



A message from... Mayor Mark

THE CITY'S FOUR PRIORITIES OF DRAINAGE

Drainage concerns come in many different forms. In an effort to give our Public Works department some guidance, I have arranged those most common concerns in order of priority:

#1: The City's #1 priority is to avoid water in houses/structures. In general, we are successful with this. In certain major rain events, there are homes that take on water ... and that is never a good thing.

#2: Mitigate street flooding (which impacts emergency vehicle responses). Continued routine maintenance of our drainage tributaries and detention ponds helps with this.

#3: With a flat topography and gravity-based system, yard flooding is a realistic expectation. Priority #3 is to mitigate yard flooding. The goal is to have the water recede within 12 hours AFTER the rain has stopped. Please do not assume it will recede while it is still raining.

Side note: Ditches drain into tributaries: Rattle Snake, Patricia Canal, Blue Swamp Creek, Mile Branch, Simpson Creek, St. Paul's Creek and Mackie Creek. These tributaries flow into the Tchefuncte and Bogue Falaya Rivers. When the river is full, the tributaries will hold the same level as the river (and therefore not flow or flow slowly). When the tributaries are full, lateral ditches (and your yards) will not flow. For example, the streets of River Forest will not drain until the level of Patricia Canal has dropped below the level of River Forest's culvert outfalls.

#4: Ditches holding water long after it has stopped raining. Ditches that hold water after a rain are a personal pet peeve of mine. Unfortunately, Covington is flat. Quite flat. There is very little fall across the city. This means the bottom of a ditch slightly out of whack, a blocked culvert or a culvert set at the wrong elevation 70 years ago can cause ditches to hold water. Public Works is tackling this city-wide problem by digging fewer ditches deeper when they don't drain and by "blowing out" more culverts. In certain cases, they have made nice progress. In others, we continue the battle ... much like whack-a-mole.

Side note: Structures in our area that flood tend to have two things in common: 1) They are constructed in a flood zone and 2) They are not raised i.e. they are built flat on the ground.

Side note #2: A flood zone is a zone of land that floods. If one's home is located in a flood zone, then yard and street flooding is a realistic expectation.

We, the City, cannot make a flood zone "not" behave like a flood zone.

Side note #3: One should avoid driving on flooded streets. However, if one must, please do so slowly without creating a wake. Oftentimes, the difference between a home or garage getting water and not getting water is some jerk driving his or her vehicle quickly through the water ... throwing off a wave that rolls into the structure.

Side note #4: I was recently asked by a resident on Facebook to have Public Works clean the pumps. There are no drainage pumps in Covington. We operate through a scientific principle called "gravity."



#CovLA

July/August
2024



MARK R. JOHNSON
MAYOR

SLOW YOUR ROLL
SLOW YOUR PACE

Photo by: Ron Barthet

"One of the coolest cities in America"



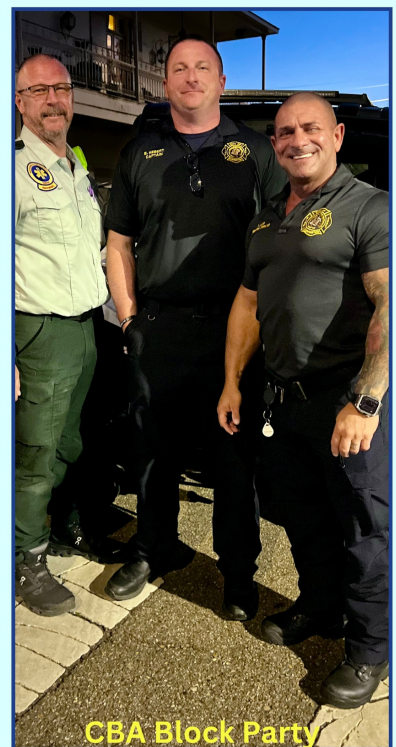
Splash Pad Splashers



Sparks In The Park



JUNETEENTH



CBA Block Party



Sparks In The Park



OnSTAGE



CHF Veterans Appreciation

Ribbon
CUTTINGS

Thank you for choosing Covington.

Ribbon
CUTTINGS



The Pro Bono Project
810 N. Columbia Street



Latter & Blum/Compass
806 S. Tyler Street



Rev. Peter Atkins Park
Splash Pad

FEATURED IN
Southern Living
Friendliest Places
in the South



1. Covington, Louisiana

The secret's out about this lovely little town. Not only was it voted the best small town in Louisiana in our 2024 South's Best Awards survey, readers also named it one of the friendliest towns in the state. From Mayor Mark Johnson, who makes a point to engage with visitors and constituents (he even leads free zumba classes), to welcoming business owners, to public events that give people a reason to gather, Covington has created a new definition of Southern hospitality. As one reader said: "It is not unusual for people to dance with strangers at some of the outdoor music concerts. It seems like everyone is looking for ways to make sure everyone is having a good time."

WHO IS THE CBA?

The Covington Business Association (CBA) is a nonprofit organization, representing and advancing the interest of local businesses. The volunteer board is comprised of business owners who work hard to give back to the city. They put on several events throughout the year such as:

- Block Party
- Kokomo Stroll
- A Taste of Covington
- New Year's on the Northshore
- Monthly Meetings

It is so inexpensive to join, only 120.00 a year!

MEMBER BENEFITS

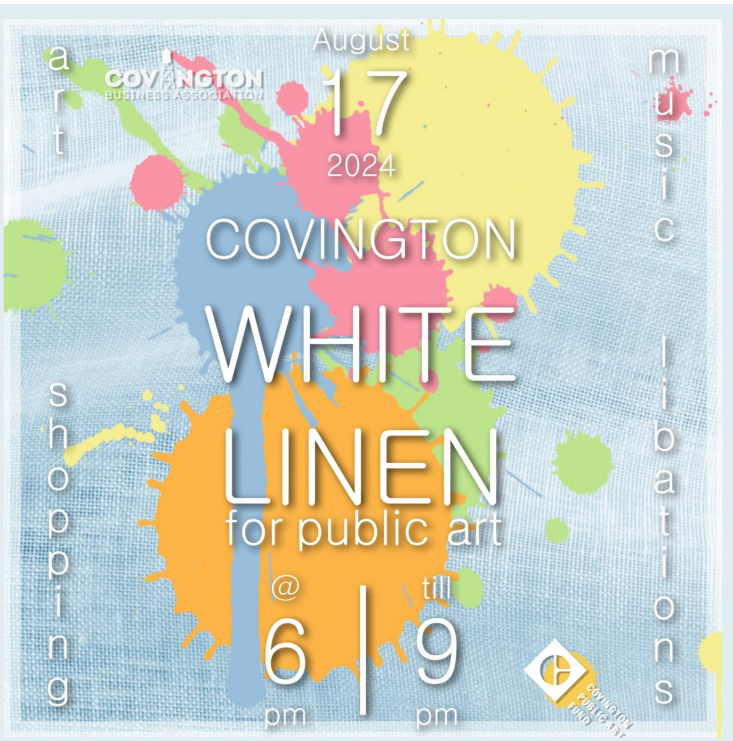
- o A presence for your business on the CBA website, the go-to online destination for all things Covington
- o Access to special advertising opportunities with local media as well as some complimentary advertising opportunities funded by CBA
- o The opportunity to attend regularly scheduled meetings concerning matters important to you and your business and to voice your ideas and concerns to local leadership
- o **Monthly meetings that include dinner, drinks, and door prizes. It's business mixed with fun!**
- o The opportunity to host a monthly meeting at your place of business (must be able to accommodate at least 60 people)
- o The opportunity to get involved in the planning and execution of local events in which CBA plays a role
- o The opportunity to promote your business at the Final Friday Block Parties

like
& follow us!



March - October
6:00 to 9:00 PM

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN COVINGTON | COVLA.COM



July					
3rd	CBA Meeting	Wednesday	5:30 PM	FREE	Playmakers Theater
4th	Four on the 4th (4 mile Walk/Run)	Thursday	7:00 AM	Tickets	Hubie Gallagher Park
13th	Running of the Fools	Saturday	10:30 AM	FREE	Downtown Covington
19th	Sunset at the Landing	Friday	6:00 PM	FREE	Columbia Street Landing
20th	Kokomo Stroll	Saturday	6:00 PM	Tickets	Downtown Covington
21st	Zumba with the Mayor	Sunday	12:00 PM	FREE	Bogue Falaya Hall
26th	CBA Block Party	Friday	6:00 PM	FREE	Columbia Street
29th	United Way Red Bean & Rice Cook-Off	Monday	11:00	Tickets	Bogue Falaya Hall
August					
1st	OnSTAGE "The Savannah Sipping Society" SOLD OUT	Thursday	7:00 PM	Tickets	Bogue Falaya Hall
7th	CBA Meeting	Wednesday	5:30 PM	FREE	Covington Beer Garden
10th	Tour de Trike	Saturday	5:00 PM	Tickets	Covington Beer Garden
16th	Sunset at the Landing	Friday	6:00 PM	FREE	Columbia Street Landing
17th	White Linen Night	Saturday	6:00 PM	FREE	Downtown Covington
25th	Zumba with the Mayor	Sunday	12:00 PM	FREE	Bogue Falaya Hall
30th	CBA Block Party	Friday	6:00 PM	FREE	Columbia Street

Keep Covington Covington



AUGUST 10th

Covington's first adult trike race!
Registration starts at 5:00 at Brooks' Bike Shop

For more information go to Covla.com or Eventbrite to register!

"It's a 3 wheel BIG deal"

Proceeds benefit **Covington's Hogs for the Cause**



15th Annual WEST ST. TAMMANY
RED BEANS 'N' RICE COOK-OFF
United Way Campaign Kick-Off

MONDAY, JULY 29
11:00AM-2:00PM
Greater Covington Center
317 NORTH JEFFERSON AVENUE | COVINGTON, LA 70433

Tickets are \$10
Dine-In, Drive-Thru and Take-Out Available
Free delivery for orders over 20 meals
50/50 Tickets for \$5 each
(You don't have to be present to win)

Presenting Sponsors:
Loop, St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, Ochsner

UnitedWaySELA.org/RedBeans

The funds raised at this annual event supports suicide prevention, mental health services and other United Way programs in St. Tammany parish. In recent years' funds have been granted to: NAMI St. Tammany, Via Link 211, St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office Crisis Intervention Team, Dolly Parton Imagination Library, and the Northshore Prosperity Center.

If you're interested in being a sponsor or would like more information, contact Sonja Newman at SonjaN@UnitedWaySELA.org

THANK YOU TO OUR CO-HOSTS:
St. Tammany Fire Dept. District #12, Covington Fire Department

100 YEARS 1914-2014

ZUMBA WITH THE MAYOR
Bogue Falaya Hall 12:00 PM

JUNE 23RD
JULY 21ST
AUGUST 25TH
SEPTEMBER 15TH

Food Bank 5:00

For information email: mayormark@covla.com

St. Tammany Parish Health System, Ochsner

THROUGH THE STREETS OF DOWNTOWN COVINGTON

7/13/24
★OPEN TO THE PUBLIC★
\$10.00 COVER CHARGE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RUN

★2024★
FIRST ANNUAL
RUNNING OF THE FOOLS
@ JEWELS

FEATURING THE
MUSICAL BY
ST. JOHN
JAVIER GUTIERREZ AND VIVAZ

LOCATION
Start and Finish @ Columbia Street Tap Room

TIME
Line up @ 10:30 AM, Running of the Fools @ 11:00 AM, Afterparty @ 11:30 - 1:00 PM

DRESS
In order to run, participants MUST be in all white, with a dash of either purple, green, gold or red around their waist.

Music, food and plenty of foolish behavior at the soon-to-be world famous afterparty.

SPONSORS
VEGETARIAN, CHAMPAGNE