

## From the Mayor's Desk

## *Thoughts and perceptions from Mayor Justin Hanson*

### *Hello Friends and Neighbors!*

You will read in this week's newsletter that the City of Covington is about to begin round 2 of demolition through the blight eradication project currently being administered through a 2018 [CDBG](#) grant. It has been a painstakingly long process because we have to make sure all property owners have been properly notified, all paperwork is properly executed and signed, and all services have been removed. Bids have to be taken for the work to be done. These things must follow all Federal, State, and local laws and protocols – as they should! It is through this identification of blighted properties and subsequent removal (or repair) that we wish to encourage new neighborhood development projects. Many of the structures scheduled to be removed are on nice lots in good locations and are perfect places to begin neighborhood revivals. We are doing our best to set the stage for some lovely owner-occupied homes in our lovely town!

Speaking of investing in our community, we are looking for some good folks to come to work for us! The City of Covington has several full and part-time positions open that you may want to look into! We are hiring 3 lifeguards for our aquatic center. Our pool is covered, heated, and open all year. This is a fantastic opportunity for those who want part-time jobs that will also help you get plenty of exercise! This is especially sweet in Covington because this isn't just a summer job, but can provide part-time employment and additional income year around. We are also looking for a full time sports coordinator. This position requires a person who will be responsible for the athletic programs, with the exception of baseball and softball, offered by the Parks and Recreation Department and the continuous supervision of organizing, scheduling, and monitoring equipment and facilities related to the sports programs. Good candidates will be able to plan, initiate, organize, develop, perform and supervise a diversified program of athletics for the community. We have another full time position open as a meter reader. This position requires someone who will travel assigned routes and record meter readings into a hand-held computer to provide needed information for utility billing or other related action, note any unusual changes in consumption, location or malfunctions such as leaks or damaged meters, and perform necessary repairs and change out of utility meters, and related customer service duties. The City of Covington is an equal-opportunity employer and we offer attractive benefits packages to full-time employees.

Come and join us for Tea Time at the Museum this Saturday starting at 10:00. This will be a lovely fundraiser for the Museum Expansion Fund and you might spot some waiters you know – AKA, your Mayor! That's right – I am one of many who are helping the museum with this fundraiser by serving the diners – and I hope YOU will be one of them! Ladies – plan to attend Ladies Night Out on Thursday, June 13 around the lovely Covington Square. I hear there are some great prizes and wonderful sales you won't want to miss! There are many wonderful events coming up that are fun and exciting for the entire family. Take a look at our Outdoor Movies schedule. It's not too late to register for some of our great summer camps and swim lessons. DSCC in Covington is offering a great College for Kids program, as well. Be sure to join us on the Covington Square on July 4<sup>th</sup> for some fun events, including a children's parade, music, and the TCCA Line Dancers. We have great things going on around here and we hope to keep you well informed with our newsletters each week so you can take advantage of them!

*Justin*

# DEPARTMENTAL TIDBITS

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

## 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 call **DIRECT** at 901- 201-7573
  - **Tipton County Sheriff’s Dept.** - 901-475-3300
  - **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!** 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 **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)

## COVINGTON PUBLIC WORKS:

- 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 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.
- **IF YOU SMELL NATURAL GAS – CALL US!** 901-476-9631 or 901-476-7163
- **Call 901-476-9613 ext 118, ext 127, or ext 146 or 901-237-8165 for questions or concerns**



## **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.



**The Covington Aquatic Center is covered, heated, and open all year!** 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, family reunions, and church events. For more detailed rental information, contact Director Mack at (901) 476-3734, or Aquatic Director Eva Dale Williams at 901-476-9178.

To learn more about swimming, pool rentals, park rentals, youth sports, adult sports & fitness, our museum, summer camps, movies in the parks, and more - please Call 901-476-3734 or [click here](#).

## **CODES:**

- Please report all CODES issues to 901-476-9613 ext 146
- 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)

# 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](#).

**Make a Difference to Your Community.**

**BE A COVINGTON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER.**

[www.VolunteerFireTN.org](http://www.VolunteerFireTN.org)  
1-844-Vol-Tenn (1-844-865-8366)




**COVINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
101 Tennessee Avenue, Covington, TN 38019  
901-476-2578

**HELP GROW FIRE SAFETY THIS SPRING!**

Test smoke alarms to ensure they are working.  
Replace batteries, if necessary.

Place working smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of a home, including the basement.

If you need a free working smoke alarm, contact your local fire department today.



**TN** Department of Commerce & Insurance

## Smoke Alarms at Home

**SMOKE ALARMS ARE A KEY PART** of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

### SAFETY TIPS

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use both types of alarms in the home.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.



### FACTS

- 1 A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- 1 Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection.
- 1 Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



- Three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms
- More than one-third (38 percent) of home fire deaths result from fires in which no smoke alarms are present.
- The risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms. If you need smoke detectors in your home and you are in the coverage area of the Covington Fire Dept. call 901-476-2578.

# PARKS AND RECREATION:

## Summer Movies in the Park



### Summer Movies in the Park

May 23	June 13	July 12	July 19	August 6
				
Sports Complex	Baltzer Field	Aquatic Center	Frazier Field	Frazier Field

## Covington Aquatic Center Swimming Lessons



### Swim Lessons:

- June 3-7 - Learn to Swim Level 1&2 (11-12PM)  
- Adult learning the basics (5-6 PM)
- June 10-14 - Learn to Swim Level 3 (11-12PM)
- June 17-21 - Swim Camp Ages: 6-18 (8-12PM)
- June 24-28 - Learn to Swim Level 4 (11-12)
- July 1-5 - No lessons
- July 8-12 - Preschool aquatics (ages: 4-5)(11-12PM)
- July 15-19 - Parent & Child aquatics (ages: 6 mos-3)(5-6PM)
- July 22-26 - Adult Stroke Refinement (5-6PM)

Register online:



901-476-9178



**\$50 per person**  
**Limit: 10 students**  
**per class.**

<http://www.covingtontn.com/swimming-lessons.html>



### COVINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS.

Register on our website or call 901-476-3734. HURRY - camps will fill up quickly!

CAMP	INSTRUCTOR	DATES	TIMES	AGES	LOCATION
Choir	Justice Mack	June 3-7	8AM-12PM	5-10	SPORTSPLEX
Flag Football	Antonio Gaines	June 3-7	8AM-12PM	9-13	FRAZIER PARK
Arts & Crafts	Allison Coontz	June 10-14	8AM-12PM	5-9	SPORTSPLEX
Boxing	Anthony Campbell	June 10-14	8AM-12PM	8-16	JC BUILDING
Softball	Jessica Bearden	June 10-14	8AM-12PM	5-13	SPORTS CMLPX
Nature	Sherl Rose	June 17-21	8AM-12PM	10-18	TC MUSEUM
Soccer	Maddie Ray & Lily Yates	June 17-21	8AM-12PM	7-12	BALTZER FIELD
Swimming	Eva Williams	June 17-21	8AM-12PM	5-18	CAC- POOL
Baseball	Jake Winberry	June 24-28	8AM-12PM	7-10	WHITLEY FIELD
Dance	Deborah Walker	June 24- 28	8AM-12PM	5-18	SPORTSPLEX
Volleyball	Caroline Price	June 24-28	8AM-12PM	9-14	SPORTSPLEX
Futsal (Indoor Soccer)	Maddie Ray & Lily Yates	July 15-19	8AM-12PM	5-12	SPORTSPLEX
Art	Barrie Foster	July 22-26	8AM-12PM	10-18	TC MUSEUM
Basketball (Boys)	Shane Butler	July 22-26	8AM-12PM	10-13	SPORTSPLEX
Basketball (Boys)	Shane Butler	July 22-26	12PM-4PM*	14-18	SPORTSPLEX
Basketball (Girls)	Shane Butler	July 29-Aug 2	8AM-12PM	10-13	SPORTSPLEX
Basketball (Girls)	Shane Butler	July 29-Aug 2	12PM-4PM*	14-18	SPORTSPLEX
\$55 per camper					
MOST camps include breakfast AND lunch					
*Lunch ONLY camp					

## **MUSEUM:**

The Tipton County Museum, Veteran's Memorial and Walking Trail is an active place! They have events almost *daily*. There's a wide variety of educational materials and they *welcome* school groups. You can rent their grounds and conference room for your events, as well. Come visit the facility and visit our website. Call 901-476-0242 for more information and to support their work!



Museum Archivist Sherri Onorati (far right) led a session Saturday morning called Genealogy, Finding your Kin at the Tipton County Museum. [Click here](#) or call 901-476-0242 for the museum's schedule of events.



The Tipton County Museum and Friends  
Present  
**Tea Time at the Museum**

*Please join us Saturday, June 8, at 10:00 a.m. for a special fundraiser for the Tipton County Museum's Expansion Fund. Herb connoisseur Sherl Rose will give a brief lecture on herbs and their culinary uses. Herb based iced teas and refreshments will be prepared by our gardening friends and Covington Mayor Justin Hanson and friends will be our servers!*

**When: Saturday, June 8, 2019 from 10 -11:30 a.m.**

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

**Fee: \$20 in advance / \$25 at the door**

**Presale tickets are available from the Tipton County Museum  
or the Covington-Tipton Co. Chamber of Commerce**

*Tipton County Museum ♦ 751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN 38019 ♦ (901) 476-0242*

## **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**

- Job 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](#)
- Check out the schedule and other special events for this year's BBQ Fest. [click here to learn more](#)

Check out Beautiful Tipton County  
Tennessee!

[CLICK HERE TO SEE GREAT PHOTOS OF  
COVINGTON AND TIPTON COUNTY](#)



## **Public Works Hires New Employees; Lowers Commercial Waste Fees**

The Public Works Committee held their regular monthly meeting at Covington City Hall on June 4, 2019 at Covington City Hall with the following present: Mayor Justin Hanson, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Alderman C.H. Sullivan, Alderman Danny Wallace, Alderwoman Johnetta Yarbrough, Recorder-Treasurer Tina Dunn, Assistant to the Mayor Sara Gangaware, Utilities Manager Calvin Johnson, Public Works Director David Gray, and Codes Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector Lessie Fisher, Covington Police Chief Buddy Lewis, and Margaret Fleming.

Mayor Hanson called the meeting to order at 4:00 with a quorum present. Chairman Alderman Jeff Morris was not present at this meeting, therefore a motion was made by Alderman Wallace and seconded by Alderwoman Bommer to elect Mayor Hanson as chairperson for this meeting. Motion passed. Mayor Hanson then called on Public Works Director David Gray to make his presentation.

Director David Gray:

- Gray distributed copies of TN Senate Bill 1894, which gives municipalities funding capabilities using natural gas utility funds for the funding of chambers of commerce and economic and community organizations. Gray proposed to utilize this to fund the City of Covington's support of HTL Advantage of \$50,000. The money already budgeted for the support of HTL Advantage would stay in the General Fund, and Gray proposed it be used for an additional police vehicle for the Covington Police Department, and a crew-cab truck for the Public Works Ground Maintenance crew. Mayor Hanson stated he has cleared this with our auditor. Alderwoman Bommer motioned to accept Gray's recommendations for the use of the \$50,000 for a police car and a crew-cab truck, and Mayor Hanson seconded. Chief Lewis thanked Gray for suggesting using the saved money for the police vehicle, and Alderman Sullivan also stated he appreciates Director Gray's proposal. Motion passed unanimously.
- Gray continued his report with a survey report provided by RYE Engineering. They conducted an Acoustic Leak Detection Survey at the Billings Bald Butcher parking lot to try to detect a leak in the area. The summary of the survey was that none of the sections of water line surveyed were found to be leaking. It is Rye's professional opinion that the water visibly present may be rainwater or from the high water table present at the time. Since there is no direct evidence of a water system leak in the area

at this time, Rye recommends no further action be taken. Gray stated Covington Public Works has spent hundreds of man hours and thousands of dollars investigating this situation.

- Gray continued with the bid analysis for inventory. Mid-South Construction got the rock, sand, and gravel bid for \$138,510.00. The only bidder for concrete was Bobby Austill Concrete, and that bid was for \$22.00 per man hour. Gray recommended choosing Brenntag Midsouth for chemicals because they have provided excellent service and products, and were low bidder. G & C Supply was lowest bidder for water and sewer and also has low bids for some gas. Tri-State is the other supplier for gas. Alderman Wallace motioned to approve Gray's bid proposals and Alderwoman Bommer seconded. Motion passed.
- Gray distributed an additional informational sheet for solid waste trash pickup. Gray stated he has had several conversations with commercial customers recently and he feels the costs are too high. Gray penciled in his cost recommendations on the handout. His recommendations are for a knuckle boom full load, set the cost at \$200 and for less than a full load; \$100. He recommended \$40 for the trash train. He said he feels we are putting too much of a financial burden on our business owners for this service with current prices. Alderwoman Bommer asked will these fees cover the costs for our services, and Gray stated they will. Sullivan stated he feels this is a good friendly gesture for our businesses, particularly if our costs are covered. Alderman Wallace discussed the costs with Gray to make sure we will cover our costs, and Gray said he is very comfortable with his proposed costs. Alderwoman Bommer motioned to accept Gray's suggestions for the solid waste costs for business/commercial customers and Alderman Wallace seconded. After a brief discussion, Mayor Hanson called for a vote and the motion passed.

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Wallace motioned to accept Gray's report and Alderwoman Bommer seconded Motion passed.

Mayor Hanson then called on Codes Enforcement Officer Lessie Fisher for her report:

Director Fisher:

- Cameron Hall has been named Code Compliance Animal Control Officer. He is moving to Codes from Utilities.
- Jennifer Nolen has been named Code Compliance Property Maintenance Officer. She is moving up from a position in the Codes Department.
- Fisher will conduct interviews this week to fill the position vacated by Nolen.
- Fisher encouraged committee members to report overgrown areas via email to [planning.building@covingtontn.com](mailto:planning.building@covingtontn.com)
- Fisher stated she has shared the processes set in place by the City of Covington and State of Tennessee for property owners to keep their properties safe and clean. She said they will be making regular rounds through the city to make sure our codes are being met throughout the city. Alderman Wallace asked if it is possible to post something on the property to provide recognition to the property owner of the code violation. Fisher stated she is in the process of working on ways to notify property owners and help people understand the codes that are in violation.
- Still working on blight grant, and still waiting on the home program to get their contract wording correct for us to implement it. The pre-bid and walk-through for the next 6 blight properties to be demolished is scheduled for tomorrow (June 5). Mayor Hanson stated roughly 35 more blighted properties will be coming up for demolition as we continue to work through the grant.

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Wallace motioned to accept Fisher's report and Alderwoman Bommer seconded Motion passed.

## Two City Employees Accept Promotions in Public Works



Cameron Hall and Jennifer Nolen have both accepted new positions in Codes. Both were already employed by the City of Covington, and applied for these positions. Cameron, who was working in our utilities department, is the new Codes Compliance Animal Control Officer. Jennifer, who was working in Codes is now the Codes Compliance Property Maintenance Officer. Both work under the direct supervision of Codes Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector Lessie Fisher.

To report code violations, please call 901-476-9613 ext 146, or email [planning.building@covingtontn.com](mailto:planning.building@covingtontn.com)



*Fourth of July*  
*Celebration on the Square*

9:00 - 10:30 AM

LIBERTY AVENUE ON THE

**SQUARE**

**CHILDREN'S  
PARADE  
AND TCCA  
LINE DANCERS**



SPONSORED BY THE  
TIPTON ARTS  
COUNCIL INC. AND  
DEBRA MOODY

**For more information -  
Contact Barbara Flowers  
McBride, (901) 237-4006**

**MUSIC =**

**JIM HARDIN  
AUSTIN MASON  
DION CHRISMAN  
THE TIPTON COUNTY  
COMMUNITY CHORUS**

# Ladies Night Out

Thursday,  
June 13th, 2019

5pm - 8:30pm



Historic Covington Square

# City of Covington Offers On-Line Bill Pay

We have a new payment system to accept your online and pay-by-phone payments. Click the link to make your payments online.

If you would like to call in to make a **TAX payment by phone, you can dial 844-867-1859**, toll free. REMEMBER you must have your receipt number to complete your payment.

To make a **UTILITY payment by phone, you can call 844-876-2911**. You will be asked to enter your account number.

These are both fully automated lines. Phone payments only accept MasterCard, Discover and Visa. If you wish to use PayPal or American Express, you will need to make your payment online.



[click here to access our online options](#)



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

- Tuesday - June 11 Sookie's Bake Shop on the Square
- Tuesday - June 25 Sookie's Bake Shop on the Square
- Tuesday - July 9 Pappy & Jimmie's - 749 N. Main St
- Tuesday - July 23 Pappy & Jimmie's - 749 N. Main St
- Tuesday - August 6 Pappy & Jimmie's - 749 N. Main St
- Tuesday - August 20 Pappy & Jimmie's - 749 N. Main St
- Tuesday - Sept. 10 Pappy & Jimmie's - 749 N. Main St
- Tuesday - Sept. 24 Pappy & Jimmie's - 749 N. Main St

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

**come and go as you please**

**TN** Department of Labor & Workforce Development | Adult Education | **844-721-8800**  
tn.gov/adulthooducation

## EARN YOUR DIPLOMA FOR FREE!

Earn \$10,000 more per year than those without a High School Diploma

Qualify for I-900 Scholarship, TN Promise, and TN Reconnect

Qualify for a new job or promotion

**Get Started Today!**



**Tennessee Adult Education Offers:**

- High School Equivalency prep classes during the day, at night, and on the weekends
- Online classes for distance learners
- Basic computer skills
- Workforce Preparation
- Individualized and small group instruction
- English classes

Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development | 1000 Tennessee State Capitol Building | Nashville, TN 37243 | 844-721-8800 | tn.gov/adulthooducation

[CLICK ON ABOVE TO LEARN MORE!](#)

# Great Weather, Great Events, and Great Crowds for Covington's 47<sup>th</sup> BBQ Festival and Car Show

Beautiful weather and fun events such as the Demolition Derby, Corn-hole Tournament, Dr. Zarr's Amazing Funk Monsters, and the Memphis Classic Chevy Club's Car and Bike Show helped to make this year's Oldest BBQ Cooking Contest FUN FOR EVERYONE!



Beautiful blue skies, a flyover, and the American Flag ushered in this year's BBQ Festival



Gas, Utilities, Parks & Rec, and even the Mayor chipped in to take care of feeding City of Covington employees and their families.





## BBQ COOKING WINNERS

**GRAND CHAMPION – Woods Custom Cookers**

**WHOLE HOG –** Smoke Masters BBQ – 1<sup>st</sup>  
 M & W Smokers – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Sigler's Rollin Smoke – 3<sup>rd</sup>

**RIBS –** Woods Custom Cookers – 1<sup>st</sup>  
 U-Pigs BBQ – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Grillbillies – 3<sup>rd</sup>

**PULLED PORK –** Heath Riles BBQ – 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Pick'n Our Butts – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 U-Pigs BBQ – 3<sup>rd</sup>

### ANCILLARY WINNERS:

Sauce – M & W Smokers  
 Anything Butt – 3 Puttin Piggies  
 Dessert – Sweet & Smokey



# DSCC Announces Spring 2019 Dean's List and Honor Roll

Dr. Kay Patterson, Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) interim vice president for the College, recognizes students for their scholastic achievements each semester. To be included on the dean's list, a student must complete at least 12 semester hours of college level courses during the semester and earn a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher for the semester. Those from Tipton County making the Spring 2019 dean's list are:

- **Atoka** - Rebekah Blazer, Joseph Cina, Noah Cina, Callie Collier, Davina Dewitt, McKenzie Dunn, Mackenzie Emery, Madison Emery, Emily Gray, Jennifer Gulotta, Austin Kiernan, Morgan Kiernan, Kristin Long, Jessica Macarine, Dustin Pindell and Holley Stewart
- **Brighton** - BreAnne Carter, Dawson Carver, Allison Click, Rachel Davis, Erin Delaney, Darion Field, Brianna Goodwin, Tammy Mauk, Taylor Moore, Autumn Payne, Ashton Quarles, Nicole Roest, Anna Short, Stanford White, Katherine Williams and Carrie Witwer
- **Burlison** - James Comer, Andrea Hopkins, Benjamin Wallace and Lilyan Williams
- **Covington** - Kaylee Burnett, Noah Caldwell, Joshua Harvell, Kelsey Holt, Hanna Johnson, Currie McIntyre, Hayden Parker, Caroline Price, Madelyn Ray, April Sangster, Lauren Smith, Brooklyn Terry and Malcolm West
- **Drummonds** - Autumn Cooper, Luafalealii Evans and Jamie Pruet
- **Munford** - Kayla Bowles, Charles Bowling, Emma Bowman, Kelly Carlton, Alexia Clark, Nathaniel Figgins, Christopher Flanagan, Lanie Whitney and Maureen Wignes

## DSCC Honor Society Planning Golf Tournament

*Participants could win \$1 million, free rounds of golf and more!*

Dyersburg State Community College is set to host the 2019 Honor Society “**Go for the Green**” Golf Tournament Saturday afternoon, **July 27**, at the **Covington Country Club**. The DSCC Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society is sponsoring this event with proceeds benefiting PTK activities and program needs. The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at noon.

In addition to the traveling trophy, participants have the chance to win cash prizes in various contests including a putting contest, a hole-in-one contest, a longest drive contest and a closest-to-the-pin contest. There will be an opportunity for the top two winners of the closest-to-the-pin contest to win **\$1 million** by hitting a hole-in-one. Door prizes will be awarded at the end of the tournament.

The cost for a team of four is \$400 and includes a catered lunch beginning at 11 a.m. Cash prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place teams in two flights. Teams are welcome to bring their own carts; however, carts are available to rent for \$40 per team. Cart rentals must be reserved before the event by contacting Brigham Scallion at 901-475-3119 or [scallion@dsc.edu](mailto:scallion@dsc.edu).

Registration forms are available at the DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County, the Covington Country Club and inside the Eller Administration Building on the Dyersburg campus. They are also available electronically at [www.dsc.edu](http://www.dsc.edu) or by contacting Brigham Scallion at 901-475-3119 or [scallion@dsc.edu](mailto:scallion@dsc.edu).



Get Better.



Beginning June 8th, **CT Scans** and **X-Rays** will be offered during **weekend** hours. Call **901.277.4433** to schedule.

1995 HIGHWAY 51 SOUTH | COVINGTON, TN | 38019

**ATTENTION ALL TIPTON COUNTY VETERANS AND/OR WIDOWS OF VETERANS -YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR VA BENEFITS**

A recent court decision has opened the doors to over 190,000 Navy Sailors of Vietnam waters for Veterans and/or survivors' benefits.

If you are one of these Veterans or a Family member of one those please call the Tipton County Veterans Service Office for assistance in seeing what benefits are available and filing these claims. Unlike the advertisements by lawyers and other claims agents, the Tipton County Veterans Service Officer is FREE. **NO CHARGES EVER.**

Additionally, if you are Veteran and/or a Widow of a Veteran, you should contact the Veterans Service Office to schedule an appointment to see if you are eligible for benefits which you have been missing out on all these years. War Time ERA Widows and Veterans can be eligible up to \$2,000.00+.

Please call the office at 901-476-2456. Office Hours are Monday to Wednesday 8-4



## **Coming Soon Fall 2019 !!**



### **Dental Assistant Technology**

**A 12-month program that prepares students to become members of the dental health care team. The course includes theory with demonstrations and classroom instructions. Students receive supervised experience performing procedures using study models, mannequins, and other simulated methods.**

### **Pharmacy Technology**

**A 12-month program trains students for employment in retail and wholesale pharmacies, home health care and long term care facilities. Students learn to become skilled in medication, prescription, preparation, reconstitution and IV preparation.**



**For More Information Contact:**

**Miranda Miller  
mmiller@tcatcovington.edu  
TCAT Covington /New Healthcare Facility  
1600 Highway 51 South  
Covington, TN 38019  
901-475-2526**

**DYERSBURG STATE**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# *New Student Orientation*

**June 13, July 18 or Aug. 20**  
**2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County**

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



# Registration Open for DSCC's College for Kids Summer Program

**Super Fun Summer Activities**

# College for Kids 2019

June 17-21  
DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center  
at Tipton County

**ACCEPTED AGE GROUP:**  
K - 5TH GRADE  
**FOR REGISTRATION**  
CONTACT MANDY FISHER  
731-286-3265  
OR REGISTER ONLINE  
DEADLINE: JUNE 7

**ACTIVITIES:**  
ART AND MUSIC  
COMPUTER CODING  
CAKE DECORATING  
STEM INNOVATION  
TRASH TO TREASURE

REGULAR REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON **\$85**

More Info & Online Registration:  
[www.dsc.edu/c4k](http://www.dsc.edu/c4k)

**50** **DYERSBURG STATE** COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Dyersburg • Covington • Trenton  
3149 Highway 51 S., Covington, TN 38019  
901-475-3100 / [www.dsc.edu](http://www.dsc.edu) / [enroll@dsc.edu](mailto:enroll@dsc.edu)

Detailed program information and registration is available online at <https://www.dsc.edu/c4k>. For more information, contact Becky McCaslin, continuing education specialist, at 731-286-3267 or [rmccaslin@dsc.edu](mailto:rmccaslin@dsc.edu).

## College for Kids Covington Session June 17 - 21, 2019

This session of College for Kids is held at the Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County, Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Accepted age groups are Kindergarten - 5th grade. Grade is based on the 2018-2019 academic year. Below is a list of classes. Each student will choose three classes and two alternates.

- **Art and Music** - Learn how to use your artistic talents! This is a great opportunity to express yourself through visual art and sound.
- **Computer Craze** - This class is educational and fun. Students learn the basic concepts of coding by playing challenging games.
- **Creative Cakes** - Learn the basic skills in decorating sweet treats. Students will learn icing techniques and complete an entire cake by the end of the week.
- **STEM Innovation** - Be a problem solver! This class teaches innovative and critical thinking through hands-on lessons and science experiments.
- **TRASH TO TREASURE** - Use your imagination to turn trash into treasure! Discover new ways to turn everyday objects into unique works of art while learning the benefits of recycling.

## Upcoming EVENTS

All regularly scheduled committee meetings are at **4:00 pm** in the Lower Level Conference Room at Covington City Hall at 200 West Washington Street. All Board of Mayor and Aldermen meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evenings of each month at **5:30** in the Conference Room on the second floor at Covington City Hall. ALL are open to the public.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays – Public Works Committee
    - Jeff Morris, Chairman
    - Minnie Bommer
    - Danny Wallace
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays – General Welfare and Public Relations Committee
    - Minnie Bommer, Chairman
    - Keith Phelps
    - C.H. Sullivan
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – Finance and Administration Committee
    - C.H. Sullivan, Chairman
    - All aldermen attend
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Public Safety Committee
    - C.H. Sullivan
    - Johnetta Yarbrough
- June 08 – Tea Time at the Museum – don't miss this! [click here for more information](#)
  - June 13 – New Student Orientation at DSCC – [click here for details](#)
  - June 13 – LADIES NIGHT OUT on the SQUARE in COVINGTON! [click here for more info](#)
  - July 19 – BACK TO SCHOOL FEST – Covington High gym...[click here to learn more](#)
  - June 20 – BUNCO NIGHT! [Click here for more information!](#)
  - July 04 – FOURTH of JULY celebration on the Covington Square! [click here for details](#)



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](#)

# DANCING IN COVINGTON

FOX HOLLOW COMMUNITY-  
JUNE 11TH, AT 11:00 AM,  
CLOPTON LINE DANCERS

GLENDALE COMMONS  
- JUNE 12TH,  
11:30 AM -TCCA  
LINE DANCERS



## Open Enrollment

Tipton County  
Head Start/Early Head  
410 Alston Street Covington, Tn. 38019  
901-476-7488

Mondays-Fridays 8:00-3:00  
Contact: Patricia Mason, Cathy Crook, or  
Bev Roberts, Center Coordinator



The following documentation is needed to complete your child's application:

1. Proof of child's age
2. TennCare and/or insurance card
3. Name, address, and phone #s of at least 3 emergency contact people
4. Proof of income
5. IFSP/IEP

Children with disabilities are encouraged to apply. We will take applications on pregnant women, children from birth to three and children that will be 3-4 by August 15.

NWTNEDC Head Start requires no fees to participate in this program

## Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for a fun way to get involved with your local community?

**The Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce  
has volunteer opportunities available for upcoming events!**



Call 901 476 9727

OR Email: [lauren@covington-tiptoncochamber.com](mailto:lauren@covington-tiptoncochamber.com)  
for further details.

# The Stitching Store

[Click here to view the latest newsletter from the Stitching Store!](#)

They are coming up on their 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of being open.

They also have all sorts of new product arrivals!

[Sign up to receive their monthly newsletter today!](#)

# Tipton County 4-H June 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

## Congratulations Wildlife Judging Team



Tipton County had a total of six youth participants coached by volunteer leader Jake Yoes a TWRA Agent and UT/TSU Extension Agent Brigitte Passman. Team members learned how to determine wildlife management practices needed for a given situation, how to match foods to the different species of wildlife, and how to match the different habitats used by each species of wildlife.

Our junior team consisted of Hannah Jones, Anna Jones, and Bradley Cobb who placed 1<sup>st</sup> in their division. Anna Jones received highest scoring individual and Hannah Jones placed 7<sup>th</sup> highest scoring individual. Our junior high team placed 6<sup>th</sup> within their division and consisted of team members Ashlynn Watkins, Kateri Fritz, and Christen Lemons. Kateri Fritz received fifth highest scoring individual in her division.

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

Real. Life. Solutions.™

**UTEXTENSION**  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
AN AGENCY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

**TENNESSEE**  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE



**DON'T MISS OUT! READ THE 4-H NEWSLETTER IN ITS ENTIRETY**  
click anywhere on the picture above

It's  
**BUNCO**  
TIME!

Baked  
Potato  
Bar



Door  
Prizes

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE CARL PERKINS CENTER  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 20TH @ 6:00 PM**

\$20 PER PERSON

RESTORATION CHURCH

60 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MUNFORD

CALL THE CENTER TO REGISTER 901-476-1515





**BACK TO  
SCHOOL  
FEST**

**2019**



Sponsored by:

Tipton County Community Advisory Board

**TIPTON COUNTY...**

Come get your **FOOD** and **SCHOOL SUPPLIES!**

**JULY 19**

**Covington High School Gym**

**10:00 – 1:00**

For additional information, please contact:

Doris Frazier, Tipton County Health Department, 901-476-0235 ext 143

Diane Wynn, Children & Family Services – 901-476-2364

Barbara Bond, DCS Resource Linkage Coordinator – 731-431-4064

**EACH CHILD MUST BE PRESENT AND ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT TO RECEIVE  
FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES.**



## 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 08/09/2018

**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.](#)

## Upcoming Small Business Seminars



### **TSBDC May Seminars located in West Tennessee!**

From QuickBooks Beginner Classes, understanding and utilizing Google Ads, to Starting a Business, there are a variety of courses available.

[Click the link to view the calendar of upcoming classes and to register today!](#)

## Learning Opportunities



*Delivering Solutions to Help Businesses Grow*

## **Course Schedule May – August 2019**

[Click the link to view the Course Schedule](#)

For further details:

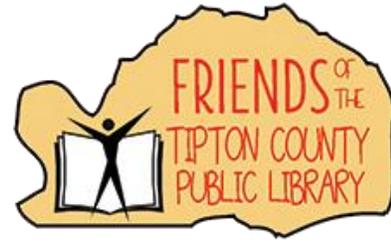
Visit: [www.cis.tennessee.edu](http://www.cis.tennessee.edu)

Email: [CISregistration@tennessee.edu](mailto:CISregistration@tennessee.edu)

**NEWS from the**

*Tipton County Public Library*

Our library is a beautiful facility with a lot to offer. Click on the link above to access their website. Click on the "Friends" link to the right to support our library.



June is **PACKED** with fun, educational, and exciting events at the library – **CHECK THIS OUT...**

### TWEEN MAKERSPACE



AGES 8-13

WEDNESDAYS  
June & JULY  
2:00 PM

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3149 Hwy 51 S. Bldg C  
Covington, TN 38019  
901-476-8289  
www.tiptoncountylibrary.com

### MAGIC MR. NICK

JUNE 6, 2019 @ 10:00AM

ALL AGES

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3149 HWY 51 S. BLDG C  
COVINGTON, TN 38019  
476-8289  
tiptoncountylibrary.com



### Mr. Bonds & the Science Guys

June 13  
@ 10:00 AM

ALL AGES

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3149 HWY 51 S. BLDG C  
COVINGTON, TN 38019  
476-8289  
tiptoncountylibrary.com

### STORYTIME: DONUTS WITH DAD

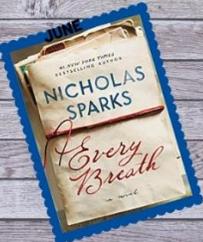


JUNE 15th  
10:00 AM

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3149 HWY 51 S. BLDG C  
COVINGTON, TN 38019  
901-476-8289  
www.tiptoncountylibrary.com

# BOOK CLUB

BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FRONT DESK FOR CHECK-OUT



June 18th  
&  
July 16th  
@1:00 PM



# TAB

## Teen Advisory Board

Ages 12-18

TAB is a group of teens ages 12-18, who meet once a month to help plan teen activities, programs, and volunteer at the library.

Please call the library at 476-8289 for more information.

May 30th @ 5:00 PM  
June 26th @ 3:30  
June 31st @ 3:30

**JOIN TODAY!**



# BIRDS OF PREY

Presented by Ft. Pillow and Reelfoot State Parks

**JUNE 27th  
@ 10:00 AM**

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3149 HWY 51 S. BLDG C  
COVINGTON, TN 38019  
901-476-8289  
TIPTONCOUNTYLIBRARY.COM

# Story Time in the Park

Cobb-Parr Memorial Park  
Covington, Tennessee

Join us for an outdoor story time experience.  
Stories will be read near the playground.  
All are welcome to attend!

10:00-10:30AM  
June 18th  
June 25th  
July 2nd  
July 9th

## Court Square Farmers Market

# NOW OPEN!

**Tuesday  
8am-2pm**

**Thursday  
Noon-6pm**

**Saturday  
8am-2pm**

**COURT SQUARE**

---

**FARMERS MARKET**

---

EST. **2010**

**COVINGTON TENNESSEE**

**May-November**

follow the  
**WATER TOWER**  
117 N. Main St.

**[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 Presents**  
*Summer Watercolor with Barrie Foster*

**When: Wednesday Mornings, 9:30 to 11:30,**

**June 26, July 10, 17, & 31, 2019**

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

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

**Watercolor is the only transparent medium, making it one of the most beloved art forms today! Embark on your personal journey during this four week class, led by professional artist & Museum Director Barrie Foster. No previous art experience required. Please call the Tipton County Museum today to reserve your spot!**



**The 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

The Tipton County Museum Presents

# *An Artful Journey*

An Oil & Acrylics Course  
with

**Barbara Flowers McBride**

**When:** Friday mornings, 9:30—11:30

August 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2019

**Where:** Tipton County Museum

751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN

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

These classes are ongoing, so you have plenty of time to work on your painting! No previous art experience required. Please call the Tipton County Museum at (901) 476-0242 to register or for questions.



The Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center

751 Bert Johnston Ave., P.O. Box 768, Covington, TN 38019

(901) 476-0242



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

## 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.





## *Gioiello* Featured Artist



### *Elaine Weir Watkins*

Elaine began making up stories and writing them down when she was in grade school. She also wrote poetry, and her fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Clark, would let Elaine read her poems to the class. Many years ago Elaine entered a featured article contest for a magazine and won. In addition to writing books and short stories, she writes a community news column for the Leader, which she has been doing since 1989. Elaine and her husband James live in Covington.

### Homeschool Group Tours Museum - Learns about D-Day



School groups are always welcome at our museum, and we have lots of special programs just for kids! Call to find out more at 901-476-0242

## Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center



### *Veteran of the Month* June 2019 **Fred W. Bray Jr.**

The Tipton County Museum Veteran of the Month for June, 2019, is Fred Walker Bray, Jr. Fred was born on February 16, 1954, in Caruthersville, Missouri, and moved to Tipton County in 1967. One week after graduating from Covington High School in 1972, he got married, and a week after that he was at Parris Island, South Carolina, for Marine Corps Reserves Basic Training. Fred felt a strong need to serve his country as his father was part of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division and part of the occupational forces in Japan.



During his time in the Marine Corps Reserves, Fred worked with the A-4E Skyhawk planes - first as a mechanic, then as a plane captain. During this time his daughter Nicki Lee Bray Miller was born. As a young man with a family, he wanted to learn skills that would be readily transferred to the private sector after serving his country. With no opportunity for a different job classification with the Marine Corps, he looked to the Air Force, which guaranteed him a job as an air conditioning and refrigeration specialist. After spending four years in the Marine Corps Reserves, he joined the Air Force in 1976, hoping for a better life for him and his family. He attended Air Force Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, later describing Air Force basic training as “more genteel” than Marine Corps basic training. Because of his previous military service, he was appointed Dorm Chief, and he was affectionately known as “Baby Bird.” He became a Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Specialist and worked in the Mobile Command Centers as was part of the 507<sup>th</sup> Technical Air Command Center out of Sumter, South Carolina. During this time he was blessed with a son, Michael James Bray. Being gone for over a month with each command center activation or deployment was difficult on him and his growing family. Trying to do what was best for all concerned, he chose not to reenlist and received an honorable discharge from the Air Force. He and his family moved back to Tipton County in 1980, and he went to work for the State of Tennessee as an air conditioning mechanic. For his time in the military he was awarded the Rifle Marksmanship badge, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal, and the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal.

It wasn't long after his first marriage ended that Fred met his second wife, Carol, at the Arlington Developmental Center, where she was working as a nurse. She had two small boys, Matthew and Jason, and in 1983 they all became a family. In 1998 he went to work for the Tennessee Department of Corrections starting as a Facilities Supervisor before being promoted to Facilities Manager. He retired in 2014 after serving a total of 37 ½ years with the State of Tennessee. Sadly, his son Michael passed away at a young age. However, today his daughter Nicki works as an RN at Methodist North Hospital; stepson Jason works in Arlington, Tennessee, at Plasma Coatings; and stepson Matthew lives in Lexington, Tennessee, and is a long distance truck driver. In addition, Fred and Carol have 12 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren, with another one on the way. Fred continues to serve his community. In 2016 he joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans; and he and Carol became Tipton County Master Gardeners that same year. Then in 2017 they both joined the Order of the Confederate Rose and became members of the Tipton County Museum. Fred was nominated for Veteran of the Month by fellow Master Gardener Paula Sweatt.

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