



Make plans to attend! TML District Meetings

Nov. 30	District 4	Sparta
Dec. 1	District 5	Lafayette
Dec. 5	District 6	Brentwood
Dec. 6	District 7	Henderson
Dec. 7	District 8	Bartlett
Dec. 12	District 1	Greeneville
Dec. 13	District 2	Knoxville
Dec. 14	District 3	Dayton

Mark your calendars and RSVP to your TML staff member.

\$5.2 billion transit plan unveiled for Nashville and surrounding areas

BY KATE COIL
TML Communications Specialist

A new \$5.2 billion infrastructure plan for Metro Nashville and surrounding areas will include increased bus service, new light rail services, and an underground tunnel aimed at easing downtown congestion.

Nashville Mayor Megan Barry proposed the “Let’s Move Nashville: Metro’s Transportation Solution,” a plan which aligns with the IMPROVE Act passed earlier this year.

The project includes 26 miles of light rail, four rapid bus routes, an increase in service and frequency of bus routes, and several service and infrastructure improvements. Based on the \$5.97 billion Motion Transit plan adopted by the Metro Transit Authority and Regional Transportation Authority last year, Barry’s plan will also eliminate fares for Nashville residents living at or below the federal poverty level.

“Investment in transportation today is an investment in Nashville’s future,” Barry said. “More transportation options will make life better for Nashvillians, whether you moved here last summer or you’ve spent your entire life here, and it will ensure that the city continues to be a great place to live when today’s children have children of their own. This comprehensive transportation solution will connect more neighborhoods with each other and open the door even wider to the city’s job, education and entertainment centers. We will make sure that no one is left behind.”

Planned improvements to the city bus service include state-of-the-art electric buses, more cross town routes, 15-minute peak service on busy roads, and buses running 20 hours of each day. Rapid bus lines will operate on Dickerson Road, Hillsboro Road, West End Avenue, and the Bordeaux Route. These routes will also see signal prioritization, queue jumps, and infrastructure improvements to move transit riders faster to their



Increased bus service and electric buses are among some of the proposals of Nashville Mayor Megan Barry’s \$5.2 billion plan.

U.S. Supreme Court asked to accept online sales tax case

BY LISA SORONEN
State & Local Legal Center

The State and Local Legal Center (SLLC) has filed an amicus brief asking the Supreme Court to agree to hear South Dakota’s petition in *South Dakota v. Wayfair*. In this case South Dakota is asking the Supreme Court to hold that states may require out-of-state retailers to collect sales tax.

In *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota* (1992), the Supreme Court held that states cannot require retailers with no in-state physical presence to collect sales tax.

In March 2015, Justice Kennedy wrote a concurring opinion stating that the “legal system should find an appropriate case for this Court to reexamine Quill.” Justice Kennedy criticized Quill in *Direct Marketing Association v. Brohl* for many of the same reasons the SLLC stated in its amicus brief in that case. Specifically, internet sales have risen astronomically since 1992 and states and local governments are unable to collect most taxes due on sales from out-of-state vendors.

Following the Kennedy opinion a number of state legislatures passed See **COURT** on Page 7

ELECTION

Nine Tennessee municipalities see results in autumn elections

BY KATE COIL

Nine Tennessee municipalities have held elections so far this fall, bringing new and familiar faces to boards, commissions and city councils across the state.

The municipalities of Lexington, Arlington, Dickson, Centerville, Calhoun, Franklin, Humboldt, Knoxville, and Selmer have held elections between September and November.

LEXINGTON

The city of Lexington held a municipal election on Sept. 14 for the city’s open mayor and three aldermen seats.

Vice Mayor Jeff Griggs defeated incumbent mayor Jack Johnson in the race for Arlington’s mayoral seat. Griggs was elected to the Arlington Board of Mayor and Aldermen in 2011 and served as vice mayor from that point on.

Johnson was first elected to the board in 2011 and previously served as mayor of Lexington. Johnson will retain his Alderman Position 1 seat on the board. A new alderman will be appointed to the Alderman 2 position vacated by Griggs.

Incumbent Emmitt N. Blankenship Jr. retained his seat in the Alderman 4 position against challenger Eddie Akins. Blankenship was first elected to the board in 2007, serving until 2013 and then being appointed in 2014 to fill a vacancy on the board.

Incumbents Peggy Gilbert and Gordon Wildridge ran unopposed for the Alderman Position 5 and Alderman Position 6 seats respectively. Gilbert has been on the board since 2005, and Wildridge has served on the board since 2011.

ARLINGTON

The town of Arlington held a municipal election on Sept. 21 to fill four positions on the town’s Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Incumbent Alderman Oscar Brooks Sr. retained his Alderman 4 seat after facing off against challengers Thomas D. Reyes and Marshall Veitenheimer. Incumbent Alderman Harry McKee also held on to the Alderman 5 position,

facing off against challenger Mark Strausser.

Challenger Jeremy Biggs defeated incumbent Brian Thompson for the Alderman 6 position. Cheryl Pardue ran unopposed for the Alderman 2 position, filling the seat previously held by interim alderman Hugh Lamar.

DICKSON

The city of Dickson held a municipal election on Sept. 28 to fill four seats on the city council.

Challenger Jason Epley won the First Ward seat vacated by the resignation of Mike Legg in June after he moved out of the ward. Epley faced off against three other candidates: former police chief Ricky Chandler, Helen Petty and Robert Reid.

Incumbent Jon “Bird” Armstrong won a third term representing the city’s Third Ward. Armstrong defeated former Vice Mayor Mike Legg, who previously served 28 years on the council, and challenger Pamela Edmond.

Incumbent Michael Outlaw ran unopposed for the Fourth Ward Seat, marking his third term with the city council.

Incumbent Joey Tuberville was elected to the Second Ward seat, running unopposed. Tuberville was appointed to the seat in 2012 to finish the term left vacant by Richard Arnold and was then elected to a full term in 2013.

CENTERVILLE

The town of Centerville held a municipal election on Oct. 7 in which six candidates ran unopposed for office and were elected to seats on the town’s Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Mayor Gary Jacobs retained his seat on the board, having served as mayor since 2013. Jacobs also served as vice mayor from 2011 to 2013 and was first elected to the board in 2009.

Incumbents David Dansby, James P. Herron III, and Wayne Prince were also re-elected to their seats. Dansby has served Ward 1 since 2005, Herron has served Ward 2 since 2013, and Prince has served Ward 4 since 2013.

See **ELECTIONS** on Page 4

destinations.

Barry had previously announced plans to begin construction on light rail on Gallatin Road with additional light rail projects added on Gallatin Road, Nolensville Road, Charlotte Avenue and Murfreesboro Road to the airport.

The Let’s Move Nashville Plan also calls for a light rail line that will run along the Northwest Corridor to Buchanan Street near Tennessee State University. The network will begin operations in 2026 and be completed by 2032. Additionally, a 1.8-mile underground light rail tunnel in the existing Underground Tunnel downtown will serve that portion of the city featuring three stops between Music City Central and Lafayette Street.

Other improvements called for by the plan include better sidewalks, traffic synchronization, signal improvements, and fixing dangerous intersections. Walter Searcy, board member of the Metro Transit Authority and spokesperson for the Transit for Nashville campaign, said these improvements will have an economic and quality-of-life impact on citizens.

“Better public transportation means access to better jobs, better

health care, and better schools for Nashville’s residents,” Searcy said. “I appreciate Mayor Barry putting out such a bold transit plan, and her commitment to ensuring affordability, equity, and access are at the forefront of the discussion.”

Funding for Barry’s plan will come through a variety of sources, some not previously available to municipalities before the passage of Gov. Bill Haslam’s Improve Act. The legislation allows local governments to collect surcharges on various taxes and fees if approved by voter referendum. In addition to available federal grants, Barry’s funding formula for the Let’s Move Nashville project includes:

- A half percent sales tax surcharge beginning in July 2018 that will graduate to one percent in 2023. A recent study found nearly half – 47 percent – of Davidson County sales tax collections are generated from out-of-county residents;
 - A one-quarter percent surcharge on the hotel/motel tax that will graduate to three-eighths of a percent in 2023;
 - A 20 percent surcharge on the rental car tax, which is currently
- See **TRANSIT** on Page 5

Hunters for the Hungry donates meat for Tennesseans in need

BY KATE COIL

As deer season kicks into high gear in November, hunters across the state of Tennessee have a chance to give back to those less fortunate.

The Hunters for the Hungry program allows hunters to donate deer for processing into meat that is used by organizations across Tennessee to feed those in need. With deer season close to major holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, the program allows hunters to donate the meat they have harvested to those who might otherwise go without. The program is sponsored by the Tennessee Wildlife Federation (TWF).

Matt Simcox, Hunters for the Hungry manager, said TWF began its Hunters for the Hungry program in 1998 to help provide meat to citizens of the state in need as well as manage the state’s deer herds.

“The program was originally a collaboration with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and some other organizations,” Simcox said. “In early 2000, the Tennessee Wildlife Federation took it over. This year will be our 20th season.”

Hunters can participate in the program by donating deer they have harvested at one of the 85 processors located in 66 counties throughout the state. Processors will either charge a small fee or process the meat for free as part of their own donations to the program.

“All the hunters have to do is locate the processor closest to them, which we have listed on our website,” Simcox said. “If they plug in their zip code or they use GPS, they can find the closest processor. They just take the field-dressed deer



Donations from deer hunters across the state help provide packages of fresh venison, like these, to local food banks. As most donations these organizations receive are non-perishable, the Hunters for the Hungry program provides a protein-rich option for food banks.

to the processor, drop it off, and the processor turns it into a product that we can then distribute.”

Another way to participate in the program is through the Deer Coin.

“A few years ago, we were looking for a way people could give the gift of Hunters for the Hungry to friends, family, clients, coworkers and church members,” he said. “We came up with the idea of the Deer Coin. The coins are purchased on our website, and when hunters harvest an animal they want to donate, they take the deer to the processor,

hand them the deer coin and the processing is prepaid.”

Simcox said most donations to food banks come in the form of non-perishable, often canned goods. Meat – especially fresh meat – is sometimes hard to come by for these organizations.

“The biggest need is for ground venison, which is similar to ground beef,” he said. “Sometimes processors do a basic cut or standard cut that includes roast, steaks and tenderloin, as well as the ground. Most of our hunger-relief prefer ground See **HUNTERS** on Page 4

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



ASHLAND CITY

Ashland City is conducting a special census of all residents to better determine its actual population. Officials believe the town's population has grown to more than 5,000 residents since the last federal census in 2010, and is hoping that proving the increase will help provide additional revenue for city services. Letters have been distributed to residents and may be either returned via mail or completed and submitted online at the city website. Residents may also submit completed census forms at Ashland City Hall, the city's public works department, or the city's senior center.

ATHENS

The city of Athens has already seen \$27.7 million worth of new construction in 2017, surpassing the city's 2016 total. New construction for the entirety of 2016 reached \$23.3 million, according to Community Development Director Anthony Casteel. Approximately 59 percent of the city's 2017 development took place in the third quarter with a total of \$16.5 million in construction taking place between July and September. The majority of added value construction for the third quarter came from new commercial construction with \$13.7 million on only seven permits. The assessed value of new construction - the amount to which property tax is applied - from July through September was \$6.2 million, which will draw an additional \$71,000 in property taxes in 2017.

BRISTOL

City officials, members of the Friends of Steele Creek Nature Center and Park, and nature lovers recently cut the ribbon on a new expansion to the Steele Creek Nature Center in Bristol. The roughly \$1 million project began in May 2016 under contractor BurWil Construction Co., and designer Mark Freeman Architecture, PLLC. The expansion project added 5,100 square feet to the building, nearly doubling the usable space of the original structure built in 1996. New exhibits planned for the center include an interactive birders' forest, crawl-through cave experience, and a 1,100-gallon aquatic life display.

BROWNSVILLE

The city of Brownsville has received a \$15,000 investment from the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) as part of \$309,000 in creative placemaking grants awarded to 16 in eight states. The funds will be used in partnership with the Brownsville Art Council and are part of \$35,000 in total investment for a tourism project. The city will use the funds to highlight its most popular tourism attraction called "The Mindfield" through the design of wayfinding signage created by local artists and welding students.

CHATTANOOGA

The city of Chattanooga ranked among the top 10 cities with the best infrastructure in the U.S., according to a new survey conducted by the National Association of Realtors. Chattanooga ranked ninth on the list of cities with the best infrastructure in the survey that analyzed 150 metro areas. Cities were ranked on factors including the condition of roads and bridges, airport consumer satisfaction ratings, transit performance score, bike friendliness, and government

spending on drinking water systems, electrical grids, highways, public transit, and sewage systems.

CLEVELAND

The \$2.5 million extension of the Cleveland Regional Jetport has been completed. The Cleveland Municipal Airport Authority hired Hinkle Construction to build the 700-foot extension of the aviation facility's runway, bringing the runway to a total of 6,200 feet. The project was financed through a \$2.5 million grant from the Tennessee Aeronautical Commission with a small match from the Cleveland City Council. The increased runway will allow larger aircraft to visit the jetport. Excess funds are being used for an Airport Geographical Information Survey.

DECATUR

Shaw Industries Group, Inc., will invest \$42 million to upgrade its yarn facility in Decatur, creating 75 new jobs in the area. The floor products manufacturer plans to modernize its facility, expanding capabilities that will allow the company to use both nylon and polyester fiber. Shaw's Decatur facility supplies yarn for the company's carpet manufacturing locations. The plant employs approximately 370 and is one of five facilities the company has in Tennessee, employing more than 650 people. Headquartered in Dalton, Ga., Shaw is a wholly owned subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. Shaw offers a diverse portfolio of carpet, resilient, hardwood, tile, stone and laminate flooring products, synthetic turf and other specialty items for residential and commercial markets worldwide.

FRANKLIN

The city of Franklin was selected as one of the 50 best American cities to live in by financial news and commentary website 24/7 Wall St. Franklin was ranked 41 on the list of 50 cities from across the country, the only Tennessee municipality to make the list. Franklin earned top marks for its low unemployment rate, low poverty rate, skilled workforce, and above average household income. Cities were ranked based on crime rates, economy, affordability, and three dozen socioeconomic measures.

GREENEVILLE

Jarden Zinc Products will expand its operations in Greeneville, creating 30 new jobs in the next five years. The company will convert 10,000 square feet of its existing facility to make room for new equipment as part of the expansion. Part of Newell Brands, Jarden Zinc is a manufacturer of solid zinc strip and zinc based products. Jarden Zinc produces coin blanks for currency in the U.S. and several foreign governments. Additionally, the company manufactures products for the automotive fuse market. The company began operating in Greeneville in 1970.

JOHNSON CITY

The Johnson City Police Department held its second annual Party in the Park at the city's Founders Park. The event featured inflatables, face painting, live music, and food trucks and was the result of a community roundtable held between law enforcement and civilians to boost relationships between the public and the police. The community event also allowed visitors to meet with members of the police force.

MARTIN

The city of Martin has received a \$22,000 investment from the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) as part of \$309,000 in creative placemaking grants awarded to 16 in eight states. The funds will be used in partnership with the Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center and are part of \$482,000 in total investment for an artistic project at the facility. The city will partner with artists to install a soundscape recreational area and complementary playground, design an "outdoor classroom," cultivate landscape design, and light the path that features an artistic entrance into the Brian Brown Gateway.

MEMPHIS

Highline Aftermarket will expand its operations and locate a new

headquarters in Memphis, creating 91 new jobs and investing \$500,000 in the area. Highline currently occupies a 352,000 square-foot facility in Memphis. The company plans to add additional square footage to make room for new equipment and consolidate its operations to the facility with this expansion. Highline Aftermarket is a manufacturer and distributor of packaged automotive chemicals, lubricants, filters, parts, tools and accessories. Highline Aftermarket was formed through the simultaneous acquisitions of the two legacy businesses, DYK Automotive and Automotive Aftermarket Holdings Co. in April 2016.

MEMPHIS

The city of Memphis has announced plans for a \$225 million project to build a freshwater aquarium on Mud Island connected by a pedestrian bridge to the new riverfront home of the Brooks Museum of Art. The project could be paid for with taxes collected by a Downtown Tourism Development Zone (TDZ), donations, and private investment. Fundraising for the project is expected to begin in 2018 with construction beginning four years later. The project is part of a riverfront redevelopment plan, and city officials have talked with leaders at the University of Memphis and Christian Brothers University about possibly creating a new Center for Freshwater Studies connected with the aquarium.

MT. PLEASANT

The city of Mt. Pleasant is now home to a new satellite campus of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology located within the city's community center. The new campus will offer 12 to 18-month programs in industrial maintenance with courses developed specifically for local employers. Students can choose from courses including welding, robotics, fluid power, industrial mechanics, industrial electricity and electronics, and green technologies. The \$300,000 for the new campus was provided through the Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP), part of Gov. Bill Haslam's Drive to 55 initiative. Mt. Pleasant High School is offering dual-enrollment with the new TCAT campus for students and local businesses will be able to conduct training at the facility as well.

NASHVILLE

Nashville has ranked as the fourth most changed city in the U.S. in the past decade. An analysis by online finance website Magnify Money ranked Nashville four out of the country's top 50 metro areas in a survey of cities that experienced the most dynamic transformations to their housing market, incomes, crime rates, and economy between 2006 and 2015. Nashville experienced the highest changes to its employment and number of building permits, ranking fifth out of all 50 cities in both. The city's commute times were the least changed in a decade, ranked 17 out of 50. All three of the cities ranking higher than Nashville were located in Texas: Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, and Houston.

OAK RIDGE

The city of Oak Ridge will begin managing the Centennial Golf Course through its Parks and Recreation Department. The course had been managed by a private firm. The city is taking over the course to help accelerate the timeline on repairs to the facility. Nine holes will be open while the remainder of the course is repaired. The city will honor passes and memberships purchased prior to the changeover. The course features 18 holes and a driving range. Lessons at the course will continue to be offered through the Des Mahoney Golf Academy. The city expects the course to be fully operational by early April 2018, in time for spring golf tournaments.

SPRING HILL

The city of Spring Hill has made an offer to purchase the Workforce Development and Conference Center at Northfield for \$8.18 million to serve as a new municipal building space for the growing community. The two-story, 355,000-square-foot office build-

Cookeville K-9 Officer Ruger retires



Cookeville Police Department K-9 Officer Ruger has retired after six years of service with the department. The 9-year-old German shepherd was most recently partnered with Officer Matthew Franey, who joined the department two years ago. Ruger began working with CPD in 2011 and has assisted the department numerous times finding suspects and drugs as well as protecting his partners. Ruger will spend his retirement at Franey's home. Franey has been assigned a new K-9 partner, Max, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois.

Collierville opens senior center named for former Mayor Kerley



Municipal officials, family members and friends attended the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the new Linda Kerley Senior Center in Collierville. The center is named in honor of Collierville's first female alderman and first female mayor, who served the city from 1995 to 2008. Kerley died in 2013 and the Collierville Board of Mayor and Aldermen decided to name the town's senior center after Kerley in 2016 in honor of her dedication to the area's senior citizens.

White House firefighters visit elementary students



Members of the White House Fire Department visited first and second graders at the city's Robert F. Woodall Elementary to educate them about fire safety. Parts of the program included getting to see a firefighter in full gear and learning how to navigate safely through home fire threats.

SURGOINSVILLE

Techni-Glass, Inc., will expand its operations in Surgoinsville, investing \$1.5 million and creating 54 new jobs in the area. The custom glass manufacturer plans to renovate its current facility in Hawkins County. With this expansion, the company will add 15,000 square feet to its existing operations to make room for new equipment. Techni-Glass opened in 1997 in Surgoinsville and grew from five employees and a 15,000-square-foot facility to its present operations. Techni-Glass manufactures double edging, CNC cutting, CNC milling, roll coating, tempering and laminating glass products. The company's highly trained and experienced staff applies glass fabrication capabilities in a variety of ways and serves many industries including sports and recreation, food services and home kitchens.

INGRETTVILLE

The seven connected buildings on 38 acres that make up Northfield currently serves a wide range of lease tenants, including satellite locations of college and technical school programs, two call centers, the Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce, among other offices, with extensive unfilled office space. The real estate listing price was \$13 million. Northfield, which includes a 100-seat auditorium and a 200-seat conference center, was originally the Saturn automotive headquarters when the automaker located to Spring Hill over 30 years ago. The Northfield building is currently owned by the South Central Tennessee Workforce Alliance, a nonprofit committed to workforce development and economic development in an eight-county region of South Central Tennessee, including Maury County.

TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY

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TML board meets, discusses 2018 legislative agenda



Dyersburg Alderman Bob Kirk, Savannah City Manager Garry Welch, McKenzie Mayor Jill Holland, Huntingdon Mayor Dale Kelley, and Sparta Alderman Hoyt Jones.



Tennessee Attorney General Hebert Slatery updated board members on two issues of importance: the opioid crisis in Tennessee and the status of online sales tax collections.



Nashville Mayor Megan Barry, Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke, and Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero.



Nashville Vice Mayor David Briley discussed the short-term rental situation in Nashville and the measures the Metro Council is currently considering.



Greeneville City Manager Todd Smith, TML President and Athens City Councilman Bo Perkinson, and Portland Mayor Ken Wilber.



Cleveland Vice Mayor Avery Johnson and Henderson Mayor Bobby King.



Dyersburg Mayor John Holden and Dyersburg Alderman Bob Kirk.



Nolensville Mayor Jimmy Alexander and Gatlinburg Mayor Mike Werner.



Manchester Mayor Lonnie Norman and Shelbyville Mayor Wallace Cartwright.



TML Executive Director Margaret Mahery and Paris Commissioner Sam Tharpe.



PEOPLE

Darek Baskin has been selected as a new city engineer for the city of Brentwood's engineering department. A native of Covington, Baskin graduated from the University of Memphis with a civil engineering degree and is a Tennessee licensed professional engineer (P.E.). He previously worked for Memphis-based Powers Hill Design and the city of Memphis, specifically in the civil engineering and land development office. He also served as the city engineer and director of planning and economic development for the city of Millington.



Darek Baskin

Karl Durr tendered his resignation as the Murfreesboro City Police chief on Oct. 20 after 18 months with the department. Durr was selected as the city's chief of police in April 2016 after the retirement of Chief Glenn Chrisman. Before coming to the city of Murfreesboro, Durr served as the assistant chief for the city of Eugene, Ore., and had more than 30 years of experience, including positions in Boca Raton, Fla., and Palm Beach, Fla. Deputy Chief Michael Bowen will be serving as acting chief of the Murfreesboro Police Department in the meantime.



Karl Durr

Holly Earls was selected as the new city recorder for the city of Brentwood. Earls took over the position on Oct. 16 from longtime City Recorder Debbie Hedgepath. A native of Pulaski, Earls has more than eight years' experience as the executive assistant to the town manager of Smyrna. She worked on projects for Smyrna including organizing and facilitating the town's 2016 special census, serving on multiple town boards, and serving as point of contact for town officials. She is a graduate of Motlow State Community College with a degree in business administration and served as a legal secretary for several years. She is a certified municipal clerk.



Holly Earls

Mike Helton, a commissioner with the city of Gatlinburg, died after a long illness at the age of 64 on Oct. 2. A graduate of Tennessee Technological University and Lincoln Memorial University, Helton was employed with the Sevier County School system for more than 40 years as a teacher, coach, and district supervisor. He was first appointed to the Gatlinburg Board of Commissioners in November 2000 to fill the unexpired term of George Hawkins. He was then elected in 2003, serving five terms as vice mayor and four terms as mayor. The Gatlinburg Board of Commissioners has appointed Helton's daughter, architect Hannah Helton, to serve in his position for the remainder of the term.



Mike Helton

Randy Martin has been selected as the employee of the year for the city of Knoxville. A tree truck equipment operator with the city's Urban Forestry Division, Martin is the first recipient of the new honor and was presented the award by Mayor Madeline Rogero on Oct. 19 at the city's annual employee appreciation and benefits lunch. Martin has worked with the city since 2008 and was nominated for the award by Knoxville Public Service Department Director Chad Weth. In addition to his work,



Randy Martin

Martin is an instructor for the department's chainsaw safety class and mentors newer staff members.

Stan Reynolds has been selected as the new judge of the recently re-created Dickson Municipal Court. Reynolds received his bachelor's degree in political science from Austin Peay State University and his law degree from the Nashville School of Law in 1978. He began his career as an associate with the law firm of Smith, Davies, Smith, and Cantrell in Nashville, where he practiced in state and federal courts. Reynolds then founded his own practice in 1980 in Dickson, which grew to be the firm of Reynolds, Potter, Ragan, and Vandivort PLC. Reynolds is a past president of the Dickson Rotary Club, the Tennessee Municipal Attorneys Association and Dickson County Bar Association, and past chairman of the Board of Directors for Developmental Services of Dickson County.



Stan Reynolds

Jack Spurgeon has retired from his position as assistant fire chief for the city of Bristol after nearly 32 years of service. Spurgeon joined the city's fire department in 1986, and was promoted to fire inspector and investigator in 1995. He was again promoted in 2002 to the director of codes position and then to assistant fire chief in 2007. Spurgeon received an associate's degree in fire science from Florida State Fire College and a bachelor's degree in fire science from Columbia Southern University. He served as a firefighter in Florida before returning back to Tennessee in 1975, where he worked at the Eastman Company in Kingsport for three years. In addition to his job with the Bristol Fire Department, Spurgeon was employed as a communication specialist and emergency room specialist with Wellmont Bristol Regional Medical Center for 22 years.



Jack Spurgeon

David Travis has been selected as the new director of the public works for the city of Dickson. Travis has been serving as the interim director since August when former director Jeff Lewis was selected as the city's new police chief. A 1994 graduate of Dickson County High School, Travis joined the city's parks and recreation department in 1995. He was appointed supervisor of buildings and grounds in 2004 and then promoted to superintendent in 2015. In his position as public works director, he will oversee the city's street, sanitation, parks and recreation, cemetery, building and grounds, right of way maintenance and fleet maintenance division.



David Travis

Warren Wells, director of legislation for Gov. Bill Haslam, will leave the administration on Dec. 1 to join the government affairs team at Unum in Chattanooga. Wells has served in the governor's office since 2011 and served as chief strategist for legislation in 2015, overseeing the passage of the IMPROVE Act, the Reconnect Act, and the STRONG ACT. A native of Shelbyville, Wells graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a degree in political science. He served in the Tennessee National Guard from 2001 to 2010. Before joining the Haslam administration, he was a research analyst for the Senate Transportation Committee and a legislative liaison for the Department of Finance and Administration in 2011.



Warren Wells

Dickson recognizes Weiss for 30 years of service



Oct. 5, 2017, marked the 30th anniversary of Dickson native Don L. Weiss Jr. beginning his service as an elected public servant in his hometown. After being elected to the Dickson City Council to represent the First Ward on Sept. 24, 1987, he took the oath of office for the first time and took his seat on Oct. 5, 1987. The 59-year-old optometrist and 1976 Dickson County High School graduate has devoted more than half of his life to serving the citizens of the city of Dickson and with two years remaining on his sixth term as mayor has already served as the city's chief elected officer longer than anyone in the 118-year history of the city. Coincidentally, the 110th Tennessee General Assembly passed and Gov. Bill Haslam signed Public Chapter No. 176 designating the first Monday in October as Tennessee Rural Mayors Day, to honor and recognize mayors of small cities across the state for their tireless work and dedicated service to their communities. To celebrate Tennessee Rural Mayors Day and Weiss' 30 years of public service, the employees of the city of Dickson surprised Weiss at the Oct. 2 city council meeting with a proclamation. City Administrator Rydell Wesson presented Weiss with the framed proclamation signed by all of the city's department heads representing the more than 170 employees of the city.

Nine Tennessee cities hold autumn elections

ELECTION from Page 1

Also running unopposed, challenger John M. Wilson was elected to serve on the Ward 3 seat previously held by Vice Mayor Mike Elkins. Elkins has served as vice mayor since 2013 and on the board since 2009, but did not run for re-election. Challenger Tim Luckett also took the Ward 6 in an unopposed election. The seat was held by Steven Clinkenbeard, who had been on the board since 2013.

CALHOUN

The city of Calhoun held a special election on Oct. 19 to fill the city commission seat left vacant by the resignation of Mike Garren in May. Garren resigned from his seat after moving out of the city.

Former commissioner James Duffy was elected to the vacant seat, beating out Jon Eaves, another former city commissioner.

FRANKLIN

The city of Franklin held a municipal election on Oct. 24, electing aldermen to fill seats in each of the city's four wards.

Incumbent Bev Burger retained her seat in Ward 1, facing off against challengers Michael Phillips and J. Edward Campbell. Incumbent Dana McLendon was re-elected to his sixth consecutive term on the board, narrowly beating out challenger Mike Vaughn. Incumbent Margaret Martin was also re-elected to a third term in her Ward 4 seat, facing off against challenger Elizabeth Wanczak. Challenger Scott Speedy de-

feated incumbent Mike Skinner for the Ward 3 seat. Speedy has been employed as a wealth management adviser at Northwestern Mutual for 18 years.

HUMBOLDT

Incumbent Marvin Sikes defeated challenger Tammie Porter for Humboldt's mayoral seat during the city's Nov. 7 election. Sikes has served as the city's mayor since 2014.

Incumbent James Shivers also defeated challenger Bobby Barnett, a former alderman, for the Ward 1 alderman seat.

Humboldt Vice Mayor Leon McNeal, Alderman Don Graves, Alderman Bob Pruett, and Alderwoman Donna Johnson were all re-elected to their seats after running unopposed. McNeal represents the city's Ward 2, Graves to Ward 3, Pruett to Ward 4, and Johnson the city's Ward 5.

KNOXVILLE

Knoxville elected four women to its city council on Nov. 7, the first time in history the city has had more than one female city council member.

Newcomer Stephanie Welch beat fellow challenger Rebecca Parr for the District 1 seat previously held by Nick Pavlis. Welch presently served as vice president of operations at the Great Schools Partnership of Knoxville.

Challenger Andrew Roberto defeated fellow newcomer Wayne Christensen for the District 2 seat previously held by Duane Grieve.

Roberto formerly served as a Knox County Election Commission.

Seema Singh Perez defeated James Edward Corcoran for the District 3 seat previously held by Brenda Palmer. Perez will be the first Indian-American city council member for the city.

Challenger Lauren Rider defeated fellow challenger Harry Tindell and write-in candidate Amelia Parker for the District 4 seat previously held by Nick Della Volpe. Rider works as a development partner for Flatiron Restorations LLC in Knoxville.

Gwen McKenzie also defeated fellow newcomer Jennifer Montgomery for the District 6 seat previously held by Daniel T. Brown, also a former Knoxville mayor and the city's first African-American mayor. McKenzie is an executive with with CVS.

SELMER

Incumbent John Smith retained his seat as mayor of Selmer in the city's Nov. 7 election, beating out challenger Nicky Atkins, who gave up his alderman seat to run for the position.

Newcomer Troy Moore was elected to the unexpired term Atkins left behind, defeating fellow challengers Jon Reaves and William "Big World" Yarborough. Another challenger, Daniel Patterson, previously dropped out of the race.

John Finlayson and Johnny Norris were also re-elected to their respective alderman seats, running unopposed.

Hunters for the Hungry provides for the needy

HUNTERS from Page 1

meat so they can better utilize it and cook it more efficiently."

The program works with a variety of agencies across the state to distribute the processed meat to those in need.

"We work with all five Feeding America-affiliate food banks in Tennessee," Simcox said. "We also work with churches, soup kitchens, and food pantries. We have about 150 organizations we work with statewide. We also partner with Second Harvest here in Middle Tennessee. They have a program called Kids Café, and through special funding, we were able to provide them with 6,000 packs of snack sticks, a meat product that is ready to eat."

Additionally, Simcox said both the 2016 and 2015 fall deer seasons were record-breaking for the organization in terms of donation. To date, 1.5 million pounds of venison have been donated by hunters across Tennessee.

While deer season is held largely in the fall, Simcox said meat harvested during that time can still provide a year-round benefit.

"There are some counties where the meat is so abundant they are able to stretch it out all year," he said. "Last year, we provided almost 600,000 meals with servings of venison and 6 million meals total."

Young hunters are also getting involved in the program. The Hunger Challenge was started in the Memphis area in 2013 by high school students.



In addition to food banks, Hunters for the Hungry partnered with Second Harvest to provide snack packs like these to Middle Tennessee students in need.

"Last year we had 18 schools that participated across the state," Simcox said. "We want to thank the high school students because they have helped us with funding, getting more deer donated, and we get to see these students engage on the local level and in hunger relief."

For Simcox, the best part of the program is knowing that hungry Tennesseans are getting a good meal.

"I think for me the best part is the camaraderie between the processors and hunger-relief organizations and seeing those organizations distribute the meat out," he said. "This is a really unique way to relieve hunger in Tennessee. Most of the relief organizations with rely on this venison. This is the

only prepared and packaged fresh meat they get all year. It's fresh, it's high protein and they rely on it. This program allows hunters to help feed their neighbors in need. One deer can provide as much as 168 protein-rich meals."

A non-profit organized by outdoor writers and community leaders in 1946, TWF was instrumental in creating the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission in 1974, a state agency known today as The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA).

Since then, TWF has worked alongside the state to conserve the state's wildlife and natural resources through stewardship, youth engagement, and public policy. For more information, visit tnwf.org.

STATE BRIEFS



Four new sites in Centerville, McKenzie, Sweetwater, and Washington County have been declared Select Tennessee Certified Sites by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TDEC). The city of Centerville's Shipp's Bend Industrial Site, the McKenzie Airport Industrial Park, the McMinn County Economic Development Authority's 75 Regional Commerce Park, and the Northeast Tennessee Regional Economic Partnership's Washington County Industrial Park Parcel 31 are the four newest of the 52 sites certified throughout the state.

Following the extensive renovations to the Cordell Hull State Office Building, Siemens will be overseeing operations at the building. Siemens, a subsidiary of Germany-based Siemens AG, was involved in the extensive overhaul of Cordell Hull, installing a number of internal operating systems ranging from lighting to heating and air conditioning in the historic building. The operations were managed by JLL, which continues to manage operations at the Legislative Plaza and War Memorial Buildings.

Tennessee is one of the worst states for home energy efficiency, according to a new survey ranking states on home and vehicle efficiency. Sponsored by consumer website WalletHub, Tennessee ranked 45 out of 48 in the study overall, ranking 47 out of 48 for home energy efficiency and 12

out of 48 for fuel efficiency. Not enough data was collected to rank Alaska and Hawaii. The study took information from the U.S. Census Bureau, National Climatic Data Center, Energy Information Administration, and Federal Highway Administration to calculate home energy efficiency.

Tennessee has hit another record low unemployment rate with a statewide level of 3 percent in September. Tennessee first marked a historic low unemployment rate in June at 3.6 percent, which was bested by the July rate of 3.4 percent, and then fell even lower in August to 3.3 percent. While Tennessee's latest unemployment rate dropped by 0.3 percentage points, the rate for the United States dropped by 0.2 percentage points to 4.2 percent. The national rate is down 0.7 percentage points from September 2016 while Tennessee's seasonally adjusted rate for September 2017 is down 1.9 percentage points from the previous year.

Pension plans for Tennessee government workers exceeded investment targets in 2017, minimizing the effects of weak returns for the past two years. The Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System gained 11.4 percent in fiscal year 2016, above the 7.5 percent target for annual returns. Returns flagged between 2 and 4 percent on fiscal years 2016 and 2015. More than 350,000 retirees and active employees are serviced by the program.

TDEC announces workshops, opening of 2018 grant cycle

The 2018 grant cycle for three of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) major grant programs has been announced.

TDEC recently announced applications will be open for the Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF), The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) will soon be open after three workshops are conducted across the state.

TDEC's Division of Recreational Educational Services (RES) will host workshops in Jackson, Murfreesboro, and Farragut to aid communities interested in the grant application process.

LPRF grants provide state funding to local governmental agencies for the purchase of land for parks, natural areas, greenways and the purchase of land for recreational facilities. Funds also may be used for trail development and capital projects in parks, natural areas and greenways.

LWCF grants provide matching grants to states, local governments and state agencies that provide recreation and parks, for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

RTP grants provide matching grants to state, local, and federal governmental agencies as well as 501c3 organizations as long as

the land developed is publically owned. RTP funds may be used for non-routine maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation trailside or for trailhead facilities such as restrooms, shelters and parking lots, construction of new trails and acquisition of land for recreational trails or corridors.

The first workshop will be held Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Southwest Tennessee Development District on 102 East College Street in Jackson. The second will be held Wednesday, Nov. 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Patterson Park Community Center at 521 Mercury Boulevard in Murfreesboro. The third and final workshop will be held Thursday, Nov. 30, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (EST) at Farragut's Town Hall at 11408 Municipal Center Drive.

Those interested in applying for the 2018 grant cycle are encouraged to attend a workshop as grant application criteria has changed as well as the grant application submission being moved to an online application process. Space at each location is limited. To guarantee your seat, register online or contact Tricia Ferguson at (615) 532-0752.

For more information, visit <http://www.tn.gov/environment/article/res-recreation-educational-services-grants>.

Eight West Tennessee municipalities share \$2.9M in investment grant funds

Eight Tennessee cities were awarded \$2.9 million in investment as part of a partnership between the Delta Regional Authority (DRA), Gov. Bill Haslam and various federal and local-based partners.

When completed, all of the projects are expected to bring a total of \$125 million in new investments to the state of Tennessee. The municipalities of Bells, Jackson, Memphis, Moscow, Piperton, Selmer, Toone, and Union City shared in the nine grants that were awarded through the program.

BELLS

The city of Bells was awarded \$200,000 in DRA investment for a total of \$880,000 investment in a workforce training initiative. The DRA funding will support renovation of the interior of the downtown Bells Theater to provide a more suitable environment for workforce department and community events. It will be the only workforce training center in Crockett County and is projected to permit the training of between 350 and 500 workers each year.

JACKSON

The city of Jackson received a DRA investment of \$150,000 for a total investment of \$174,000 to fund a robotics training center at Jackson State Community College. The center will allow manufacturers in Southwest Tennessee to enhance their competitiveness and provide opportunities for current workers to increase their skills and qualify for higher paying jobs.

MEMPHIS

The city of Memphis was awarded two grants. The first was a workforce training grant with a DRA investment of \$200,000 and a total investment of \$390,000 that will support training at The Boilermakers and Welding Institute, a regional training academy utilizing the latest advanced technology to train craftsmen, offer national credentials and provide career placement. The institute will use the funding to buy state-of-the-art

equipment, software, tools and supplies to train workers. This project will develop highly trained and certified boilermakers and welders utilizing the latest technologies to respond to the growing labor market demand for skilled craftsmen.

The second grant for Memphis was for support for entrepreneurial companies with a DRA investment of \$125,000 and a total investment of \$1.04 million. The project will provide funding for efforts focusing on net-job creation from high-growth entrepreneurial companies that have been in business for under five years. This work contributes to the start-up ecosystem being built in the Memphis region.

MOSCOW

The city of Moscow was awarded a DRA investment of \$200,000 and a total investment of \$252,300 for improvements to the city's water treatment plan. The improvements will bring the city into compliance with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) recommendations and will benefit 216 customers, 83 percent of which are low to moderate income.

PIPERTON

The city of Piperton received a DRA investment of \$200,000 and a total investment of more than \$19.15 million for water and sanitary sewer improvements. The investment will support extending sanitary sewer service to Piperton's west side to accommodate a new industrial development. The improvements will allow a business to set up operations in Piperton and create future economic development opportunities in the western part of the city.

SELMER

The city of Selmer received \$800,000 in DRA investment and more than \$10.11 million in total investment for business expansion and job creation projects, supported by DRA's CIF program. The project will help in a manufacturing facility's plans to add a new

product line and create about 140 new jobs. This expansion could benefit and improve economic conditions in 40 percent of the severely distressed counties in West Tennessee.

TOONE

The town of Toone received a \$750,000 DRA investment and \$62.75 million total investment for a transportation infrastructure project, funding through the DRA's CIF program. The project will support the widening of Kilgore Road to support a business expansion. The project will help with the retention of 200 jobs and the creation of 50 new jobs.

UNION CITY

Union City will receive \$300,000 in DRA investment and a total investment of \$30.3 million to support business expansion and job creation. A water line extension will provide water pressure adequate enough for fire suppression and allow proper cleaning of food processing machines for a business that is planning an expansion in the Northwest Tennessee Regional Industrial Center. This investment will create more than 200 jobs for residents in Obion, Lake and Weakley counties.

Seven of the investments were made through the DRA States' Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP), the agency's main federal funding program that invests in basic public infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, workforce development, and small business and entrepreneurship projects. The other two projects are supported through DRA's Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF).

Tennessee is one of eight states to receive DRA investments. The agency's total investments in the Mississippi River Delta Region and Black Belt of Alabama will reach \$20 million in 2017. With contributions from public and private partners, total investments will be \$231.6 million.

Nashville mayor unveils \$5.2B transit plan

TRANSIT from Page 1

rently set at 1 percent on the gross proceeds derived from the lease or rental of any passenger motor vehicle, truck or trailer for a period of five days or less. This would result in a total of 1.2 percent surcharge on rental cars;

- and a 20 percent surcharge on the business and excise tax. A business that currently pays \$1,000 on the tax will see an additional \$200 surcharge annually.

Additionally, the Convention Center Authority, which is funded in part by local hotel taxes and fees, is anticipated to help pay for the transit system by constructing a SoBro station for light rail and rapid bus service while the Metro Nashville Airport Authority has agreed in principle to fund a light rail spur from Murfreesboro Road to the Airport with terminal access.

"It's important to me that we are equitable and fair with the taxes used to pay for transit, while understand-



While the Music City Star train already brings in commuters from Wilson County, the proposed infrastructure plan would connect other major Nashville corridors via light rail lines.

ing the need for a bold, comprehensive transportation system that will address Nashville's needs now and in the future," Barry said. "This is

a balanced funding proposal that will ensure that visitors and out-of-county residents who may use our roads or transit system will pay their fair share along with residents who will have access to better jobs and transportation options as a result of this proposal."

The Metro Council will be asked to put the funding referendum for the plan on the ballot in time for the city's May 2018 primary. Funding for the program is planned to come from a range of fees including business, sales, and tourism taxes. Barry said the city will also seek federal funding grants where available. Nashville Vice Mayor David Briley said the plan must move forward before transportation issues in the area become even worse.

"We must act now to address the need for better transportation options if our city is going to continue to grow and thrive in the future," Briley said. "The Metro Council will carefully review Mayor Barry's proposal and give every resident of Nashville a chance to be heard before Metro's transportation solution goes to the ballot."

For more information on the plan, visit letsmoveinashville.com.

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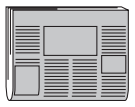
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CITY RECORDER.

UNICOI. The town of Unicoi (population 3632, 16 sq. miles) is currently seeking applications for a city recorder. Duties include all accounting/budgeting functions, project management, and attend and/or facilitate meetings. The town has 10 employees and operates with a \$2 million general fund budget. Starting pay is \$45k - \$50k DOQ. College degree in related field required. Send resume with cover letter no later than Nov. 27 to Mayor Johnny Lynch, P.O. Box 39, Unicoi, TN 37692-0039 or email: unicotownhall@comcast.net.

EXISTING INDUSTRIES MANAGER/GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II

GALLATIN. The city of Gallatin Economic Development Agency (EDA) is seeking qualified applicants for the position of existing industries manager/graphic designer/administrative assistant II. This position works with existing industry on personnel recruitment and problem-solving, creating promotional materials for the EDA, along with assisting with day-to-day operations of the office. This is a 40 hours per week, day shift position. Starting rate is 20.11 per hour + excellent benefits. The successful applicant should have experience in event organization, including arranging venues, catering and audio/visual needs; strong organizational and multi-tasking skills in a fast paced environment; advanced computer skills with a thorough knowledge of Adobe Creative Suites, Microsoft Office, and Excel. Essential duties include working with the executive director to gain a general understanding of all initiatives within the Economic Development Agency, representing the agency, and city when appropriate, at job fairs, completing diverse administrative tasks including: appointment management, meeting and presentation preparation and database management, while maintaining strict confidentiality, and arranging travel needs (including but not limited to hotel, air and registrations) for the agency. Qualified applicants must possess an associate's degree. Bachelor's degree is preferred. Must have at least five years recent work experience in a related capacity, preferably working directly with executive level positions. For a full description and to apply, visit the city's website at www.gallatintn.gov. Open until filled. EOE.

IT SUPPORT SPECIALIST

DICKSON. The city of Dickson is accepting resumes/applications for the position of IT support specialist. The IT Support Specialist performs advanced technical work involving installation and maintenance of computer hardware, software and network-related functions. Salary range is \$41,389 to \$62,063 depending on experience with benefits including health, dental and vision insurance, paid vacation, sick leave and Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System participation. Applicants may obtain a job description and/or application at Dickson City Hall, 600 East

Walnut Street, Dickson, TN., 37055, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; by email to administrator@cityofdickson.com; or by calling 615-441-9508 extension 508 during normal business hours. Completed applications, resumes and cover letters should be submitted to IT Position, attn. City Administrator, 600 East Walnut Street, Dickson, TN, 37055, or by email to administrator@cityofdickson.com with subject "IT support specialist position." Deadline for applications is Nov. 17. EOE

PLANNER

COLLIERVILLE. The city of Collierville is currently accepting applications for a planner. The position is responsible for complex professional work in a variety of current and long range planning studies. Bachelor's degree with major course work in Urban Planning, Landscape Architecture, or closely related field; supplemented by two years previous experience in a municipal planning office; or a master's degree in urban planning supplemented by one year of experience in a municipal planning office; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. SALARY RANGE: \$47,476 with excellent benefits package. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license. AICP preferred but not required. May require attending meetings after normal business hours. May require occasional lifting up to 10 -20 pounds. Requires passing physical and drug test in the pre-employment process. Selection process may include: examinations, interviews, assessment centers, practical skills, etc. Drug testing may be required. Submit an original Town of Collierville application to the following address: Human Resources, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, TN 38017. Applications are available to download at www.collierville.com under Employment Opportunities, or you may obtain one from our Human Resources Office. Applications must be submitted either by mail or in person to the above address. The Human Resources Office is open Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Open Until Filled. EOE / Drug-free workplace.

POLICE CHIEF

JOHNSON CITY. The city of Johnson City is seeking a committed public safety professional to lead and manage a modern, full service agency dedicated to policing our city with a highly engaged and community-involved approach. Under the general direction and supervision of the city manager, the chief plans, organizes, directs, coordinates and evaluates all activities of the Johnson City Police Department. The police chief will be privileged to lead a dedicated staff of 149 sworn officers and 32 civilian employees. The chief will manage the non-union police department's \$13.5 million budget and oversee the

entire operations. The department is nationally accredited and is organized into three divisions: administration, criminal investigations, and operations. Areas of responsibility include: patrol, criminal investigations, canine, drug task force, EOD, minimum security jail, special operations, community policing, school resource, and SWAT. The candidate must possess the following critical success factors: strong interpersonal and communication skills (both verbal and written); experience presenting to elected officials and public speaking; ability to motivate and inspire staff to build on past successes; demonstrated ability to develop and achieve long-range planning and budget goals; comprehensive and broad knowledge of the principles and practices of modern police administration. Requirements include a bachelor's degree in a related field (criminal justice, public administration, or equivalent) from an accredited university or college. A minimum of seven to 10 years of command level officer experience in a similar-sized department at the captain level or above. The city operates under the Commission-Manager form of government with a city manager appointed by a five-member city commission. Applications will be received online at www.johnsoncitytn.org until the position is filled. Salary range \$72,069 to \$116,810. EOE.

STORMWATER CREW LEADER

WHITE HOUSE. The city of White House is currently accepting applications for stormwater crew leader. This person is responsible for supervising and participating in the work of a crew performing stormwater construction and maintenance, landscaping, R-O-W maintenance, and public facility and infrastructure maintenance and repair. An application may be obtained by visiting www.cityofwhitehouse.com or at the human resources office located at 105 College Street, White House, TN 37188. Return applications to the human resources office or faxed to 615-616-1058 or emailed to humanresources@cityofwhitehouse.com. Starting Compensation range: \$16.29 - \$19.85 hourly DOE Open until filled. EOE.

WATER/WASTEWATER UTILITY DIRECTOR

SPRINGFIELD. The city of Springfield (population 16,700) is accepting applications for water/wastewater utility director. Individual will plan, organize and direct the activities of the water/wastewater department under a council/manager form of government. The water/wastewater department administers systems for water distribution, wastewater collection and water and wastewater treatment facilities. Bachelor's degree in civil, sanitary or environmental engineering or related field required - master's degree preferred. Must have at least five years of progressively responsible management experience in water and wastewater systems. Hiring range: \$72,280 - \$82,929. Salary range: \$72,280 - \$99,465 (DOQ). Applications must be received no later than Dec. 8, at the following address: Human Resources Department, City of Springfield, P. O. Box 788, Springfield, Tennessee, 37172 or apply online at www.springfield-tn.org or email applications and/or resume to Carolyn Scott at csscott@springfield-tn.org. EOE.

TDOT currently accepting applications for litter grants

Deadline Jan. 31, 2018

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is now accepting applications for \$1.5 million of competitive grant funding for community based special litter projects.

Each winning application may be awarded between \$20,000 and \$200,000 in funding, and does not require a local match. Grant recipients will be awarded a two-year contract to complete projects.

Examples of projects eligible for Special Litter Grant funding include: litter enforcement and tarp law efforts, multi-jurisdictional collaborations, illegal roadside dumpsite cleanups, 'litter free' or recycling public events, projects connecting litter prevention to local water quality, student litter education programs, Adopt-A-Street programs, local efforts incorporating TDOT's new "Nobody Trashes Tennessee" litter prevention campaign and tire collections.

Special Litter Grant funding is

meant for local litter pickup, prevention education and abatement activities. Landscaping and other similar community beautification efforts will not be funded.

The Department invites any local government, non-profit or community organization to submit an application to the Environmental Division's Highway Beautification Office by Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018. This opportunity is for a reimbursement grant which requires quarterly invoicing and performance reporting.

For additional information and application instructions, please view the Special Litter Grant manual on the TDOT Highway Beautification Office webpage at <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/topic/environmental-highway-beautification-office>. All other questions should be directed to Environmental Outreach Programs Manager, Mike McClanahan, at (615) 741-0803, or through email Michael.mcclanahan@tn.gov

Cell phone apps help consumers hounded by automated robocalls

It's a scenario that's playing out with increasing frequency: You answer the phone and hear a recorded message instead of a live person. These are robocalls, and while some are valid and necessary (such as emergency evacuation notices) most are telemarketing sales calls that are against the law.

With more and more Tennesseans being badgered by these robocalls, the Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance's (TDCI) Division of Consumer Affairs is sharing information from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) on mobile phone apps that can help consumers combat robocalls.

Telemarketing sales calls with recorded messages are generally illegal unless you have given the company written permission to call you. The FTC has reported a significant increase in the number of illegal robocalls because Internet-powered phone systems have made it cheap and easy for scammers to make illegal calls from anywhere in the world, and to hide from law enforcement by displaying fake caller ID information (call spoofing).

What can consumers do to stop these unwanted calls? One option is a robocall-blocking app for your cell phone.

Robocall blocking apps can give you the ability to do things like:

- Prescreen your calls before the phone rings.
- Block certain types of calls, including calls that others have flagged as fraudulent or unwanted calls.
- Block anonymous calls that show up as "Unknown" callers.
- Use reverse lookup to detect fake caller ID information from call spoofing.

Which app works for you might depend on your phone's operating system. Before you consider downloading any app, think about the call protection that you need and do your research. CTIA, a trade association

representing manufacturers and providers of wireless products and services, has a comprehensive list of call blocking apps.

While the FTC is working to develop technology-based solutions to deal with robocalls throughout the U.S., scammers who target Tennessee consumers with caller identification spoofing now face additional punishments thanks to legislation passed this summer by the Tennessee General Assembly.

SBO511/HB1050 revises the Anti-Phishing Act of 2006 by making it a Class A misdemeanor to send inaccurate or misleading caller ID information with the intent to defraud, harm or steal. Under the legislation, the Attorney General may seek a court order and recover a penalty of up to \$10,000 per violation.

While the legislation adds greater punishment to scammers, the Division of Consumer Affairs reminds Tennessee consumers to be aware that scammers could be targeting them with ID spoofing. Remember:

- Don't answer the phone if your number shows up on your phone's Caller ID.
- Don't attempt to call the number back, and do not press any buttons if prompted.
- If you do answer the call, don't give out your personal or financial information. Never give your personal information over the phone to someone you don't know.
- If you believe you're the victim of an ID Spoofing scam, file a complaint with the FTC at ftc.gov/complaint.
- If you lost money on a scam as a result of ID Spoofing, immediately report the theft to your local police or sheriff's department.

For more information about robocalls, visit FTC's website.

For more consumer resources, visit the TDCI Division of Consumer Affairs at www.tn.gov/consumer.

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS TML RISK MANAGEMENT POOL

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the TML Risk Management Pool will meet in regular session on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. local time at The Pool's office in Brentwood, Tennessee, for the purpose of considering and transacting all business which may properly come before the Board. Additional information concerning the meeting may be obtained by calling The Pool's office at 800-624-9698.

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NATIONAL BRIEFS



Purchases of new homes in the U.S. posted the highest month-over-month gain in a decade in September, despite predictions from economists. Single-family home sales were 18.9 percent between August and September, the strongest month-over-month gains posted since October 2007. Purchases in the South – much of which was hit by hurricanes Harvey and Irma – also posted a month-over-month increase. Sales surged 25.8 percent between August and November, the highest increase since July 2007. Median home prices also increased 1.6 percent over the same time last year.

Worker productivity in the U.S. has risen to its highest since 2004 in the third quarter, according to a report recently released by the U.S. Labor Department. While productivity rose for most sectors,

it fell 5 percent for manufacturers, the biggest drop in the manufacturing sector since the first quarter of 2009. Hurricanes Harvey and Irma are believed to have caused the drop. Economists said the pickup in productivity is encouraging, but sustained acceleration maintains a challenge and continues to hold back economic growth. Many have cited weak productivity as why companies are reluctant to raise worker wages even as their profit margins improve.

The U.S. economy added more than 260,000 jobs in October, the most since President Donald Trump took office. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that unemployment for the month declined to 4.1 percent – the lowest rate since 2000. However, the participation rate of U.S. citizens in the workforce fell slightly from 63 percent to 62.7 percent. Average hourly earnings, though, saw only a 0.2 percent increase. The

percentage of those jobless for 27 weeks or longer was little changed, and accounted for a quarter of total unemployment.

The National Park Service is considering a steep increase in entrance fees at 17 of its most popular parks to address a backlog of maintenance and infrastructure projects. The NPS is facing an \$11.3 billion backlog in deferred maintenance costs, and park officials said the lack of financial support from Congress has put a strain on park resources. Visitors to the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Yellowstone, Zion, and other national parks would be charged \$70 per vehicle, up from the fee of \$30 for a weekly pass. At others, the hike is nearly triple, from \$25 to \$70. Only 118 NPS sites charge entrance fees and are allowed to keep 80 percent of the revenue for maintenance. The remaining 20 percent goes into a pot to help parks that do not charge entrance fees.

State and Local Legal Center asks Supreme Court to accept online sales tax case

COURT from Page 1

laws requiring remote vendors to collect sales tax. South Dakota's law is the first to be ready for review by the Supreme Court. In September South Dakota's highest state court ruled that the South Dakota law is unconstitutional because it clearly violates Quill and it is up to the Supreme Court to overrule it. In October South Dakota filed a certiorari petition asking the Supreme Court to hear its case and overrule Quill.

The SLLC amicus brief makes two main points. First, it explains why this is the right case for the Court to take. In recent years numerous cases (and state laws) have challenged Quill at the margins. This case directly asks the Court to decide whether to overturn Quill without any distractions like factual issues. Second, now is the right time for the Court to consider overturn-

ing Quill because states and local governments are failing to collect billions of dollars in tax revenue annually at an increasing rate due to rising online sales.

The brief cites a study by the National Conference of State Legislatures and the International Council of Shopping Centers which estimated that in 2015, uncollected sales taxes from remote sales were almost \$26 billion. Of this \$26 billion, over \$17 billion uncollected taxes were projected to be from electronic sales.

At this point all South Dakota and its amici, including the SLLC, are asking the Supreme Court to do is agree to hear this case. Supreme Court review is discretionary; four of the nine Supreme Court Justices must agree to hear any case. If the Supreme Court refuses to do so, the South Dakota Supreme Court ruling that South Dakota's law is unconstitutional will stay in place.

It is possible the Court could hear this case this term meaning it would issue an opinion by the end of June 2018.

Tillman Breckenridge, Bailey & Glasser, wrote the SLLC amicus brief which the following organizations joined: the National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Council of State Governments, the National Association of Counties, the National League of Cities, the United States Conference of Mayors, the International City/County Management Association, the International Municipal Lawyers Association, the Government Finance Officers Association, the International Public Management Association for Human Resources, National School Boards Association, National AASA: The School Superintendents Association, and the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Small Business Saturday, November 25



This year Small Business Saturday is on Nov. 25. Founded by American Express in 2010, this nationwide movement helps bring attention to the importance of supporting small businesses in communities across America.

Last year on Small Business Saturday, 112 million shoppers showed their love for their favorite spots and spent a reported \$15.4 billion at small businesses.

As a community leader, you can encourage your small businesses to participate and keep local sales tax revenues in your community.

For more information on how to bring shoppers to your downtown and Main Streets, go to <https://www.americanexpress.com/us/small-business/shop-small/>

No loan is too large or too small



The city of Clinton and the Clinton Utilities Board recently closed a \$7 million fixed rate draw down loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to be used on electric system improvements. Pictured are: bottom row (L to R) Gail Cook, Clinton finance director; Scott Burton, Clinton mayor; and Gina Ridenour, Clinton city recorder. Back row: Dudley Fagan, Clinton Utilities finance director; Greg Fay, Clinton Utilities general manager; and Steve Queener, TMBF marketing representative.



The city of Three Way closed a \$2 million fixed rate loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to finance various projects, including a new city hall, street and road improvements, and equipment. Pictured are Mayor Larry Sanders and City Recorder Susan Rogers.

See us for your special projects needs.
 (615) 255-1561



TENNESSEE FESTIVALS

Nov. 17 - Jan. 6: Lookout Mountain Enchanted Garden of Lights

The light extravaganza at Rock City showcases more than 30 holiday scenes and nearly a million LED lights that transform the gardens' natural daytime splendor into a fantasyland. Enjoy gingerbread cookie decorating, hot cocoa, nightly entertainment, plus dinner with Santa, Jack Frost, Inara the ice queen and the Dancing Forest. This event was selected as a Top 20 Event for 2016 by Southeast Tourism Society. Group rates available. For more information go to: www.seerockcity.com/lights

Nov. 24: Livingston

Christmas in the Country
 Kick off the holiday season on the courthouse square from 5 to 8 p.m. on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Featuring carriage and wagon rides, music, popcorn, hot cider, peanuts and hot chocolate, Christmas in the Country is sure to get you in the spirit of the season. Stores stay open late, offering a chance to get a jump on shopping, and Santa is always there, working on his naughty and nice lists. 100 East Court Square, Livingston, TN, 38570. For more information, email: chamber@twlakes.net or call (931) 261.3862.

Nov. 27: Farragut

Light the Park
 Hosted by Shop Farragut, 6-7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 27, at Founders Park at Campbell Station. A free evening of hot chocolate, cookies, and holiday festivities. Farragut Mayor Ralph McGill will flip the giant switch and light the park with tens of thousands of lights on 60 lighted trees, garland pole wraps and much more. A special guest may also make a surprise appearance! Go to farragutbusiness.com for more details.

Dec. 2: Portland

Christmas Festival and Parade
 Christmas activities and live music from 3-5:30 p.m. on Main Street in Portland, followed by a nighttime Christmas parade and tree lighting ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Visit www.portlandcofc.com/christmas-festival-parade for more information.

Dec. 8-9, Dec. 15-16: Springfield

Winter Wonderland
 Follow the lighted candy cane trail throughout the J. Travis Price Park to view fanciful scenes. Bring your camera for pictures with Santa, Rudolph and the Summer Lovin' Snowman. Youngsters can pet and feed animals at the Little Critters Petting Zoo. For more information, call 615-382-1655 or email sbryant@springfield-tn.org.

Nolensville's Alexander balances big growth, small town charm

BY LINDA BRYANT

Not many elected officials get the chance to oversee a community that burgeons from a sleepy unincorporated burg to a thriving residential hotspot complete with thousands of new homes, brand new schools, commercial developments, and government-funded buildings.

But that's just what happened to Mayor Jimmy Alexander of Nolensville.

Now in the seventh year of being mayor, Alexander, who also served for several years as an alderman, is widely seen as a major force in stabilizing, guiding, and promoting Nolensville during its quick ascent from a dot on the map to a sought-after residential hamlet.

Alexander moved to Nolensville in the mid-1990s a couple of years before he officially retired from his job with the Metro Planning Commission in Davidson County. The historic Williamson County community has been around since 1797 and was a thriving agricultural community in the 1850s and 1860s before the outbreak of the Civil War. Over the years, Nolensville lost its official status as town and became part of Williamson County.

In 1996, three years before Alexander moved to the quiet area, Nolensville again applied to the state to be reincorporated as a town. At the time of incorporation, the town was three square miles and had a population of around 1,800.

Roll forward to today and you'll find that Nolensville has annexed additional areas more than tripling the area of the town. The population has increased to about 10,000.

Nolensville Town Administrator Ken McLawhon says Alexander is widely respected and seen as a steady hand in the town.

"We are so fortunate to have his leadership and service," McLawhon says. "There's no one who believes in Nolensville more. It's made a big difference to the quality of our development."

Alexander says he was bred for a life of community service.

"Politics and public service is in my blood," he says. "My grandmother was involved in politics and was a ward chairman in Nashville. I can remember going with her and helping her during election time by handing out cards."

"I also had a brother, Tom, who served 16 years on Metro Council in Nashville and my son, Jason, is the youngest person ever elected to Metro Council," Alexander adds. "Another brother was on the school board. I feel like being a public service is my calling, and I'm glad I found it early."

TT&C: Tell me a little bit about your background. Are you from Nolensville? How did you get started there?

JA: I was born, raised, lived and worked all my life in Davidson County in Nashville. I was on the Metro Planning Commission for 42 years. I worked with all aspects of planning and was involved in city politics. My grandmother was a city ward chairman for a number of years. My father worked for the city. When I was the proper age, I decided to work for the city of Nashville and got a job with the Metro Planning Commission. I moved to Nolensville in 1999 and have been here 18 years. I was still working for the Metro Planning Commission, but I was getting close to retirement age. I retired four years later. I ran for alderman in Nolensville the same year I retired. This is my seventh year being mayor, and the other years I served as an alderman.

TT&C: What did your work entail at the Metro Planning Commission?

JA: I started as a draftsman but I kept gaining responsibilities. Then my job was to review site plans and work on budgets. I also attended all the Metro Council meetings and answered questions for the council members on behalf of the Planning Commission.

TT&C: The skills and experience you gained from your career at Metro Planning must have helped prepare you for your roles as alderman and mayor, especially since you moved to Nolensville when it was starting to grow a lot. Can you speak to this?

JA: You're right. My experience with Metro Planning was invaluable. I wanted to stay involved after I retired, and this was the perfect place to do it. Nolensville is 21-years-old now and it had only been in existence for about nine years when I moved here. I wanted to jump right in and do something to help.

TT&C: How has the city changed since you've been there?

JA: There was not much going on when I moved here in 1999. Nolensville was a small bedroom community but it was on the verge of exploding. I don't think people realized it. We had one elementary school and very few restaurants. People headed toward Nashville or Brentwood if they wanted to do anything.

When I moved here, there were approximately 2,000 people here. We have about 10,000 now. We really were a sleepy little town. The older people liked the way that it was [and were resistant to change and growth], but I think a lot of them are now accustomed to all the benefits we have as a growing community. We have new businesses and many quality people.

TT&C: You have been a part of the transformation and is now known for being one of the safest and most appealing places to live in the state. How did the city government adapt and respond to such a fast pace of growth?

JA: The town was formed in 1996. We started out very humble and took everything one step at a time. At that time, the office of the town was the mayor's trunk in his car. He eventually hired someone to be the town recorder and to be the total staff of the town. Meetings were set up to come up with a charter and to draw zoning lines. We had to establish a planning commission and a board of aldermen. We grew little by little. The first office we had was 1,000 square feet in a shopping center. We had very few employees but we had to hire public works employees. Then we had to hire police officers. We tried to do everything by paying as we went — and we still do. We had no debt and that's important. We haven't raised the property taxes in eight years. We paid for everything as we went until ultimately we had to build the Nolensville Town Hall.



Jimmy Alexander
Nolensville Mayor



Mayor Alexander is an avid runner and a member of the Nolensville Running Club. The club has more than 1,000 members and recently organized a 10K race called Rollin' Nolen. It drew 250 people and helped raise \$7,000 for the high school.

TT&C: How is your town government structured?

JA: We have a strong mayor type of government. [The strong mayor form of government is headed by the mayor who serves as the city's chief executive and the city council who serve as the city's legislative body.] We have a town administrator — Ken McLawhon — who's in charge of the staff and other responsibilities assigned by the mayor. We've had the administrator for three years. Before we had him, I did everything. He's taken some of the workload off and helped us with our budgets and daily operations.

The mayor's job is supposed to be a part-time job. I spend an average of about six hours a day on it. I am paid a small salary and so are the aldermen. We have an opportunity every year to raise the salaries but we don't because we are more focused on the love of our community. Our aldermen have had one pay raise in the past eight years.

TT&C: What are your main sources of revenue?

JA: We have sales taxes, of course, and we have property taxes. We get some state aid from gas taxes. As the building continues here, we receive fees from the builders that help us keep the roads and infrastructure up. Our annual budget is more than \$2 million.

TT&C: Why do you think Nolensville is growing so fast?

JA: There are a couple reasons. One is the proximity to Nashville. We are right on Nashville's southern border, and you can get from here to almost anywhere pretty quickly. We are located between Interstates 65 and 24. Nolensville Road is a straight shot to Nashville. So, proximity plays a big role in our growth. Being in Williamson County also plays a big role. Williamson County schools certainly are a great driver in population growth; they are considered the best in the state and among the best in the country.

TT&C: Your school system has sprouted from humble beginnings, too. Tell us about how that took place.

JA: The schools have kept up with our population growth. We went from having one elementary school in 2006, and a couple years later, we had an elementary school and middle school. Then we built a brand new high school with a new elementary and middle school all on the same campus. When I arrived here, I never dreamed that Nolensville High School would happen, and now we are in our second year of operation. We are very proud of it. It is a great asset for our community and it continues to be a big draw for families.

TT&C: What amenities have you added in Nolensville to enhance people's lives?

JA: About three years ago we partnered with Williamson County and created the Nolensville Recreation Complex. We paid for half of the rec center and the county paid half. It's certainly a big draw. We have enough people in Nolensville now to have all kinds of celebrations. We are still a small town but we have a Fourth of July celebration that attracts about 5,000 people

every year. We also have a Veterans' Day celebration that attracts a big crowd of people. And we have the Broken Wheel Festival and the Buttercup Festival.

The Nolensville Running Club has more than 1,000 members. Every year we send six or seven runners from this town to the Boston Marathon. We just had our own 10K race here called Rollin' Nolen. It drew 250 people, and we were able to donate \$7,000 to the high school. Some of these things couldn't happen here if we weren't incorporated and the town wasn't in operation.

When I moved here 18 years ago, there were a couple small restaurants. When we wanted to go out to eat, we went to Nashville. Now we have some very nice restaurants and more on the way. We are proud of having the original Martin's [BBQ Joint] here. We also have a sushi restaurant and a couple of hamburger places. We have a place where you can buy wine and liquor. We didn't have that years ago; we would have to go to Brentwood or Nashville. We've got more commercial development on the way.

TT&C: How has the community responded to growth? Is your zoning and planning on top of the growth?

JA: There is some resistance to the growth. We have people who have been here all their lives and they see the growth happening around them. Some people took advantage of it and sold their large lots or tracts of land for development. But for the most part, people are settled in and have embraced our growth. Going through the planning commission can be a tough ordeal. We want quality businesses and development. Everyone who comes here [and wants to build or develop] is subjected to scrutiny. We have a design review committee that makes sure new construction is developed in accordance with our rules — and we want designs that look good.

We have buildings that are 50 years old or so and they are grandfathered in. But as new developments come along, they are built in accordance with our standards. For example, we have a Dollar General, and you can't find one that looks better anywhere. The company wanted to use [their standard] bright yellow sign but we talked them into using the colors that we allow. Anyone who comes here has to comply with our design review standards. Most businesses are inclined to go through the process because they want to come here and be a part of our community.

TT&C: How have you dealt with critical infrastructure issues such as sewers?

JA: Fortunately, our sewers are operated by Metro Davidson County Government. The government is a business so they saw a profit in extending the sewer out to Nolensville. That's one reason we've grown so fast because we do have sewer and Davidson County operates it. We don't have any expense, but we don't have any control over it either.

Nolensville Road is state owned but the town is responsible for all the roads off Nolensville Road. We keep them in pretty good shape. We are in the process of upgrading Sunset Road, and it's a \$6-7 million project.

When it gets finished, we'll have a quality road with bike lanes and sidewalks. Sidewalks are required in all our subdivisions along with lighting and all the things you'd expect from quality developments. Infrastructure is a major challenge because road construction is so expensive. With a town of 10,000 people, a small budget, and a very low tax rate, a road project of \$6-7 million is a lot for us.

TT&C: Statistics show that almost 80 percent of Nolensville residents are married couples and/or families. Do you know where are all the people are coming from? What kind of income brackets do they represent?

JA: They are coming from everywhere. The average new house is in the \$400-\$500,000 price range and average household income is over \$100,000. It's a little bit cheaper to live here than it is to live in Brentwood, but still, it's not cheap. We are getting people here who are educated and who can help us with our town committees and town government.

TT&C: Do you have ways to address affordable housing?

JA: We don't have apartments in Nolensville, although we do have a few townhomes. We have subdivisions that will allow you to buy into them at around \$350,000. We also have two 55-plus communities — one that's already built out and another that's coming online.

TT&C: You've talked about quite a few accomplishments and milestones for Nolensville. What are you the proudest of?

JA: Partnering with Williamson County to build the Nolensville Recreation Center was a very good idea. We are all very, very proud of our new high school. It's just a tremendous asset to the community. We have a great sports program that goes along with the school. Having built a Nolensville Town Hall right in the heart of town within the last five years is something I'm extremely proud of. We have quality subdivisions that we didn't have before. We just hired a new chief of police from the Williamson County Police Department. He was No. 3 in the command line there.

We have kept property taxes low. In fact, we haven't had an increase in our budget for eight or nine years. The Nolensville Running Club attracts a lot of people from all ages. The fact that we've been rated one of the best cities to live in Tennessee — and one of the safest places to live — is just tremendous. All this comes together to make me very proud. We want to do more, but we want to make sure everything is thought out and done on a quality level.

I'm very proud of Ken McLawhon our city administrator. He's been here for three years. We conducted a nationwide search to find the right person for the job. Ken brought a great deal of expertise that I didn't have and members of our board didn't have. He's doing an excellent job. The same is true for other people here. When I arrived, we didn't have a town planner, and we didn't have a treasurer. Now we do, as well as a full-time engineer.

TT&C: Can you envision what Nolensville will be like in 5-10 years?

JA: I see us continuing to grow. I can see infrastructure improvements continuing to be required and being done — not only by us but the state. We have the Nolensville Historic District, and it's very valuable to us. People come from all over, park their cars and walk the district. I see a bypass around the Nolensville Historic District that will keep the traffic out of the heart of our town. I don't know if it will come in the next 10 or 15 years but I know that it will eventually happen.

We are opened a new trailhead in our town on Nov. 1, and it has a new bridge that connects the park to the historic district. [The bridge, located between Nolensville Feed Mill and A Homeplace Bed & Breakfast.] The project was made possible by a Small Town Connections grant. I believe we will continue to grow and have an ultimate population of about 20,000. We just need to be smart about everything we do and make sure that we're doing it right.

TT&C: Reflecting back on all the changes, can you name a couple of things that have been key factors in the town's successes?

JA: It was such a great opportunity to more or less start from scratch. We were lucky to have good mayors as we grew. Mayor [Charles] Knapper was the original mayor and the founder of the town. Then Mayor [Beth] Lothers came to town and brought some good ideas. I come after that. Mayor Knapper brought his vision to start this town and Mayor Lothers expanded on that and brought some very good ideas about design standards. She did a terrific job during her one term. This is my second term and I've tried to follow up on what they did. The idea was not to get ourselves in a lot of debt and move the town forward with quality development, and I think we have done that. We are lacking a little in infrastructure improvements but we are intending to address that. I think everything is falling into place.

We have great staff here at the office and we have great volunteers from the community who serve on our commissions and committees. For example, right now we have a town events committee getting us ready for our Veterans' Day parade. Nolensville is a very good place to be right now.