



# La Vergne Chronicle October

## Employee Spotlight

Tonya Williams is the City of La Vergne's Finance Supervisor and has worked for the city for nine years.

In her spare time Tonya enjoys reading. "When I'm not reading or at work I mostly spend time with my family," she says. "I have a new grand baby so he takes up most of my time."

She is an MTSU graduate and actually took a break from accounting before coming to La Vergne to get her teaching certificate. Tonya taught first grade for a year and says she enjoyed it. "I love kids and work with them at church and everywhere else but teaching just wasn't for me."

Tonya has been married to her husband for 28 years and they share three kids together and one grand child.



Tonya Williams

## Old Timers Festival 2020 Scheduled for October 17

The annual Old Timers Festival, presented by TDS Telecom, is back for another look into the past. This year's theme is Cruisin' Thru the Ages and will feature a vintage car show with automobiles from several decades.

All the fun gets started Friday night with a live concert at Veterans Memorial Park. Starting at 7:00 p.m. Mike Oldham and the Tone Rangers will perform at the park until 9:00 p.m. Live music will also fill the air Saturday on two stages this year.

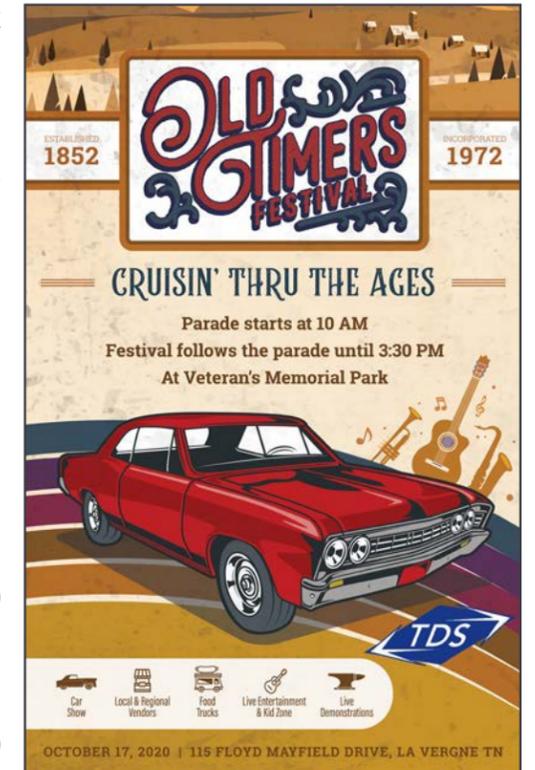
The annual parade starts at 10:00 a.m. Saturday at City Hall on Murfreesboro Road and continues down to Veterans Memorial Park on Floyd Mayfield Drive. There will be road closures to allow the parade to travel through town. After opening remarks there will be live demonstrations of long lost arts and crafts like blacksmithing and soap making. There will also be local and regional vendors selling arts and crafts.

On Saturday, the Uptown Country Band kicks things off at 11:30 a.m. Then at 2:00 p.m. Sam Rourk Acoustic will perform. On the back stage Phoenix Rising will perform starting at 11:30 a.m. and Zone Status will take over at 2:00 p.m. The headliner act, Resurrection - A Journey Tribute Band, will take the stage at 7:00 p.m.

A kids zone will be located near the park's swing sets thanks to the La Vergne Public Library staff. There will be magicians, animal shows, a petting zoo and pony rides, and games for kids of all ages. Food trucks and artisan arts and crafts vendors will also be set up along the walking trail.

Special thanks to this year's sponsors: TDS Telecom, Panattoni Development Company, Inc., Inframark, Air Conditioning Services Inc., Griggs & Maloney, Sonic Drive-in, United Rentals, United Auto Sales and Harrison's Lock Service.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- October 17 - Old Timers' Festival
- October 23 - Zombie Night at the Park
- October 24 - Goblins and Goodies

## NEW EMPLOYEES

- Jonathan Abboushi - Fire Fighter
- Timothy Cole - Fire Fighter
- Brandon Gladmon - Patrol Officer
- Katie Justice - Fire Fighter
- Newton Taylor - Building Inspector I
- Robert Thompson - Maintenance Tech III

## 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 MEETINGS

### Workshops (6:30 pm)

- October 1
- November 12

### Meetings (7:00 pm)

- October 6
- November 17

## CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor Jason Cole 615-308-3565
- Vice-Mayor Melisa Brown 615-653-0787
- Alderman Graeme Coates 615-289-6225
- Alderman Calvin Jones 615-653-8075
- Alderman Steve Noe 615-490-4602

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA





## Property Tax Bills Sent Out

Courtesy property tax bills were sent out during the first week of October to La Vergne residents. The tax rate is currently \$0.71 per \$100 of assessed value.

Property taxes are due by March 1, 2021 due to the last day of February falling on a weekend. Taxes paid after that date will be charged 1.5% interest each month they are due.

Property taxes can be paid by cash, check or money order at City Hall, 5093 Murfreesboro Road. You can also pay online by debit or credit card. Checks and money orders may be left in the City Hall drop box to the left of City Hall's back entrance.

Some residents may qualify for the 2020 Property Tax Relief Program. Applicants may stop by City Hall's tax department to apply after October 5. For more information on whether you qualify for the relief program visit [www.lavergnetn.gov/481/Tax-Relief](http://www.lavergnetn.gov/481/Tax-Relief).

A tax freeze is available for senior residents. The Tax Freeze program offered through Rutherford County allows qualified homeowners over the age of 65 to "freeze" the tax amount on their property the year they qualify. All tax freeze applications must be submitted through the Rutherford County Trustee's Office. For questions call (615) 898-7705.

For help or assistance contact Tax Specialist Becci Steed at (615) 287-8676 or email [bsteed@lavergnetn.gov](mailto:bsteed@lavergnetn.gov).



## Upcoming Halloween Events

There's plenty of Halloween activities available this fall for families. La Vergne Parks and Recreation is busy preparing for the Goblins and Goodies in the Park as well as a new event, the Zombie Night at the Park!

The new Zombie Night at the Park is scheduled for October 23 at Veterans Memorial Park. The event begins with a "dance-off" starting at 7:00 p.m. so come ready to dance till you drop! Then, starting at 8:00 p.m., there will be a showing of "Night of the Living Dead" to help get you in that Halloween mood. The event is free to participate.

Goblins and Goodies in the Park is scheduled for October 24 at Veterans Memorial Park. Hundreds of kids come out every year to get an early start in this trick-or-treating event. Businesses and organizations in the community are welcome to set up a booth to pass out candy. Just visit [www.lavergnetn.gov](http://www.lavergnetn.gov) to sign up.

## Re-Vegetate Your Streamside

The City's stormwater department is hoping to help residents avoid erosion if they live next to streambanks. Vegetated Streambank Stabilization uses multiple types of plants along a streambank to protect from erosion and water flow. As plants grow, their roots reach deeper into the soil and hold in place. The more types of plants, the better. Creating a more stable streambed lessens the risk of losing land to water flow, creates a habitat for animals in your backyard and can make your stream look even more beautiful than before.

If you're interested or want to learn more contact Alexandra Thompson at [athompson@lavergnetn.gov](mailto:athompson@lavergnetn.gov) or visit [www.LaVergneTN.gov/202/Stormwater](http://www.LaVergneTN.gov/202/Stormwater) to sign up for a consultation. Thompson can help you determine if vegetating your streambank is the right fit for your property, will help with what steps need to be taken before vegetating, and determine how much space you have for planting and how many plants are needed to stabilize your bank.

## Early Voting for November Election

Early voting begins in the month of October for the November 3 election. In La Vergne, there are three alderman positions open, including one special two-year term.

Two aldermen positions are available for a four-year term. Five people qualified to run for the two positions: incumbent Calvin Jones, incumbent Steve Noe, John Skinner, Kathy Tyson, and Dennis Waldron.

A third seat is available for a two-year term. The only applicant is current Alderman Graeme Coates who was appointed to the position in August by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to fill the vacancy left by Matt Church following his resignation.

Early voting will be from October 14 through October 29. The deadline to request an absentee by mail voting is October 27. All by-mail ballots must be received in the mail by the Rutherford County Election Commission by the close of polls on Election Day, November 3, to be counted. The last day to register to vote is October 5.

A full sample ballot is available online at the Rutherford County Election Commission website.



## Fire Prevention Week 2020

The La Vergne Fire Rescue Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!" The campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe. National Fire Prevention Week is October 4-10.

According to NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Almost half (44%) of reported home fires started in the kitchen. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.

More resources and activity pages are available online at [www.fire.lavergnetn.gov](http://www.fire.lavergnetn.gov). There are also more activities for kids available at [sparky.org](http://sparky.org). Be sure and share your activities with us by tagging us on Facebook and Twitter!



## Message from the Mayor

Friends- over the last few months we have experienced events of a lifetime. Rioting throughout the country, a global pandemic, devastating weather and much more. I want to thank you for everything you've done to hold onto our community and what you've done to help continue to move us forward to a better La Vergne. Working together we can solve issues ignored in the past for a better La Vergne for us all.

-Mayor Jason Cole

## Public Library Reopens

The La Vergne Public Library has reopened to the public with new times. The library is open from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

Masks must be worn by patrons at all times while inside the Library and staff encourages patrons to "grab and go" while visiting the building. They are still offering their curbside service for those who wish to check-out books online.

Computer and laptop use is limited to just two hours per person per day. Faxing and copying services have also resumed.

At this time there are no programs or activities scheduled for the month of October to continue to encourage social distancing and to keep the library safe for patrons. Follow the library's Facebook page for more updates.