

Newsletter - January 24, 2020



Mayor Justin Hanson



You may contact your

Alderman/Alderwoman by

clicking on the email links below.

District 1 Vice Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough

Alderwoman Minnie Bommer

1122jwyatt@gmail.com

alderwomandist1@gmail.com

District 2 Alderman Jeff Morris

Alderman Keith Phelps

<u>aldermanjeffmorris@gmail.com</u>

kphelps@jamiesonandfisher.com

District 3 Alderman C.H. Sullivan

Alderman Danny Wallace

aldermanchsullivan@gmail.com

aldermanwallace@gmail.com



1st Tuesdays - Public Works Committee Jeff Morris - Chairman, Minnie Bommer, Danny Wallace

2nd Tuesdays - General Welfare and Public Relations Committee Minnie Bommer - Chairwoman, Keith Phelps, C.H. Sullivan

3rd Tuesdays - Finance and Administration Committee C.H. Sullivan - Chairman, All Aldermen/Alderwomen attend

4th Tuesdays - Public Safety Committee Keith Phelps - Chairman, C.H. Sullivan, Johnetta Yarbrough

All regularly scheduled committee meetings are at 4:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference Room at Covington City Hall at 200 W. Washington St. All Board of Mayor and Aldermen meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings of each month at 5:30 pm in the Board Room on the 2nd floor at Covington City Hall. ALL are open to the public. Official meeting minutes and agendas can be found by visiting www.covingtontn.com.

Finance and Administration Committee Meeting - 1/21/20

Present: Chairman Alderman CH Sullivan, Mayor Justin Hanson, Alderwoman Minnie Bommer, Alderman Keith Phelps, Alderman Jeff Morris, Alderman Danny Wallace, Nic Shaw, Tina Dunn, David Gray, Larry Lindsey, Echo Day, Rebecca Ray, Lessie Fisher, Rachel Witherington, David Gwinn, Tiny Rose, Lauren Fletcher

Tennessee Downtowns Discussion – Lauren Fletcher, Director Covington-Tipton Chamber of Commerce

- Update, Tennessee Downtowns, affiliated program to Tennessee Main Street designation
- 24-month program to help with revitalization effort
- Requesting resolution approving Lauren to apply thru CEDC (Covington Economic Development Corporation)
- Application must be submitted by 2/14, award is \$15,000
- Sample Resolution was included in agenda
- Alderman Sullivan stated that he feels this is a good idea
- Lauren clarified that this is different that the Main St. designation application. We are not quite ready for that. This is a 2-year process that will get us ready for Main St.
- Motion made by Alderman Sullivan that we proceed with resolution, Mayor Hanson 2nd, discussion regarding grant opportunities that this may potentially open. Approved

Discussion on Blight Eradication

- Mayor Hanson discussed balance of Artesian funds and the need to demolish Thomas Funeral Home building at 210 N. Main and 429 Dixon. The Artesian Fund was established 35-40 years ago when Artesian Industries was located in Covington. They established a fund for economic and community development through which other industries could borrow for growth and expansion. The funds in the account today are a result of the original investment as well as the payback with interest from those who borrowed from it.
- Cost is approximately \$53,000 to demolish funeral home and approximately \$49,900 to demolish the Dixon property.
- Artesian fund balance is between \$150,000-\$190,000
- Long Ave. and Tatlock Ave. have already been approved for demolition.
- Alderman Wallace asked if any monies could be recovered from property owners. Attorney Witherington stated that we could not place a lien against the property under this grant program. The property owners retain ownership of the lots under this program. Attorney Witherington explained the
 Slum Clearance Ordinance and why it would or would not be beneficial to go that route.
- Alderman Phelps and Alderwoman Bommer further discussed the origination of Artesian Funds.
- Attorney Witherington talked about the negative effect that properties like the funeral home and Dixon property have on the surrounding properties.
- Motion made to rebid 2 properties and tear them both down, 2nd, discussion, approved.

Lessie Fisher discussed special events process. We need to have resolution adopted to get that started.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Official meeting minutes and agendas can be found by visiting www.covingtontn.com.



COVINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

101 Tennessee Avenue - Covington, TN 38019 - 901-476-2578



Visit us on our Facebook page







Congratulations to Covington Fire Department's own Matt Massey and Matt Gardiner on being named the Exchange Club of Tipton County's "Firefighters of the Year". Both gentlemen were recognized during a luncheon Thursday. They received this award after saving a Covington resident and her dog from a house fire. It is an honor to serve alongside you both as you work to keep our residents safe! Thank you for your service to our community!





Click below to learn more!

Be a Guardian of Your Community.

BE A COVINGTON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

www.VolunteerFireTN.org 1-844-Vol-Tenn (1-844-865-8366) There are several career opportunities available with the City of Covington for Accountant, Utility Repair Person, Water/Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator Trainee, and Lifeguard.

Click <u>HERE</u> to see complete job descriptions and requirements!



We would like to say a fond farewell to Candice Burnett who has worked in our Utilities Department as an accountant for 3 years. Candice is leaving City Hall to work at Crestview Middle School. She has been a wonderful asset to the City of Covington and will be greatly missed. Good luck on your new adventure, Candice!



Vice Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough visited Miss Millie Pullen's Kindergarten class at Crestview Elementary School this week to read to the students about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Thank you for the invitation!



Congratulations to the following Tipton County students for being named on the Fall 2019 DSCC Dean's List and Honor Roll. We are proud of you!

To see the complete list, click **HERE**

Atoka - Ian Bellew, Arianna Clement, Darold Cooper, Savannah Deal, James Dunn, Mackenzie Emery, Madison Emery, Mary Giannini, Jennifer Gulotta, Logan Hawkins, Amari Hayes, Carson Helton, Morgan Kiernan, Brett Kirk, Samantha Kolbe, Lillian McConnell, Molly McCourt, Justin Sutton, Abigail Taylor and Ranee York. Brighton - Pamela Blesi, Jordan Boberg, Erin Delaney, Dillon Lane, Brianna Langford, Dorothy Maness, Taylor Marbry, Tammy Mauk, Caitlin Pfeifer, Ashton Quarles, Nicole Roest, Jamie Shoemaker and Myles Stephens. Burlison - James Comer and Lilyan Williams. Covington - Kirby Bradshaw, Kaylee Burnett, Noah Caldwell, Morgan Cooley, Lydia Cotnam, Kaitlin Dembicky, Joshua Harvell, Brooklyn Holt, Hanna Johnson, Samuel Leggett, Madison Luttrell, Ian Marsinko, Currie McIntyre, Ally Mize, Tydriana Pierce, Madelyn Ray, Rylie Russell, Hailey Short, Anna Marie Trantham and Lily Yates. Drummonds - Ashanti Bateman, Autumn Cooper, Michael Greer, Tori Mattila, Jamie Pruett and Brittany Tullos. Munford - William Allen, Hannah Barr, Emma Bowman, Nathaniel Figgins, Victoria Finch, Christopher Flanagan, Candice Gooden, Jacob Green, Xandra Gutierrez, Madison Irby, Lauren Prince, Julie Rowand, Angelia Vaughn and Matthew Wiggins. Stanton - Elizabeth Mackey, Stephanie Terry and Porter Wright



The Tipton County Museum Presents

Artist Series for Kids



(and adults, too!)

Alma Thomas & the Abstraction

Alma Thomas was the first African American woman to hold a fine arts degree. She loved children, and she loved to paint with bright colors. Her beautiful gardens were a source of her inspiration, and she created many abstract paintings based upon images from those gardens. During this class the artists will learn about this fascinating woman, her beautiful artwork, and then create their own abstract painting using acrylic paint on a stretched canvas. No previous art experience required, and we provide all the materials. A family/sibling discount is available, which makes this a great family activity! Refreshments will be served.

When: Saturday, February 1, 2020 1 to 4 p.m.

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

\$15 Museum Members, \$20 General Public

A sibling/family discount is available **Tipton County Museum**

751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN

(901) 476-0242





The Tipton County Museum Presents

Art is for Everyone

With Barbara Flowers McBride

Renowned artist Barbara McBride is returning to teaching oil and acrylic painting on Friday mornings at the Tipton County Museum. Barb will show how easy it is to get started painting today. No previous art experience or talent required! Please call (901) 476-0242 for a supply list & registration.

When: February 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2020, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Where: 751 Bert Johnston Ave., Covington, TN

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

Tipton County Museum

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

Covington, TN 38019 901-476-0242





2020 Artists in Residence

Kathryn and Lance Vaughn

Meet the talented husband and wife team!



KATHRYN VAUGHN Educator - Writer - Photographer



LANCE VAUGHN

JACKSON HUGHEY'S BALLERS CHALLENGE

Sperts Saturday February 8th 6PM @Covington Sportsplex Sperts

4 Age Groups 3 Point Contest Male 14-17 **Female 14-17** Male 18 & Up

> Female 18 & Up **Prizes**



\$10 ENTRY FEE



Skills Challenge **\$10 ENTRY FEE**

Admission: By

\$17 TO ENTER BOTH



Donation \$2 minimum

ALL proceeds donated to the Hughey Family





Mayor Hanson welcomed the TOTAL (Tipton Organized to Advance Leadership) class during their Economic and Community Development session on Thursday. The class toured Unilever, TCAT (Tennessee College of Applied Technology), and also heard from HTL Advantage, IDB (Industrial Development Board), CEDC (Covington Economic and Development Corporation), TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority), Tipton County Workforce Development, and TN ECD (Tennessee Economic and Community Development) about the industrial advantages and opportunities we have right here in Tipton County. Thank you to Lauren Fletcher with the Covington-Tipton Chamber of Commerce, Rosemary Bridges with the South Tipton Chamber of Commerce, Amanda Heath with TCAT Covington, and Bernadette Fuller with Unilever for organizing a fun and informative tour!







5000 eight graders are invited to attend!

The inaugural P2P West Tennessee will take place at the Ripley Power and Light Building in Ripley, TN on March 4th and 5th 2020 from 8:00am-3:00pm both days. All public, private and home schooled 8th graders in Tipton, Haywood, Lauderdale, Crockett, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Lake, Madison, and Obion counties are invited to attend this two day event! Community leaders, mayors, Tipton County officials and HTL Advantage gathered recently to learn more about this event.

Pathways2Possibilities (P2P) is a hands-on, interactive career exploration experience, designed to help 8th graders link their passions to a paycheck. We are looking for area businesses to partner with P2P!

There are three opportunities for you to join the P2P team:

Event Sponsor-email rray@covingtontn.com to request sponsorship levels

Pathway Professional-facilitate hands-on activities with the students at the event

Community Volunteer—event day activities, such as passing out materials, monitoring flow, signing in visitors, parking assistance, etc.

This is a great approach for developing our future workforce! Send us an <a href="mailto:email

VISIT THE FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE BY CLICKING HERE!







Successful Gardening—A February Event at The Tipton County Museum!





TIPTON COUNTY



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

Saturday, February 1st: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

"Feng Shui in the Garden"

· Guest Speaker - Barrie Foster: Director of the Tipton County Museum

Saturday, February 8th: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

"Diagnosis in the Landscape"

Guest Speaker - Dr. Chris Cooper: Shelby County Master Gardener Coordinator & creator of WKNO's "The Family

Saturday, February 15th: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

"All About Houseplants"

. Guest Speaker - Kathleen Trent: Madison County Master Gardener

Saturday, February 22nd: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M. "Medicines in the Garden"

· Guest Speaker - John Peterson: Memphis Area Master

** Saturday, February 29th: 10:00 - 11:30 A.M. ** "Southern Garden Staples & their Roots"

Guest Speaker - Sherl Rose: T.C. Museum Exhibit Support Specialist & Pollinator Expert

** Please bring plants and seeds to share **

Bank







Dining with Diabetes Class

@ the Tipton County Public Library

FEBRUARY 18th, 25th & March 3rd @ 10:00 A.M.

This program is open to anyone with diabetes, prediabetes, their family members or caretakers.

Classes will include information on diabetes management, carbs, sugar, sweeteners and important exams. Each week we will cook a healthy recipe.

> **CLASS IS FREE, BUT REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** Sign-up at the library, or by calling 476-8289





Who's in YOUR Family Tree?

Join us at the Tipton County Museum to learn about



Come explore this FREE research tool and learn techniques to find out more about your family history.

Presented by Sherri Onorati

Saturday, January 25 @ 10am

FREE to Museum members and \$5 for non-members.

For more information call 901-476-0242 or visit the Tipton County Museum



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

901-476-0242

www.covingtontn.com/museum or facebook.com/tiptoncountymu



NEWSLETTER 🔀

Is there something you'd like to share in our weekly newsletter? Email Rebecca Ray at rray@covingtontn.com!







Tipton County Brings Awareness to Human Trafficking by Wearing Blue

The National Observance Day for Human Trafficking was held on January 10, 2020, and to show support for this observance the Tipton County Health Department Staff, Covington Public Works Department, and Dyersburg State Community College all wore blue. According to the Tennessee Department of Health there are an estimated 40.3 million people being trafficked worldwide. By wearing blue they raised awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights. The Tennessee Department of Health urges all Tennesseans to learn about risk factors, red flags and resources for human trafficking to be part of the solution, and possibly help save a life. If you suspect a case of human trafficking call the Tennessee Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-855-55-TNHTH (86484) or the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.

Pictured: Tipton Co. Health Department Staff, Covington Public Works Staff, DSCC JNC Campus Staff







Mayor Hanson was invited to participate in a panel discussion organized by the United Methodist Church Metro District Clergy and held at Bartlett United Methodist Church on Tuesday, January 20th. The discussion was

entitled "Maximizing Our Community Impact: Where is the Church Missing the Mark?" The other panelists were Dr. Albert Mosley with Methodist Healthcare, Alexandra Porto with Fayette Cares, Haley Duffey with Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center of Fayette County, and Dr. Michael Lowe with Shelby County Schools. Bishop Bill McAlilly moderated the discussion. Special thanks to District Superintendent Dr. Deborah Smith for the invitation!

The City of Covington Presents:

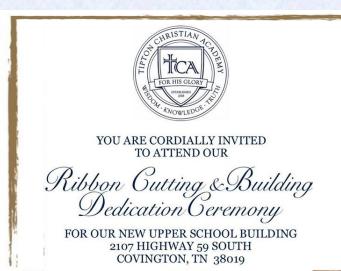


Friday, February 21, 2020 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (Doors Open at 6:00) Covington Civic Center - Tennessean Room 100 W. Washington Ave. Covington, TN 38019

Ticket Price: \$25/couple - \$10 each additional child Chaperone may be any adult father figure

Purchase Tickets by February 14th
No Tickets sold at the door, by reservation ONLY
Reservations can be made at the Covington Civic Center
Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For More Info, Contact: Karen Griffin (901) 475-7139 - (901) 475-7170 - kgriffin@covingtontn.com



SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 3:00 PM

We hope you will join us for refreshments and a tour of the building & classrooms.

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His faithful love endures forever. Psalm 107:1

Notice Covington Utilities Customers

The City of Covington is in the process of installing AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) to replace its aging water and gas meters.

Beginning the week of February 10, 2020, Utilities Department employees and contractors will be conducting a site survey at each home and business. The survey is to collect information necessary to replace all water meters as well as install data collection for gas meters. This first phase should take approximately one month.

Phase II will begin after all material has been ordered and shipped. Installation will require a very short interruption of service for each customer.

We expect this last phase to be completed in twelve to fifteen months. We regret any inconvenience this may cause but it will greatly improve insight into system operation and customer service.

If you would like more information, please call 901-476-9531 ext. 118 or 113. You can also contact Public Works Director David Gray at dgray@covingtontn.com.

ATTENTION UTILITY CUSTOMERS!

The City of Covington Utilities Department offers 4 easy ways to pay your bills:

Pay at City Hall: Drive thru & office hours are 8 am - 4:30p.m. Monday - Friday

Pay by Phone: Call 1-844-876-2911 (You must provide your account #)
Pay Online: Visit www.covingtontn.com and click "Online Bill Pay"

Automated Draft: Form to draft payment from your bank account can be filled out

at City Hall.

As per rules that went into effect on July 1, 2015, the City of Covington is *strictly enforcing* due dates, cutoff dates, and late/reconnect fees for our utility customers. All payments must be received *BEFORE 4:30 p.m.* on the last day to pay. Any payment received AFTER 4:30 p.m. on the last day to pay will be subject to a \$50 charge. This charge must be paid in order to ensure services are not disconnected or to re-connect services in the event that they have been disconnected. *THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS.* Please refer to the chart below for Last Day to Pay dates and Disconnect Date:

BILL DUE DATE	LAST DAY TO PAY	DISCONNECT DATE
13th of the month	23rd of the month	24th of the month
24th of the month	3rd of the month	4th of the month

You're Invited to have Coffee with the Mayor! Tuesday, February 4th 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.



Each year, literally TONS and TONS of garbage are collected from our roadways in Tipton County. The Covington Public Works department has been hard at work making sure the streets of Covington are litter free. We would like to thank our Street Department for everything they do to keep Covington beautiful!





Reminder - Property taxes are now due! There are several ways to pay:

Pay easily online at https://paycovingtontn.com/taxes.html#/

Pay by Phone: 1-844-867-1859 You must have the receipt number to complete the payment. Visa, MasterCard, Discover accepted

Pay in Person at City Hall, 200 W. Washington St., Covington, TN 38019



Drug Free Tipton has launched the tip411 alert system as a way to interactively 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 via a free smartphone app. Simply text "Tipton" to 847411 from your cell phone or download the tip411 app. This service is 100% anonymous!

Contact Drug Free Tipton at 901-378-0545 or visit www.drugfreetipton.org

JANUARY EVENTS @ YOUR LIBRARY



TIPTON COUNTY STITCH-ALONG JAN. 18th 10-12:00 PM

Crochet & Knitting Group bring a project to work on, or if you want to learn, bring the following supplies:

Skein of Red Hear Super Saver yarn size H crochet hook or size 10 knitting needles

COLORING CLUB JAN. 21st @ 12:00PM

BOOK CLUB The Turn of the Key by Ruth Ware JAN. 21st @ 1:00 P.M.





Movie Days

Ages 18 & Up @ 1:00 PM

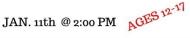
Overcomer - JAN. 3rd [PG] 119 mins Downton Abbey - JAN. 14th [PG] 122 mins. Cool Runnings -JAN. 24th [PG] 98 mins. Judy -JAN. 28th [PG-13] 118 mins.



JAN. 11th @ 1:00 PM

TAB is a group of teens ages 12-17, who meet once a month to help plan teen activities, select new materials, and volunteer.

ANIME CLUB



Wi-Fi Printing is now Available!



COLOR \$0.25



Friends of the Library Meeting JAN. 23rd @7:00 P.M.

New members are welcome!

GENEALOGY HELP

w/ River City Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution JAN. 13th 9:30-11:30AM



ancesti Library Edition

Ancestry Library Edition is available @your library



Check-out FREE e-magazines www.rbdigital.com/50emagazine/service/magazines/



Check out e-books for FREE

Tennessee R.E.A.D.S., powered by OverDrive, is a collection of downloadable ebooks and audiobooks that you can access with an valid library card



LEGO CLUB

AGES 11 & UNDER JAN. 2nd @ 1:00 PM JAN. 18th@ 11:00 AM JAN. 23rd @ 4:00 PM

HOMESCHOOL BOOK CLUB

JAN 16th

K-3 - 1:00 PM & 3rd & Up 1:15 PM The Bravest Dog Ever (K-3) by Natalie Standiford

he One Hundred and One Dalmations (3rd & Up by Dobbie Smith

Copies are available at the front desk for checkout

Donate your old LEGO's to our **LEGO Club!**

Mother Goose Story Time Ages 0-2 Every Thursday @ 9:00AM

Preschool Story Time **Every Wendseday & Thursday** @ (0:00AM

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Ages 0-PreK Sign-up at the Library **READ BOOKS, WIN PRIZES**



MAKE IT @ YOUR LIBRARY



JAN. 30th @ 4:00 PM

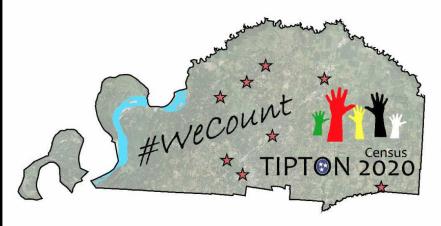




MOVIE DAY JAN. 2nd @ 4:00 PM **CHILL OUT SCOOBY DOO**

[NR] 90 mins





Shape your future START HERE >

Census 2020

#2020census

This information is designed to help citizens of Tipton County to understand the importance of participating in the 2020 Census by completing and submitting the questionnaire. Every municipality and the County are committed to ensuring that all individuals living in Tipton County on April 1, 2020, are counted in the Census. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that in Tipton County, we:

COUNT EVERYONE ONCE, ONLY ONCE, AND IN THE RIGHT PLACE.



Each year, the Federal Government distributes \$675 billion dollars in federal funds based on an area's population per the Census count. Our county will receive money to support school lunches, housing, food stamps, all manner of grants, and many other programs based on the Census. The 2020 Census will be the basis of these distributions for the next ten years. Our Constitution requires that all residents of the United States are to be counted in the Census every ten years.



The Census Count is used to determine how many representatives our district has in Congress, and can also potentially affect your county district representation.



Historically, the under-counted persons who did not participate in the Census were children under the age of five, immigrants, and people with a lower income.



A complete and accurate Census is paramount to equity, opportunity, and addressing the many issues faced by our region and the nation.



Local Census Partners: • Tipton County Government • City of Covington • Town of Mason • Town of Atoka • Board of Education • Tipton County Library • City of Munford • Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce • South Tipton Chamber of Commerce • UT AG Extension • Town of Brighton • First Utility District • STEMC • The Leader • City of Gilt Edge • Town of Burlison • Town of Garland • Community Organizations • Businesses • Local Philanthropic Organizations • Munford Memorial Library • Churches • UT/TSU

www.tiptonco.com/census2020