated the vote was a legal vote and there was a second vote to approve the minutes. Edwards stated he contacted the State and he believes the discussion the two aldermen had before the meeting is not a violation of the Sunshine Law. Alderman McGowan stated the lease on the building (40 years) is for the Boys and Girls benefit, and he stated this situation has gotten ridiculous. McGowan said he believed the conversation before the last Board meeting could certainly be a Sunshine Law violation and he believes we should avoid that taint. McGowan stated he did vote for the motion, but really felt like he was put on the spot.

McGowan motioned for there to be a budget ordinance drawn up and presented at next meeting, and said that if we are going to make appropriations, there should be an ordinance that determines how they will be handled. He feels any money spent constitutes appropriations and should be approved by ordinance before we spend the money. McGowan stated the Boys and Girls Club do a great job, and so do other non-profits. But, we are in the business of keeping parks, fire departments, police departments, streets, sanitation and other things up to keep the city operating. Glass asked for the motion to be clarified – and Alderman Edwards stated he feels we should seek advice from MTAS before moving forward with this. Mayor Hanson stated that when budgets are amended, this is approved in one svelte swoop in June. McGowan stated he has spoken to MTAS himself and was informed we are not doing things the appropriate way, and gave an example. He stated we need to go ahead and approve the motion for the Boys and Girls Club at this time to dispel any Sunshine Law violations and he is ready to move forward today, but still believes we should revisit how we appropriate funds.

Alderwoman Bommer stated that we talk about spending taxpayers' money that the very people we are talking about helping spend a lot of money on sales tax and while they do not necessarily pay as much in property tax, they pay more sales tax. She also reiterated her desire to move forward with the vote. At that time, she motioned to appropriate \$25,000 to the Boys and Girls Club for the purpose of matching the USDA grant they received for constructing two additional classrooms inside the building.

Chairman Sullivan asked for McGowan to restate/clarify his motion because his motion was still on the floor. There was no second on McGowan's motion, so the motion failed.

Chairman Sullivan stated this is so disheartening. He stated the Boys and Girls Club did not request the money, and he made the motion to match the grant because he felt we should do that. He stated now he is afraid to move forward with the vote.

McGowan stated he could have had his vote had he seconded his motion and he doesn't feel moved to vote for appropriating money without the appropriate ordinance in place.

Bommer made her motion again to approve giving the \$25,000 to the Boys and Girls Club and Alderman Edwards seconded. Alderman Glass stated he would be happy to support the vote as long as attorney Witherington gives us a legal opinion on the appropriations of funds ordinance. McGowan stated that Bommer is right – that the kids at the Boys and Girls Club families do pay taxes - but there are many nonprofits in Covington, and he feels we are making appropriations against state code because we are spending money before it is appropriated.

Bommer said it makes no sense that we wouldn't spend money to go into that building that the city owns. Glass stated the Boys and Girls Club did not ask for money and the match for the grant was listed in their line item budget when they applied for funding from the city. After some heated discussion, Chairman Sullivan called for the vote. Motion passed 4-3 with Glass, Hadley, and Hanson voting no, and Bommer, Edwards, McGowan and Sullivan voting yes.

Edwards said he believes we should set an amount from the budget for funding nonprofits and suggested using .5% of our budget each year for this purpose.

McGowan said we need to get out of the business of funding nonprofits because they have boards for that purpose, funding through the city causes uproars, and we don't fund them evenly. McGowan went on to say the major job of city government is to fund city services and provide services for all citizens.

Edwards reiterated he would like for everyone to give that some thought – setting aside .5% of our annual city budget to go to 501c3 organizations. McGowan asked Edwards if he thinks that should go to a referendum to the people for a vote, and Edwards said not necessarily. Sara Gangaware asked Edwards if his .5% suggestion would be equally distributed to all nonprofits who ask for assistance from the city, he stated no because their needs aren't all the same.

Alderwoman Bommer stated it is difficult to get funding in District 1 and Mayor Hanson stated that he respectfully disagrees because there is nearly \$1 million project about to start in District 1 for infrastructure improvements, including sidewalks and lighting, and he is proud of that project. Bommer said she said it is harder to get funding there.

McGowan stated he still feels we should be out of the 501c3 funding business, reiterating that is what the Boards of Directors of those organizations are supposed to do. Glass stated that because we are still paying on the CMC, the Gasification plant, the firetruck, the 1.5 million lawsuit settlement, and other loans, AND are looking at funding a 6.5 million police department, he feels we are setting ourselves up for failure if we don't set some limits on spending.

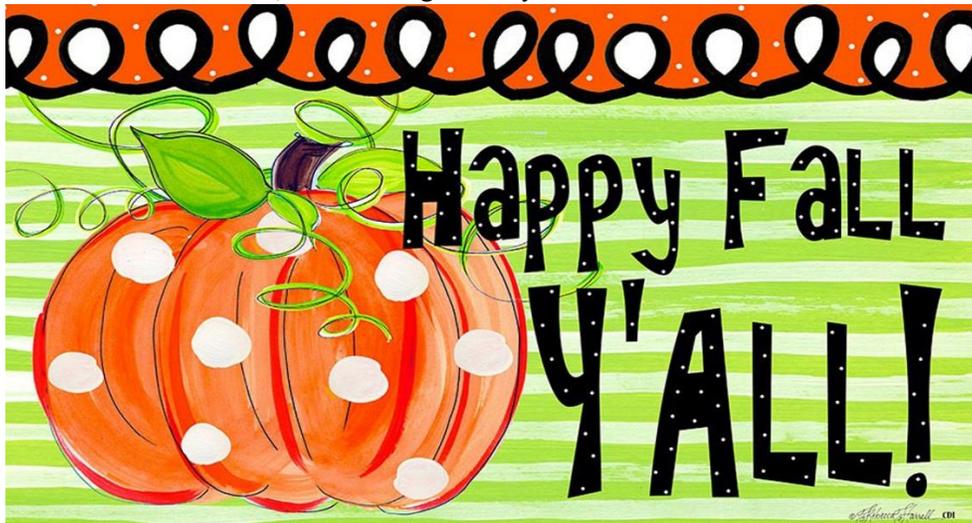
McGowan stated nobody likes to raise property taxes, but if we are going to spend it, we need to be responsible enough to do that in the most responsible way. He went on to say we need to get a handle on our 501c3 expenses and we have so much good going on in Covington and he wants us to be deliberate in what we do. Mayor Hanson said that is why we are going through strategic planning. McGowan stated he still feels we should get out of the 501c3 funding business.

Glass stated we have many obligations to meet over the next several years and he doesn't want to break the city finances. Glass asked if anyone in the room would like to comment on this. No one did. Mayor stated public safety is paramount and he is proud to move forward with that investment in the police department, as it will improve the entire area.

Margaret Fleming spoke and asked for parks in District 2 or that children from district 2 be given access to the Girls and Boys Club. Chairman Sullivan stated Delta Human Resources is providing bus for transportation for children from CIAA and Crestview Elementary to BGC.

Edwards stated that when CMC is completed, it stands to bring in monies for the city, and Alderman Glass asked for an update at next week's Board meeting on the progress toward completion at the CMC.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.



Mueller Industries Celebrates 41 Years in Covington and their 100th Year as a Company

Covington Plant Manager Kevin Gay, along with employees of Mueller Industries, celebrated *two* of the company's birthdays with an Employee Appreciation Day at Cobb-Parr Park in Covington. Employees and their families enjoyed delicious food, fellowship, and fun – including the milestone ribbon cutting pictured below.



*Congratulations to Mueller Industries and THANK YOU
for providing jobs in Covington!*



Boys and Girls Club members, along with adult supervisors, assisted Mueller Industries with the festivities at their company picnic in Cobb-Parr Park. They helped set up for the event, monitored the bouncy sets to keep children safe, did some face painting, assisted with the food prep, and helped clean up afterwards. These youth are participating in the Youth of the Year and Junior Youth of the Year competition and the winners will be announced at their annual Steak and Burgers fundraiser on October 5th at the Tipton County Museum.



Tipton County [WestStar](#) Alumni Held Meeting – Discussed Future Candidates & Upcoming Class and Sessions



Amy Turnage, Deborah Reed, Rosemary Bridges, Lessie Fisher, Michael Naifeh, Harriett Cannon, Mark Heaston, Justin Hanson, and Joel Howard of the Tipton County WestStar Alumni held lunch meeting at Bald Butcher in Covington.

Mayor Hanson Speaks to Capstone Classes

Covington Mayor Justin Hanson visited with all three Tipton County High Schools' Capstone classes this week talking to students about communication and leadership skills. He taught two classes at Munford High Tuesday, one class at Covington High Wednesday, and two classes at Brighton High Friday. The Capstone program is designed to teach career readiness skills and teach students about career opportunities in Tipton County. Capstone focuses on helping students become successful in their chosen careers by instilling important skills and helping navigate the path to gain the education needed for their career choice.



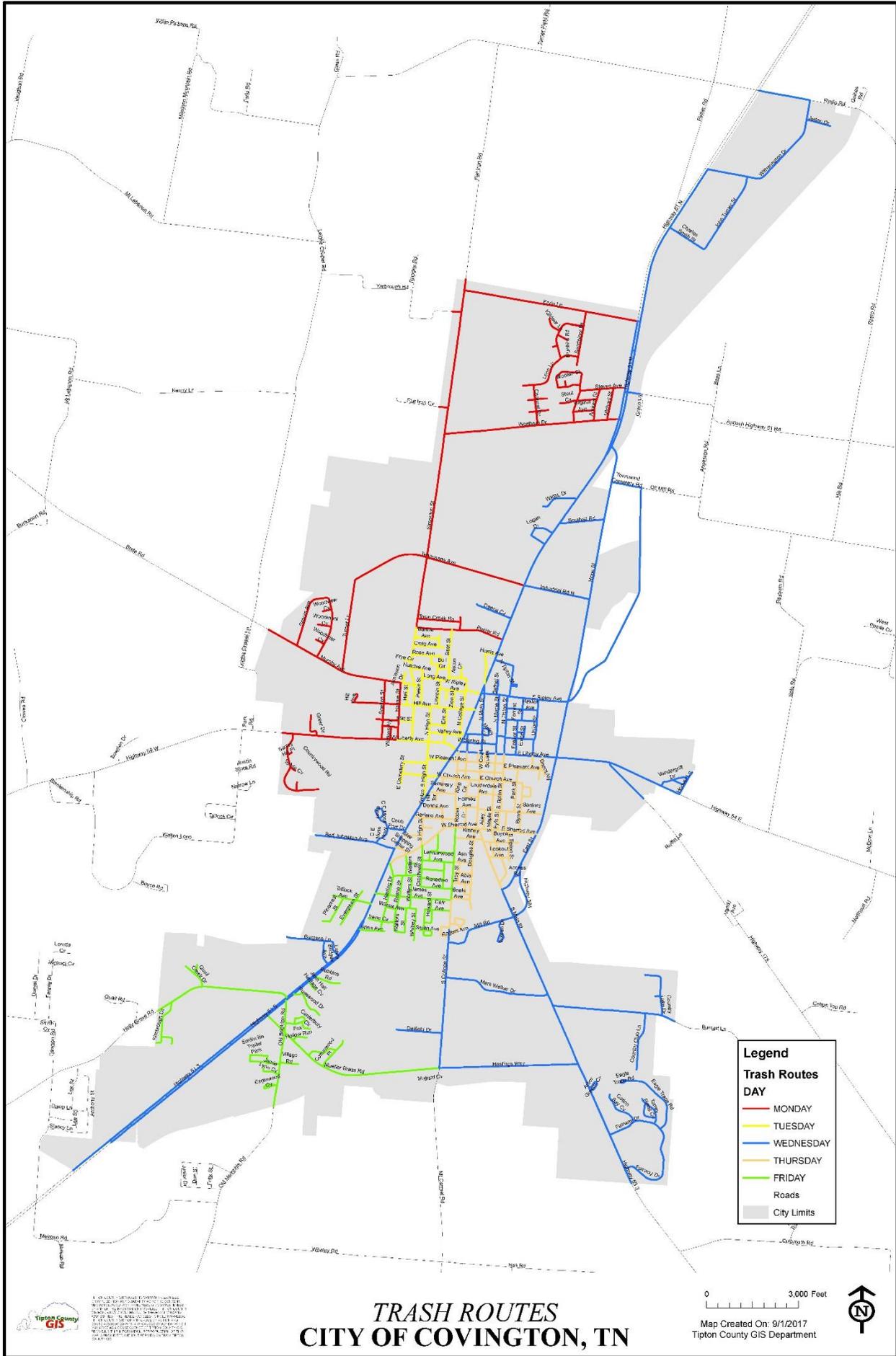
Covington Residents may have Change in Trash Pick-Up

Beginning in October, 2017, there will be a change in the scheduled pick-up of Covington roll-out garbage. **Please refer to the map *below*** to see when your NEW pick-up day will be.

The map is color-coded for your convenience as follows:

- RED streets/areas will be picked up on Mondays
- YELLOW streets/areas (west of highway 51) will be picked up on Tuesdays
- BLUE streets/areas will be picked up on Wednesdays
- GOLD streets/areas (east of highway 51) will be picked up on Thursdays
- GREEN streets/areas will be picked up on Fridays.

It is possible that your pick-up day **will not change**. If you have any questions, please call 901-476-9613 ext. 146, 118, or 127 for assistance or come by City Hall at 200 West Washington Street, Covington.



Tipton County GIS

TRASH ROUTES CITY OF COVINGTON, TN

Map Created On: 9/1/2017
Tipton County GIS Department





**You're invited
to celebrate...**

**THE YOUTH & JUNIOR
YOUTH OF THE YEAR
SPEECH CONTEST**

With us!

WHEN September 22, 2017

WHERE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

412C ALSTON CIRCLE COVINGTON, TN 38019

TIME 4:30 P.M.

RSVP TO FELISHA MASON 901-476-0180

DEPARTMENTAL TIDBITS

keeping you up-to-date with what's going on in our city

PARKS AND RECREATION:

- **Join us in our Fight against Cancer...Swim, Run, and lift Weights to support Tipton County Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. Donate \$1 for every mile you run and lap you swim in October. Also donate 10 cents for every pound of your 1RM (once per every week). Stop in to the Sportsplex or Covington Aquatics Center to sign up. Not a member - No problem! We will comp your membership for the month as long as you make your donation at the end of October.**



Can't participate in the SWIRL challenge? Show your support by purchasing a T-Shirt for \$15.....long sleeve \$18.

- **New Online Spin Class starts Saturday October 14 @ 10AM. Bring a friend or two and enjoy our online instructor lead spin class. Non-members be on the lookout for free coupons for the class at local events.**
- **FREE outdoor fitness class: Master Chief's (Boot Camp) Super Circuit Saturday! October 21 @1300 (that's 1:00 PM) at Cobb-Parr Park across from Project Play. Guys - grab a few buddies; Ladies - round up your besties! This will be the most fun you have had in a long time out in the fresh open air....as well as a great workout!**
- **Yoga in the Garden Tuesday October 3rd @ 5PM and Thursday October 5th @ 8:30. Come and enjoy a *Free Outdoor Yoga Class* in the majestic beauty of the garden @ the Tipton County Museum (weather permitting).**

PUBLIC WORKS AND STREETS:



The Covington Public Works Department painted crosswalks on South College Street in front of Covington High School. Tennessee law requires that vehicles yield to pedestrians and when in a marked school zone when a warning flasher or flashers are in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall stop to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a marked crosswalk or at an intersection with no marked crosswalk. **BE SAFE!**

MUSEUM:

- **On Tuesday, we taped “Tipton County Pulse” with Susan Cheairs. The link to it is <https://youtu.be/XzyR3gGiu9U>**
- **We are down 3 volunteers. Kathy Desjarlais of the local Veteran’s Administration will let the Veterans know we need more volunteers. Anyone interested in volunteering please call 901-476-0242 or 901-476-3734**
- **The Gift Shop Gala is TONIGHT (Friday) from 5:30 to 7:00 or whenever the last person leaves! We will have some refreshments but many of the artists and authors will also be bringing “a non-sticky finger food – PLEASE JOIN US!**

CODES:

- **The Codes Department has been busy inspecting ordinance compliance and as a result, issued letters to property owners with overgrown grass/vegetation.**
- **Department is also working on plan to address inoperative automobiles in yards.**
- **The City of Covington received notice from Tipton County and the State of Tennessee that we have received over \$260,000 in [CDBG](#) grant dollars for blight eradication in the City of Covington.**

COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- **The State of Tennessee picked up 71 POUNDS of discarded prescription medication that have been turned in to the Covington Police Department. The [Pitch Your Pills](#) campaign is part of the Drug Free Tipton program.**

COVINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT:

On September 22, 2017 at 0246, the Covington Fire Department received a call of a gas station explosion at 30 Hwy 70 in Mason, Tennessee (13 miles). Upon arrival, the first arriving CFD unit reported heavy fire throughout the structure.

Defensive operation began immediately to control the fire. The building was unstable with multiple walls and support structures missing. Mason Volunteer Fire Department, Three Star Volunteer Fire Department and Charleston Volunteer Fire Department assisted in suppression operations. Medic One Ambulance, Tipton County Sheriff's Department, Mason P.D along with TDOT made the scene to assist with crowd and traffic control.

The T.B.I. Bomb and Arson Division was contacted to assist the Covington Fire Department Investigators on the scene. Upon Bomb and Arson arrival, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms was requested to assist. The ATF is the lead agency on the investigation.

No injuries reported of civilians or first responders at the time. Any additional information or questions should be directed to the local ATF office at 1-800-800-3855.

Michael Naifeh, EFO, CFO



Fire Chief

Covington Fire Rescue

“The Covington Fire Department is committed to serving the citizens, business community, and visitors to the City of Covington with the highest levels of life, environment, and property conservation and protection. We will achieve this through prevention, education, preparation, response, and suppression. The department will deliver all services with the highest level of care, professionalism, and compassion to all those affected or in need of our services”

5th Annual Scarecrow Contest!

Click [here](#) to download a packet.

Contest flyer with timeline is included [here](#).



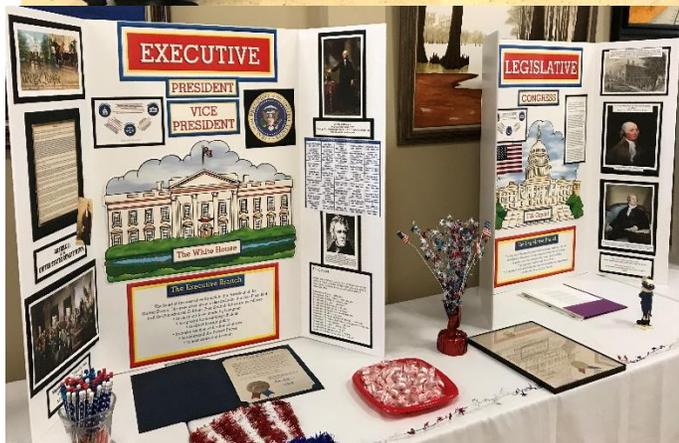
Mark Davidson Sworn in as District Attorney General

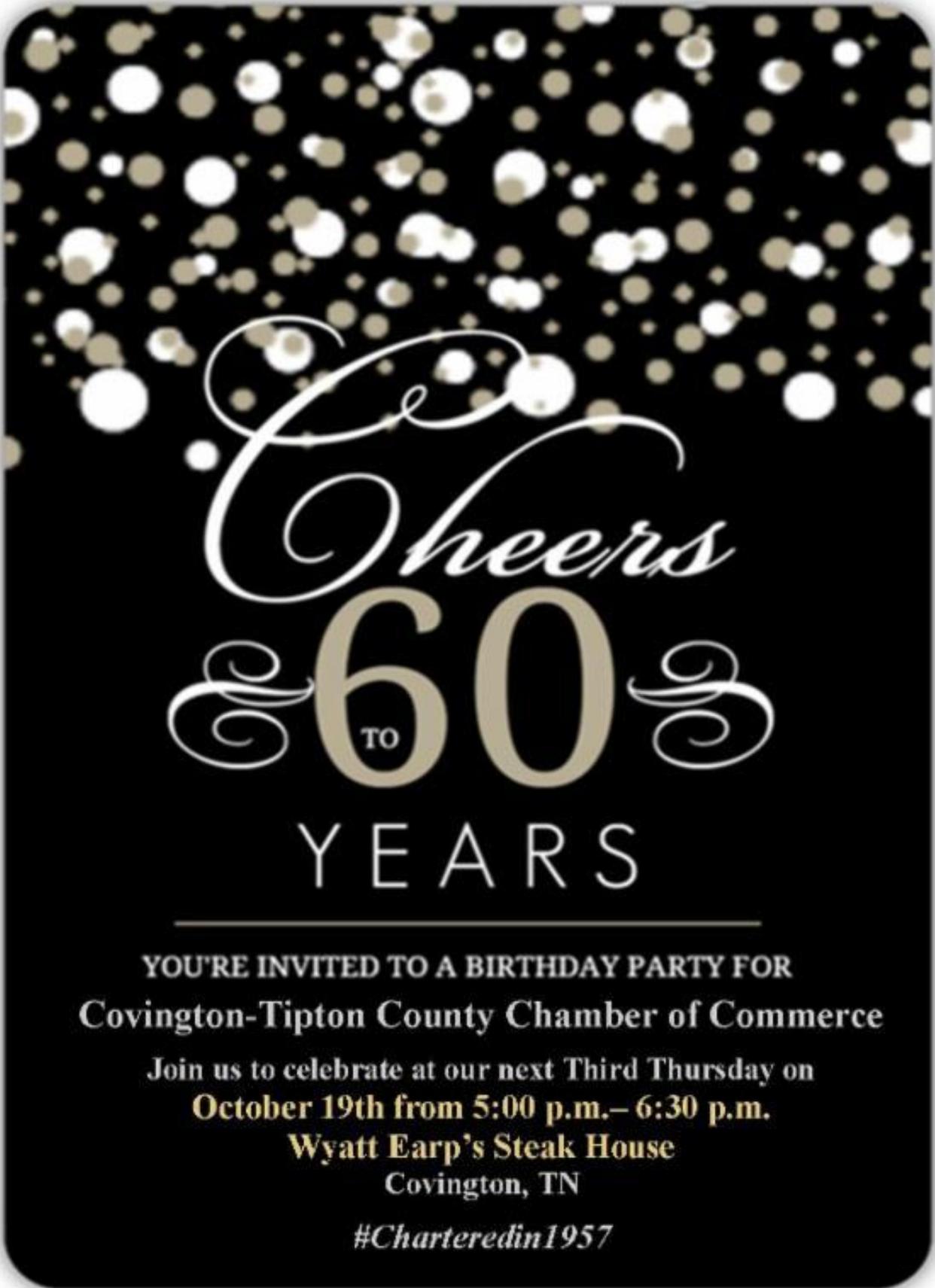


Congratulations to [Mark E. Davidson](#), above with wife Suzanne, who is the newly appointed District Attorney for the 25th Judicial District (Tipton, Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, and McNairy counties). DA Davidson, sworn in Thursday by Judge Jody Walker at the Tipton County Justice Center, was appointed by Gov. [Bill Haslam](#) to become District Attorney after [Mike Dunavant](#) was appointed US Attorney for West Tennessee. Mark will serve in his role until a 2018 election to fill Dunavant's unexpired term. Mayor Hanson is looking forward to working with General Davidson and his team to continue to keep Covington safe. Judge Walker also swore in all the Assistant District Attorneys as well as the Drug Task Force.

River City Chapter of DAR Celebrated Constitution Week at Tipton County Library

The Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated Constitution Day at the Tipton County Library Thursday with a historical display about the US Constitution and Proclamations read by several area mayors, including Mayor Ben Little of Garland, Mayor Justin Hanson of Covington, Tipton County Executive Jeff Huffman, and Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell. The cities of Atoka, Brighton, and Munford also provided proclamations.





Cheers
& 60 &
TO
YEARS

YOU'RE INVITED TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR
Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce

Join us to celebrate at our next Third Thursday on
October 19th from 5:00 p.m.– 6:30 p.m.

Wyatt Earp's Steak House
Covington, TN

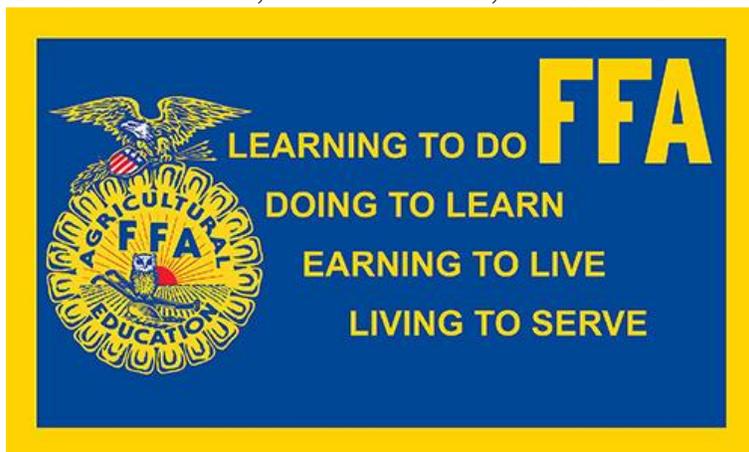
#Charteredin1957

CHS FFA Continues to Move Upward and Onward

Congratulations to the Covington FFA who recently placed 1st in the District and 4th in West TN at the 2017 West TN Dairy Judging Contest that was held at the Henry County Fairgrounds. Through hard work and dedication, these students have now qualified for the state championships to be held on September 11th, 2017 at the Tennessee State Fair in Nashville, Tennessee. Each student had to evaluate four sets of dairy cattle, give oral reasons on why they made their decision on two sets of cattle, and also had to test based on the dairy industry. Good luck to these fine young people at the state finals!!!



Congratulations to the Covington High School FFA Dairy Judging Team! They placed 1st in the District and 4th in West Tennessee. Congratulations to (L-R) John Hartsfield, Joseph Hellman, Averil Cole, Madison Johnson, Steven Sartain, and Alex Daniel.



Top Teens Tour Washington, DC

Representing Tennessee, Southwest TN Electric, Tipton County and Covington High School, **D'Ante Thompson**, along with other youth from around the state, were featured in [The Tennessee Magazine](#) for their participation in Southwest Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation's 2017 Washington Youth Tour

WE ARE SO
Proud
OF YOU



[CLICK HERE](#) to read more about these amazing youth!

This annual event provides young leaders with an opportunity to explore the nation's capital, learn about government and cooperatives, and develop their leadership skills. Students were selected for the WYT through a writing contest. The Washington trip is not the end of Southwest's involvement with D'Ante. He volunteered to work at their Annual Meeting back in August and was recognized on stage as a WYT Delegate. In addition, he is in the running for a \$10,000 scholarship. D'Ante, the tallest person in the pictures, is a senior at Brighton, but won the award and trip while at Covington High School.



- September 22 – Gift Shop Gala – Tipton County Museum – 5:30 – 7:00
- September 22 – Local author Helen Henderson will sign her books at the [Tipton County Museum](#)
- September 23 – Heritage Fest and Music on the Square in Covington – ALL DAY and into the NIGHT! Scroll down for complete details!
- September 23 – Get Fit 5-K – 8:00 am Call 901-476-3734 or scroll down for more information
- September 23 – Tipton County Commission on Aging YARD SALE! scroll down for information....
- September 28 – [Annual Industrial Appreciation Golf Tournament](#) – Covington Country Club
- September 28 – [GO JIM GO](#) comes to COVINGTON! Meet JIM and the crew on the COVINGTON SQUARE at 11:30!
- October 01 – November 05 – Vote for your favorite SQUARECROW!
- Saturdays in October – Gardening Series at the Museum – Saturdays at 11:30 am
- October 03 – Yoga in the Garden – FREE – 5:00 pm Scroll down for details.....
- October 05 – Yoga in the Garden – FREE – 8:30 am Scroll down for details.....
- October 05 – Domestic Violence Awareness Rally – 9:00 – Courthouse Lawn in Covington – please bring non-perishable food item – scroll down to read more.
- October 05 – Steak and Burgers Dinner and Fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club of the Hatchie River Region in Covington – 6:00 – Tipton County Museum scroll down for more info.....
- October 7 – 8 – Tipton Family Conference - Plan to join in for this historical conference about Tipton County from the decedents of General Jacob Tipton. Scroll down for more information.....
- October 19 – Third Thursday at Wyatt Earp’s - 5:00 – celebrate the 60th birthday of the Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce!
- October 19 – 21 – BOOK SALE at Tipton County Library
CHECK OUT THE ACTIVITIES at the library during FALL BREAK...scroll down for more info.....
- October 21 – Community Health Fair – St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church
- November 9-10-11 – Christmas Open House on the Square
- November 10 – Veteran’s Day Parade
- November 18 – A Day of Art – Tipton County Museum – scroll down for more info.....
- November 27 – Christmas Parade in Covington



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

[City of Covington](#)

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

[Tipton County](#)

[Covington Sportsplex](#)

[Drug Free Tipton](#)

[Tipton County Schools](#)

[South Tipton Chamber of Commerce](#)

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

[Covington Aquatic Center](#)

[Tipton County Museum](#)

*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

The City of Covington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Coming Soon...

5th Annual Scarecrow Contest!



It's time to plan your Scarecrow Designs for the annual contest hosted by the Covington Economic Development Corporation!

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug. 28th-Sept. 15th	Submit entry form/fee & pick up frame at Chamber
Sept 25th-Sept. 29th	Installation week for Scarecrows
Sept. 29th-Nov. 6th	All Scarecrows displayed in Downtown Covington Historic Square
Oct. 1st-Nov. 5th	VOTE, VOTE, VOTE, for your favorites entries
November 6th	All 5 Winners Announced
Nov. 6th-Nov. 17th	Pick up Scarecrow Entries

Reduce-Reuse-Recycle

We encourage you to help us Keep Tipton County Beautiful by using recycled materials to build your scarecrows.

Scarecrow Themes

Most Traditional

These scarecrows should be designed to look most like a traditional fall scarecrow seen on a farm or as a yard decoration.

Most Famous Character

Whether a famous actor, musician, tv character, or local leader, create scarecrows in this category to resemble someone OR something that's easily recognizable!

Greenest

Absolutely all materials used to create scarecrows in this category have been recycled or found at no cost to the designer!



For more details, call 901 476 9727
or email lauren@covington-tiptoncochamber.com



HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Happenings

September 21st - 23rd



Farm to Table Dinner & Heritage Fest '17 KickOff Reception

Thursday, Sept. 21st
6:00pm

VIP Reception at 5:30pm

Court Square West
Covington, TN 38019
(Farmers Market Pavilion, if rain)

Limited to First 100 Tickets Purchased

LESS THAN 25 TICKETS REMAIN!
GET YOURS TODAY!

\$40 per person
Or
\$350 Corporate Sponsorship
(which includes 8 tickets)

Call (901) 476-9727 for more info

Thursday, Sept 21st

New Heritage Festival
KickOff Event!

First Annual
Farm to Table Dinner

featuring locally grown
food from our
Farmers Market in a
delicious meal prepared
by our local restaurants.

Participating Restaurants joining
together to prepare the Farm to
Table dinner are:

- Billings' Bald Butcher
- Court Square Cafe
- Little Jimmy's Lunchbox
- Milano's
- Old Town Hall Cafe
- Pappy & Jimmie's
- Wyatt Earp's
Steakhouse

Friday, Sept 22nd

**Horse-drawn Carriage
Tours
and
Historical Narrations
through the
Historic District**

10am-6pm



Horse-drawn Carriage Tours & Historical Narrations

Friday, Sept. 22nd
10:00am-6:00pm

Historic Downtown Court Square
Covington, TN 38019

\$5 per person
Carriage seats 6 passengers

Tour begins on south side of Courthouse and
travels through the beautiful South Main
Historic District and surrounding area

Call (901) 476-9727 for more info

**Celebrate
Tipton County
Artists & Authors
at the
Gift Shop Gala**

**Tipton County Museum
5:30pm-7:00pm**



Covington-Tipton County Heritage Festival & The Tipton County Museum presents the **3rd Annual Gift Shop Gala** Celebrating Tipton County Artists & Authors

Come and meet the artists and authors represented in *Gioiello*, the Gift Shop at the Tipton County Museum. The gift shop will be open for sales, and the authors will be on hand to autograph their books. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is invited!

FREE ADMISSION

Friday, Sept. 22nd
5:30pm-7:00pm

Tipton County Museum,
Veterans Memorial & Nature Center
751 Bert Johnston Ave.,
Covington, TN 38019

Call (901) 476-0242 for more info



#HERITAGEFEST17

Arts and Crafts Fair

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday, Sept. 23rd
9:00am-4:00pm

Historic Downtown Court Square
Covington, TN 38019

Scarecrow Roll n' Stroll Kids Parade
9:00am

Live Music in the Court Square Park
All Day starting at 10am

Food Vendors
Street Performers
Civil War Reenactments

then
Come back at 6pm for
Heritage Fest 2017 Wrap-Up Party
Concert on the Square

**Saturday,
Sept 23rd**

**Annual Arts and
Crafts Fair on the
Square**

**and our new
Heritage Festival Wrap-Up Party
Concert on the Square
6pm
Saturday, Sept 23rd**



Covington-Tipton County Heritage Festival presents

MUSIC FESTIVAL



THE
BEST
MUSIC
EVENT
IN TOWN

FEATURING

The Most Popular Bands in the Region

Recording Artists, Award Winners
and Newcomers alike will fill the
Stage in the Park all day

WHEN IS IT

Saturday, Sept 23rd
10am-4pm
CD Release Party 6pm

WHERE TO

Historic Downtown Court Square Park
Covington, TN

For more info, please contact Covington-Tipton Co Chamber
of Commerce at 901-476-9727 or
Daniel Carroll of Danno's Grill danielcarroll224@gmail.com

[www.covington-tiptoncochamber.com/
heritagefestival](http://www.covington-tiptoncochamber.com/heritagefestival)



Do you need help completing your TennCare packet?



You may be able to get help completing your paperwork
on line through the Marketplace.

**Please contact Juanita Williams,
[Stanton Health Center](#) for more
information at 731-548-2232.**

Address 17 1st St E
Stanton, Tennessee 38069

Phone (731) 548-2232

Website <http://www.hardemanhealth.org/>

Hours Mon - Fri:8:00 am - 5:00 pm



GetFit 5k

An illustration of a male runner in a white singlet and shorts, captured in a dynamic running pose with arms and legs extended. Below the runner are six black stars.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Race Your Way To Fitness!

When: Saturday, Sept 23rd @ 8:00 a.m.
Where: Covington Sportsplex. 790 Bert Johnston Ave. Covington, TN 38019
How to Register: In person at the Sportsplex or Online on our Facebook Page

Scan the QR at the bottom to access our Social Media sites!!

Call us TODAY!!
901-476-3734





Join us at the

Tipton County Commission on Aging

YARD SALE

401 South College St. Covington, TN 38019

Saturday September 23, 2017

7:00 a.m. until ?

**Donations of gently used items for this fundraiser
would be appreciated.**

Call (901) 476-3333 for information & questions.

REGISTER NOW!

Annual Industrial Appreciation Golf Tournament

scheduled for Thursday, September 28th
at the Covington Country Club

Click [here](#) for the registration form!





Covington Day

Thursday, Sept. 28

11:30 a.m.

Departs: 12:50 p.m.

**Meet Jim on the Historic Covington Square and help
Support LeBonheur Children's Hospital**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE HATCHIE RIVER REGION

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

2nd Annual

Steak & Burger Dinner

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2017, 6:00 P.M.

TIPTON COUNTY MUSEUM - 751 BERT JOHNSTON AVENUE

COVINGTON, TN 38019

CONTACT JAMESMOORE@BGCHRR.COM - (901) 476-0180

INDIVIDUAL TICKET PRICE: \$50

*Tipton-Rosemark Academy's
Middle School Theatre Department presents*

Disney
**Alice in
Wonderland**
JR.



Performances are:

**Thursday Oct. 19th
7:00pm**
**Friday Oct. 20th
7:00pm**
**Saturday Oct. 21st
7:00pm**
**Sunday Oct. 22nd
3:00pm**

Ticket Prices:

\$8.00- Students
\$9.00- FAME members
\$12.00- Adults

**Purchase tickets at:
www.tiptonrosemarkacademy.net**

Railroad Crossing Repairs will have Some Covington Roads Closed

The Railroad Crossing on Industrial Road by Charms will be under construction from
September 25 – September 28
Industrial Road WILL BE CLOSED to thru traffic on those dates

The Railroad Crossing on East Ripley Street will be under construction from
September 27 – October 02
East Ripley Street WILL BE CLOSED to thru traffic on those dates

The Railroad Crossing on East Liberty Street by Covington Depot WILL BE CLOSED
to thru traffic October 3 – October 6



Domestic Violence Awareness Event in Covington will kick-off [Awareness Month](#)

On behalf of the Tipton County District Attorney's Office, I want to invite everyone to attend a Domestic Violence Awareness Event which will be held Thursday October 5, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., at the Courthouse on the Square front lawn. County Executive Jeff Huffman and Covington Mayor Justin Hanson will both be on hand to read Proclamations which proclaim that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Tipton County and the city of Covington. We are asking everyone who attends to please bring a non-perishable or canned food item with you to donate to the Carl Perkins Center's food pantry, as several domestic violence victims have recently utilized their pantry. We will be giving out purple ribbons to raise awareness, as well as releasing purple balloons to honor the lives that have been lost to domestic violence in Tipton County and Covington. During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we shine a light on this violation of the basic human right to be free from violence and abuse, pledge to ensure every victim of domestic violence knows they are not alone, and foster supportive communities that help survivors seek justice and enjoy full and healthy lives.

Please feel free to share this invitation with anyone else who may wish to attend. I look forward to seeing you all there! Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed below or by email.

Sincerely,

Lindsey R. Williams
Assistant District Attorney General
25th Judicial District
4709 Mueller Brass Road
Covington, TN 38019
901-475-2523
lwilliams@tndagc.org



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



YOGA IN THE GARDEN

Enjoy **FREE** outdoor Yoga classes surrounded by the majestic beauty of the Garden @ the Tipton County Museum (weather permitting)

Tuesday October 3rd @ 5:00PM
Thursday October 5th @ 8:30AM

751 Bert Johnston Ave
Covington TN 38019

Bring a mat/blanket
& a friend



Coffee with the Mayor
Please join Mayor Hanson for coffee and conversation on the following dates from 7:30 - 9:00

Tuesday, October 3
Tuesday, October 17
Tuesday, October 31
Tuesday, November 14
Tuesday, November 28
Tuesday, December 12

Little Jimmy's Lunch Box
Little Jimmy's Lunch Box

GIVE BLOOD

October 9th 10:00-1:00

9 Doctors Drive, Munford, TN

To aid the Texas and Florida

Hurricane Victims

Sponsored by Munford Cleaning Services

“Home of the Cleaning Ninjas”



Receive a \$25.00 off coupon when you donate

COVINGTON COURT SQUARE FARMERS MARKET



Find us under the Water Tower at 117 North Main Street, Covington!

We are open May - November on the following days:



Tuesdays 8:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.
Thursdays 12:00p.m. - 6:00p.m.
Saturdays 8:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.



Eat Fresh. Buy Local.



Call 901 476 9727 for further details.

Stop by and find out what's in season at the
Covington Court Square Farmers Market!

The Covington Court Square Farmers Market is open

- Tuesdays 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Thursdays 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.
- Saturdays 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Those interested in becoming a Farmers Market Vendor can call
901 476 9727 or email lauren@covington-tiptoncochamber.com



OCTOBER 2017 SWIRL FOR LIFE

Join us in our Fight against Cancer

Swim, Run, and lift Weights to support Tipton County Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. **Donate \$1 for every mile you run and lap you swim in October. Also donate 10 cents for every pound of your 1RM (once per every week).** Stop in to the Sportsplex or Covington Aquatics Center to sign up. **Not a member no problem. We will comp your membership for the month as long as you make your donation at the end of October.**



**ALL Proceeds
donated to TC
Relay for Life**

Help fight Cancer

Swim Laps

Run/Bike Miles

Lift Weights

COVINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION

790 Bert Johnston Ave
Covington, TN 38019

(901) 476-3734

www.covingtontn.com

October 2017



2ND ANNUAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT



OCTOBER

★
5
★

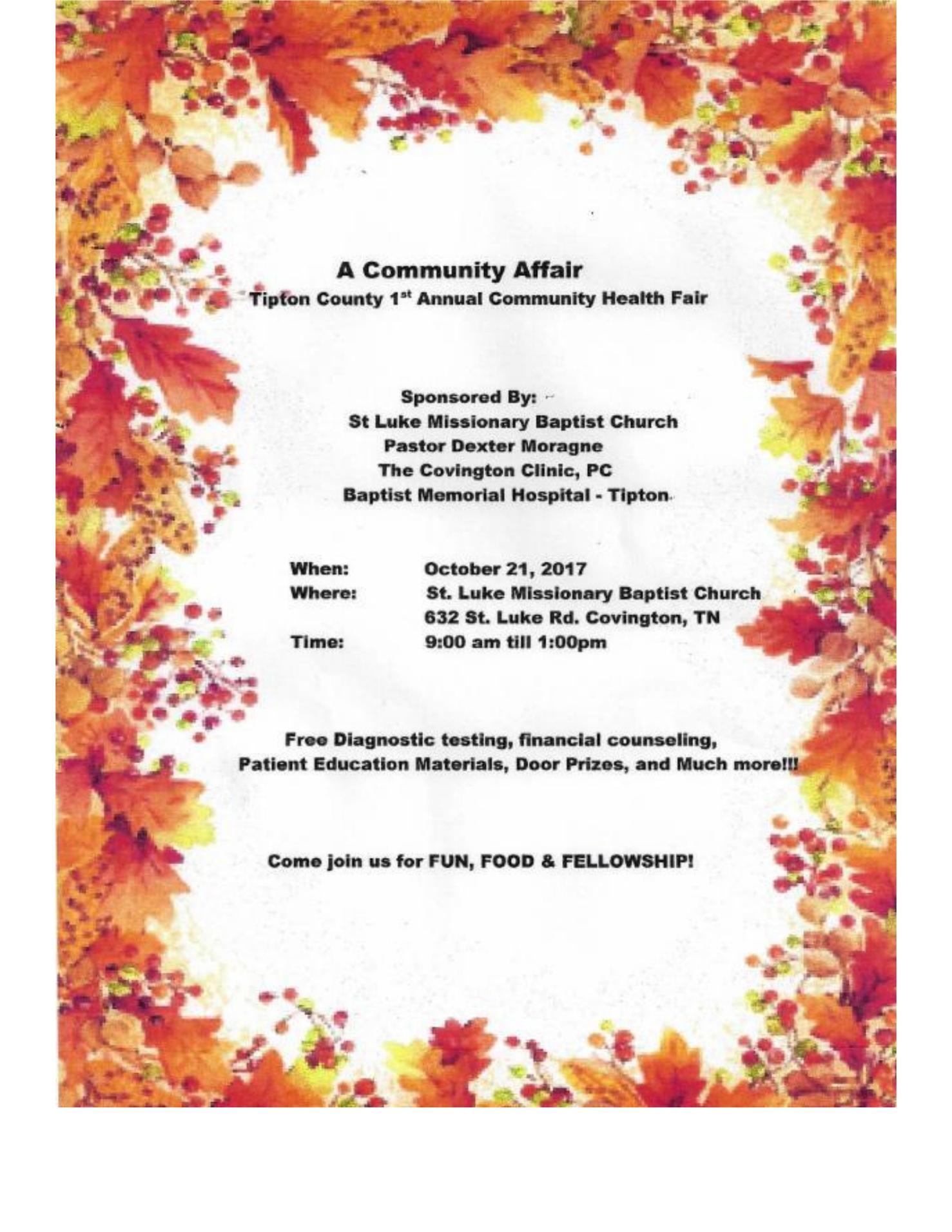
1:00 PM

★
COVINGTON
COUNTRY
CLUB
★

The second annual Tipton Christian Academy golf tournament will be held Thursday, October 5th at 1pm at the Covington Country Club. All proceeds benefit the TCA Athletic Fund. Hamburger lunch served prior to tournament. For more information and to register, contact Beth Dunavant at 901-475-4990.

- 4-man scramble
- \$300 entry fee per team
- 2 flights
- 3 winners per flight
- Hole in One cash prize

WWW.TIPTONCHRISTIANACADEMY.COM



A Community Affair

Tipton County 1st Annual Community Health Fair

Sponsored By:

St Luke Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor Dexter Moragne

The Covington Clinic, PC

Baptist Memorial Hospital - Tipton.

When: October 21, 2017

**Where: St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church
632 St. Luke Rd. Covington, TN**

Time: 9:00 am till 1:00pm

**Free Diagnostic testing, financial counseling,
Patient Education Materials, Door Prizes, and Much more!!!**

Come join us for FUN, FOOD & FELLOWSHIP!

Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce

Gala and Awards

BOOTS
& Bling 2017

Save the Date!

Tickets on Sale October 1st!

Saturday, November 18th

Social Hour with Live Music 6:00pm

Dinner & Awards 7:00pm

Covington Country Club

Corporate Sponsorships Available. Contact Chamber Office at (901) 476-9727.



[Tipton Family Association](#) sets October date to meet in Covington.

Plan to join in for this historical conference about Tipton County from the decedents of General Jacob Tipton

Y'all Come to Tipton County, Tennessee!

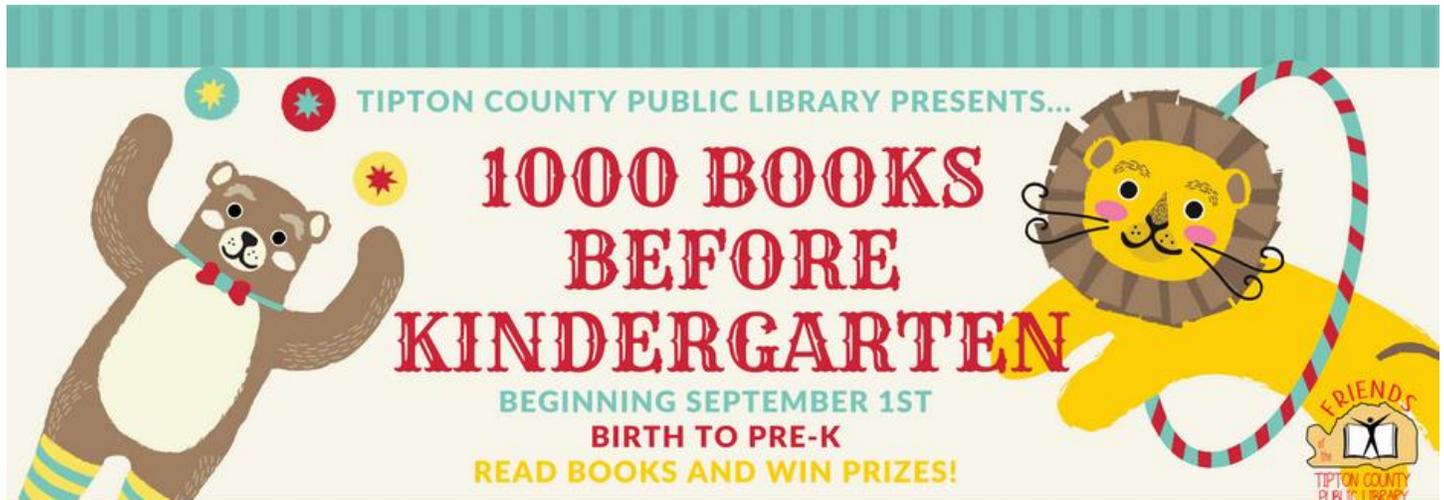
The date is set. Plans and arrangements have been made! The 2017 meeting is taking place on October 7th in the Tipton County Public Library, Building C on the campus of the Dyersburg Community College at 3149 Highway 51 South in Covington, TN. With the assistance of Susan Cheairs, Director of the Library, and a scheduled welcome from Dr. Karen Bowyer, President of the College, the meeting place is reserved.

The [Tipton Family Association of America](#) invites all TFAA members to come to Covington. Tipton County borders Shelby County, Tennessee to the north. Memphis is in Shelby County making a major US airport convenient to the meeting place. Meeting in Covington also makes it convenient for TFAA members in Arkansas, Missouri, Louisiana, and states west of the Mississippi River who might come by auto as well as those to the east. Driving from Interstate 40 in Memphis to Covington takes approximately one hour.

For information about travel accommodations or other matters when visiting Covington, Contact the Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce at Post Office Box 683, Covington, Tennessee 38019 or by phone at 901-476-9727 or online at www.covington-tiptoncochamber.com

A promotional graphic for Covington, Tennessee. At the top, the word "COVINGTON" is written in large, bold, serif letters. Below it, the tagline "THE CENTER OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY IN THE HEART OF TIPTON COUNTY" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. A bulleted list of features follows: "• Industrial and Manufacturing Center of Tipton County", "• Beautiful Historic Town Square", "• Expanding Retail Business Opportunities", "• High Performing Schools and Two Institutions of Higher Learning", "• Infrastructure and Support for Industrial and Business Development", "• Friendly Community full of Good People", and "• Mayor and City Leaders with a Vision for Positive and Productive Leadership". At the bottom, there are three inset images: a portrait of a man in a suit, a large American flag on a tall pole, and an aerial view of a modern industrial or commercial building complex. The background of the graphic features a faint circular seal with the text "EST. 1825" and "TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE".

The Library Corner



TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS...

1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1ST
BIRTH TO PRE-K
READ BOOKS AND WIN PRIZES!

According to reading and learning experts, reading aloud with your child is the single most important activity to prepare your child to learn to read. 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten can help your child to:

- Love books and reading
- Enjoy the library (their brains' playground!)
- Learn new words
- Be motivated and curious
- Prepare for reading

Sign-Up Today!

This free program reinforces the fact that parents are their child's first and best teachers. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten helps parents give their children a solid learning foundation.

Join 1000 Books Before Kindergarten to help your preschooler get ready to read!

Win Prizes for every 100 Books Read.
Receive a book bag at 500 books.
Receive a free book, 1000 Books Before Kindergarten T-shirt, and certificate at 1000 books



Finding Your Kin: Beginning Genealogy

**6-WEEK
GENEALOGY COURSE**

Sept 21 -Oct 26

Thursdays

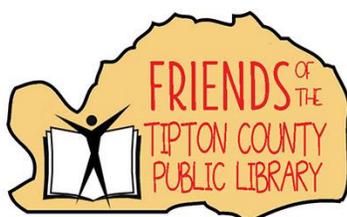
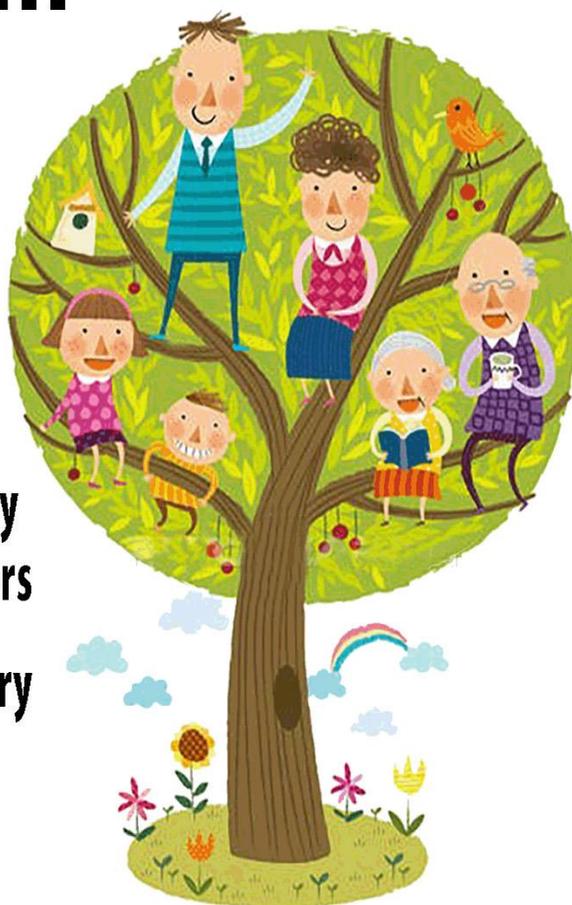
6 - 8pm

**Come learn the steps and develop
the skills that will help**

YOU discover YOUR family origins!

**Course cost: \$65 for Friends of the Library
\$85 for non-Friends members**

**Registration forms available at the Library
or online at www.tcsuperfriends.org**



**Sponsored by the Friends of the
Tipton County Public Library**

Tipton County Public Library Fall Break Programs

oct. 7th

🍂 Family Storytime -
"Pirates!" 10:00am



🍂 Lego Club - 11:00am



oct. 9th

🍂 Teen Movie "Wonder Woman"
(ages 13-17) 4:30pm



oct. 10th

🍂 **STAR WARS** Reads! - 4:00pm

Need more info?
901-476-8289
tiptoncountylibrary.com



oct. 11th

🍂 Lego Club - 2:00pm



oct. 12th

🍂 Preschool Storytime
"Monsters!"
10:00am & 2:00pm



🍂 Kids Movie Time
1:00pm

🍂 Make-It Program
4:00pm

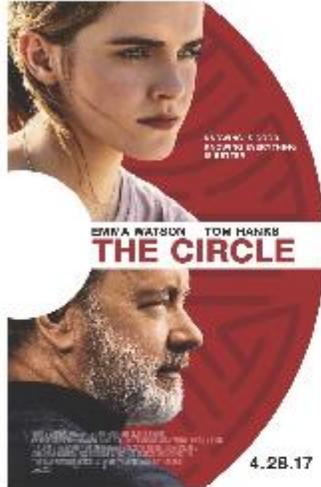
make it!
The Handmade Revolution

Join us during
your break!
All programs &
movies are free!



Free Movie Days

@ the tipton county public library



for adults (ages 18+)

sept 5th
1:00pm



for teens (ages 13-17)

sept 7th
4:30pm



for adults (ages 18+)

sept 26th
1:00pm

enjoy a free movie and refreshments on us!

FALL into some great books

at the

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

BOOK SALE

OCT 19-21

**Tipton County Public Library
DSCC Covington Campus**

MEMBERS PREVIEW NIGHT:

Thursday 4-7pm

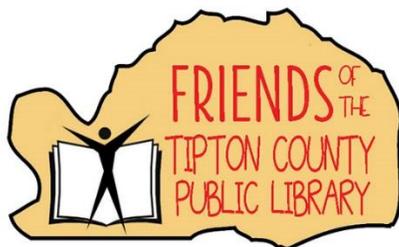
(memberships available at the door)

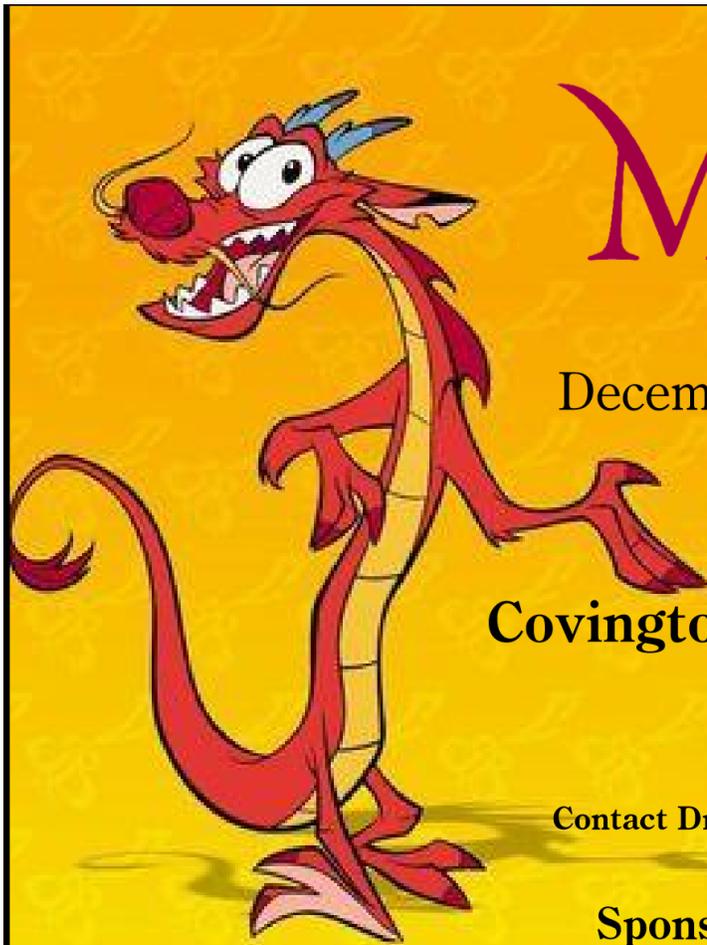
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Friday 10am to 4pm

Saturday 10am to 2pm

**Your purchase helps the Friends of the Library fund
valuable reading programs at the Library!**





Disney's
MULAN JR.

Day Performances

December 12th-14th 9:00 am & 12:30 pm

Night Performance:

December 14th @6 pm

Covington Integrated Arts Academy

Admission: Adults \$5,

Field Trip \$2 per student

(Field Trip Chaperones are free)

Contact Dr. Bonnie Wright to reserve your group at

bwright@tipton-county.com

Sponsored by CIAA Arts Booster

In association with Tipton Arts Council

What's Happening at the Museum?

Check it out.... **Tipton County Pulse**

Click here to view: <https://youtu.be/ZGoLD5opQxY>

Isaac Hayes Exhibit at Museum through November



The Tipton County Museum's new Isaac Hayes exhibit is on display through November 30. This exhibit includes pieces from Isaac's private collection that are rarely accessible to the public. See you at the [Tipton County Museum!](#)



Covington-Tipton County Heritage Festival
&
The Tipton County Museum
presents the

3rd Annual Gift Shop Gala

*Celebrating Tipton County
Artists & Authors*

Come and meet the
artists and authors
represented in *Gioiello*, the Gift Shop at the
Tipton County Museum.

The gift shop will be open for sales,
and the authors will be on hand to
autograph their books. Refreshments will be served,
and everyone is invited!

FREE ADMISSION

Friday, Sept. 22nd

5:30pm-7:00pm

Tipton County Museum,
Veterans Memorial & Nature Center
751 Bert Johnston Ave.,
Covington, TN 38019

Call (901) 476-0242 for more info

What's Growing On?

Last Friday, Tipton County Museum Director Barrie Foster was a guest on WYPL's "What's Growing On" with Booker T. Leigh and Beverly Earls. They discussed the museum's exhibits, upcoming events including the gardening series, and plans for the future.



Tipton County Pulse

This week, Tipton County Museum Director Barrie Foster interviewed Tipton County Librarian Susan Cheairs on "Tipton County Pulse." Director Cheairs discussed changes she has seen in her eleven years at the library. She also discussed upcoming events and activities at the library. After the interview, Director Foster discusses news from the Museum. [Click HERE](#) to access this edition of TIPTON COUNTY PULSE.



Successful Gardening—An October Event at The Tipton County Museum!



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



ADMISSION PER
PROGRAM:
\$5.00 General Public
FREE to Museum
Members

751 Bert Johnston Avenue
PO Box 768
Covington, TN 38019
Phone: 901-476-0242

Saturday, October 7th : 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

“Do You Have A Tennessee Smart Yard?”

- Guest Speaker – **Chris Cooper**, Shelby County Extension Agent & Host of WKNO’s “The Family Plot: Gardening in the Mid-South.”

Saturday, October 14th : 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

“The True Story of Victorian Gardens”

- Guest Speaker – **Dominique Bellott**, Garden Historian.

Saturday, October 21st : 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

“How to Identify Plant Diseases”

- Guest Speaker – **Booker T. Leigh**, Shelby County Extension Agent & Host of WYPL Channel 18’s “What’s Growing On.”

**** Saturday, October 28nd : 10:00 - 11:30 A.M. ****

“Grandfather’s Vegetable Garden”

- Guest Speaker – **Sherl Rose**, Tipton County Master Gardener & Founder of “The Hippie Homesteader.”

**** Bring seeds and cuttings to share with others.**

This event is being made possible in part by the following
Corporate Sponsors:





A DAY OF ART
AT THE TIPTON COUNTY MUSEUM

Lecture & Painting

Lectures 10—11: 30 a.m.; Free to Members, \$5 General Public

Class 1—4 p.m., \$35 Members, \$40 General Public

No previous art experience required.

751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN 38019

(901) 476-0242



Georgia O'Keeffe March 4, 2017

"Blue Morning Glories"



Henri Matisse May 13, 2017

"Les toits de Collioure"



Paul Cezanne July 8, 2017

"Maison Maria with a View of Chateau Noir"

Wassily Kandinsky November 18, 2017

"Winter Landscape"



Veteran of the Month Honored with Reception at Museum

Tuesday night family, friends, and fellow veterans gathered at the Tipton County Museum to honor Vietnam Veteran Terry Wayne McWilliams, who is the Veteran of the Month for September, 2017. The Girls Scouts once again provided delicious refreshments.

He is pictured with his wife Brenda McWilliams, and his stepdaughter Jackie Lavell King, who nominated him for this honor. His grandchildren were also there - Anthony, Breleen, Madison, and Jackie.



Veteran of the Month Terry Wayne McWilliams thanked the Girls Scouts (above) for serving refreshments at the reception held in his honor at the Tipton County Museum. His family and grandchildren also attended in his support. He was nominated by step-daughter Jackie King.





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

**Veteran of the Month for
September 2017**

Terry Wayne McWilliams



Terry Wayne McWilliams was living in Halls, Tennessee, when he joined the U.S. Navy at the age of 18 on September 28, 1963. After completing boot camp in San Diego, California, his first orders were to report to the USS Isle Royale (AD-29), a repair ship homeported in Long Beach, just up the coast from San Diego. While onboard, he enjoyed deployments to Hawaii, Japan, Hong Kong, and Subic Bay.

His next deployment was destined to be very different. In 1967, his ship received orders to Chu Lai, Vietnam, to assist in salvage operations of two Landing Ship, Tanks (LSTs) that had run aground. His ship arrived in Vietnam during monsoon season. Unable to wait for clear weather, they unloaded supplies in 30 mph winds and sheets of pouring rain. As the sole Cargo Boom Operator, Terry worked without relief from beginning to end of the operation. Needless to say, it took many long hours to remove all the cargo from the grounded vessels; and both the crew and cargo were equally soaked!

Once that task was successfully completed, Terry was assigned to an LST to ferry supplies from ship to shore. Often he and the crew spent nights ashore in make shift houses that let all the rain in, sleeping on soaking wet bedding. During one run, their LST's engine stopped running, leaving them adrift in the channel and sitting ducks for the enemy. It took an inordinate amount of time for help to arrive to tow them back to the USS Isle Royal (AD-29). They soon learned that the man who last serviced the LST had changed the oil but had failed to put oil back in the engine! A rookie mistake that could have cost them their lives, but thankfully didn't.

After four years of service, Seaman Terry Wayne McWilliams was honorably discharged on September 27, 1967, and returned home to Halls. He later learned that his brother Ronnie (now deceased) was serving in Vietnam in the U.S. Army at the same time that Terry was there. Unbeknownst to them, they were only about 30 to 40 miles apart.

For his service to our country, Terry was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with Bronze Star and the National Defense Service Medal.

Terry moved to Covington many years ago and loves his life here. He is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Terry believes that it's important not to forget those who served in Vietnam, especially those who didn't return. He and his wife Brenda are members of First United Pentecostal Church in Covington. He is proud of his children, stepchildren, and his grandchildren. His grandchildren are Anthony, Breleen, Madison, and Josh, who served in the U.S. Navy. Terry was nominated for Veteran of the Month by his step daughter, Jackie King.

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