

Highlights from the week of
June 30 – Jul 7 06 *

From the Mayor's Desk

*Thoughts and perceptions from
Mayor Justin Hanson*

Hello Friends,

We had a beautiful inaugural July 4th celebration on the Covington square Wednesday and I'm so glad the promoters persisted to make this a reality. This festivity was the brain child of local arts promoter and teacher Barbara McBride and the Tipton Arts Council. This is a fine example of an individual and a small group of people pushing to do something good – and they did. That is the true American spirit – and the kind of positive, internal persistence we look for in employees and leaders throughout this city. This is the spirit I subscribe to as I work with my teams of advisors, leaders, and movers & shakers to move our city forward. I truly agree with the words of Margaret Meade, who said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” But, no matter how focused you are and how hard you work, life has a way of reminding us that it is fragile, fleeting, and full of twists and turns beyond our wildest imaginations, at times.

While many of us celebrated July 4th with friends and family in our homes and communities, others were experiencing fear, tragedy, and loss. In the midst of the joy and celebration of American Independence, fireworks went through the window of a home and caused a serious fire. This was the home of Alderman John Edwards, and while there was great loss of property, we thank God there was no loss of life and no injury to Alderman Edwards’ family nor our firefighters or other safety officers. Another tragic accident took the life of a beloved teacher, wife, and mother bringing unimaginable shock and pain to her family and friends. We have attended the funerals of others in our community and prayed for families in many situations. Folks, all of the things we do here at Covington City Hall on behalf of our fine community pale in comparison to the love, respect, and caring we should have for one another as humans. Indeed, without that, nothing else is possible. While celebrating our American freedom, let’s never forget that includes the freedom to love our neighbors, embrace our differences, rise above our contrariness, and take care of each other as the brothers and sisters we are. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said it best: “We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.”

I have great faith in humanity, however, and am witnessing “the good” personally to those among us who are suffering. Our fire department, police department, and crews from public works worked diligently on Alderman Edwards’ house fire and extinguished it quickly and without injury. They readily gave up their holiday hours to work on behalf of safety and the sanctity of life. Our police have done excellent investigative work and I am hopeful a press release will soon be issued by either District Attorney Mark Davidson or the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) regarding this incident. As a Board, we are also soon going to take another serious look at our fireworks policy and make changes, if needed. We are going to take care of one another and while we may not agree on everything, it is imperative we operate with the best interests of our citizenry in our hearts and minds.

I urge you to take care of one another. Look in on your neighbors. Call the police or report a problem if you see one. Get involved in your neighborhood and work together to keep everyone safe. Get involved in the events of our city and let’s stay focused on doing what is good, what is right, and what is best for our city and our residents. We will persist and be committed and indeed, bring about positive change to improve the quality of life for all of us.

Justin

DEPARTMENTAL TIDBITS

“keeping you up-to-date with what’s going on in our city”

HUMAN RESOURCES & SPECIAL EVENTS:

The City of Covington Human Resource Department is responsible for the administration of all Personnel and Purchasing activities for the city. The Human Resource Department is located on the 2nd floor of the Covington Civic Center. They can be reached by phone (901) 475-7170. For reservations, scheduling, or information about special events, please call 901-475-7139

- Applications are accepted ONLY during the time of a posted vacancy.
- Applications can be obtained at the Personnel Department or online, with the exception of Police Department postings which are done through that department.
- Job postings can be found on this site as well as on the main bulletin board located outside the Personnel office. Additionally, vacancies requiring special skills are advertised in the local paper.
- You can complete applications and email it to our department through the Contact Us button above or bringing it by our office Monday through Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm.

Career Opportunities

[Grounds Maintenance Worker](#)

[Lifeguard](#)

[Police Dept](#)

[Utilities Supervisor](#)

PUBLIC WORKS AND STREETS:

Vision Statement: "The Department will strive to enhance Covington's quality of life, and through sound management, innovation, teamwork and vision, provide dependable, high quality, responsive public works and utilities services, consistent with community values and at reasonable costs to Covington's citizens, businesses, institutions, and visitors."

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Covington Parks and Recreation

Knock Smoking Out of the Park Night!

Barn Reveal
Cobb-Parr Park
Free to All Ages

popcorn
snow Cones
Food Trucks
Cotton Candy

Adult HR Derby
Baltzer Field
18 and Over
\$10 Entry Fee
1st & 2nd Place Awards

Join us for a
GREAT Night of
Family Fun

Covington TN
Tuesday July 31st 2018
@6:30 PM

Bats & Helmets Provided by Covington Parks & Rec
Bring your own pitcher for the HR Derby

DRUG FREE
Tobacco

QUITLINE
1-800-368-6868

PARKS AND RECREATION
**A LIFETIME
OF DISCOVERY**
HICKORY PARK AND RECREATION MONTH - JULY 2018



COVINGTON PARKS & REC OPEN HOUSE

Friday July 20, 2018

10AM-6PM



TIPTON COUNTY
MUSEUM
WILLIAM MEMORIAL
SOUTH BAY



Parks & Recreation Team Member in the Spotlight

**LEAH PRICE
FITNESS LEADER**



Leah is a country girl who grew up in Hickory Withe, a small town in Fayette County. She is the oldest of four girls and has the most wonderful parents anyone could ask for. She is a graduate of Fayette Academy and UT Martin. She met her husband, David at Martin and together they headed to Southwest Seminary in Fort Worth Texas until her husband graduated. They came back home and started their church work in Martin Tn. and for the last 28 years they have served at Garland Baptist Church.

Leah has always enjoyed playing sport of all kinds, loves playing video games (Super Mario on Nintendo), watching science fiction movies and eating chocolate.

Leah enjoys traveling every chance possible. She and David have passed through all 50 states - finally making it to Hawaii this past January for their 35th Wedding anniversary.

Leah and David have 3 children. Marty (the teacher); Cody (the techy software man) and Caroline (the high maintenance child). Her world revolves around her children and their wives, Mandy and Shadava. But it gets even better. They are called Grandchildren. Quinn, Griffin, Ava and Adeline. Every day is spent loving on the babies.

Leah has been a team member of the Sportsplex for three years working as a fitness leader. She enjoys every minute interacting and helping with the needs of the dedicated members we have here. Leah has been the driving force behind our extremely popular healthier TN videos. She is a joy to be around and we are lucky to have her working here with us.

COVINGTON AQUATIC CENTER:

Features

The Covington Aquatic Center offers a six-lane 25 meter recreational and competition covered pool. The pool depth is 3 feet in the shallow end and 12 feet at the deep end. The deep end of the pool houses 2 spring boards for recreational use. We offer multiple levels of swim lessons for young children through adults. Water aerobics, aqua Zumba, and other fitness classes are offered, and it is available for swim fitness.

The Aquatic Center also offers a 1.5 feet deep wading pool for children age 6 and under. This pool is covered, heated, and open all year.

The pool is available for those with mobility issues by way of an ADA compliant fixed lift.

Pool Rental

Covington Aquatic Center is available for private rentals for a variety of activities: scout swim check, birthday parties, company outings/parties, and church events. Cost for pool rental is \$125.00 for 2 or 3 hours. For more detailed rental information, contact Liz at (901) 476-9178 or by [email](#).

[Click here to learn more about swim lessons.](#)

COVINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- Covington Fire Department was on hand for "Fourth of July on the Square" presented by the Tipton Arts Council, Ruffin Theater, and Rep. Debra Moody.



- On July 4, Covington Fire Department responded to a house fire on Ripley Street belonging to District 1 Alderman John Edwards. They extinguished the fire and reported no injuries. The official press release can be found below.

CODES:

- 7-410 Unlawful sale to certain children and other persons; unlawful use of fireworks. (1) It is unlawful to offer for sale or to sell any fireworks to children under the age of sixteen (16) years of age or to any intoxicated person. (2) It is unlawful to explode or ignite fireworks within six hundred feet (600') of any church, assisted living facility, nursing home, hospital, funeral home, public or private school academic structure, or within three hundred (300') feet of where fireworks are stored, sold, or offered for sale. (3) It is unlawful to ignite or discharge any permissible articles of fireworks within or throw from a motor vehicle. (4) It is unlawful to place or throw any ignited article of fireworks into or at a motor vehicle, or at or near any person or group of persons. (5) It is unlawful to ignite fireworks on another person's private property unless permission is obtained from the owner or occupant of the property. (6) It is unlawful to launch fireworks onto property of persons who have not given permission. (7) It is unlawful to launch fireworks at times, places, or in any manner that endangers other persons. (8) It is unlawful to ignite fireworks during a burning ban declared by either the State of Tennessee or the City of Covington Fire Department, except for public (and/or group) displays for which permits have been obtained. (Ord. #1599, Nov. 2009).
- 7-402 (b) A permit to sell fireworks to the general public is valid only from June 20 through July 5 or December 10 through January 2.
- 7-413 Limits on fireworks discharge. The discharge of fireworks within the cooperate limits of the City of Covington shall be limited to December 31st, January 1st, July 4th or any date approved by the vote of the Board of Mayor and Alderman. The discharge of fireworks shall be only allowed by persons over the age of sixteen (16) or accompanied by an adult over the age of twenty-one (21).
- 13-104. Overgrown and dirty lots. (1) Prohibition. Pursuant to the authority granted to municipalities under Tennessee Code Annotated, 6-54-113, it shall be unlawful for any owner of record of really property to create, maintain, or permit to be maintained on such property the growth of trees, vines, grass, underbrush and /or the accumulations of debris, trash, litter, or garbage or any combination of the preceding elements so as to endanger the health, safety, or welfare of other citizens or to encourage the infestation of rats and other harmful animals.
- If you have complaints of the above nature please contact the Department of Code Compliance: (901) 476-7191 ext. 146 or planning.building@covingtontn.com
- For any further questions please contact the Department of Code Compliance (901)476-7191 ext 146.

MUSEUM:

There are lots of exciting things happening at the Tipton County Museum, including an exhibit exchange right now, so please pardon our dust! We will remain open during normal business hours as we create our next exhibit.

- Veteran of the Month Reception – Tuesday, July 10, 6:30 p.m. Free
- Storywalk - Saturday, July 14, 10 a.m. until noon. Free
- Open House – Friday, July 20, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free

Rob Witherington presented a \$200 check from the Dunham Lodge to be used towards replacing broken glass on an historic display case they recently donated to the Tipton County Museum. The display case was built around 1910 and sat in Roper's Drug store on the square in Covington for many years. The case will be used for exhibits at the Museum.



Public Works Committee Discussed Speed Hump Policy, Expanding School Zone, and Drive-through Beer Sales

Covington Public Works Committee met for their regular monthly meeting at Covington City Hall on July 3 with the following present: Chairman Alderman Mac McGowan, Alderman John Edwards, Public Works Director David Gray, Streets Manager James Dowell, Utilities Manager Calvin Johnson, Codes Enforcement Officer Lessie Fisher, Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn, Mayor Justin Hanson, Assistant to the Mayor Sara Gangaware and Historian David Gwinn. Also present was Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Adam Kelley, and one of his employees from Wyatt Earp's Restaurant.

Chairman Alderman Mac McGowan called the meeting to order at 1:00 with a quorum present. He called on Public Works Director David Gray to make his report.

CPW Director David Gray:

- Presented a Speed Hump Policy recommendation to the committee and went over the major parts, including Investigation and data collection, Installation procedures, and a sample petition for residents. Policy will require a petition from 2/3 of the residents living within 1000 feet of proposed area. Alderman Edwards stated he liked the policy as written because it involves investigation through police department and stated his only concern was to have it approved by our legal department. Alderwoman Bommer stated he appreciates the section that addresses emergency vehicles. Chairman McGowan stated he also likes the policy and suggested running it by legal and Codes departments. Mayor Hanson motioned to approve the policy pending review & approval by the city attorney and Alderman Edwards seconded. Motion passed.
- Gray then introduced information from MEAC – Municipal Energy Acquisition Corporation. He went through the handout presented to committee members explaining how MEAC will work and stated this will create a savings in gas for those who participate in this program. This is a 30 year contract, but at the end of 5 years, it is reassessed and if you are not receiving a savings of at least 20%, you can opt out. Gray stated representatives from MEAC will be at the August committee meeting to explain the program more completely. Chairman McGowan asked some questions and raised some concerns, and Alderman Edwards stated we can make sure we cover concerns in our contract, and said we already purchase gas in advance now, so this really won't be different. Alderman Edwards motioned to take Gray's information under consideration until next meeting, particularly because there are representatives coming to the next committee meeting for more information. Alderman McGowan seconded. Motion passed.
- Gray brought committee up to date regarding expanding the school zone to TCA on South Main Street and Hastings Way. He has met Covington Electric reps for additional poles/electricity needed, and an electrician will be coming on July 9 to start installation. However, Gray stated he has everything he needs and doesn't believe it will go past \$3000, which he has in his budget. Alderman Edwards asked if the TCA Board has offered to pay for the installation of this zone or contribute to it. Gray stated he believes they will contribute to the costs. Alderman Edwards asked Gray to double check municipal dollars being spent on private entities. Gray and Codes officer Lessie Fisher both stated it is their understanding that when the safety on a State Route and/or city street is concerned, it is acceptable for municipal funds to be used to notify drivers regardless if it includes a private institution. Gray further explained the school zones surrounding the Crestview schools and Tipton Christian Academy, which are in fairly close proximity to each other. Chairman McGowan asked about the TDOT investigation for the school zones and expressed his concerns for the costs for the City. Gray stated he is awaiting final cost estimates and will discuss this with TCA and their Board of Directors. Alderwoman Bommer asked for clarification on this project and Mayor Hanson stated this is a matter of signage and lighting only and

not installation of turning lanes or widening the road(s). This school zone already exists for Crestview schools, and this would just be an expansion of that to include TCA. Alderwoman Bommer suggested asking TCA Board how much they will contribute to the project, since they asked for the zone to include their school, then we will know how much city costs will be. At that time, McGowan motioned to proceed with the movement of the school zone on Highway 59 to include TCA and adding Hastings Way in the school zone providing TCA absorbs the cost and Alderman Edwards seconded. If they cannot do this, McGowan stated we can have a called meeting to discuss this issue further. Motion passed.

- Gray stated he received a phone call from a citizen who said she was approached at her front door by a person who said he wanted to clean up her property on behalf of the City of Covington. This person was not a city employee, and Mayor Hanson stated when people say they represent the city, but are *not* employees - that is a problem. Gray referred to the Curb-Side Ordinance and stated that 17109, which addresses groups, civic clubs, neighborhood associations, etc, who want to clean up city property and went through the processes in the ordinance to register and receive permission for this. Gray said he will be happy to work with any group or club as described in the ordinance to organize a clean-up event. Alderwoman Bommer suggested if someone says they are a city employee and offers services **for pay**, investigating should occur – whether it is to clean up, claiming to be a police officer, or any other kind of fraud. Alderman Edwards asked to bring this ordinance up again in the August meeting for further discussion because he feels there is wording in this ordinance that needs to be discussed.

Mayor Hanson motioned to accept Director Gray's report and Alderman Edwards seconded. Motion passed. Edwards asked Gray how we are doing keeping grass cut and Gray reported we are behind, but working as hard as we can. We've had a lot of rain and hot weather, and grass is growing about as fast as we can cut it. Gray said they are working overtime and are about caught up. They will continue to work on this diligently. He said biggest issue is weed eating and he has purchased more weed eaters. Committee is looking forward to airport getting their own mowing equipment as this will help quite a bit.

James Dowell apologized to the committee for the grass at Frazier Park, and stated he is sending crews there to mow, weed eat, and clean up the area. He is working to supply more trash receptacles in this area and keep a regular crew moving through.

Chairman McGowan then called on Codes Enforcement Officer Lessie Fisher for her report, and she then called on Adam Kelley of Wyatt Earp's Restaurant

- Kelley expressed his concern with our sign ordinance – particularly A-Frame signs. Fisher stated these kinds of signs (defined as sandwich boards in our ordinance) are defined as a temporary sign placed at the opening of an establishment advertising specials/menus for the day. These are allowed during business hours only at or near the entrance to the establishment. Wyatt Earps Restaurant had their signs on the square and were leaving them up. Subsequently, they got a notice stating the signs had to be removed from the square after business hours, as per our new sign ordinance, and because at least one of them was obstructing the view from a parking area. Fisher gave Kelley a copy of the entire sign ordinance for him to read/review. Kelley stated everything revolves around money and sales move everything in the restaurant business, so he wants to request permanent signs on the square.
- Alderman Edwards encouraged Kelley to address the Planning Commission regarding an amendment and then asked if we send his requests back to the planning commission, can city place a moratorium on his removing the sandwich boards after hours. Edwards stated we need to do everything we can within reason to encourage sales. McGowan stated if we allow sandwich boards to stay out by all businesses, we will have as many as 40 signs cluttering the sidewalks around the square. He said he understands Kelly's concerns for wanting more signage, but he feels it is appropriate for Kelley to make his request to planning commission for a text amendment. He asked if there were an overwhelming amount of signs

out before the new sign ordinance, and Fisher said there were not because they were not allowed at all. Kelley stated when he was putting out signs about 2 years ago, he placed a sign on highway and revenue jumped. He stated he has since bought billboards along the highway for advertising. He stated the part of the ordinance for setting out A-frame signs (referred to sandwich signs in the ordinance) in the city is petty. Mayor Hanson stated the reasons the city asked him to remove his sign were because other businesses asked for them to be moved, and they created a vision/safety issue. Kelley said if we can agree on one spot, he would like to leave it there. He said he cannot advertise on the square because of our sign ordinance. Edwards stated we don't want gaudy signs on the square, but he understands the challenges of advertising and he would love for TDOT to help with this along the highways. Mayor Hanson stated one of the recommendations in our strategic plan is for a digital sign on highway 51. Alderwoman Bommer suggested working with Kelley as we don't want to lose any business, but we need to make sure what we do for one, we can also do for all businesses.

- Fisher continued with her report referring to wording in an ordinance from another town she had provided to committee members. This concerns wording that easily explains waste, waste paper, cans or other materials, litter, garbage, trash or rubble of any kind on the public right-of-way on any street or alley immediately adjacent to and abutting a person's property. Fisher wants citizens and city employees to have clear understanding what are the city's responsibilities and property owners' responsibilities for keeping areas clean and cut. McGowan said basically, all of right-of-ways become responsibility of property owners. Gray said that is correct unless they are TDOT right-of-ways. Fisher stated we need clarification for all people so we aren't doing work we aren't supposed to do and property owners aren't confused about what needs to be done, as well. Alderwoman Bommer asked Gray for clarification and he gave several locations throughout the city where property owners do not maintain the area outside their fences, which legally should be their responsibility. Mayor Hanson stated if we can get this clarified, this will help our employees know what to do, be consistent, and take care of things that DO belong to us in a more efficient manner. Street Manager James Dowell gave several more specific examples where his crews have questions/concerns regarding what they should maintain. Fisher said her office will maintain a list of places/property owners who have been notified as to this maintenance. Fisher stated her goal is to have clear identification for all of us – city and private citizens alike – concerning who is responsible for maintaining areas in question. Hanson stated the idea here is not to “yank the rug out from under” citizens, but to have clear understanding what is our responsibility and what is citizens responsibility for maintaining areas adjacent to their properties. McGowan motioned to move forward with this ordinance (as presented by sample Fisher presented). There being no second, this motion failed. Fisher stated the wording she presented today in her example would be our new ordinance, with the exception of some special areas. Edwards said before he can vote, he wants more clarification first, particularly those areas exempt for private citizens. Fisher stated she will bring more details in August. Edwards presented pictures from several areas around town along Town Creek showing overgrowth. Gray and Fisher stated there are areas along Hazen Branch of Town Creek that are privately owned and we are not legally allowed to clean it out. Gray said this is exactly why we are trying to make an ordinance that clearly explains who is responsible for maintaining areas, right-of-ways, and other areas adjacent to and abutting private properties.
- Fisher referred to her handout again, pages 9 – 14, which was an ordinance Mayor Wharton put into law in the City of Memphis regarding blight. It is a property registration requirement to establish a process to address the deterioration and blight of city neighborhoods caused by an increasing amount of abandoned, foreclosed, or distressed real property located within the city. It is also intended to establish vacant property registration requirements as a mechanism to protect neighborhoods from becoming blighted. Alderman Edwards motioned to move forward with this ordinance and Alderman McGowan seconded. Fisher asked for committee members to review the sample and get suggestions/revisions to her ASAP for moving forward. Motion passed.

- Tennessee Codes Annotated no longer requires certified mail for notifying people to clean up their overgrown/dirty lots, therefore Fisher asked for our city's code to be amended to reflect the same requirements as per Tennessee Law. Mayor Hanson made a motion to make our language same as State law and Alderman Edwards seconded. Motion passed.
- Fisher submitted a new complaint form sample they have devised and asked for committee members to review and offer ideas.
- Chief Naifeh brought request for Compliance Engine and Fisher attended the webinar presented by CFD last week. She stated they provide many services Codes and Public Works can also use, and she feels this would be good for the city.
- Increasing calls about animals – Fisher involves CPD in this process. Fisher stated she is asking CPD to provide copies of these reports to Codes so offenders do not fall through the cracks.
- State DOES allow the sales of beer through drive-through windows at licensed liquor stores, but our beer ordinance does not. Liquor stores can provide this service as per state law, but Fisher recommends not changing our laws because this State law only applies to liquor stores. David Gwinn said Alcohol & Beverage Commission allows a lot more than what is allowed in many towns and cities throughout Tennessee. Fisher stated she has confirmed this with MTAS that Liquor Stores can offer this service, however, they will have to request a building/construction change to install such a window.
- Project update from A2H was provided in the handout – Fisher stated she believes we need to stay up to date on all projects, therefore she included this update in her packet for the committee.

Edwards made a motion to accept Fisher's report and Hanson seconded. Motion passed. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

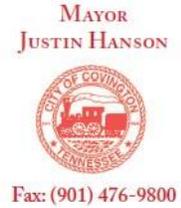
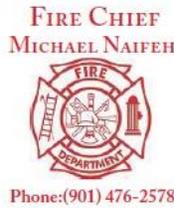
Ribbon Cutting for What a Deal in Covington

An Open House and ribbon Cutting was held on the Square at What a Deal to celebrate one year in business and becoming members of the Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce.



July 4th Fireworks resulted in Fire at Alderman's Home

District 1 Alderman John Edwards' home was hit by fireworks that resulted in heavy fire damage. Covington Fire and Covington Police Departments, along with Covington Public Works crews and Brighton Fire Department responded. Covington Fire Department press release is below.



Press Release

On July 4th, 2018 at 13:25, the Covington Fire Department received a call of a structure fire at 322 W. Ripley Avenue in Covington. Upon arrival crews reported heavy fire in the front and side of the residence with 25% involvement. Confirmation was made that the occupants were safely out the residence and fire suppression operations began. The fire was brought under control at 13:50. CFD was assisted on the scene by the Covington Police Department, Covington Public Works, Medic-One Ambulance, and Brighton Fire Department. The American Red Cross assisted the fire victims through Fire Victims Assistance Program.

No injuries were reported to civilians or fire fighters. The occupants heard what appeared to be a firework from outside the home and realized that a projectile of some type had entered the home. The projectile started a fire in one bedroom area and quickly spread. Three (3) witnesses told the Covington Police Department that a truck driven by the suspects was pewter in color and occupied by three (3) black males and one (1) white male. Witnesses also stated that a black male, front seat passenger, reached outside the truck and aimed the unknown projectile toward the residence.

Due to the fact that the home owner is an elected official, Fire Chief Michael Naifeh and Police Chief Buddy Lewis made the decision to contact Attorney General Mark Davidson to request assistance from the TBI, TN Bomb and Arson, and the ATF. The TBI is in charge of the investigation.

If you have any information about the suspects or suspect vehicle please contact the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND or the Covington P.D at 901-476-5282

"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"

Mayor Hanson Administered Oaths of Office for Chamber Boards

Mayor Justin Hanson administered the oaths of office for the 2018-19 Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce Class of 2021 and the Executive Board officers.



Mayor Hanson led the oaths of office for 2018-19 Covington-Tipton County Chamber executive Board L-R Michael Scarbrough, Executive-at-Large, Mitch Carver, Immediate Past-Chairman, Sherri Yarbrow, Chairman, and Marilyn Barbee, Executive –at Large. Not pictured is Vice Chairman and Chairman elect Scott Shirk.



Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce Class of 2021 Board of Directors were sworn in by Mayor Justin Hanson recently. They are L-R Leslie Roane, Julie Folk, Rebecca Ray, Rochelle Stidham, and Kevin Gay. Not pictured are Kelvyn Thomas and Lisa Keith.

July 4th Celebration on Covington Square

People gathered for a children's parade, patriotic songs, and more at Covington's first Independence Day celebration on the square. The event, organized by Barbara McBride, was sponsored by Tipton Arts Council, The Historic Ruffin Theater, and Representative Debra Moody







Fresh Children's Summer Art Contest



FRESH
**2ND ANNUAL CHILDREN'S
SUMMER ART CONTEST**

Open to children ages 5-17
in Tipton County

Pick up your registration packet today at the
Covington - Tipton County Chamber of Commerce, Tipton County Museum,
City Hall, or Tipton County Public Library.

Exhibition will be at the Tipton County Public Library
July 30th - August 24th.

Call 801.476.9727 for further details!

HOSTED BY THE COURT SQUARE FARMERS MARKET
AND TIPTON COUNTY MUSEUM



Eating healthier just got easier!

OPEN

Tuesdays 8am—2pm
Thursdays 12pm—6pm
Saturdays 8am—2pm



COME SHOP UNDER THE WATER TOWER
117 NORTH MAIN STREET, COVINGTON

Live Music in our Historic Covington Square

Enjoy Live Music at Danno's Grill every *Saturday Night*
beginning at 6pm with the upcoming schedule!

July 7th Mickey McClure Band
July 14th Showdown Band
July 21st CrossRoads



Live
MUSIC

Covington Parks and Recreation

Updates and upcoming events from
Covington Parks and Recreation!



**A LIFETIME
OF DISCOVERY**

COVINGTON PARKS & REC OPEN HOUSE
Friday July 20, 2018
10AM-6PM

Covington
SPORTSPLEX

TIPTON COUNTY
MUSEUM

**Covington
Aquatic Center
Special Events**

Tuesday June 26: Tipton County Swim Meet (Pool
CLOSES at 4:00pm, NO WATER AEROBICS)
Wednesday July 4: Open Swim ONLY 10:00-3:00
Tuesday July 10: Tipton County Swim Meet (Pool
CLOSES at 4:00pm, NO WATER AEROBICS)



Covington Parks and Recreation

DRUG FREE TIPTON-SUMMER MOVIE SERIES



FREE Summer Movie Nights in the Park

Thursday July 19th @ Cobb-Parr Park

Thursday August 2nd @ Frazier Park



Bring a blanket or lawn chair; invite your friends & family to the park to enjoy a movie night under the stars.

Thursday July 19th - (Coco)

Thursday August 2nd - (A Wrinkle in Time) * Free Bookmarks

Concessions Hot Dogs, Drinks, Candy, & Popcorn available @ Bolzter and Frazier Fields.

FULL HD SYSTEM ON A 19.5' SCREEN



COVINGTON TIPTON COUNTY CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

[Click here to read the Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce Newsletter](#)



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

(Margaret Mead)

We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Covington Civic Center is open! We are excited and ready to help you plan your big wedding event. We are the venue of choice whether you have plans for a small, intimate wedding or a large wedding. Our Tennessean room is located on the first floor of the Civic Center and can accommodate three hundred plus guests. Our rental packages include tables, chairs, tablecloths, and tableware and are flexible enough to accommodate most every bridal party.

Every bride wants a private place at her wedding venue to get dressed before her big day and we have this at the Civic Center. Our bride's dressing room is just steps away from the warming kitchen, where she and her wedding party can catch a last minute snack. We also have an area for the groom away from the crowd on our second floor. This area provides just the right, out of the way, space where he can enjoy time with his groomsmen to relax and share snacks before he takes that big step. There is also a dressing area on the second floor.

Our warming kitchen is just off the Tennessean and allows caterers to serve guests at any rental. The kitchen has large prep counters and is equipped with commercial appliances.

The Covington Civic Center has designated parking just West of our building. Our main entrance on Washington Avenue has a handicapped entrance, with an elevator, to offer assistance for anyone needing it. This entrance allows ease of access to the first floor for florists, photographers, bands, or caterers as well. For more information or to schedule a tour, call Karen Griffin, at 901.475.7139.





- July 07 – Mickey McClure Band live at Danno’s Grill on the square in Covington. 6:00 pm
- July 09 – Bloodmobile at Covington City Hall – 9:00 – 1:00
- July 14 – [Storywalk](#) at the Tipton County Museum – FREE! 10:00 – 12:00 Read a story while taking a walk.
- July 14 – Showdown Band live at Danno’s Grill on the square in Covington. 6:00 pm
- July 19 – FREE [Movie Night in the Park](#) – Bring your chairs and blankets to see **COCO** at Cobb-Parr Park
- July 20 – Parks and Recreation Open House at the Sportsplex in Covington 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
- July 21 – Crossroads Band live at Danno’s Grill on the square in Covington. 6:00 pm
- July 31 – Knock Smoking out of the Park – 6:30 – Baltzer Field in Cobb-Parr Park. Come see the newly painted barn roof - sponsored by Drug Free Tipton – and stay for the adult Home Run Derby. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- August 02 – FREE [Movie Night in the Park](#) – Bring your chairs - blankets to see **A Wrinkle in Time** at Frazier Park
- August 03 – Begin [Fun with Acrylics](#) at the Tipton County Museum. Call 901-476-0242 for more information
- August 04 – Wassily Kandinsky edition of the [2018 Artist Series for Kids](#) – Museum – 1:00 – 3:00
- August 18 – [Isaac Hayes Day](#) – Frazier Park – 1:00 – 5:00. Family Fun, Food, and Entertainment!
- August 24 – Navy Day at the Tipton County Museum



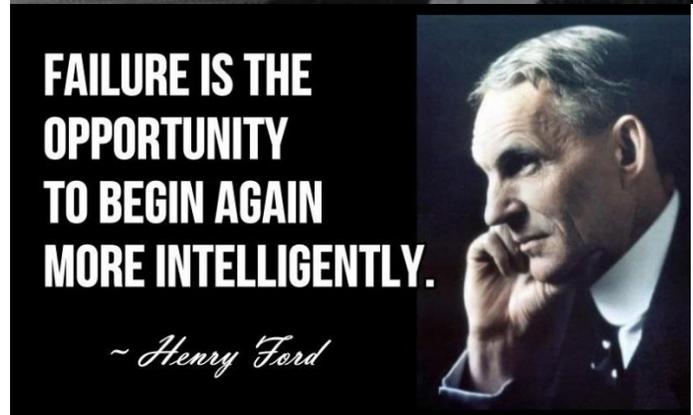
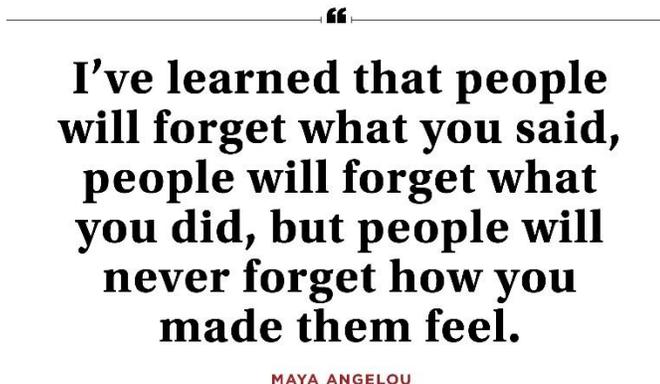
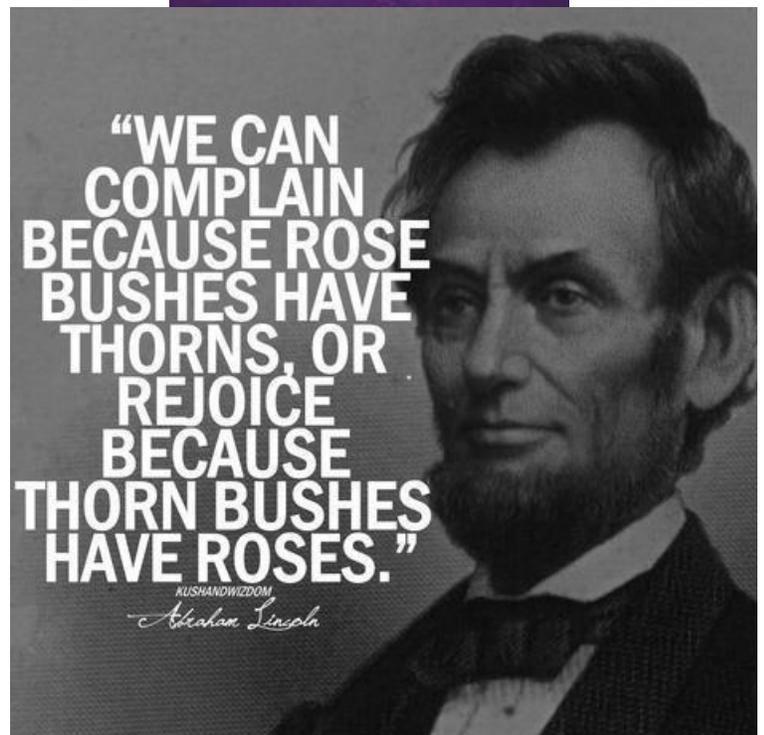
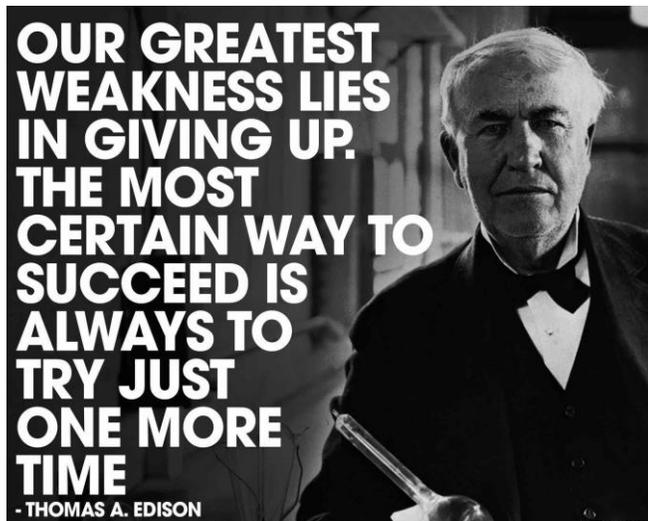
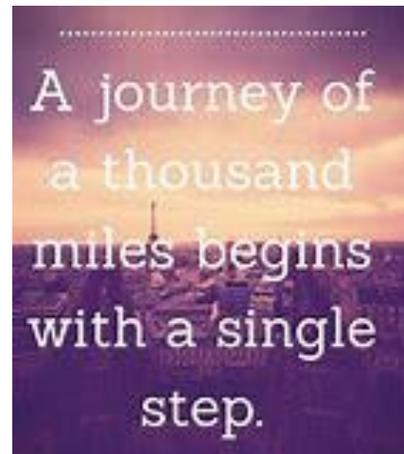
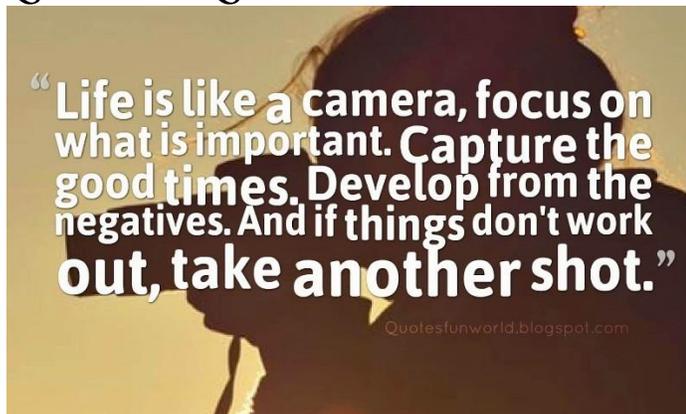
Keep up with News, Events, and Information in Covington and Tipton County

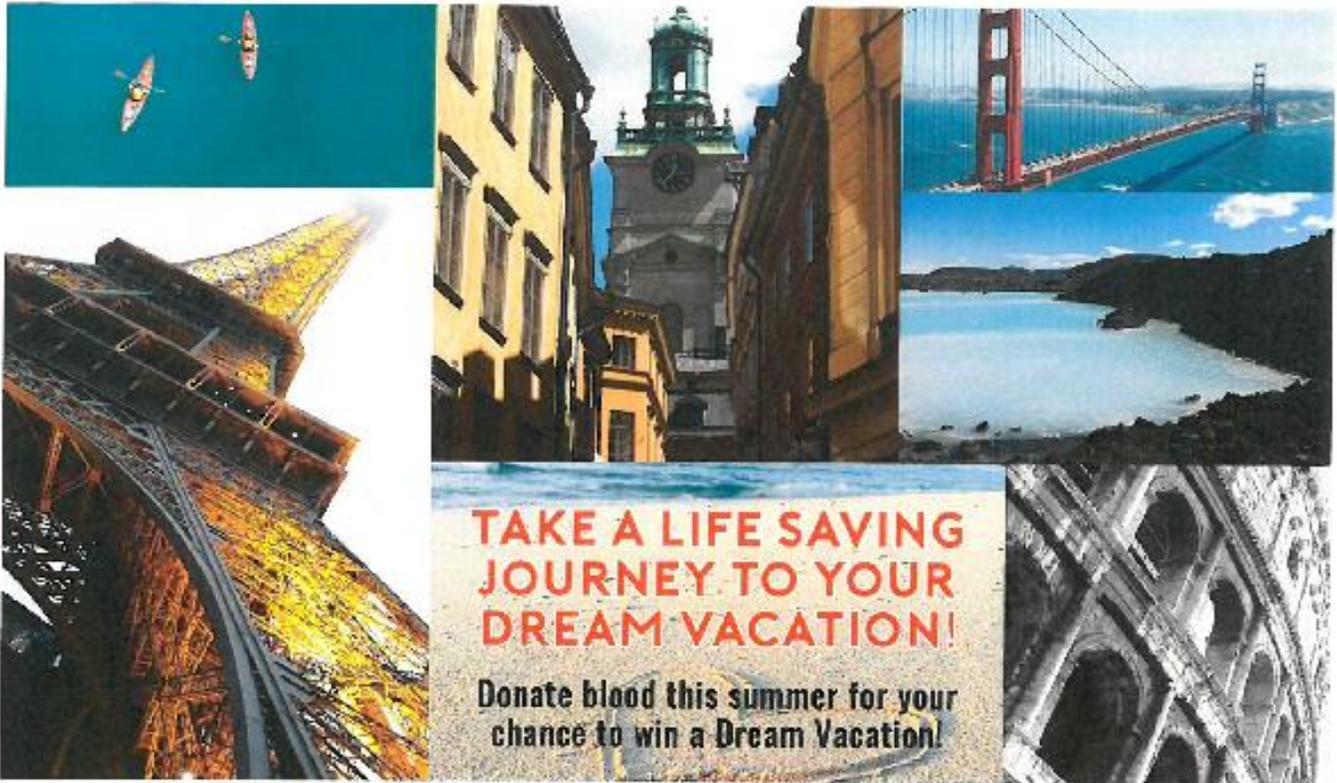
- [City of Covington](#)
- [Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Tipton County](#)
- [Covington Sportsplex](#)
- [Drug Free Tipton](#)

- [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

Quotable Quotes





**TAKE A LIFE SAVING
JOURNEY TO YOUR
DREAM VACATION!**

**Donate blood this summer for your
chance to win a Dream Vacation!**

The City of Covington will be having a Summer **Lifeblood** drive!

Monday-July 9th

9:00 AM-1:00 PM-in the **Lifeblood Mobile**.

Covington City Hall

200 West Washington Street

Covington, TN 38019

For information and to sign-up please contact Ms. Sara Gangaware at:

sgangaware@covingtontn.com or

go to: clublifeblood.us/ and enter in sponsor code: L198.

Each donation can save as many as 3 lives. Thank you!

Donate July 8-31 for a "Summer Champion"
T-shirt! While supplies last.

SAVE TIME! Complete your
FAST TRACK
Health History
the day you donate at
www.clublifeblood.org

Schedule your appointment to
donate at www.lifeblood.org or
call 888-543-3256



All June, July and August blood donors are entered
to win a *Dream Vacation*, valued at up to
\$6,000! Winner chooses
the destination!

Visit lifeblood.org for more
information and official
drawing rules.



Dyersburg State Receives SACSCOC Reaffirmation Accreditation for 10 Years

Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) President Karen Bowyer received notification June 15 from Dr. Denise Young, vice president of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC), that the College's accreditation standards had been reaffirmed for the next 10 years.

SACSCOC is a regional accrediting body of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states. Its mission is to assure the educational quality and improve the effectiveness of its member institutions.

"This is great news and an outcome that all colleges strive for," stated Dr. Bowyer. "Upholding the standards set forth by SACSCOC and receiving reaffirmation of accreditation for 10 years demonstrates that we are dedicated to providing our students with the highest-quality education possible."

A representative from SACSCOC and nine reviewers from peer institutions visited all DSCC locations in October 2017 to meet with faculty, staff and students and assessed the Institution's compliance of 95 comprehensive standards, core requirements and federal requirements - along with a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that addresses a critical area of student learning.

During the exit interview, the visiting team expressed their appreciation to DSCC and its dedication to compliance of higher education standards. Dr. Renea Akin, associate vice president of institutional planning, research and effectiveness at West Kentucky Technical and Community College, served as chair of the SACSCOC review committee. "We reviewed the standards that the off-site committee found to be out of compliance, and in terms of the compliance report and its standards, we have no recommendations for improvement," stated Dr. Akin. "This result is attributed to the emphasis and value DSCC places on education and taking care of its students." The SACSCOC Board of Trustees reviewed the report from the visiting team during their June 2018 meeting and upheld their recommendations.

CONGRATULATIONS



Tipton County 4-H July Newsletter

Important Dates:

- July 3-6 Jr. High 4-H Camp
- **July 4– Extension Office Closed**
- July 5-7 State Livestock Sheep Expo
- July 9-11 Western Region 4-H Line & Design Camp
- July 11-13 State Livestock Beef Expo
- July 14 Western Region Roundup Readiness Day
- July 23-July 27 4-H Roundup
- August 18 State Meat Goat Show
- August 25 Regional 4-H Judging Day

Congratulations to our Livestock Expo participants



It's Judging Team Time



What are Judging Teams?

Have you ever attended a fair or contest with ribbons on items and wondered

why they were judged that way? 4-H judging teams allows youth to learn how to judge items and learn that subject area, make new friends, and travel. 4-Hers will gain critical thinking, team work, decision making, and communication skills. And importantly it is a lot of FUN!

This newsletter has several opportunities for your youth to be involved.

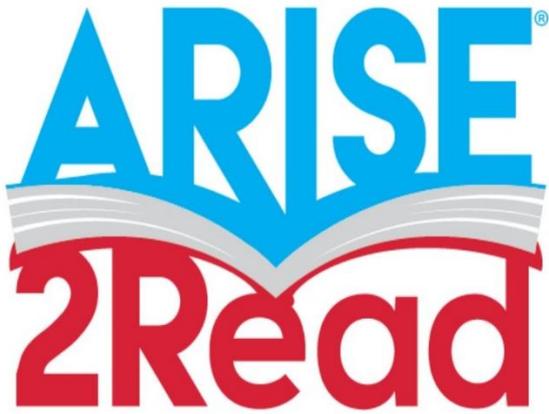
Tipton County UT/TSU Extension Office
111 W. Washington Ave
PO BOX 523
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-0231

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, Tennessee State University, US Department of Agriculture and county governments are cooperating. UT/TSU Extension provides equal opportunities in program and employment.

Real. Life. Solutions.™



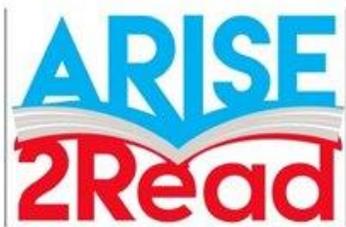
Tipton County



ARISE2Read is recruiting volunteers to serve at either Covington Integrated Arts Academy (CIAA) or Crestview Elementary, investing one hour per week to tutor two - second grade students, 30 minutes each, in literacy. Training is provided and no background in education is required. Contact Liz Newman at First United Methodist Church, Covington for more Information: (901) 476-9694, or email ewnewman2@gmail.com

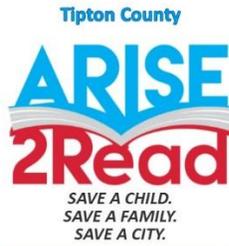


Adopt-a-School Program



A Renewal In Student Education and Evangelism

Make a difference in the life of a child, become an Arise2Read mentor.



Arise2Read is a nonprofit organization focusing on 2nd grade literacy. Utilizing a simple sight word method, volunteers assist students in strengthening their reading skills by spending one hour per week mentoring to two students. Using the team read approach, students receive one-on-one coaching twice a week focusing on simple, but essential, sight words and phrases. Arise2Read positively impacts the lives of children, teachers, parents, and the community by providing students with individualized tutoring during one of the most critical years for students. Local training is provided for volunteers to serve in Tipton County.

For more information contact:
Liz Newman, (ewnewman2@gmail.com)
Covington First United Methodist Church
901-476-9694


2/3
of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of the fourth-grade will end up in jail or on welfare.


4X
Students who aren't reading proficiently by the third grade are four times as likely to leave school without graduating.


75%
of students who struggle with reading in the 3rd grade never catch up.

Detach and return

ARISE2READ

I would like to assist 2nd grade students and serve as an ARISE2READ mentor in Tipton County**:

NAME _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

School preference: CIAA Crestview Elementary No Preference

Return to: ARISE2READ
First United Methodist Church
145 W. Church Ave.
Covington, TN 38019

Arise2Read Mentors are subject to background checks



ONE HOUR A WEEK FROM YOU CAN CHANGE A CHILD'S LIFE FOREVER

**BE THAT CHANGE
901-476-9694**



DYERSBURG STATE
Reconnect

Coming Fall 2018!

Ready to Reconnect? Get started now!
Whether you're ready to return to college or starting for the first time, we've got you covered - tuition free!

What is TN Reconnect?

TN Reconnect is an initiative to help adults enter higher education to gain new skills, advance in the workplace, and fulfill lifelong dreams of completing a degree or certificate. It provides adult students with a last dollar scholarship - allowing them to attend Dyersburg State Community College **tuition-free!**

What are the Eligibility Requirements?

In order to receive the Dyersburg State Reconnect Scholarship, students must:

- Meet DSCC admissions requirements. Visit www.dsc.edu/admissions/admissions-requirements.
- Complete the 2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>. DSCC's federal school code is 006835. The sooner you fill out the FAFSA, the better! Students may fill out the FAFSA beginning October 1, 2017.
- Enroll in at least 6 credit hours per semester.
- Be classified as an independent student (see FAFSA criteria).
- Not have earned an associate or bachelor's degree.
- Be a Tennessee resident for at least one year before completing the FAFSA.
- Not be in default on a federal or state loan or owe a refund of federal or state financial aid. Contact the DSCC Financial Aid Office at 731-286-3350 for assistance if this applies to you.
- Be registered for selective service if applicable. Visit www.sss.gov for more information.

www.TNReconnect.gov

For more information, contact Rebecca Reeves, Adult Student Coordinator, at 731-288-7514 or reeves@dsc.edu.



DYERSBURG STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dyersburg • Covington • Trenton
1510 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024
731-286-3200 / www.dsc.edu / enroll@dsc.edu

Dyersburg State Community College does not discriminate against students, employees, or applicants for admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, age, status as a protected veteran, genetic information, or any other legally protected class with respect to all employment, programs, and activities sponsored by Dyersburg State Community College. The following staff has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Dean of Student Services, Deputy Title IX Coordinator, tultz@dsc.edu, Student Center, Room 123, 1510 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024, (731) 286-3234. Dyersburg State Community College's policy on nondiscrimination can be found at <http://www.dsc.edu/node/6332>. A Tennessee Board of Regents Institution. PUB 10_17

DSCC Plans TN Reconnect Open House and Registration Events for Adult Students

Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) will host open house and registration events for adult students seeking free tuition through the Tennessee Reconnect grant.

Registration events will be held at the Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County July 16 from 1-5 p.m. and at the Dyersburg campus July 18 from 1-5 p.m. Students will be able to receive help filling out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the DSCC application for admission, the Tennessee Reconnect application, and get answers to questions regarding the grant.

Open house events will be held at the Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County July 16 from 5:30-7:30 p.m., and at the Dyersburg campus July 18 from 5:30 -7 p.m. During the open house events, students will learn more about going back to college and navigating the MyDSCC student portal, email and online programs. Students will also be able to take a tour of the campus or center and meet faculty and staff.

With the Tennessee Reconnect grant, most adult students 24 years or older will be able to attend DSCC tuition-free beginning fall 2018. Students are encouraged to start the application process now beginning with the filing of their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>. For more information, contact Rebecca Reeves, adult student coordinator, at 731-288-7514 or reeves@dsc.edu.

DYERSBURG STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

New Student Orientation

Fall classes begin August 27

July 16, 2 - 4 p.m.

**DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County
Learning Resource Center**

Meet with instructors and staff
Learn about academic programs & financial aid
Take a tour of the Center
Obtain your student ID and parking pass
Learn about student life and organizations



DSCC Sets Orientation Dates for New Students

Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) will host orientation events in July and August before the upcoming fall semester. All new students are required to attend an orientation event. They may complete this requirement either in person or by using the online orientation option located inside their MyDSCC portal.

New student orientation will be held at the **Jimmy Naifeh Center in Covington July 16 and Aug. 14, from 2-4 p.m.**, at the Dyersburg campus July 18 and Aug. 13, from 2-4 p.m., and at the Gibson County Center Aug. 15 from 2-4 p.m.

Students will be able to meet with advisors and instructors, get information about financial aid, tour the campus, learn about academic programs offered, obtain student IDs a parking pass, and learn about student life and organizations. Students, parents and legal guardians are welcome to attend. Students are reminded that fall semester classes begin Aug. 27.

For more information, please contact Sherry Baker at 731-286-3242 or sdbaker@dsc.edu.

The Library Corner

Tipton County Public Library News

Check out what's in store for you at our local Library this month!



Tipton County Public Library

BAG BOOK SALE
JULY 1ST - AUGUST 31ST
\$2.00
per Bag

FRIENDS
TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Tipton County Public Library
3149 Hwy 51 S
Bldg. C
Covington, TN
38019
476-8289

Tipton County Public Library

LIP SYNC & MUSIC TRIVIA

JULY 9th
@ 1:00 pm

AGES 12-17

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3149 HWY 51 S. BLDG C
COVINGTON, TN 38019

Tipton County Public Library

Movie Days

ADMIT ONE

604760

POPCORN

Singin' in the Rain
July 3rd @ 1:00 PM [NR] 103 Min.

Hairspray
July 6th @ 1:00 PM [PG] 116 Min.

Mary Poppins
July 13 @ 1:00 PM [G] 139 Min.

Legally Blonde
July 14 @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 96 Min.

Mamma Mia
July 20 @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 109 Min.

Meet Me in St. Louis
July 24 @ 1:00 PM [NR] 113 Min.

Dirty Dancing
July 27 @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 100 Min.

The Other Boleyn Girl
July 28 @ 10:00 AM [PG-13] 116 Min.

Grease
July 31 @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 110 Min.

Ages 18 & up

476-8289

www.tiptoncountypubliclibrary.com

**News from the Tipton County
Museum, Nature Trail, and
Veteran's Memorial**



EXHIBIT EXCHANGE

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

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

Please Pardon our

DUST



The Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center
Expansion Campaign:

Building for the Next Generation

As the Museum approaches its 20th year, the realization is we have outgrown the current facility and the necessity for expansion is essential. The Tipton County Museum is asking for the community's financial support in its endeavor to preserve Tipton County's rich cultural history.

Your contribution to the Museum's Expansion Fund is both necessary and appreciated. You can stop by with your donation, call the Museum to have a donation form mailed to you, visit our website at <http://www.covingtontn.com/museum.html> to download a donation form or donate online at: <https://tms.ezfacility.com/OnlineRegistrations/Register.aspx?CompanyID=5427&GroupID=1960714>.

Thank you for your help in preserving our legacy!

20 Years at the Tipton County Museum:

Embracing the Future While Honoring the Past
Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center

751 Bert Johnston Ave., P.O. Box 768,

Covington, TN 38019

(901) 476-0242



Story Walk

Presented by the Tipton County Public Library &
Tipton County Veterans Museum and Nature Center

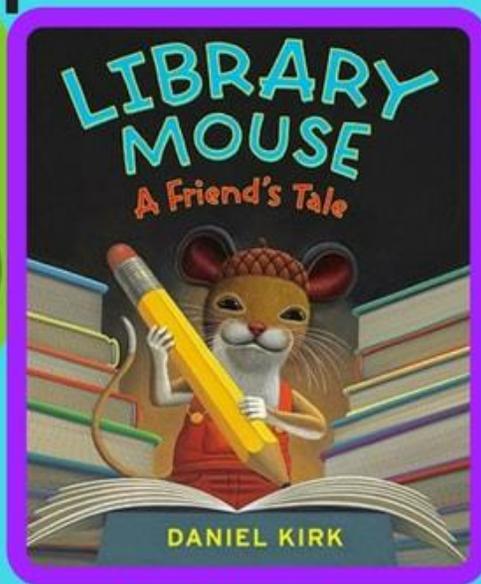
READ A STORY WHILE TAKING A WALK

Bring the whole family and discover a story page-by-page with
activities along the way on the grounds of:

Tipton County Museum Veterans Memorial and Nature Center

**751 Bert Johnson Ave.
Covington, TN 38019**

JULY 14TH



**COME ANYTIME BETWEEN
10:00-12:00PM**

FREE EVENT!!!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL THE LIBRARY
@ 476-8289**





Tipton County Museum

“Artist Series for Kids”

2018 Schedule

Saturday, February 10. 1 to 3 p.m.

Edouard Manet, “Two Pears”

Presented in Acrylic on Canvas



Saturday, June 2. 1 to 3 p.m.

Salvador Dali, “The Melting Watch”

Presented in Mixed Media on Canvas

Saturday, August 4. 1 to 3 p.m.

Wassily Kandinsky, “Color Studies 1927”

Presented in Oil Pastels on Canvas



Saturday, October 6. 1 to 3 p.m.

Auguste Renoir “Windy Landscape”

Presented in Chalk Pastels on Paper



Your child will be introduced to the famous artist, then paint one of their famous paintings. All materials are included. Program Fee is \$20 for Museum Members , \$25 for General Public. A Sibling Discount is available. A snack will be provided. Ages 10 and up. Preregistration is requested.

Tipton County Museum

751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN 38019

(901) 476-0242

Museum Camps were Fun and Educational

At Museum Camp, Archivist Sherri Onorati led the campers on an in depth tour of the Museum, reviewed local history, and followed up by showing them a glimpse of the daily life of our great grandparents and pioneers. Afterwards everyone performed an archaeological dig where they found beads, arrowheads, and sharks' teeth.

Campers made necklaces from these items.



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

The Tipton County Museum Presents

Fun with Acrylics

With Barbara Flowers McBride

Renowned artist Barbara McBride is returning to teaching acrylic painting on Friday mornings at the Tipton County Museum. Barbara will review the properties and applications of acrylic paint and will help you create beautiful artwork. Participants will provide their own supplies. Please call (901) 476-0242 for a supply list & registration.

When: August 3, 10, 17, & 31, 2018. 9:30—11:30 a.m.

Where: Tipton County Museum, 751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN

Fee: \$60 Museum Members, \$80 General Public

Tipton County Museum

751 Bert Johnston Avenue, P.O. Box 768,
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-0242



The Tipton County Museum Presents

Artist Series for Kids Wassily Kandinsky

Saturday, August 4, 2018

1 p.m.—3 p.m.

Tipton County Museum, 751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington

\$20 Museum Members, \$25 General Public



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

Museum Director and Professional Artist Barrie Foster will introduce Wassily Kandinsky to your children. They will learn that he was born and raised in Russia, and he was an abstract artist. They will then paint one of his paintings in oil pastels. All materials will be supplied. A snack will be provided and a sibling discount is available. Children 10 and up.

Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center

751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN 38019
(901) 476-0242

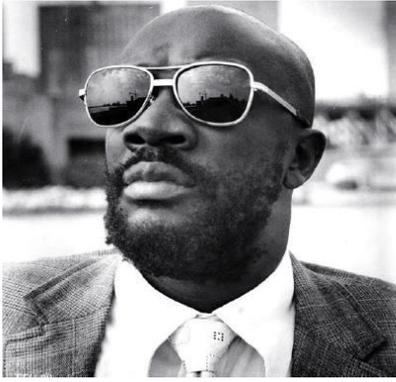


COVINGTON PARKS & REC OPEN HOUSE

Friday July 20, 2018

10AM-6PM





ISAAC HAYES DAY

August 18, 2018

@Frazier Park

Covington TN

1PM-5PM

Music
Water Slide

Free admission
Food
Vendors



Come and celebrate the birthday of Covington's own
Entertainment Icon Isaac Hayes!

Oscar winner for Best Original Song (1972) for The Theme from **Shaft!**

Inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2002!

Inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2005!

Don't forget to stop in to see our Isaac Hayes Exhibit
@ the Tipton County Museum

751 Bert Johnston Ave, Covington TN

Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial &
Nature Center announce

Veteran of the Month July, 2018

Bruce Allan Lemont



Born on November 9, 1948 in Portland, Maine, Bruce was drafted into the United States Army in 1967, a few short months after graduation from high school. As a member of a patriotic family (his father served in WWII and Korea, three brothers served in the Army and one brother served in the Marines), he was proud to be called to serve his country. After Basic Training in Ft. Benning, Georgia, he attended Advanced Infantry Training in Ft. Polk, Louisiana. In March of 1968, he was shipped to Vietnam and served in a Light Weapons Infantry unit. He was a Point Man assigned to the 101st Airborne Division. On June 28, 1968, Bruce took shrapnel in his arm from a nearby explosion. Luckily the wound was not serious and he still had use of his arm, so he was treated and sent back to work. Then on September 6, 1968, he was once again wounded, this time more seriously, after a Vietcong soldier hurled a hand grenade at him, resulting in a severe shrapnel wound to his leg. He was medevac'd to the local field hospital, where he was treated, then sent to the hospital in Cam Rahn Bay for further treatment before being sent to Japan for physical therapy. After completing physical therapy in November 1968, he transferred to Ft. Devans, Massachusetts for light duty because his wound precluded him from wearing combat boots. In late January of 1969 he was assigned to the 29th Infantry in Ft. Benning, Georgia, where he worked in the Charge of Quarters (CQ) office. After serving the remainder of his two year obligation, he was honorably discharged on September 26, 1969. Bruce has said that he enjoyed his time in the

Army and would have served longer if he had been allowed to do so. Bruce received numerous medals for his service to our country, including the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/1960 Device, Army Commendation Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation Badge, Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class Unit Citation Badge, Presidential Unit Citation, Valorous Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksman (M-14) Badge, and First Class Gunner (M-60) Badge.

After leaving the Army, Bruce worked as an ironworker at a nuclear power plant in Maine for a year before joining a plumbing supply company where he invested the next 26-plus years. He met his wife Robin through friends, and they knew almost immediately they wanted to get married, which they did in 1970. In 1996 Bruce and Robin moved to Memphis and Bruce began yet another career, this time in cooking. While he worked at the University Club, Café Society, and Spring Creek Ranch Country Club, Robin went to work for Edward Jones in Memphis where she still is today. Bruce retired from his cooking career in 2011, and four years ago he and Robin moved to Munford. They are understandably proud of their four children: Dwight is retired from the Tennessee Air National Guard; Colin is a middle school teacher in Maine; Rochelle is a pharmacy tech in Maine; and Rachel is a homemaker with children of her own. Bruce and Robin have sixteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Bruce continues to serve his community as President of the Tipton County Chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America and the Commander of the Tipton County Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He is a member of the Tipton County Veterans Council and volunteers for special functions at the Tipton County Veterans Service Office. Bruce and Robin attend Lighthouse Fellowship Church in Millington. Bruce loves his family and is proud that they are his legacy that he leaves to the world. Bruce was nominated for Veteran of the Month by August 2017 Veteran of the Month, H. Thurl Ray.

The Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial
& Nature Center

Veteran of the Month Reception

Every 2nd Tuesday Evening at 6:30

751 Bert Johnston Ave.,

Covington, TN 38019

901-476-0242



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



A Special Thanks to Our Program Sponsors:

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4840

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Unit 116

Woodmen Life, Neil Bringle