

# From the Mayor's Desk

*Thoughts and perceptions  
from Mayor Justin Hanson*

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

What is blight and why do we care about that? I've heard that question a lot lately as we are beginning to tear down over 50 structures in the city limits of Covington that have been identified for demolition. We are thankful to County Executive Jeff Huffman and the Tipton County Commission who submitted a [CDBG](#) a couple of years ago to eradicate blight in the City of Covington. Our Codes Department, along with Public Works and our City Attorney, have been busy meeting the guidelines of the grant in preparation for what you are seeing today – demolition. But why? According to the dictionary, blight is:

*a thing that spoils or damages something; to have a severely detrimental effect on.*

After reading that definition, it is easy to see why we went after this opportunity so aggressively. That definition of blight is not what we want in Covington – in fact, we want just the opposite – and we are making that possible with the demolition of blighted properties in our city. People in every neighborhood where blight is coming down have thanked us. Blighted structures aren't just ugly – they can be dangerous at worst and almost always devalue the property around them. So, not only are we hoping to improve the looks of our neighborhoods, but also hope that people will use this opportunity to rebuild family homes that will add value to the area. We hope this will decrease crime, while providing *many* opportunities for neighborhood improvement projects. After a couple of years, it is very satisfying to see this come to fruition. This is something we can all see and understand as a meaningful clean-up and a real opportunity for investment and improvement. This creates an awareness of the importance of keeping our properties well maintained. Properly maintained properties are covered in our City Codes, and they are in place to protect all of our property values and prevent blight from happening in the first place.

Folks, it is my intention to make things happen in Covington that will have long-term, positive, and lasting effects on our community. Improving the quality of life for our citizens is at the root of all my decisions as I run this city. That's a broad umbrella with many stems underneath, but it guides me as your Mayor. Again, we thank Tipton County for using their opportunity for a CDBG on behalf of our fine city. This is a great example of cities and counties working together for the benefit of the entire region. I truly believe that what is good for Covington is good for Tipton County, and what is good for Tipton County is good for Covington. We are all in this together and by working together for the greater good of the entire area, we can and will move forward for the benefit of all of us.

*Justin*

# DEPARTMENTAL TIDBITS

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

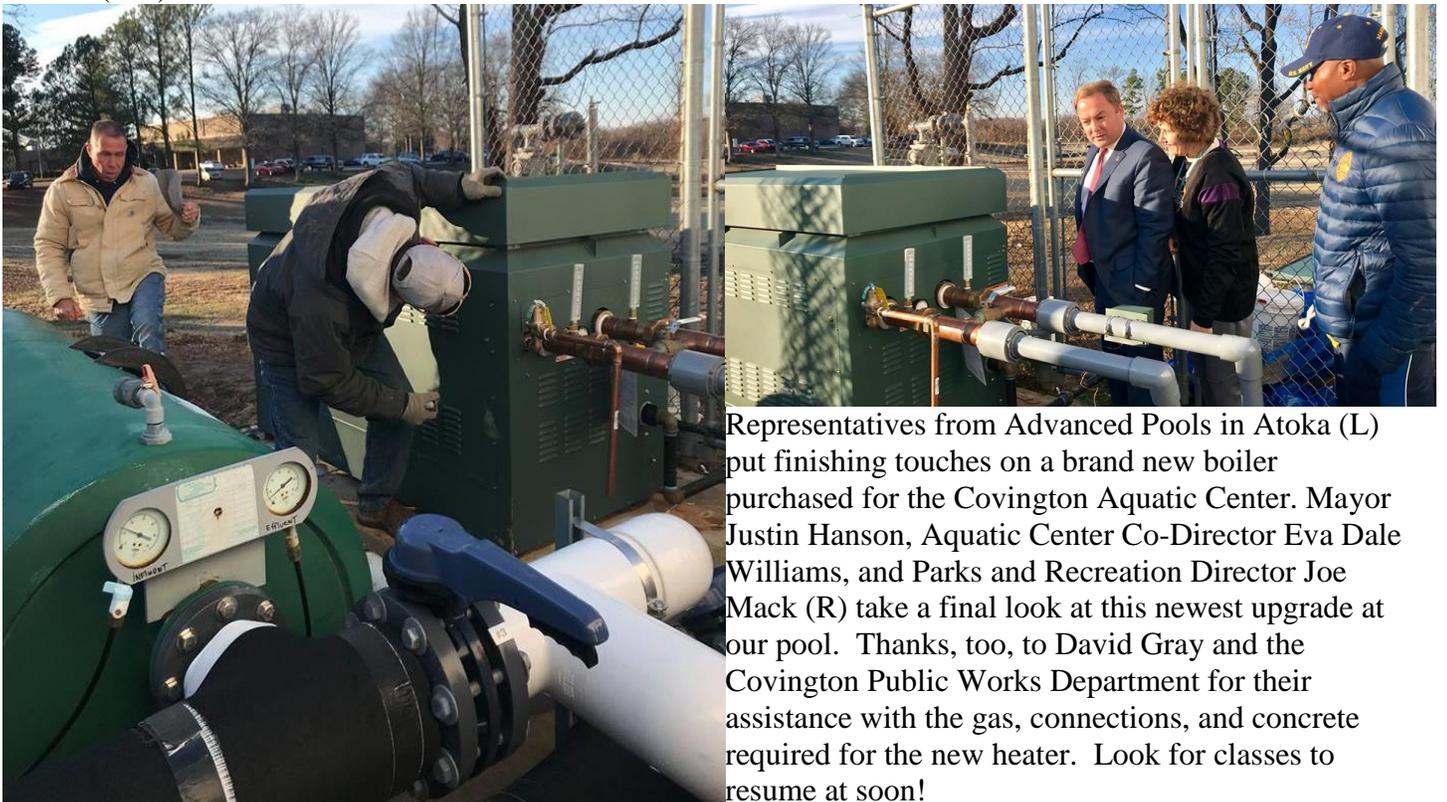
## **HUMAN RESOURCES & SPECIAL EVENTS:**

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.
- 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.



Representatives from Advanced Pools in Atoka (L) put finishing touches on a brand new boiler purchased for the Covington Aquatic Center. Mayor Justin Hanson, Aquatic Center Co-Director Eva Dale Williams, and Parks and Recreation Director Joe Mack (R) take a final look at this newest upgrade at our pool. Thanks, too, to David Gray and the Covington Public Works Department for their assistance with the gas, connections, and concrete required for the new heater. Look for classes to resume at soon!

**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  
Covington   
**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**



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

## 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](#).

### **Checking in with the Chief**

This week the CFD we had another busy week. On Tuesday, the Public Safety Committee met and I updated the new Committee on the ongoing efforts that we have under way, including the status of our Paramedic Advanced Life Support program. I am happy to report that we now have a Paramedic on every shift providing ALS coverage around the clock. This is significant for our department and the citizens and visitors to our City. I also discussed the ongoing effort to lower our Insurance Service Organization (ISO) rating. The hope is that we will be ready for a new evaluation in late 2019 or early 2020. ISO is the basic rating in which most insurance companies use to set rates on both residential and commercially insured properties. Lower ratings equal (in most cases) lower premium for our citizens and business owners.

The City of Covington and Covington Fire has adopted a new policy in which we have a third-party company that is collecting and cataloging all Inspection reports. The reports need to be submitted to them through their portal at [www.thecomplianceengine.com](http://www.thecomplianceengine.com). Your inspection company is responsible for submitting them. If there are any questions please call the Compliance Engine support number at 1-855-279-2371.

Thank you as we work to ensure the safety of our citizens with this new process.

Michael Naifeh, MBA, EFO, CFO



Fire Chief

Covington Fire Rescue

901-476-2578 office

901-579-9057 cell

## 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

# Covington Police Dept. Welcomes Two Certified Officers



Covington Police Chief Buddy Lewis welcomes new officers Penny Barnes and Jermale Taylor

## 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)**



**CALL 9-11 or 901-475-1261 or 901-475-3300**

## **CODES:**

- Revised sign ordinance is on [City website](#)
- Sign applications are on the [City website](#)
- No sign shall be erected, altered, or relocated without a building permit acquired subject to the following:
  - The permit application shall contain the location of the sign structure, the area, height, width, the name and address of the sign owner and sign erection, a drawing showing the design, location, materials and colors of the sign.
  - Required electrical permits shall be obtained prior to submission for a building permit.
  - Fees for permanent signs shall be in accordance with the current rate schedule. Fees for temporary signs shall be the minimum permit fee.
  - A building permit for a sign shall become null and void if the sign has not been completed within six (6) months of the date of the permit or the sign varies in any respect from the approved design and location.
  - Normal sign maintenance to prolong the life of the sign shall not require a permit.
  - The permit shall contain an acknowledgment noting the removal standards of this ordinance, and failure to remove a sign upon closure of a business will result in fines and court costs.
- 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. To see the Covington Municipal Code, [click here](#).

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)

- Please help us keep our City clean by reporting Unlawful dumping. If you see something that looks suspicious please call 901-476-9613 ext 118 or 237-8165 to report.

## **COVINGTON PUBLIC WORKS:**

- Roll out containers shall be placed out no earlier than 6:00 pm the day before collection, and no later than 6:00 am on the scheduled day of collection.
- Please help us keep our neighborhoods clean!
- Civic clubs, neighborhood groups, and others interested in planning a clean-up day for any residential area, please contact the Director of Public Works for assistance in hauling off refuse and debris.

- Yard waste should be placed at least five feet away from potential obstacles such as mail boxes, fences, walls, water meters, telephone connection boxes, fire hydrants, 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 or 901-237-8165 for questions or concerns



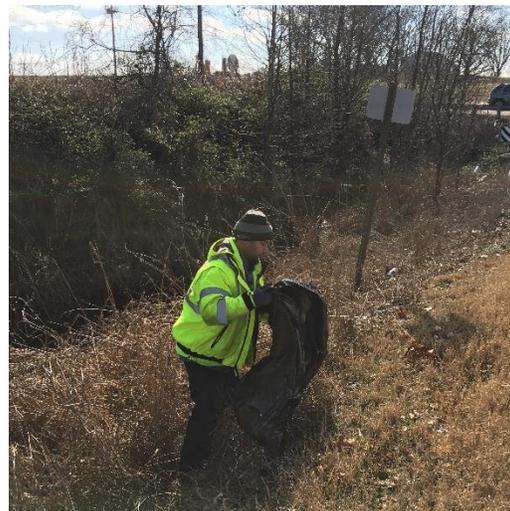
The Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved the purchase of a much-needed new service truck for the Gas and Utilities Department in the 2018-19 budget. This truck will be used by the Utilities Department.

In other news, Rogers Hydrant Service, an independent contractor, will be in town to test flow rates of our fire hydrants beginning February 4<sup>th</sup>. If you happen to notice any discoloring of your water, please call us at 901-476-9531 to report it.

## **Litter is more than Unsightly - Help us keep it *OUT OF OUR TOWN!***

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday, the Public Works Department focuses on cleaning up litter in the City of Covington; however, this is a problem that needs our attention more often and one that is completely preventable. Not only is litter unsightly, it clogs our drainage systems causing flooding, damages the environment, and costs a lot of money to clean up. According to [Keep Tennessee Beautiful](#): *While visible roadside litter has decreased by about 61% since 1969, litter is still a persistent problem. Consider these facts:*

- Litter cleanup costs the U.S. almost \$11.5 billion each year, with businesses paying \$9.1 billion. Governments, schools, and other organizations pick up the remainder.
- Community economy and quality of life suffer. The presence of litter in a community takes a toll on quality of life, property values, and housing prices. Through KAB's **National Visible Litter Survey** and **Litter Cost Study** it was found that litter in a community decreases property values 7%.
- Litter has environmental consequences. Wind and weather, traffic, and animals move litter into gutters, lawns and landscaped areas, alleyways, and parking structures. Debris may be carried by storm drains into local waterways, with potential for serious environmental contamination.



Streets and Sanitation Manager James Dowell said that while his department will always do their best to keep Covington safe and clean, he sure wishes we didn't have to use manpower on something that is largely preventable with just a little effort.

## **MUSEUM:**

- Veteran of the Month reception was held at the Museum Tuesday tonight in honor of Robert L. Ellis
- Genealogy Lecture will take place at Museum January 26 at 10:00
- Understanding the US Census lecture will be Saturday, March 2 at 10:00
- Water Color classes at Museum every Wednesday in February 9:30 – 11:30
- Barbara McBride will teach acrylics on Fridays in January starting January 11 at 9:30 – 11:30
- Artist Series for Kids (open for anyone ages 10 +) will focus on Jacob Lawrence February 2 from 1:00 – 3:00
- 2019 Artist in Residence Debra Howze will be teaching an acrylic pouring workshop on Saturday, Feb. 16 from 1:00 – 3:00
- February Gardening Series will begin the first Saturday in February and will take place every Saturday in February
- Two exhibits will be coming up in mid-January – **Dr. Charlotte Fisher – Paving a Path in Tipton County** along with a reception this exhibit on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. The other is an exhibit on Alderwoman Minnie Bommer in March – stay tuned for details.
- A Moment on Nature with Sheryl Rose video series will continue with videos posted monthly



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

Tuesday, February 5 Pappy & Jimmy's 749 N Main St  
Tuesday, February 19 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**

## **Public Safety Committee get News and Updated Stats from Police and Fire Departments**

The Public Safety Committee held their regular monthly meeting at Covington City Hall on January 22 at 4:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference Room. Present were Chairman Alderman Keith Phelps, Alderman CH Sullivan, Vice-Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough, CFD Chief Michael Naifeh, CPD Chief Buddy Lewis, Mayor Justin Hanson, Assistant to the Mayor Sara Gangaware, and Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn. Also present were, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Alderman Jeff Morris, Alderman Danny Wallace, IT-Technology Coordinator Nic Shaw, Echo Day of The Leader, and Margaret Fleming.

Chairman Phelps called the meeting to order with a quorum present and called on Chief Naifeh to give his report.

Fire Chief Michael Naifeh:

- Full Time personnel require 40 hours of in-service training annually. Local agency must submit agenda for approval. Naifeh wants to complete this for our department by May and is preparing for a broad in-service training agenda that includes mostly hands-on activities. This is for the fire suppression part of the department. The EMS specialists participate in State training, along with the local training, with some cross-over.
- Fire Hydrants – hydrant color tops are directly related to flow rate and our fire department, along with CPW, are working on testing hydrants and are coordinating efforts to improve flow rates throughout the city. Goal is for progress to be made throughout this year to have all hydrants properly tested, updated, and painted accordingly. Naifeh provided all committee members with a graph that indicates the meaning of all hydrant colors.
- Volunteer hours for last two months were provided to committee members, indicating most hours volunteered were in November with 403., There were 176 volunteer hours in December.
- Call data from December 1st 2018 through January 16, 2019 was presented to committee members in a pie chart indicating that about 80% of the calls were rescue and emergency calls. However other calls included hazardous conditions, service calls, fires and false alarms.
- Fire Inspector position is open and has been posted for the Covington Fire Department after the retirement of Inspector Sammy Beasley. Beasley is still contracted with CFD until a new inspector can be hired. Naifeh went through the job description for this position and explained some of the specifics needed for the position. Naifeh stated CFD will go through the MTAS Assessment process, which uses outside professionals, to identify the best and most qualified candidates. Applications will be accepted through February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Naifeh hopes to have the new fire inspector hired and in place by the middle of March. He stated he is excited about this opportunity as this is a very important position for someone to work with the CFD and the Covington Codes Department to help ensure safety throughout the city. All applications are accepted in the Personnel Department at 100 West Washington St.
- CARE report was submitted on behalf for CARE Officer Mark Heaston and included, but not limited to the following activities:
  - Stop the Bleed training
  - 44 Welfare Checks
  - Fire extinguisher training – Close the Door Campaign
  - Completed AHA Heart Saver 1<sup>st</sup> Aid recertification classes
  - Installed and issued 30 smoke alarms
  - Attended Paramedic Accreditation Site Visit with DSCC EMS Advisory Committee in Dyersburg, TN.

Chairman Phelps informed the committee that a long range fire department plan is important for insurance rating and has a direct bearing on insurance costs. He stated he wants to include the MTAS Fire Inspector in the process of our planning and the improvement of our rating. Naifeh stated CFD has worked on our ISO Rating and this is a long-range planning process that requires a lot of infrastructure improvements and equipment that we have been able to acquire over the last few years. He thanked the Mayor and Board for assisting him in this endeavor, and told them there are classes offered by MTAS that further explains ISO rating, if anyone is interested in learning more.

Alderman Sullivan moved to accept Chief Naifeh's report and Alderwoman Yarbrough seconded. Motion passed. Chairman Phelps then called on Chief Lewis of the CPD to make his report.

Chief Buddy Lewis:

- Have hired 4 new **certified** officers – two of whom are on our streets at this time. The other two are awaiting approval by the post commission. The new officers are Zachary Antle and Charlie Coleman

from Galloway, Penny Barnes from Munford, and Jermale Taylor from Mason. Lewis anticipates hiring one more officer.

- Court Case Update – Floyd Taylor was found guilty for the sale of schedule II Cocaine in a drug free school zone. This was not *on* school property, but was in a **drug-free school zone** – which is basically any area within 1000 feet of a school. Sentencing date is March 4<sup>th</sup> with a minimum sentence of 15 years served at 100%. Also, Lee Somerville was in Federal Court for Federal robbery and gun charges, but this resulted in a mistrial because a problem with a juror. However, this case will be back in Federal court. Lewis stated that United States Attorney Mike Dunavant is asking for us to send cases that qualify for trial in Federal court as this holds 100% sentencing as per their sentencing process. Federal Prosecutors will meet with local law enforcement to help them understand what is required for prosecution in the Federal Court System. CPD will be involved in this meeting.
- CHS basketball security update – there have been issues at high school basketball games in several towns across West Tennessee. This has led to schools requesting that we send officers with our teams when they play out of town. Those schools will also provide local law enforcement on site. Lewis stated we are doing this, and this will help protect our students in all locations, but will also contribute to overtime.
- Expecting that 3 of our military officers will be deployed – hoping to have new officers well acclimated before this takes place. Deployment will also contribute to overtime in the CPD. Lewis stated \$251,000 was budgeted in the current budget for overtime, and approximately all but \$30,000 has been paid out at this time.
- Lewis has been asked to be on a body camera panel at the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police in Nashville. Sergeant Tony Ginn will accompany Lewis to the event as he has vast experience with body camera use and equipment.
- West Tennessee Gang Unit has given information on recent activity – on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, two people were murdered in Memphis; one of whom was allegedly a high ranking gang member who had recently moved to Henning to get out of the limelight in Memphis. Their murder has resulted in a threat of potential retaliation in Memphis and surrounding areas. This has sparked an enormous amount of publicity and heightened awareness of the potential violence associated with gang activity. Law enforcement agencies across the State of Tennessee have been put on high alert, as this can be a serious situation, *particularly* for law enforcement. NBC News has heard of this potential threat and did a story on it. Lewis stated the CPD is being updated regularly from Memphis PD as well as Tipton County Sheriff's Department and are being very vigilant and aware to keep our city safe. Because smaller cities are part of a potential threat as a result of gang activity and retaliation, Lewis stated our department is doing more things like accompanying the basketball teams on road trips in an effort to be present and prepared for any kind of suspicious activity should it arise.
- Lewis provided a report of calls/citations to the committee members. In 2018, the Covington Police Department responded to 26,078 calls and made 1,163 arrests. Calls and citations are down from the last year; however, CPD drove a total of 278,947 miles in the city of Covington in 2018 and that is up from previous years. Shots fired calls were 153 in 2018, and this is down from previous year. Other crime statistics from 2018 included 1 homicide, 39 assaults, 27 aggravated assaults, 24 sexual assaults, 225 burglaries/thefts (including shoplifting) and 70 domestic violence assaults. CPD made 3953 traffic stops in 2018. Other infractions included, but are not limited to, 246 driving on revoked/suspended license, 19 vandalisms, and 12 embezzlements.

Alderman Sullivan motioned to accept Chief Lewis's report and Alderwoman Yarbrough seconded. Motion passed. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm.

## Mayor Hanson Supports Dance Troupe at CIAA



Mayor Justin Hanson visited with Dance and Drama teacher Deborah Walker at Covington Integrated Arts Academy and donated to the Arts Boosters to support their upcoming trip to Dallas for training and competition. Ms. Walker takes her students to a [Tremaine Dance](#) event annually to help hone their skills as performers. Tremaine is Nationally recognized and holds events throughout the United States and around the world. Walker appreciates the support as it is very expensive to take the students and chaperones on a trip such as this – but she says the experience is absolutely worth it!

## Tipton County Commission on Aging Line Dancers Welcoming New Members



Commission on Aging is located inside the Covington Civic Center at 100 West Washington St.  
Call 901-476-3333 for Information

# SPRING SPORTS SIGN-UPS ARE UNDERWAY!



## 2019 Spring Softball

CITY OF COVINGTON  
YOUTH SPORTS

Siblings  
\$50 each  
Ages 4-15



Only  
\$65\*



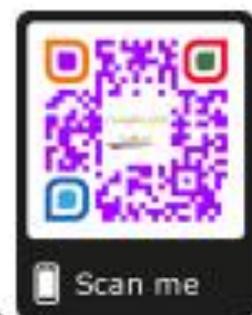
\*Includes (Jersey, Pants/shorts & socks)

Scan to  
register  
online!



Signups start  
January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Call 901-476-3734 or email  
[Sportsplex@covingtontn.com](mailto:Sportsplex@covingtontn.com) for more details.



ALSO LOOK FOR REGISTRATION TABLES AT ALL YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL GAMES BEGINNING JANUARY 19



# 2019 Spring Baseball



T-Ball \$50

Ages 3-4 receive hat & t-shirt

T-Ball \$85\*

Ages 5-6 receive \*full uniform

Coach Pitch \$85

Ages 7-8 receive \*full uniform



Scan to  
register  
online!

Kid Pitch \$85

Ages 9-10 & 11-12 receive \*full uniform  
\*(hat, jersey, belt, & pants)



Call 901-476-3734 or email

[Sportsplex@covingtontn.com](mailto:Sportsplex@covingtontn.com) for more details.

CITY OF COVINGTON  
YOUTH  
SPORTS

ALSO LOOK FOR REGISTRATION TABLES AT ALL YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL GAMES BEGINNING JANUARY 19



CITY OF COVINGTON  
YOUTH  
SPORTS

# 2019 Spring NFL Flag Football

**Ages 5-13**

**Only  
\$50\***



**\*Includes (NFL team jersey & flags)**



**Signups start  
January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Scan to  
register  
online!**



Call 901-476-3734 or email  
[Sportsplex@covingtontn.com](mailto:Sportsplex@covingtontn.com) for more details.

**ALSO LOOK FOR REGISTRATION TABLES AT ALL YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL GAMES BEGINNING JANUARY 19**

 COVINGTON

**YOUTH** 2019 Spring  
**SPORTS** Soccer



**Only  
\$55\***



**\*Includes ( jersey, shorts, & socks)**

Scan to  
register  
online!



**Signups start  
January 2<sup>nd</sup>**



Call 901-476-3734 or email  
[Sportsplex@covingtontn.com](mailto:Sportsplex@covingtontn.com) for more details.

**ALSO LOOK FOR REGISTRATION TABLES AT ALL YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL GAMES BEGINNING JANUARY 19**

*February 9, 2019*

**10 AM – 4 PM**

*Enjoy Shopping, Delicious Treats, and  
A Mega Chocolate & Gift Basket Prize Drawing*

*Tickets  
\$8 Advance price  
\$10 on Site*

*Chocolate Tour*  
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN  
COVINGTON, TN

Event Hosted By:



For further details, call:

901 476 9727

**SAVE THE DATE**



**DADDY***daughter***DANCE**

**FEBRUARY 23, 2019**

**COVINGTON CIVIC CENTER**

**901.475.7139**

# 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
- January 26 – Find your Kin – an Introduction to Genealogy – Museum – 10:00. [click here for details.](#)
- January 27 – Open House at [Weight Watchers](#) – Attend free and check it out!
- January 31 – Chick Chain – training for youth who want to raise chickens. [click here for more info](#)
- Fridays in February – [Paint the World](#) in oils or acrylics with Barbara Flowers McBride
- 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](#)
- February 05 – Reception for [Dr. Charlotte Fisher](#) at the Tipton County Museum – 6:00
- February 09 – **CHOCOLATE TOUR** on the COVINGTON SQUARE! 10:00 – 4:00
- February 12 – [Sharing the Love](#) at Magnolia Creek Nursing Facility – Clopton Line Dancers will perform!
- February 12-19-26 – Kids in the Kitchen – Youth cooking through 4-H – students grades 4-6. [Click here for info.](#)
- February 16 – **Go with the Flow** pouring class – come enjoy this fun art form! [click here to learn more](#)
- February 23 – DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE! Covington Civic Center – mark your calendar – updates coming!
- February 23 – Eat breakfast and/or lunch at LITTLE JIMMY’S LUNCHBOX and all tips and donations go to the Tipton County Museum and Veteran’s Memorial Expansion Fund. Bring the whole family – enjoy a great meal – [help the museum!](#)
- Saturday, February 23 - [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.



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](#)

# 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:





**HERE'S ANOTHER GOOD REASON TO EAT BREAKFAST...**



## **VFW POST 4840**

Will be serving Breakfast & Lunch

at **Little Jimmy's Lunchbox**

511 E. Liberty Avenue, Covington, TN

**Saturday, February 23, 2019**

6 a.m.—2 p.m.

All tips & donations will go to

**The Tipton County Museum**  
*Expansion Fund*

*Please support Veterans in Tipton County.*

For any questions, please call

**The Tipton County Museum**

**(901) 476-0242**

<p><i>The Clopton Line Dancers</i> will be performing at <i>Magnolia Creek Nursing</i> <i>Facility</i></p>	<p>SHARING LOVE WITH THE COMMUNITY THROUGH SONG AND DANCE.</p>
<p>FEATURING MUSIC BY "GUITARS AND GALS"</p>	<p><i>February 12th, at 10:00</i> <i>AM</i></p>

**SAVE THE DATE**

for a  
Supercalifragalisticexpialidocious

*26<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Dinner & Auction  
Special Guest Speaker  
Matthew Sandusky*



**April 27, 2019  
6:00pm  
803 S. College  
Covington, TN  
Covington High School  
Gymnasium**



**TO BENEFIT  
THE CARL PERKINS CENTER**

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

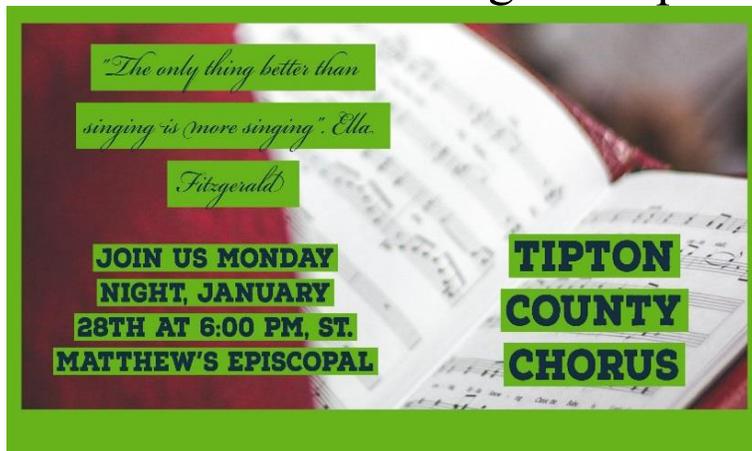
Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) encourages all students and potential students to fill out the **FREE** Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) **by Feb. 1** to ensure a greater chance of receiving funds for the 2019-20 academic year. Students and parents can complete the 2019–20 FAFSA form 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.

## Calling All Tipton Countians.....



For more information, contact Choir Director Chuck Clark at 901-474-1052 or [contact@chuckclark.online](mailto:contact@chuckclark.online)



## Introduction to Services

*(Arrive 30 minutes early)*

**Ripley AJC**  
**First & Third**  
**Monday Afternoon**  
**12:30pm**  
**\*call center for dates**

**Covington AJC**  
**Second & Fourth**  
**Monday Afternoon**  
**12:30 pm**  
**\*call center for dates**

## 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

**Randstad comes to the American Jobs Center in Covington every other Monday from 8:00 – 4:00 p.m. for interviews and applications. AJC is located right behind PIZZA HUT in Covington.**

**GED TRAINING/TESTING AVAILABLE!**

[Click here for details.](#)



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.



Covington  
Civic Center

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# TIPTON COUNTY **UT**EXTENSION INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

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## Upcoming Agricultural Extension Meetings

February 6, 2019: UT Extension Tipton County **Winter Production Meeting**- Tipton County Farm Bureau, 1798 Hwy 51S in Covington starting at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast. Weed control, diseases and varieties will be covered. For more information, contact Becky Muller at 901-476-0231 or [beckymuller@utk.edu](mailto:beckymuller@utk.edu).

February 14 and 15 2019- Area **UT Extension Advanced Master Beef Class**. The class will run from 8-5 both days and will be held at the H & R AgriPower meeting room (2262 Anderson Avenue, Brownsville, TN 38012).Cost: \$125.00 with BQA Certification. For more info call Becky Muller at 901-476-0231 or [beckymuller@utk.edu](mailto:beckymuller@utk.edu).

February 21, 2019: UT Extension Tipton and Fayette County Extension Offices along with Bunge will be hosting a **Winter Row Crop Marketing Meeting** at Braden Station Restaurant, 189 Hwy 59 Mason 38049 from 11:30 a.m. with lunch. For more information, contact Becky Muller at 901-476-0231 or [beckymuller@utk.edu](mailto:beckymuller@utk.edu).

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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.

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Real. Life. Solutions.

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

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[CLICK HERE to access online](#)

# 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. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in program and employment.

Real. Life. Solutions.™



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



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

**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.

Ages 18 & up

476-8289

www.tiptoncountypubliclibrary.com

## [News from the Tipton County Museum, Nature Trail, and Veteran's Memorial](#)

[Click here to read Museum Newsletter](#)

**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  
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VETERANS MEMORIAL  
NATURE CENTER

# The Magic of Watercolor

With

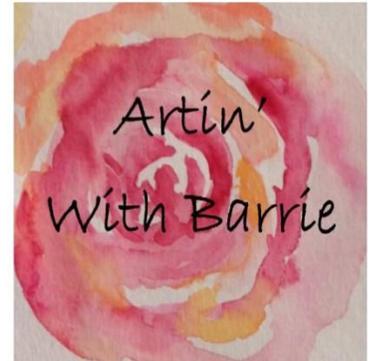
*Barrie Foster*

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





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

Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center  
Presents

# “Dr. Charlotte Fisher: Paving a Path in Tipton County”

Opening Reception: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: February 1, 2019—May 31, 2019

Dr. Fisher comes from a long line of Tipton County farm families and has accomplished many great achievements in her lifetime. This exhibit covers her past, her present, and her plans for the future. Please join us on February 5 as we celebrate and honor this remarkable woman!

Tipton County Museum  
751 Bert Johnston Avenue  
Covington, TN 38019





# Tipton County Museum

## 2019 Artist in Residence

### Debra Howze

After earning her Associate's Degree in Commercial Arts in 1975, Debra entered the world of art not sure of what aspect she would like to do. Forty years later, she has dabbled in pottery, stained glass, sculpture, calligraphy, pen and ink, acrylics, crafts, and photography. She credits the Tipton Art League as being instrumental in her success as an artist. She has taught art locally both to adults and children in the community for several years. Debra loves travelling and spending time with friends. She and her husband live in Atoka.



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





The Tipton County Museum, Veterans  
Memorial & Nature Center Presents

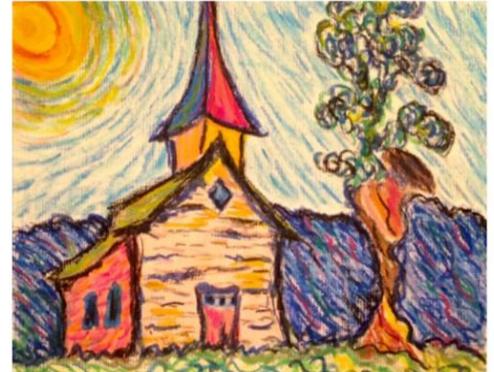
## *Paint the World In Oil or Acrylics*

With Barbara Flowers McBride

**When:** Friday mornings, 9:30—noon  
February 8, 15, 22, & March 1, 2019

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

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



**FEAR NO ART!!!!** Barb will show you how easy it is to paint in oil or acrylics.

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**



The Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial  
& Nature Center Presents

## Artist Series for Kids Jacob Lawrence



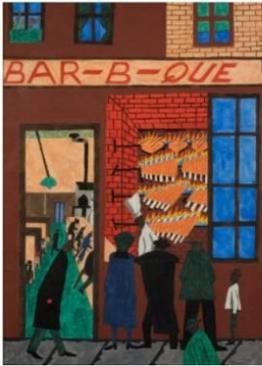
When: Saturday, February 23, 2019, 1 to 3 p.m.

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





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

Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center

Presents

# “Minnie Bommer: *A Jewel* in Covington’s Crown”

**Opening Reception: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Exhibit Dates: March 1, 2019—June 30, 2019**

The Tipton County Museum celebrates Women’s Month in March by honoring Minnie Bommer, an outstanding community leader who has dedicated her life to service. She has worked tirelessly to honor women in Tipton County, and now it is our turn to honor her!

**Tipton County Museum  
751 Bert Johnston Avenue  
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.

# Genealogy Basics: Understanding the U.S. Census

## GENEALOGY LECTURE at the Tipton County Museum

presented by  
**Archivist/Genealogist Sherri Onorati**

**Saturday, March 2, 2019  
10 - 11:30am**

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

**Come learn how to  
read the U.S. Census  
and what valuable  
information can be  
found within its pages!**

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910  
POPULATION SCHEDULES

Enumeration District No. 24-113A  
Schedule No. 1  
Sheet No. 3A

## 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.

# Reception was held at Museum in Honor of Robert L. Ellis - 2019's First Veteran of the Month



A large crowd of family, friends, fellow veterans, and community supporters gathered at the Tipton County Museum Tuesday night to honor Bob Ellis as January's Veteran of the Month. Ellis was presented an American Flag and certificate of appreciation for his service from Kathy Desjarlais of the Tipton County Veteran's Council and Barrie Foster, Museum Director. The Girl Scouts were also on hand to assist with the reception.



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