

# From the Mayor's Desk

*Thoughts and perceptions  
from Mayor Justin Hanson*

*Dear Friends and Neighbors,*

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Here we go into 2019 with resolutions to make our City the best in every way! It is my pleasure to serve the fine people of Covington, Tennessee and I intend to do so with the greatest attention to details, a renewed focus on continuous improvement and investment to essential services, and a determination to build relationships that will lead to an improved quality of life for all of us. I continue to ask for your input and have moved the committee meeting times to 4:00 pm in an effort to make it more convenient for people to attend – the schedule is listed in this newsletter. I have been working with our department heads to set goals and objectives for this new year, and soon we will put these into action plans at an administrative retreat in the next few weeks. We will take the results of the strategic planning surveys you completed and prioritize our objectives to meet yours.

While we are working to bring open projects to completion, we will continue to reach out to state and other agencies for assistance through grants and programs designed for community improvement. Having already reduced our debt by over \$2,000,000 and our pension deficit by over \$1,000,000 a year, we will continue to pay these down and set goals for getting Covington debt free. I thank our department heads, our employees, and our citizens for their creativity and out-of-the-box thinking to stretch dollars and maximize on what we've got. It truly takes all of us being dedicated toward common goals and accepting nothing less than the best.

This is my challenge for all of you – get involved, be informed, be heard, and let's work together to bring a renewed sense of pride to our community. Be alert and pay attention around you – what do you see? What do you want to see? Let's work together to continue to move this city forward. I want Covington to be the #1 small town of choice for families and businesses in Tennessee. I want us to partner with one another to provide the best and most reliable professional services and to achieve high quality results across this city and in all of our departments. Those are lofty goals, but certainly attainable – and I intend to do just that through my dedication to continuous improvement and progress. Here's to 2019 and **great** days ahead!

*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.
- You can complete an application and email it to our department through the Contact Us button on our website or bring it by our office Monday through Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm.
- [Click here to see all available job openings.](#)

## **COVINGTON AQUATIC CENTER:**

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 and other fitness classes are also offered, and it is available for swim fitness. The pool is equipped for those with mobility issues by way of an ADA-compliant fixed lift. **This facility is covered, heated, and open all year**, and you can purchase just a pool membership for a substantial savings and receive access to all aquatic classes. Our pool is available for private rentals for a variety of activities: such as, scout swim check, birthday parties, company outings/parties, and church events. For more detailed rental information, contact Director Mack at (901) 476-3734.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION:**

**POUND**  
ROCKOUT. WORKOUT.

Start Slow  
Covington  
SPORTSPLEX  
Finish Strong

**BECOME AN INSTRUCTOR**  
Join us for a 1-day, 8-hr training that looks, feels and sounds like nothing you've experienced before.

**Saturday, February 9, 2019 9AM-5PM**

The Covington Sportsplex will be a *training site* for Pound Rockout Workout Instructors!

[click here to learn more](#)

# Master Chief's Boot Camp – Something for your New Year's Resolutions!



**Start Slow**  
*Consistent* 21 X 4  
**SPORTSPLEX**  
**Finish Strong**

**MASTER CHIEF MACK'S (BOOT CAMP)**

**FREE** FITNESS CLASS EVERY THURSDAY IN JANUARY  
(3, 10, 17, 24, 31) 6PM-7PM @COVINGTON SPORTPLEX

**COVINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION**

This camp is **FREE and INSIDE!** JOIN US!

## Junior NBA Skills Training Opportunity for Boys and Girls



**jr. nba**  
Presented by LEARNEY & THOMAS

# Skills Challenge

**Participation is FREE**  
**Open to Boys & Girls 13 & Under**  
Age is determined as of August 31, 2019  
**Compete for the chance to win  
an all-expense paid trip to NYC.**

**HOST: Covington Parks and Recreation**

**DATE/TIME/LOCATION: January 12, 2019/10AM/Covington Sportsplex**

**CONTACT: Eric McGaha OR Shane Butler 901-476-3734**

[www.jrnba.com/skillschallenge](http://www.jrnba.com/skillschallenge)

Facebook.com/JRNBA @JRNBA @JRNBA www.JRNBA.com

## **COVINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- Keep up with CFD on our [Facebook Page](#).
- Please report ANY fire safety concerns you have to the Covington Fire Department at 901-476-2578. For emergencies, dial 911. To learn more about CFD operations, [click here](#).
- [Click here](#) to see Covington's newest apparatus that is featured in Firehouse Magazine.

## **COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- Covington Police Department urges all residents to **report suspicious activity**. Allow trained safety personnel to decipher information and handle potentially dangerous situations – better yet, *prevent* them from happening! **HELP US HELP YOU!** Here are contacts for your convenience:
  - **Covington Police Department** – 901-475-1261 or 901-476-0243 [blewis@covingtontn.com](mailto:blewis@covingtontn.com)
  - **Tipton County Sherriff's Dept.** - 901-475-3300 [sheriff@tiptonco.com](mailto:sheriff@tiptonco.com)
  - **Central Dispatch** – 901-475-4300

### **TBI Tips:**

**We welcome tips about possible criminal activity in Tennessee. Our employees will review tips as soon as possible and, if appropriate, forward them for further follow-up. Please include your contact information in case we have questions or would like to contact you. Please note: You may remain anonymous, but information received may be incomplete for follow-up and investigative purposes. Tips that result in the capture of any of [TBI's Top Ten Most Wanted](#) may be eligible for reward money. BY PHONE: 1-800-TBI-FIND. BY EMAIL: [Click Here](#)**

### **Local Tips:**

Recently, Drug Free Tipton launched the [tip411](#) alert system. This is an interactive way to keep the community connected and informed through email, text message, and online public safety alerts. tip411 also allows the public to report crimes and other suspicious activities directly to law enforcement by sending **anonymous text messages** from their cell phone or via a free smartphone app. **Think about that** – when you see or hear of something that makes you concerned for your safety and/or the safety of those around you, this is your opportunity to play an active role in STOPPING CRIME!

Citizens of the community can register to receive alerts via email and/or text message to their cell phone by opting to receive neighborhood-specific or countywide alerts about public safety issues in their area. Community members are encouraged to sign up online by visiting [www.drugfreetipton.org](http://www.drugfreetipton.org).

The public can also share information on crimes and other suspicious activity by sending an **anonymous tip** to police. **While not a replacement for dialing 911 in an emergency**, those wishing to share information anonymously with law enforcement can simply text “**Tipton**” and their message to 847411 (tip411) from their cellphone. Think about that! You can send IMPORTANT information directly to police!

The new “**TIPTON TIPS**” App for iPhone and Android from tip411 enables the public to share an anonymous tip with police and lets the officers respond back creating an anonymous two-way conversation. “The App can be located in the app store of your mobile device” said **Sierra Butler, Program Coordinator for Drug Free Tipton**.

The **TIPTON TIPS** App and tip411 anonymous text a tip system are **100% anonymous**, as the technology removes all identifying information before police see the tips and there is no way to identify the sender. This allows **YOU** to report suspicious activity that may **PREVENT** and/or **SOLVE** crimes in *your neighborhood*.

Those with questions, or who need help signing up for alerts, are asked to Contact Drug Free Tipton at 901.378-0545 or [www.drugfreetipton.org](http://www.drugfreetipton.org), your local Police Department (901-475-1261 or 901-476-0243) or the Tipton County Sheriff's office (901-475-3300)

## **CODES:**

- In the City of Covington, businesses operated from a home/residence are required to apply to the Board of Zoning Appeals for review and approval. [The applications are on the City website](#) and also available in the Department of Code Compliance office located on the second floor in Covington City Hall. You may call 901-476-7191 ext. 146 or email [planning.building@covingtontn.com](mailto:planning.building@covingtontn.com) to schedule an appointment for assistance with this process. For additional information you may look in the [Covington Municipal Zoning Ordinance](#) which is located on the City website. A City and County business license may also be required – depends on the type of business.
- If you know of **any violations** or what you *think* is a violation of the City of Covington codes/ordinances, please contact the Department of Code Compliance at 901-476-7191 ext 146 or [email](#). **WE NEED your assistance** with ensuring our City is a safe, clean place to live, work and play and greatly appreciate the input from our citizens.

The Dept. of Code Compliance has responsibility for enforcing all construction codes and zoning regulations adopted by the City.

Phone: 901-476-7191 Ext. 146 Fax: 901-476-5056

Email: [planning.building@covingtontn.com](mailto:planning.building@covingtontn.com)

## **COVINGTON PUBLIC WORKS:**

- Leaves raked into piles and windrows will be picked up by the City using vacuum machines.
- Please don't place Yard waste in drainage ditches, on the street, or on a side walk.
- Yard waste should be placed at least five feet away from potential obstacles such as mail boxes, fences, walls, water meters, telephone connection boxes and parked cars so our machines can get to it.
- Building debris, such as lumber, plaster, roofing, brickbats and other debris from construction, repair remodeling or demolition of any building or appurtenance, will not be removed by the City. The owner must cause such material to be privately moved.
- Call 901-476-9613 ext 118, ext 127, or ext 146 for questions or concerns

## **Baptist Memorial Hospital Tipton Warm Hearts *and* Hands at CPW**

Rebecca Ray presented Street Department employees with backpacks filled with gloves, hats, thermals and other items to keep them warm as winter weather approaches. She spoke on behalf of Baptist-Tipton by saying that the work of these men doesn't go unnoticed and they wanted to help them stay warm as they work through all kinds of weather conditions to help keep our city clean and safe. Mayor Hanson, Public Works Director David Gray, and Streets Manager James Dowell were on hand to help distribute the backpacks.



## MUSEUM:

- Debra Howze will be the 2019 Artist in Residence. She will have an **acrylic pouring class February 16.**
- Check out the [February Gardening Series](#) schedule – make plans to attend!
- Check out [A Moment on Nature](#) on the Museum website once a month. STAY INFORMED!

# Successful Gardening—A February 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, February 2nd: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

### *“Nine Things to Consider for Spring”*

- Guest Speaker – Dr. Chris Cooper: Shelby County Master Gardener & creator of WKNO’s “The Family Plot.”

Saturday, February 9th: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

### *“Fixing the Root Problem”*

- Guest Speaker – Carl Wayne Hardeman: Shelby County Master Gardener & Creator of Collierville’s Victory Garden

Saturday, February 16th: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

### *“All About Onions”*

- Guest Speaker – Tom Mashour: Tipton County Master Gardener & member of Millington City Beautiful Commission.

**\*\* Saturday, February 23rd: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M. \*\***

### *“The Bluebird of Happiness”*

- Guest Speaker – Sherl Rose: Pollinator Expert & Coordinator of the Tipton County Museum’s Herb Garden.

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

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



## Public Works Committee Agrees to Funding for Fire Protection Project

The Public Works Committee held their regular monthly meeting at Covington City Hall on January 3, 2019 with the following present: Chairman Alderman Jeff Morris, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Alderman Danny Wallace, Public Works Director David Gray, Street & Sanitation Manager James Dowell, Covington Fire Chief Michael Naifeh, Utilities Manager Calvin Johnson, GIS-IT Coordinator Nic Shaw, Maintenance Shop Manager Brad Kinney, Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn, Assistant to the Mayor Sara Gangaware, and City Attorney Rachel Witherington. Also present was Margaret Fleming, Echo Day from The Leader, and David Gwinn.

Chairman Morris called the meeting to order at 4:00 with a quorum present, and called on David Gray to make his presentation.

David Gray:

- Introduced his management staff and called on Nic Shaw to distribute iPads to committee members
- Shaw distributed iPads and gave a tutorial for using them. Shaw has set up a wireless network at City Hall, and instructed committee members how to log in and access the meeting agenda.
- Mayor Hanson spoke up about how using the iPads will save paper and improve communication among Board and committee members.
- Gray continued with his presentation and instructed committee's attention to water hydrants throughout the city. Covington went through an analysis of our fire hydrants and they have been painted to reflect the amount of the flow for each. Gray wants to address those with the lowest flow in order to improve those hydrants – particularly on the southern boundaries of the city limits. Gray stated that all hydrants meet or exceed minimum requirements and there is no current danger, but he still wants to improve this area's flow. Alderwoman Bommer asked Chief Naifeh how this situation might affect our ISO inspection later this year, and he said he has worked with Director Gray to have an outside party to come in and assess our hydrants. Naifeh went on to talk about the ISO rating and stated we are currently at a rating of a 4 and his desire is to lower that to a 3 and eventually a 2. Water flow is one of the criteria that effects this rating, and he reiterated that we currently do have adequate protection. However, he stated improving flow in this area would help improve the ISO rating. Naifeh stated he and Gray intend to have this work done before the next ISO inspection. Mayor Hanson stated that lowering the ISO rating may lower the cost of insurance for homeowners and business owners. Alderman Wallace asked if the independent study covered the entire city, and Gray stated that it did. Gray stated all our fire protection is adequate, but his focus on this area is based on growth and lower flow rates indicated by the analysis. Gray stated if we are able to take care of this "in-house" we will be able to complete this project by July. He went on to say he wants to have all hydrants retested and repainted to reflect the improvements by the end of 2019. Gray stated this is not budgeted, and he is asking to go into the Enterprise Fund balance to get the project started rather than waiting for the new budget year in July. Gray estimates the project will cost \$72,108, using our men & equipment. Alderman Wallace motioned to accept Gray's proposal and Alderwoman Bommer seconded. Mayor Hanson pointed out that doing it "in house" will save money and time. Motion passed.
- Gray continued his report with an update on the Frazier Park Connector – new ADA sidewalks, ground and overhead lighting, ADA compatibility and connectivity to the Boys and Girls Club, Children and Family Services, and Head Start – is progressing. Gray asked members to drive over to Frazier Park and see the improvements. He stated the construction is well underway, but has stalled somewhat due to rainy weather.
- Gray stated that progress is being made on the Site Development Grant for water main extension at Rialto Industrial Park –and he expects pipes to be ready for testing by end of this month. Gray stated this ensures water supply to our industrial area. This water-main extension provides new water access and the old piping will be a back-up service.

- CPW is also working on the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Sewer Rehabilitation Grant, and a kick-off meeting is being scheduled and construction documents are expected to be ready to go by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Gray stated because we have two CDBG grants open now, we will not be able to apply in 2019, however, he anticipates applying for that grant in 2020. Alderwoman Bommer asked Director Gray about the capacity of the Sewage Treatment Plant, and Gray stated we usually operate at an average of 65%. He said weather, temperature, and other factors impact our average. He said we are ready to proceed with expansion if necessary for new industries. Gray stated that our application has been submitted for an updated discharge permit from State of Tennessee. As we are looking at possibly leasing the biomass facility located near the waste water treatment plant, Gray stated that lease will only take place if the operator will get permit from the State. Gray stated that because we dump into the Scenic Hatchie River, we must meet stringent requirements.
- Gray distributed information to committee members about 12 hours of Utility Board Member Training offered by Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS). Gray stated he will set up this training here in Covington and will let committee members know when it will be. This training is pursuant to State Law (Public Chapter No 118) which was passed during this last legislative session and requires municipal utility board members to receive training.
- Alderwoman Bommer motioned to accept Director Gray's report and that was seconded by Alderman Wallace. Motion passed.

Chairman Morris then called on Lessie Fisher for her report from CODES:

- We will signing contracts and notices to proceed for tearing down the first 11 houses that have been identified through our CDBG Blight Grant. This round includes only residential buildings, but there are some businesses that have applied. Fisher stated they have focused on areas and are lumping them together so that the construction crews will be in one general area at a time. This will help keep our costs down and not interrupt more than one area at a time while following through with this project. Alderwoman Bommer asked if owners of properties that have been identified as blight will be required to remove those if it isn't done through the grant, and Fisher stated that if owners don't take advantage of this grant process for blight removal, they will be required to remove those properties.
- Fisher stated we will be codifying our municipal code this year and that will be a tedious process that will involve Board members throughout the year.
- Fisher supplied a spreadsheet for committee members that included – but not limited to - the following information from the Codes Department:
  - 55 new business licenses were applied for in the City in November and December
  - 94 business license renewals processed
  - 0 dog bites reported
  - 10 grave sales
  - 30 Permits issued and \$4604.00 in fees collected in December, 2018
- Alderman Wallace made motion to accept Fisher's report and Alderwoman Bommer seconded. Motion passed. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

## Dr. Jayson Canon Donates to Boys and Girls Club



Mayor Hanson and Vice-Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough joined Dr. Jayson Canon and Isaiah Davidson, BGCHRR Board Member and James Moore, Boys and Girls Club CEO in the presentation of a check to the organization from Cannon Chiropractic.

## Munford High Band Represented Tipton County in Rose Parade

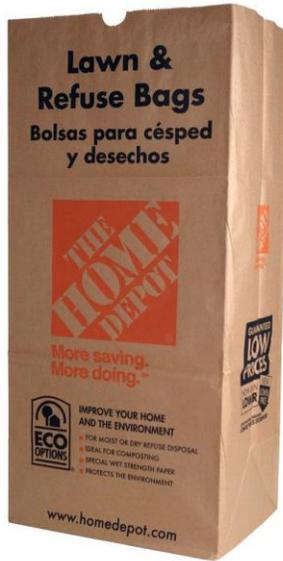


It's no secret around here that the Munford High School Band is spectacular! They have been to the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in New York, and participated in the Main Street Parade at Disney World in Orlando. Their latest claim-to-fame is participating in this year's 130<sup>th</sup> Rose Parade in Pasadena, CA. What began as a small effort by Pasadena's Valley Hunt Club to promote the city's charm and beautiful weather, the Tournament of Roses has since become America's New Year Celebration. This year's theme – the Melody of Life – celebrated music, the universal language.



The MHS band made all Tipton Countians proud at the 2019 Rose Parade in Pasadena, California where [\*The Melody of Life\*](#) included music from Tennessee!

# DID YOU KNOW?



**You can use paper lawn bags instead of plastic!**

**Find out where plastic goes and how to help reduce its use. [Click here](#)**

**You can Recycle plastic and cardboard right here in Covington!**



The City of Covington has two recycle bins in the parking lot just west of City Hall. One was donated by Unilever and it is used for newspaper, cardboard and aluminum. It is emptied every Tuesday. The second bin was donated by Republic and it is “plastic only”. That one is emptied as needed. Both bins are carried to the Brighton landfill which is owned and operated by Tipton County Public Works and unloaded by hand. The county partners with Fayette County’s recyclables in order to generate a larger quantity for better resale in order to help with operational costs



*Join Mayor Hanson for coffee, goodies, and lively conversations...*

Tuesday, January 8 Pappy & Jimmy's 749 N Main St  
Tuesday, January 22 Pappy & Jimmy's 749 N Main St  
Tuesday, February 5 Pappy & Jimmy's 749 N Main St  
Tuesday, February 19 Pappy & Jimmy's 749 N Main St  
Tuesday, March 5 Pappy & Jimmy's 749 N Main St  
Tuesday, March 19 Pappy & Jimmy's 749 N Main St

**7:30 am - 9:00 am**

**come and go as you please**

**COME  
JOIN THE  
FUN!**

*This is going to  
be the best year  
of your life!*

*this is your  
year to  
sparkle*

**TCCA LINE DANCING, STARTING THE  
NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT, Every Wednesday  
at 9:45 AM.**

## Upcoming EVENTS

- Beginning in January, 2019, all regularly scheduled committee meetings will be at **4:00 pm** (new time) in the Lower Level Conference Room at Covington City Hall. These are always open to the public.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays – Public Works Committee
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays – General Welfare and Public Relations Committee
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – Finance and Administration Committee
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Public Safety Committee
- Fridays in January – Acrylics Classes with Barbara Flowers McBride at the Museum. [click here to learn more](#)
- January 26 – Find your Kin – an Introduction to Genealogy – Museum – 10:00. [click here for details.](#)
- January 31 – Chick Chain – training for youth who want to raise chickens. [click here for more info](#)
- Saturdays in February – Gardening Series at the Tipton County Museum. [click here for details](#)
- Wednesdays in February – Watercolor Classes with Barrie Foster at Museum. [click here for more info](#)
- Saturday, February 02 - [Artist Series for Kids](#) – learn about artist Jacob Lawrence: Jacob Lawrence was an African-American painter known for his portrayal of African-American life. As well as a painter, storyteller, and interpreter, he was also an educator.
- February 12-19-26 – Kids in the Kitchen – Youth cooking through 4-H – students grades 4-6. [Click here for info.](#)



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

The City of Covington is an Equal Opportunity Employer



TENNESSEE'S HAD ENOUGH

Sponsored by TDOT and Keep Tennessee Beautiful

[REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING](#)

# Mayor Hanson Welcomes New Hospital Administrator



Sam Lynd, (L) who has been Hospital Administrator at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Tipton for the past 5 years, is passing that baton to incoming administrator Parker Harris (C) from Jackson, TN. Mayor Hanson welcomed Harris to Covington and expressed his continued admiration and support of our local hospital. Lynd will be working with Baptist Memphis., but will still be associated with our hospital's emergency services.

## Covington Municipal Airport Site for RAWS

On December 19, the West TN district added a 5<sup>th</sup> Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS). We appreciate the cooperation of Chief Naifeh of the Covington Fire Department and Airport Manager, Robin Anderson, in acquiring the site at the Covington Municipal Airport. We also appreciate Kenny Emerson (Forestry Technician) and Karland Kissell (Forestry Aide 2), who not only helped with the assembly of the RAWS but who will be responsible for facility maintenance and data processing.

Placement of a RAWS at the Covington Municipal Airport will improve fire weather coverage for the southwestern part of our district. It will also be an addition to a [nation-wide network](#), from which the data is accessed by the National Weather Service and National Fire Prediction Center.

The basic purpose of these stations is to improve the ability to [predict weather associated with wildfire activity](#) and be better prepared for suppression actions. It will also benefit the Division's prescribed burning and burn permit programs. Access to the hourly produced data can be made [AT THIS SITE](#). Once enough data has been established, it will be utilized by [other nation prediction networks](#).

## Deadline Approaching to Purchase Tickets for Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Luncheon

The deadline to purchase tickets to the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Luncheon has been set for Jan. 15. The event will be held Friday, Jan. 18, inside the Student Center on the Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) Dyersburg campus. Guest speaker will be Dr. Robin Gadsden-Dupree, Training and Technical Assistance Services Department Instructor at Western Kentucky University. Dr. Gadsden-Dupree and her husband, Eric Dupree, reside in Crockett County. This event is hosted by DSCC and the Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce. Tickets cost \$10 each and may be purchased at the chamber office or at the DSCC Business Office located in the Eller Administration Building. For more information, contact Edith Carlton at 731-286-3300 or [carlton@dsc.edu](mailto:carlton@dsc.edu).

# Students Urged to Apply for Financial Aid for 2019-20 Academic Year

Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) encourages all students and potential students to fill out the **FREE** Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by **Feb. 1** to ensure a greater chance of receiving funds for the 2019-20 academic year. Students and parents can complete the 2019-20 FAFSA form online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) or by using the new myStudentAid app.

Current and potential students may receive FAFSA help at the DSCC Student Center One Stop in Dyersburg, at the Financial Aid Office in the Jimmy Naifeh Building at the DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center and at the Gibson County Center. The offices are open 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. each weekday. Please call 731-286-3236 to make an appointment to see a financial aid counselor before 8 a.m. or after 4:30 p.m.

Students must submit their FAFSA to be eligible for financial aid such as the Tennessee Promise, Tennessee Reconnect, Tennessee Student Assistance Award, Federal Pell Grant, Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Hope Scholarship, employment as a Federal Work Study, and other scholarship or work study program awards at DSCC or any other college. Many awards are made on a first-come, first-serve basis with limited funding available. **If an application is not filed as early as possible, the student may not have a chance to receive some of these funds.**

tnAchieves students and Tennessee Promise students are especially encouraged to fill out the FAFSA as this is a requirement for these programs. The FAFSA qualifies students for more than \$150 billion in grants, loans and work-study funds each year; **however, in order to receive any of these funds, students have to complete the FAFSA.** For more information about FAFSA, please call the DSCC Financial Aid Office at 731-286-3236.

## DSCC Plans January Orientation for New Students

Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) will hold orientations in January before the upcoming spring 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. Students should be reminded that **spring semester classes begin Jan. 14.**

**New student orientation will be held in the Student Center on the Dyersburg campus Tuesday, Jan. 8, from 2-4 p.m., and inside the Baptist Memorial Health Care Academic Building Auditorium at the Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County Thursday, Jan. 10, from 2-4 p.m.**

For more information, please contact Sherry Baker at 731-286-3242 or [sdbaker@dsc.edu](mailto:sdbaker@dsc.edu).

## DSCC's December 2018 Traditional Nursing Class Graduation

Dyersburg State Community College honored its 64th nursing classes with a ceremony for 32 graduates in the traditional nursing program Dec. 14 at the Covington Civic Center in Covington. A total of 1,741 nursing students have graduated from DSCC over the past 38 years.

Nursing instructor Dawn Chalk introduced class officers including president Amy Flowers of Ripley, vice president Andrea Hutchison of Brighton, secretary Shannon Hickman of Henning, treasurer Dawson Price of Memphis and historian Amanda Winters of Millington. Whitney White of Covington served as Student Nursing Association (SNA) president.

“On one hand it seems like 10 years since we started school, but on the other hand just yesterday,” stated Amy Flowers, class president. “Two years ago we were totally unprepared for what it was going to take to become an

RN. With the help of very dedicated, experienced and demanding instructors, we are finally here and ready to become nurses.”

Dr. Bowyer presented the Friend of Nursing Award, chosen by the graduating class, to Carl Hicks, custodian at the DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County.

The Scholastic Award, presented to the student with the highest grade-point average (GPA), was awarded to nursing graduates Hannah Pinner of Covington, who graduated with a 3.6 GPA and Dawson Price of Memphis, who graduated with a 3.56 GPA.

The Leadership Award, presented to a student who demonstrates the qualities essential for effective nursing practice, was awarded to nursing graduate Andrea Hutchison of Brighton.

The Clinical Practice Award, selected by members of the nursing faculty, was presented to nursing graduate Hailey Sain of Bolivar. This award is given to nursing graduates who demonstrate qualities such as the practice of nursing as a humanistic art and science, the recognition of each person as a unique individual and acceptance of legal and ethical professional accountability.

Amy Johnson, DSCC dean of nursing, presented class pins to the graduates. Following tradition, each nursing graduate received a ceramic replica of the lamp carried by Florence Nightingale, a pioneer in the nursing profession. Nursing graduates lit the lamps and recited the Nightingale Pledge.

**The 32 graduates of DSCC’s December 2018 traditional nursing class included:**

**Atoka** – Christine Cina, Amanda Hervey

**Bells** – Misty Tucker

**Bolivar** – Hailey Sain

**Brighton** – Heather Bridges, Andrea Hutchison, Cameron Sanders, Justin White

**Burlison** – Nicole Tompkins

**Cordova** – Shelby Clark

**Covington** – Mikala Blakely, Leah Brewster, Tyriesha Draine, Hannah Pinner, Gabrielle Scott, Whitney White

**Drummonds** – Savannah Sigler

**Dyersburg** – Anna Tarkington, Allyson Ware, Kaitlyn Wood

**Henning** – Shannon Hickman

**Jackson** – Rachel Griffin

**Lexington** – Bobbie Agee

**Memphis** – Dawson Price

**Milan** – Bianca Edwards

**Millington** – Margaret Billings, Amanda Winters

**Munford** – Amanda Rains

**Ripley** – Lakeisha Currie, Amy Flowers



The Leadership Award was presented to Andrea Hutchison of Brighton (L) and Hannah Pinner of Covington (R) was honored for having the highest GPA in this graduating class. CONGRATULATIONS to all the graduates!

# American Job Center Operating in Covington

The staffing agency for Unilever (Randstad) is looking to fill over 100 positions. **Randstad comes to the AJC in Covington every other Monday** from 8:00 – 4:00 p.m. for interviews and applications - Located right behind PIZZA HUT in



## Introduction to Services

*(Arrive 30 minutes early)*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ripley AJC</b> <b>First &amp; Third</b> <b>Monday Afternoon</b> <b>12:30pm</b> <b>*call center for dates</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Covington AJC</b> <b>Second &amp; Fourth</b> <b>Monday Afternoon</b> <b>12:30 pm</b> <b>*call center for dates</b></p>
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## locations

Ripley AJC Location & Phone #

301 C Lake Drive

Ripley, TN 38063

731-221-1012

Covington AJC Location & Phone #

877 Hwy 51 By Pass

Covington, TN 38019

901-313-9434

**Hours of Operation:**  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Follow WIN on**

**facebook.**

**for up to date information**  
**and Hiring Event flyers:**  
Workforce Investment Network

**Find WIN on**  
**Twitter and Instagram:**  
@MEM\_WIN

The Workforce Investment Network (WIN) is a partner of the American Job Centers. This agency is a recipient of taxpayer funding, and serves the City of Memphis, Shelby County, and Fayette County. The Career Center System is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TTY: 1-800-848-029

Revised 08/26/2018

Unilever has positions open – American Job Centers can assist you with this:

[Click here for details.](#)

# Covington Fire Department Celebrates Sammy Beasley's 37 Years of Service to the City of Covington

Family, friends, and fellow firemen gathered to celebrate Beasley's retirement.



Chief Michael Naifeh, Assistant Chief Richard Griggs and Mayor Justin Hanson spoke of the great service Beasley has given CFD.



Start the New Year with music!

A reminder . . . I resolve to join the...

**Tipton Community Chorus**

January 7th 7:00 PM, St. Matthews Episcopal Church



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.



[CLICK HERE TO READ ENTIRE 4-H NEWSLETTER](#)

# Tipton County 4-H January Newsletter



Want more information or have questions? Contact Brigitte Passman, 4-H Youth Development Agent  
**Office location:** 111 W. Washington Ave,  
Covington, TN 38019  
**Office number:** 901-476-0231  
**Email:** brigpass@utk.edu



## What to look forward to within 2019

- Chick Chain Project
  - Honor Club
  - Portfolios
  - Shooting Sports
- Beekeeping Essay Contest
- Kids in the Kitchen
  - 4-H CAMP
  - GIS

## 2019 Jr. 4-H Camp



Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer science, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. U of Tennessee Extension provides equal opportunities in program and employment.

Real. Life. Solutions.™





Interest and  
Fundraising  
meeting 2/11  
6:00pm @ the  
Tipton County  
Extension Office

## 4-H CAMP

Camps are available throughout the summer and a 4-H member can attend as many as they want

Campers will enjoy an array of activities depending on the camp they choose! Overview of activities include the following: Olympic-size, crystal-clear pool with a 120' figure-8 water slide, a lighted sports complex, sewing, cooking, gardening, hikes, fishing, wildlife center, covered rifle range, airbrush center, a creek for aquatic exploration, modern archery range, low ropes course, and an 18-hole miniature golf course and so much MORE!



Sp Adobe Spark

# Kids in the Kitchen

A hands on cooking experience for youth 4th-6th grade. Youth will learn how to prepare simple, healthy foods that they can make for themselves and other family members at home! All programming will take place at the Tipton County Extension Office.

2/12 5:30PM-7:00PM

2/19 5:30PM-7:00PM

2/26 5:30PM-7:00PM

Program Fee \$35  
Deadline 2/4/19  
Space is limited!

**UT EXTENSION**  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

**TENNESSEE**  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
Cooperative Extension



Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.



Sp Adobe Spark

# Beekeeping Essay Contest

**2019 Essay Topic: “Honey Varietals, State to State”**

Each jar of honey reflects an unrepeatable combination of climate, soil, weather and flowers. Each state has unique honey varietals that beekeepers can market to their customers. Please identify one unique varietal to your state and discuss the flower’s uniqueness and how beekeepers can effectively market that varietal.

In your essay, please include a photo of the varietal’s flower, an interview with a local beekeeper who collects this varietal and a recipe that highlights the varietal. Put on Your Thinking Cap!

For complete announcement and rules <https://4h.tennessee.edu/Pages/beeessay.aspx>

Essays are due electronically to Brigitte Passman  
at [brigpass@utk.edu](mailto:brigpass@utk.edu) by January 25<sup>th</sup>.

This contest is Sponsored  
by The Foundation for the  
Preservation of Honey Bees,  
Inc. The winning State essay  
competes in the National  
contest.



**Tipton County 4-H  
Chick Chain Project**  
Interest & Introduction  
meeting 1/31/2019  
5:30pm at the Extension  
Office

*Space is limited!*

**UT EXTENSION**  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

**TENNESSEE**  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
Cooperative Extension



**Application  
& Payment  
due 2/8/2019**

The 4-H Chick Chain Project gives youth the opportunity to raise and show their very own chicks! Never raised chicks before? That's OK! Free educational workshops will be offered

More information call 901-476-0231 or email [brigpass@utk.edu](mailto:brigpass@utk.edu)

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer science, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in program and employment.

**Sp** Adobe Spark

# Tipton County Public Library News

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

**January 10th  
4:00 PM**

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

## THE MITTEN

with Games & Crafts

Ages 11 & under

Nicki lost one of his mittens when he was playing outside one day and a few animals found the mitten and thought it made a nice, cozy home. The animals did not want to give the mitten back to Nicki, so they locked the mitten up in a box. Nicki needs to open up the box and get his mitten back before the time is up.



THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALES  
WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT  
DONATIONS!



DONATIONS OF BOOKS, MAGAZINES, MOVIES AND MUSIC MAY BE DROPPED OFF AT THE  
TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3149 HWY 51 S.  
BLDG. C  
COVINGTON, TN 38019  
DURING NORMAL OPERATING HOURS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

## Movie Days

**God Bless the Broken Road**

Jan 8th @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 111 Min.

**Unbroken: The Path to Redemption**

Jan. 18th @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 99 Min.

**A Simple Favor**

Jan. 22nd @ 1:00 PM [R] 117 Min.

**Crazy Rich Asians**

Jan. 26th @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 120 Min.

**Operation Finale**

Jan. 29th @ 1:00 PM [PG-13] 123 Min.



POPCORN

Ages 18 & up

476-8289

www.tiptoncountypubliclibrary.com



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

**Pay Tribute to your personal hero, remember your loved ones, and honor those special people in your life by purchasing bricks for the museum addition. Go visit the museum to see the memorial bricks or call 901-476-0242 for more information.**

*From Director Barrie Foster:*

Thank you for your continued support of the Tipton County Museum! Please join us for these exciting events:



The Tipton County Museum, Veterans  
Memorial & Nature Center Presents  
**Fun with Acrylics**

*With Barbara Flowers McBride*

- When:** Friday mornings, 9:30—11:30  
January 11, 18, 25, & February 1, 2019
- Where:** Tipton County Museum  
751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN
- Fee:** \$60 Members, \$80 General Public



Barb will show you are how easy and fun it is to paint with this versatile medium. No previous art experience is required. Please call the Tipton County Museum for the supply list and to register for the course.

**The Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center  
751 Bert Johnston Ave., P.O. Box 768, Covington, TN 38019  
(901) 476-0242**

# **Finding Your Kin: An Introduction to Genealogy**

**GENEALOGY LECTURE  
at the Tipton County Museum**

**presented by  
Archivist/Genealogist Sherri Onorati**

**Saturday, Jan 26, 2019  
10 - 11:30am**

**Lecture cost: FREE for Museum Members  
\$5 for non-Museum members**

**Come learn why Genealogy is the  
fastest growing hobby!**

**We'll talk about what genealogy is,  
why it is important and how to start.**





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

# *The Magic of Watercolor*

*With*

*Barrie Foster*

Watercolor is the only transparent art medium, making it one of the most beloved forms of art today! Embark on your own personal journey with this enchanting medium during this four week class, led by nationally award winning artist Barrie Foster. No previous art experience is required. Please call the Tipton County Museum to register and for a supply list.

When: Wednesday mornings, 9:30—11:30, February 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2019

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

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



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



The Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial  
& Nature Center Presents

## **Artist Series for Kids**

# **Jacob Lawrence**

**When:** Saturday, February 2, 2019, 1 to 3 p.m.

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

**Fee:** \$20 Museum Members, \$25 General Public

The children will learn that Jacob moved from the south to the north in an African-American migration because it was difficult for African-Americans to find work in the south. They will then paint one of his paintings in acrylics. All materials will be furnished, and a snack will be provided. A sibling discount is available. Ages 10 and up. Please call the Tipton County Museum at (901) 476-0242 to register.

Tipton County Museum  
751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN  
(901) 476-0242



The Tipton County Museum Presents

## *Go with the Flow*

With Artist in Residence

# *Debra Howze*

Join us for an exhilarating afternoon of art! Deb will show you how easy and fun it is to create beautiful and unique artwork with this technique. No experience is required and we provide all the supplies. Please call the museum to register.

**When:** Saturday, February 16, 2019, 1 to 3 p.m.

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

**Fee:** \$40 Museum Members, \$45 General Public

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





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

## *Gioiello* Featured Artist



### *Charles Avent*

Charles was raised the son of a career Chief Petty Officer in the United States Navy who served in World War II and Korea. His parents always encouraged his creativity with music, drama club, and the arts. He spent most of his young life in Southaven, Mississippi. In addition to writing, Charles enjoys cooking and spending time with family and friends.

He and his wife Patricia live in Atoka.

## Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center



Veteran of the Month  
January 2019

Robert Lee Ellis



Born on January 20, 1932, Bob Ellis joined the U.S. Army in March of 1948 at the age of 16. After completing basic training at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, he spent two years at Schofield Barrack on Oahu, Hawaii. He arrived in Korea as part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Regimental Combat Team on August 1, 1950, and was wounded on December 13 of that year. While in the hospital in Japan, he was awarded the Purple Heart Medal. There was just one problem - the officer presenting the medals at the hospital ran out before he got to Bob! After his initial hospital stay in Japan, he was sent back to the States and for the next two years was in and out of 10 different hospitals. Although he still hadn't received his Purple Heart, his focus was on healing and recovery. He was honorably discharged on March 15, 1959 without ever receiving his Purple Heart.

Sometime in the 1970's Bob received a call from the Department of Defense asking him to come to Chicago for the presentation of his Purple Heart and other medals. Unfortunately, the timing was poor; and he was unable to attend the ceremony. As the years wore on, the Veterans Administration became involved but still no medal was forthcoming. During a conversation with the late Tennessee Senator Fred Thompson, Bob mentioned that he would really like to receive his medals. Thanks to Senator Thompson, Bob finally received his medals during a ceremony in Munford City Park in 1997. For his service to our country, Bob was belatedly presented the Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, and Good Conduct Medal. He had received the United Nations Service Medal, Korea Service Medal, and National Defense Service Medal prior to his discharge in 1959.

After the Army, Bob enjoyed a long career as a local truck driver for Strickland Transportation. He married Fay Cole Ellis in 1962, and they have 5 children. They moved to Tipton County in 1969. He and Fay are members of River of Life Assembly of God Church, where Bob has served on the Elder Board and is currently Elder Emeritus.

Bob enjoys fishing and wood-working but has had to slow down using saws because of eye problems. One thing that has never changed is his wonderful sense of humor. You can always expect a quick comeback from the "ole war Vet" as he is lovingly called by some. Bob is a member of the Disabled American Veterans and the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He was nominated for Veteran of the Month by his good friend Rosemary McCane.

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  
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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