



## Employee Spotlight

Kemishia Sadler is the City Court Clerk for the City of La Vergne. She has worked for the city for just shy of three years.

Sadler is originally from Knox County and came to Nashville to attend college at Tennessee State University. "After I graduated I never looked back and have been in the Nashville area ever since," says Sadler.

Her favorite part about working for the city court system is the challenge of working with customers. Sadler says "it's not always a negative challenge, but there are always opportunities for learning and growth." She says no two days are the same when you work with the public and her goal is to always continue to learn.

An interesting fact about Sadler is that up until two months ago she did not know how to swim. "I never liked the idea of dunking my head underwater but I decided to take adult swimming lessons and was able to accomplish swimming half the distance of the pool before the COVID-19 pandemic." Learning to swim was a huge accomplishment for Sadler who felt she was finally able to let go of the fear she carried for years and years.

Aside from being a mom to a four year old and six year old Sadler enjoys crafting and repurposing furniture. "I like to decorate with intent and purpose," says Sadler. "I am drawn to pieces that I can envision in an exact location with a specific function."



Kemishia Sadler

## COVID-19 Updates to City Business

The City of La Vergne is dedicated to keeping citizens and employees as up to date as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. While the virus has caused closures of various buildings, meetings and activities city staff hope to continue to run essential operations at city buildings while also working to stop the spread.

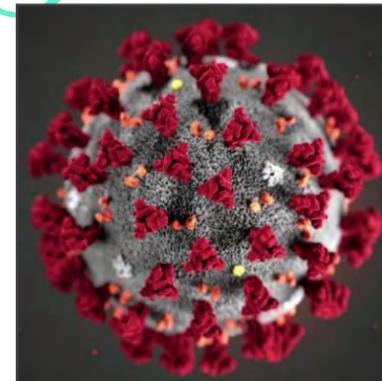
Water billing, city court and property taxes are still being operated through the City Hall drive thru while city lobbies are closed to the general public. It is unclear at this point when lobbies will be able to be reopened.

"Everything is subject to change as we reevaluate this pandemic on a daily basis," says Mayor Jason Cole. "Our first priority is the health and safety of our citizens and employees."

While meetings like the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals are resuming, other meetings are still being postponed, including the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee the and Senior Center Advisory Committee.

Parks in the city will remain open to the public but kids play structures will remain closed until further notice. The La Vergne Public Library will also remain closed for the foreseeable future, however, staff has begun a new curbside pickup service for those who still wish to check out books, DVDs and CDs. More information on this new service is available on page 3.

The La Vergne Senior Center will not be until July at the earliest due to guidelines put out by Governor Lee on May 22.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- June 13 - Block Party / Movie in the Park
- July 4 - Independence Day Celebration

## NEW EMPLOYEES

- Brandon Folds - Fire Fighter
- Melissa Baisden - Grant Writer
- John Trent - General Laborer

## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

### Workshops (6:30 pm)

- May 28
- July 2

### Meetings (7:00 pm)

- June 2
- July 7

## CITY DEPARTMENTS

City Court	615-287-8630
City Hall	615-793-6295
Codes Department	615-213-2624
Economic Development	615-793-6295
Finance Department	615-287-8629
Fire Department	615-287-5832
Human Resources	615-287-8622
Parks and Recreation	615-793-3224
Police Department	615-793-7744
Public Library	615-793-7303
Public Relations	615-287-8690
Public Works	615-793-9891
Tax Department	615-793-3388
Water & Sewer Billing	615-793-5932

## CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Jason Cole	615-308-3565
Vice-Mayor Melisa Brown	615-653-0787
Alderman Matt Church	615-499-2731
Alderman Calvin Jones	615-653-8075
Alderman Steve Noe	615-490-4602

## City Hires New Fire Chief

The City of La Vergne has hired Ronny Beasley to serve the city as Fire Chief. Beasley's tentative start date is June 29.

Beasley is a 28-year veteran of the Memphis Fire Department where he has held the ranks of Lieutenant, Battalion Chief, and Division Chief. He also managed the training division, which is responsible for training more than 1,650 firefighters, paramedics, and officers as well as new recruit training. He has deployed to 17 incidents of national significance throughout the United States.

"We had some great candidates," says Mayor Jason Cole, "and I feel that Ronny Beasley is the best fit for our department. I believe he is the man who can help our department take the next step forward in fire

service to our great community."

He has a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Science and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Beasley is an Executive Fire Officer awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Fire Academy (NFA) in Emmitsburg, Maryland, as well as being certified by the Center of Public Safety Excellence as a Chief Fire Officer. He also serves as an adjunct instructor at the NFA and is a founding member of Tennessee Task Force-One.

Ronny will be celebrating 25-years of marriage in August with his wife, Angie, with whom they share three children, Clay, Sara, and Jacob.



## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA





## Farmers Market Changes

The La Vergne Farmers Market will be back for the summer. City staff are taking extra precautions to ensure everyone's safety during the COVID-19 pandemic while still providing fresh fruits and vegetables for citizens.

The first market date will be Tuesday, June 2 from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The market will be returning this year to its location at Bicentennial Park in the La Vergne City Hall campus, located at 5093 Murfreesboro Road.

Patrons will be able to park their cars and walk from vendor to vendor in one direction along the path to purchase items. Vendors are being asked to set up their tents a minimum of 8-10 feet apart and maintain all social distancing guidelines.

Event Coordinator Robert Rayburn says "it's so important for people to have access to healthy food options. Opening this market as safely as we can is a top priority for myself and the Parks and Recreation team."

There's still time for vendors to apply for a booth. Fill out an application at [LaVergneTN.gov](https://bit.ly/2LJb8Q7) (<https://bit.ly/2LJb8Q7>). Currently the market is only accepting applications for agriculture vendors due to the pandemic. Market organizers hope to be able to accept vendors for handmade items later in the summer. Vendor fees cost \$15 every market week. All proceeds go to benefit the La Vergne Senior Center. For questions on registering for the market, contact Event Coordinator Robert Rayburn at [r-rayburn@lavernetn.gov](mailto:r-rayburn@lavernetn.gov).



## Two Events, One Night

The City of La Vergne is ushering in the summer with a great event with lots of fun, safe activities for all ages. The event, scheduled for June 13, will include a Block Party and Movie in the Park.

The Block Party will begin at 5:00 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park, located at 115 Floyd Mayfield Drive and will include games, food trucks and music. All games and vendors will adhere to the social distancing guidelines to ensure a safe environment for families.

The Movie in the Park event will begin at dusk, around 7:30 p.m. The movie will be Frozen II. There will be giveaways before and after the movie, including giving away a copy of the movie. We ask families to remain spaced apart to allow for social distancing.

"Summer is around the corner and this event allows us to have fun while also being safe," says Mayor Jason Cole. "It's important that at time we come together as a community to celebrate together while still ensuring that we have a safe environment for all."

## 4th of July Celebration

The City of La Vergne plans to hold its Independence Day Celebrations with social distancing guidelines.

The City's Fireworks show will be on July 4th at Veterans Memorial Park, located at 115 Floyd Mayfield Drive. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with a live music performance. Fireworks will begin once it gets dark.

The park football field will be open to anyone who wants to attend the fireworks show. Anyone who attends is asked to adhere to social distancing guidelines and separate their groups by at least six-feet. There will be food vendors for anyone who wishes to buy dinner.

As an alternative for families who want to see the fireworks show but don't want to physically attend, the fireworks show at the park will be aired live by the City's public relations department. The show will be viewable on the La Vergne City Hall Facebook page as well as the local channel 3.

## Annual Unidirectional Flushing begins for 2020

Inframark began unidirectional flushing in La Vergne on May 26. Unidirectional flushing is an annual practice by the water treatment plant that is used to improve and maintain high-quality drinking water.

The flushing will occur Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and will continue for two to three months. Every week the City will post on its Facebook page a list of the streets expected to be flushed by the water treatment plant during that week. Any streets that crews are not able to get to during the work week will be pushed to the following week.

Sediments and mineral deposits in the pipes can discolor drinking water. The high-speed water flows used in unidirectional flushing is an efficient and cost-effective way to remove sediments and deposits from the pipes and prevent potential water quality issues.

While crews have hydrants open residents may notice water running down the road to a nearby storm drain and the water may be very cloudy or discolored. This is normal and will reverse itself after the flushing is complete.

If you have any questions or need to report concerns, please call the water plant at 615-793-6536.



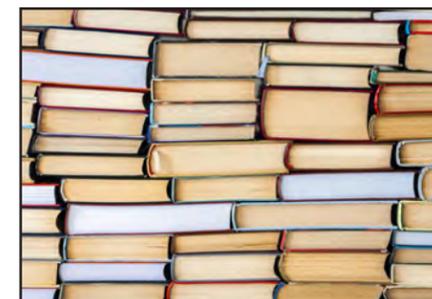
## Library to Begin Curbside Pickup

In lieu of opening the La Vergne Public Library due to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff began offering curbside pickup for patrons starting June 1.

Patrons may reserve books by using the online catalog ([catalog.lavernetn.gov](https://catalog.lavernetn.gov)) or by calling the library at (615) 793-7303 then press 2 for the circulation desk. Five items may be reserved per card, this includes books, DVDs and CDs. Staff will contact the holder of the Library card via telephone when the items are ready for pickup. Once at the Library, patrons will call the library and let someone at the circulation desk know they are there to pick up a reservation. Staff will take a bag of the checked out items to the patron while wearing a mask and gloves.

All returned items will be placed in the outside book drop. Staff will not accept returns during the curbside service. Fines are not being collected at this time but staff asks all items be returned within two weeks so they are available for other patrons.

For questions contact the La Vergne Library at (615) 793-7303.



## Message from the Mayor

I want to thank all of La Vergne's residents who over the last few months have been placed in a situation that none of us could have foreseen. Through the Covid-19 pandemic La Vergne residents have shown their strength and resilience by coming together to help reduce the spread of the virus. The city's response in coming together and its unity was unprecedented in the face of a public health crisis unmatched in at least a century.

I also want to thank all of our city employees for their hard work and dedication to serving the city through this difficult time. From teleworking at home to working modified schedules, you have done everything asked of you to ensure the city continues to run and your work has not gone unnoticed.

I hope to open city lobbies as quickly as possible but we need to keep our citizens and our employees in mind so that we can do so safely and effectively. When we do reopen to the public we will be returning to a new normal and you can expect to see smart, healthy changes to help stop the spread.

This is a very difficult time for everyone and I hope and pray you and your families remain safe during this time. We need to continue to band together and help each other out during this pandemic and remain #RutherfordCountyStrong. -Mayor Jason Cole