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Jan. 28 – Feb. 3, 2015

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## “Appetite for Art” This Saturday 10th Annual President’s Art Awards Gala

Parish President Pat Brister and the St. Tammany Parish Commission on Cultural Affairs present the 2014 Appetite for Arts Gala & Fundraiser benefiting the Public Arts Program in St. Tammany Parish. This year’s President’s Arts Awards will be hosted at the St. Tammany Parish Justice Center in historic Downtown Covington on January 31st at 6 pm. The festivities will include food from over 21 St. Tammany Parish restaurants, live music from Ronnie Kole and Christian Serpas, dance performance by Javier Juarez and a theatrical performance by the Slidell Little Theatre. Tickets may be purchased at St. Tammany Parish Government’s Grants/CRT Offices and the St. Tammany Parish Emergency Operations Center, Public Information Office. You can also purchase tickets or donate to the Public Art Program by mailing a check payable to The Northshore Community Foundation to the St. Tammany Parish Commission on Cultural Affairs, ATTN: Jennifer Bushnell, 21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA 70471. Please be sure to write “President’s Arts Awards” on the memo line. For more information or to purchase tickets please call (985)898-5243 or email [arts@stpgov.org](mailto:arts@stpgov.org).

PARISH PRESIDENT PAT BRISTER &  
THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMISSION ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
PRESENT

The 10th Annual President’s Art Awards

# APPETITE for Art

## SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY | JANUARY 31ST | 6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

## CPD: Police Recruits Graduate Academy

Chief Tim Lentz is proud to announce the graduation of seven recruits from police academy. In keeping with his promise to fill the ranks of the Covington Police Department from an all-time low staffing level, these new recruits will go directly to the patrol division to complete their field training and become solo police officers protecting the citizens of Covington. Filling vacant police officer positions is not a quick process and the graduation of these officers is a major step toward completing that goal. New officers must undergo a rigorous background check, physical and mental fitness tests, complete a police academy and pass a field-training program before they can be released to work as solo officers.

The seven police officers that graduated this morning attended the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff’s Office P.O.S.T. (Peace Officer Standards and Training) Level I Academy, which began in October of last year.



From left to right - Dy. Chief Doug Arrowood, Officer John Dupy, Officer Lance Benjamin, Officer Brian Pereira, Officer Bret Miller, Officer Timothy McJunkin, Officer Mark Dugas, Officer Brandon Crain and Chief of Police Tim Lentz. Brian Pereira, Mark Dugas and Lance Benjamin brought home awards from the POST Academy representing top academic achievement, marksmanship and fitness, respectively.

They began their 16 week field training program last Friday, working with certified training officers in the patrol division to get hands-on experience. Upon completion of the field-training program, they will be assigned to positions in the patrol division.

The CPD has two additional recruits in the Slidell Police Academy, leaving only one more open position within the police department. Chief Lentz made the following statement, “We are proud of these officers for graduating the academy and excelling while doing so. This will bring us another step closer to our goal of a fully staffed police department. I would also like to thank Sheriff Strain for allowing these officers to attend his POST Academy.”

[www.covla.com](http://www.covla.com)

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## Covington Receives Award for Excellence In Financial Reporting for FY 2013

For the third consecutive year, the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Covington by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

“The City of Covington is tremendously proud to be recognized as a recipient of this prestigious award. I, and members of the Covington City Council, wish to acknowledge and commend Director of Administration Gina Hayes and Finance Director Alisa Faciane for their adherence to the best financial practices. They are an asset to our City and my administration. My thanks also are extended to the CPA firm of Carr, Riggs & Ingram, who formally submitted the annual financial report on the City’s behalf,” Mayor Mike Cooper.

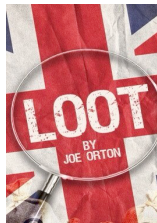
The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL, and Washington, DC.

[www.covla.com](http://www.covla.com) [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org)

## Playmakers Announces Cast for “Loot”

Playmakers Theater, 19106 Playmakers Rd, Covington is proud to announce the cast for their upcoming production of the black farce- “Loot” by Joe Orton, directed by Anyisia Genre. The cast is as follows: Gina Pauratore, Allen Bryant, Cary Martin, Tom Hassinger, Chase Boltin and Jacob Mendow. Set, lighting and sound by John Carambat, Bill Larsin-Ruffin and Aaron Genre. “Loot” runs from March 6-22 (except the 8th) on Friday & Saturday at 8 P.M. and Sunday at 2 P.M. Reserve your tickets by calling (985)893-1671 or visit [www.playmakersinc.com](http://www.playmakersinc.com).



## Quote of the Week

“The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.”

- **Socrates**

## Full Moon



Tuesday 2/3

## Covington Man Killed in Tragic Accident

Shortly after 5:00 pm on Sunday January 25th, Covington Police Officers responded to an accident involving a motorized skateboard in the 300 block of Boston Street that claimed the life of 31 year old Jerry Siles Jr. of Covington.

Preliminary investigations revealed that a ScooterX 49cc gas powered skateboard driven by Mr. Siles was traveling westbound on Boston Street when, for reasons still under investigation, Mr. Siles lost control and was thrown from the skateboard. Mr. Siles was not wearing a helmet and sustained critical injuries. Mr. Siles was transported to St. Tammany Parish Hospital and later transferred to North Oaks Medical Center, where he succumbed to his injuries. Impairment is unknown and toxicology results are pending an autopsy.

Multiple websites advertise the SkaterX 49cc gas powered skateboard capable of reaching speeds of up to 37 miles per hour and not approved for use on public roadways. The use of DOT approved helmets saves lives. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, helmet use is approximately 37% effective in preventing motorcycle deaths and 67% effective in preventing brain injuries.

The accident remains under investigation and additional details will be released as they are made available. Any witnesses to the incident are asked to call the Covington Police Department at (985)892-8500 or CrimeStoppers at (504)822-1111.



Not actual motorized skateboard involved in accident. This incident is a tragic reminder of the necessity of safety equipment, but as the CPD press release points out, this device is not approved for use on public roadways; it is not related in any way to the sport of skateboarding. - Ed.

## Valentine’s High Tea at the English Tea Room Make Your Reservations Now for February 9<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>



The English Tea Room & Eatery invites you to celebrate with the ones you love the week of Valentine’s with a Valentine’s High Tea. February 9<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, enjoy the traditional high tea with mini quiches, finger sandwiches, a scone, a pot of tea, chocolates and special treats all for \$25! Make your reservation for Valentine’s Day on Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup> for a lovely day-date full of chocolate and roses... and tea of course! The English Tea Room will be open regular hours 9 am – 6 pm, please call for reservations: 985.898.3988

## Photo of the Week: Down by the River



“Down by the River” was submitted by Cici Photography, taken at the Columbia Street Landing in Covington, LA. Photo shows Max Guy & Mylah Yeager by the Bogue Falaya. Submit your photo to [covweekly@mediagproductions.com](mailto:covweekly@mediagproductions.com) for a chance to have it featured in our “Photo of the Week”. Preference will be given to photos taken locally. Please include the title of your photo, the name of the photographer and where the photo was taken. Original works only, please.

## Farmer’s Market Recipe: Minestrone Soup

Fresh recipes inspired by local ingredients found at the Covington Farmer’s Market

Celebrate National Hot Soup Month with this delicious winter minestrone. This is a good slow-cook soup to warm up the kitchen on those cold days.

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup of mixed dried beans
- 1 medium yellow or sweet onion, chopped
- 2 cups chopped carrots
- 2 celery stalks, chopped
- 1 cup raw green beans, cleaned
- 1 clove of garlic, minced
- 2 cups chopped tomatoes
- 2 cups of vegetable stock
- olive oil
- 1 cup of ditalini pasta or shell pasta
- 1 cup chopped zucchini
- 1 cup chopped fresh Swiss chard
- 2 tablespoons of tomato paste
- fresh basil, oregano, and thyme, chopped



### Cooking Instructions:

Saute the onions and carrots with oil in a large soup pot over medium heat for about five minutes. Add the garlic and continue to simmer for another minute. Season with a little salt and pepper. Add the stock and beans, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to a simmer, and add the celery. Cook on low heat for about two hours. Add the green beans, tomatoes, zucchini, fresh chard and herbs. Cook for about another 30 minutes. Add pasta and tomato paste. Increase the heat slightly but do not boil – the pasta will take a little longer to cook, about thirty minutes. You may want to add a little water at this point. Serve when the pasta is cooked with a little fresh grated parmesan, and a fresh sprig of basil for garnish if you like.

## This Week at the Covington Farmer’s Market

Enjoy Chompers Bar B Que for the food demo Saturday. Musical guest in the gazebo is Gina Forsyth.



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*Xyldia Grace Thomas*

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**Covington Weekly**

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**Happening This Week In Covington**

**Covington Farmer's Market - Wednesdays 10 am - 2 pm @ the Covington Trailhead** Stop by for lunch! Rain or shine, live "front porch jam," fresh local produce and delicious prepared foods. - 419 N. New Hampshire St.

**Covington Farmer's Market - Saturdays 8 am - 12 pm @ 600 block Columbia St.** Local, fresh produce, meats & prepared foods, plants & more! Chompers BBQ at the market and Gina Forsyth will be playing music in the gazebo.

**Covington Brewery Brewery Tours - Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm @ Covington Brewery** Free tours of Covington's own brewery. - 226 E. Lockwood St.

**Music with the Maestro - Tuesdays 7 pm @ The Lake 94.7 FM** Local music program featuring Robert Sturcken of Center of Performing Arts with local musicians.

**Artists At The Galleries**

**Henry Hood Gallery** "Contemporary Visions" at Henry Hood features Charles Blank, Andrew Boyd, Cissy Carville, Jean Flint, Jacquie Inda Hood, Lucille Hunter, Linda Katz, Maggie McConnell, Jeff Mickey, Laura Mitchell, Dale Newkirk, Brian Schmidt, Dennis Sipiorski, Ruth Siporski and Keith Villere. - 325 E. Lockwood

**St. Tammany Art Association** "Nature's Essence: Two Visions" - Paintings by Marcia Holmes and Jim Seitz - 320 N. Columbia St. **Tripole Gallery** Featuring Paula Blackwell, Morgan Cameron, Robert Cook, Tracey Davis, Molly Duet, Donna Landry Duffy, Michael Eddy, Elizabeth M. Haskins, Steve Hasslock, Ken Tate, Craig McMillin and Michael Zavison. - 323 N. Columbia St. **Three Rivers Gallery** Group Members Exhibit "Small Works" - 333 E. Boston St.

**ST TAMMANY HUMANE SOCIETY ANNOUNCES...**

**FELINE FIX DAT DAY 2015!**

ST TAMMANY HUMANE SOCIETY

Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>

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Thursday- Timothy Gates-Acoustic High Tea 12 - 2 pm  
Friday - Parker Freeman - Fiddle/Guitar - 12 - 2 pm  
www.english-tea-room.com  
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**Friday February 20 7 pm Space is limited!**

**Columbia Street Rock n Blues Cafe** call 985-892-9949

Wednesday Service Industry Night/Karaoke -- Thursday Comedy Night with Corey Mack 9 pm - Friday - 504 Friday Saturday - Chee Weez - Available for Catering and Private Parties! VIP area available!

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