

# La Vergne NewsWire

March 2010

## Police answer 40,250 calls in '09

The Police Department answered 40,250 calls in 2009.

There were 1,586 arrests last year, versus 2,079 in '08. The total number of citations issued last year was 12,892. In 2008, 21,358 citations were issued.

"In the past, we counted the various

officers that responded to a scene," Chief Ted Boyd said. "Now that we've redone the ways we do things, the number reflects the actual number of calls."



A printable version of this newsletter is available from any office assistant.

### Upcoming Events:

- March 13 Celebrate La Vergne, Civic Auditorium, 3-5 p.m.
- March 27 Easter Egg Hunt, Bicentennial Park, 9-11 a.m.
- May 8 Parks and Rec summer sign-ups, Parks office, 9 a.m.
- May 8 Senior Citizen's Prom, MP Bldg, 6-8 p.m.
- June 1 Library summer sign-ups
- July 24 DARE/Rotary car show, Veteran's Memorial Park, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Aug 3 National Night Out, Veteran's Park, 6-9 p.m.
- Aug. 20 Howl at the Moon 5K, Veteran's Park, 8 p.m.
- Sept. 18 Old Timers' Day, Veteran's Park, all day
- Oct. 30 Trail of Treats, Veteran's Park, 2-4 p.m.
- Nov. 13 Kickball Tourney, Veteran's Park, 9 a.m.

## Fire Department had 807 calls in '09

The La Vergne Fire Department responded to 53 more calls in 2009, versus calls in 2008.

The fire fighters fought 46 structure fires last year, versus 64 in 2008, according to a report issued by Ricky McCormick.

There were 207 fire alarms, as opposed to 181 in 2008. There were 35 fire calls in 2009 and 31 in 2008. There were 15 grass fires versus 19 in 2008.

The number of motor vehicle accidents totaled 243 in 2009. There were 208 wrecks in 2008.

The total number of calls in 2009 equaled 807, versus 754 in 2008.

The department used 116,800 gallons of water for the year ending Dec. 31, 2009. In 2008, the fire fighters used 102,400 gallons of water.

The average response time was 2.8 minutes, versus 2.7 in 2008.

### Inside:

- Trivia Question
- Birthdays and Anniversaries
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- Spelling of La Vergne
- NES, MTEMC numbers
- PAL Golf Tourney
- Sympathies
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Water Department employees work on the front yard of a home on Old Nashville Highway.

### March Anniversaries:

Mary Martin	23 years
Kristine Keeves	11 years
Robin Grubb	10 years
Angie Mayes	10 years
Andrea White	9 years
Aaron Simmons	8 years
Jeremy Morris	6 years
Ozzy Leezy	5 years
Kenneth Criswell	3 years
Joe Evans	3 years
Doug Mason	2 years
Jillian Lucinski	1 year
Michael Hofer	1 year
Mollie Branning	1 year

### March Birthdays:

Emilsen Jobe	March 3
Nancy Zeller	March 3
Kyle Brown	March 4
Todd Schroeder	March 11
Dalivus Morgan	March 18
Chip Davis	March 22
Toni Craddock	March 23
Gerry Howse	March 25

## Easter Egg Hunt set for March 27

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place March 27. Games will begin at 9 a.m. with the 0-4 year old hunt beginning promptly at 10 a.m. The 4-7 year old hunt will take place immediately following that hunt and the 8-11 year old hunt will take place immediately following that.

Easter Baskets will be given to those who find the golden egg. For more info, contact Angie at 4312.

### La Vergne Trivia

Do you know where the street name

**Alon Babayan Arch**

comes from?

Have the correct answer?  
Call Angie Mayes at 4312 or e-mail her at [amayes@lavergne.org](mailto:amayes@lavergne.org).

A winner will be chosen from all correct answers. Deadline for entry will be the 15th of the month of the newsletter.

### Newsletter ideas

A special thank you to those of you who gave me new ideas for the employee newsletter. We've added a trivia question as well as employee classifieds with this edition. We're going to draw a winner from each one who answers the trivia question correctly. There will be a prize for the winner. The deadline for the entries will be the 15th of the month of the newsletter.

Please call me at 4312 or e-mail me at [amayes@lavergne.org](mailto:amayes@lavergne.org).



La Vergne Newswire

# Welcome new employees!

We want to welcome Anya, Shane, Nick, and A.C. to the City of La Vergne.



**Anya Ryan** was hired as the new Human Resources Director in February.

A native of New York City, she has been in the Human Resources field for 30 years. She has lived in Tennessee for three years.

She has one son, Justin and two rescued cats, Mimi and Mikey.

In her spare time, she likes to read, go horseback riding and swim.

**Shane Cothran** was recently hired as a police officer. From Columbia, Shane has been in law enforcement for 10 years, working in Cape Coral, FL as a motorcycle officer and in Spring Hill as a detective.



Married to Jayce, they have one son, Kaden.

In his spare time, he enjoys motorcycles and basketball.

He has a Boxer and Pomeranian.

**Nick Watkins** was also hired as a police officer in December.



This is his first job in law enforcement and he said being in the field is all he has ever wanted to do.

Engaged to Samantha Crossno, the couple are expecting their first child August 8.

In his spare time, he enjoys sports and video games.

He has four fish.

**A.C. Davis** was hired in the Parks and Rec Department in February.

From Alabama, A.C. previously worked at Home Depot, Nissan and was a Correctional Officer. He was also in the Coast Guard.

Married to Elizabeth with five children, he enjoys lifting weights and eating in his spare time.

He has two dogs: a Dachshund and a rat terrier.



## Days off in 2010

**April 2 — Good Friday**

**May 31 — Memorial Day**

**July 5 — Independence Day**

**Sept. 6 — Labor Day**

**Nov. 25—26 — Thanksgiving**

**Dec. 23—24 — Christmas**

**Dec. 31 — New Year's Eve**

*For more information, see your department supervisor.*

## Employees move into new Storm Water Building



*City planner Grant Green unpacks at the new Storm Water building. They moved to their new location in February.*

### La Vergne again a storm-ready city

The City's status as a storm-ready city has been renewed, according to Box 100 Chief Julia Hill.

That means that our city has volunteers that have taken the storm water classes and met qualification to be storm spotters and — according to the National Weather Service — are ready to be hands on to help with natural weather disasters.

More than 40 weather radios have been distributed throughout the city for the members to use in storm spotting and storm awareness.

More on Box 100 and their efforts will be in the April newsletter.



*The Seniors celebrated February in style. At left, Jim Clark enjoys Valentines Day on Feb. 11. Above, Evelyn Irwin and Don Lehr show off their "Wacky Hats" during "Wacky Hat Day" held at the Multi-Purpose Building on the 19th.*

*For more information on the Senior Center, call them at 793-3048. They are located at 337 Stones River Road and are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.—3 p.m. They are closed on Wednesdays and weekends.*

## PAL golf tourney coming up April 16

The 11th annual Police Athletic League Golf Tournament is set for April 16 at the Smyrna National Golf Course, 100 Sam Ridley Parkway in Smyrna.



Registration begins at 11 a.m., followed by lunch. The shotgun start begins at 1 p.m.

Cost to play is \$300 per four-man team or \$75 per person. Those playing without a full team are often teamed up with other smaller teams. Hole sponsorships are \$150 each.

The tourney — which is a best ball tourney — can take up to 36 teams.

For more information, contact Gerry Howse at 287-8730 e-mail him at [pal@lavergne.org](mailto:pal@lavergne.org).

## Spelling of La Vergne

*Did you know that La Vergne used to be one word? A lot of people still spell it that way: Lavergne or LaVergne. Even City buildings — and our old logo — spell it as one word.*

*However, according to the now defunct Rutherford Courier, the Board of Mayor and Alderman officially changed it to La Vergne (two words) in 1988.*



*Part of the roof of the Smyrna Bowling Center caved in due to the snow and ice we had in January, causing our city league to halt league play. They picked back up again a few weeks later, according to Robert Brooks, league coordinator.*



*La Vergne Fire fighters fight a fire during a training exercise. For more information about the Fire Department, click on [lavergnefire.com](http://lavergnefire.com).*

# Water Billing information

By Mary Martin, Water Department Supervisor

The City of La Vergne water department sends out around 11,350 bills per month, as of end of January 2010.

They have a crew of five service personnel in the field and five in the office.

There are have four billing cycles. Depending on where you live in the city determines when you bill is due. It usually takes four to six weeks to get your first bill. Because of that, when you move out, you will still have one to two more bills due, depending on where we are in the billing process.

Cut off days are on Wednesday. The list goes out at 9 a.m. Anyone over 30 days past due are subject for cut off. You can call the office prior to Wednesday morning to see if you can get an extension. Once the list goes out \$50 is added to the account. If you call the on call personnel \$25 additional fee will be added and the payment must be in our office by 9 a.m. on Thursday morning or service will be turned back off.

We have several methods of payment available. We take cash and checks in the office. We can take credit card payments by phone. These can also be done in the office. There is a charge of \$4.00 to process the credit card.

We also have bank draft option. You can bring in a voided blank check and sign an authorization form and have your bill taken out of your checking account on your due date. You can pay on line through your bank. If you pay on line through your bank it may take 7-10 days for the payment to reach our office. You can also pay on our web site – [www.lavergne.org](http://www.lavergne.org). Go to payments then to water/sewer department.

Penalties are applied the next business day after the due date..

New service can be turned on the same business day if you are in our office by 2 p.m. If not it will be the next business day. This also applies to disconnection of water service. You must come in to have water turned off or disconnected.



*The snow began to melt the first of February but not before we captured some scenery shots of the frozen berries on a bush outside of the Parks and Rec office. The snow covered the ground for a few days but when it was new, it was truly a winter wonderland. Below, are some bushes — covered in ice — that shimmered as the morning sun hit them.*



## Emergency numbers for electric services

Both Nashville Electric Service (NES) and Middle Tennessee Electric (MTEMC) have emergency call numbers.

Police Chief Ted Boyd urges you to call these numbers in the event of a non-emergency outage, as opposed to calling 911.

Water Department Supervisor Mary Martin said the water department also has received non-emergency calls during outages.

The numbers are:

NES — 234-0000

MTEMC— 1-877-777-9111



# City joins Clean Air Partnership

Recently the city became the first Clean Air Partner of Rutherford County! The Clean Air Partnership (CAP) of Rutherford County is a new initiative of The TMA Group. Based on the success of the Clean Air Partnership of Williamson County, CAP of Rutherford County has formed to educate individuals, businesses, government, and organizations about air pollution, as well as, promoting the use of alternative modes of transportation.

Air quality, growing congestion and lessening mobility are a nationwide problem. More of us are driving alone, making more trips each day, and driving further to get to work. The increasing congestion is leading to longer and more stressful commutes for employees, which can have a serious impact on business in terms of workforce access, recruitment, morale and productivity.

As a Clean Air Partner, CAP will provide us with:

- Air Alerts on days when air quality is unhealthy
- Speakers for workshops on air quality and vanpool options
- Invitations to their brown bag Lunch & Learn series on environmental topics of interest
- Newsletters
- Simple tips on what we can do as a city and individually to improve air quality in Rutherford County

Angie Mayes serves as the city's CAP liaison, so if there is any information you'd like to receive from them just let her know! She can be reached at 4312.

## ***Mayor to do interview show on Channel 3***

Mayor Ronnie Erwin is planning to do a talk show on La Vergne government access Channel 3 this month, he has announced.

The show, to be called "From the Desk of the Mayor," will feature the Mayor with department heads, talking about various things from each of their departments.

He has been collecting a variety of information from each department.



*The new snow plow purchased Feb. 8 from DCI on Sand Hill Road in La Vergne. This replaces to old one, which has been here for many years.*

*The new piece of equipment cost \$2,438.57.*

## ***Summer camp sign-ups set for May 8 at Parks and Rec***

Sign-ups for summer camp will take place beginning at 9 a.m. on May 8. The sign-ups will take place at the Parks and Rec Building, 294 Sand Hill Road, behind Veteran's Memorial Park.

The camp takes place the weeks of June 14, 21, 28 and July 12, 19 and 26. The Parks and Rec camp is for youngsters leaving kindergarten to those leaving fifth grade.

"In the Zone," a Wednesday program for those going into sixth grade to those going into ninth grade also runs the same weeks as summer camp.

Cost for each week is TBD. For more information, call Angie at 4312.

## **Emergency groups getting new radios**

The La Vergne Police Department, Fire Department, Rescue Unit and Box 100 are getting new radio units, based on the 800 MHz system, which is mandated by the FCC.

The new systems should be in place in the next month, according to La Vergne Emergency Planning Committee Chairman Ricky McCormick.

This system will eventually replace the old UHF/VHF systems, which have been used by the various groups for years.

Many county, state and Federal agencies are already using the 800 MHz system and La Vergne will now be able to communicate with the groups on the network.

Cost for the system will be around \$1 million.

# Library Happenings...



Area kids celebrated Valentines Day at the La Vergne Library on Feb. 13. This is just on of the many events the library celebrates each year. Forty-one people attended this year's event.

## Rebecca celebrated as newest American Girl

Rebecca Rubin, the newest American girl doll, will be the featured doll at this year's American Girl Tea Party celebration, scheduled for March 13 at the library. The event takes place at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

As a girl growing up in New York City in 1914, Rebecca celebrates treasured traditions passed down through her Russian-Jewish family. With a little creativity, she learns how to stay true to her heart as she follows her dreams in the big city.

La Vergne-area girls are especially fond of the tea party, which features a different doll each year. The dolls are based on a series of books. "Meet Rebecca" is the first book in the Rebecca six-book series by popular author Jacqueline Dembar Greene.

Sign-ups began Feb. 15. Parents need to stop by and get a ticket for the event. One lucky girl will win a Rebecca doll.

For more information, call the library at 4202.



Bill Bowen, who works at the library, dumps paper into the recycling bin. When the bin is full, they take it to the recycling dumpster outside the library.

## Recycling at the library —

The library jumped right into recycling — as did the other buildings within the city. Above, a container fills up with paper. Most buildings have paper bins and cans and bottle containers at this time.

We have more things on order, so if you didn't get everything you asked for, please be patient. They're coming.

If anyone has any questions about recycling, please call Angie at 4312.



**Guess Who?**

*This month begins a new segment with the newsletter. We are re-introducing a segment called "Guess Who?" which features baby pictures of city employees. Your job is to guess who's in the photo.*

*Winner will receive an Old Timers' Day hat or City of La Vergne lunch bag. Call Angie at 4312 or e-mail her at [amayes@lavergne.org](mailto:amayes@lavergne.org).*

*The first to respond with the correct answer wins the prize. The answer to this month's quiz will be in the April newsletter.*

*Want your photo in? E-mail a scanned copy to Angie.*

## **FOP's "Club Knockout" a happening place for kids, adults**

When Ken Atkin was a younger man, he ventured into the fast paced world of professional boxing. His overall fight record was 29-5 with 21 KOs and he was once the WBF light heavyweight champion.

Now, a nearly three-year police officer in La Vergne, he is spreading his experience around to the young people in the area with Club Knockout.

Affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #85, Club Knockout has become one of the more popular locations in town for young people and adults who want to box.

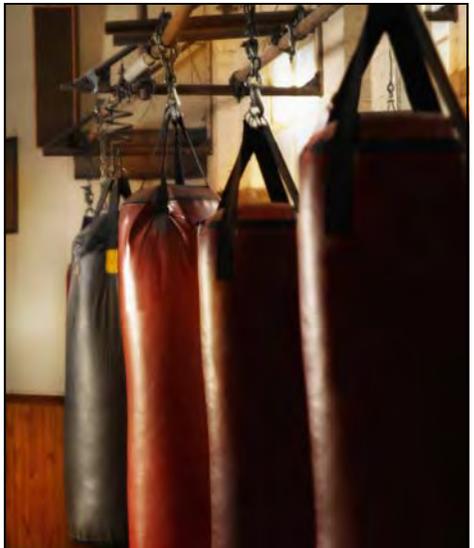
When Atkin worked for the Smyrna Police Department, he headed up the department's Police Athletic League. When he moved to LPD, he dreamed of one day being involved with a boxing facility in La Vergne.

After all, he had trained in La Vergne with former WBF In-



ter-Continental Heavyweight Boxing Champion Keith "The Fighting Knight" McKnight beginning in 1988 at what is now the Multi-Purpose Building (formerly known as "The Boxing Building.")

The opportunity for a gym came to light in 2008 and he — working with other former boxers such as McKnight and the FOP — opened the gym.



Now with approximately 30 members, the club often showcases some of the best boxing in the area. They also have a staff of volunteers who ensure that boxers are properly trained and the matches with other Clubs in the area go as smoothly as possible.

The club is located at 105 Buchanan Street, next to

## **FOP—**

Crown Label. The president, of Crown Label, Alex Jenkins, donated the unused portion of his building to the FOP.

The gym is open to everyone 8 years and up and cost for kids between 8-18 is free. For those over 18, the cost is just \$20 a month.

For more information, contact Atkin at 793-7744.



*The three Norway Spruce trees were planted at various buildings in February. The three trees will allow the annual Christmas Tree lighting ceremony to take place at one of three locations (City Hall, CID or the library). The trees — already 16 to 18 feet tall — grow an average of 12" - 14" per year. The average mature height is 40' to 50'. The average mature width is 30'.*

## **La Vergne Rescue to host Ham Breakfast March 13**

The La Vergne Rescue Squad, located at 141 Gambill Lane in La Vergne, will hold their monthly Ham Breakfast on March 13, according to Director Dana Blair.

Cost for the meal, which includes Country Ham, eggs, grits and biscuits and gravy is \$7 per person. The time is 6—10 a.m. The money goes back into the operating fund of the rescue unit.

They are trained in the following: NIMS – 100, 200, 400, 700 and 800 Training, Extrication Training, Advance Extrication Training, Heavy Equipment Extrication, Bus Extrication, Swift Water Awareness, Swift Water Advance, Confined Space Training, Confined Space Rescue Training, Emergency Medical Technician, Emergency Medical Technician with I.V. Training, CPR Training, First Aid Training, Hazardous Material Awareness Training Weather Storm Spotters Training, Life Flight Tail Watch Training.

They are a non-profit organization is a proud and supportive member of the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads.

For more information about the squad, contact them at 793-6022.



## **Youth Incorporated to host hockey "Learn to Play" event**

Youth Incorporated's In-line Hockey League will host a "Learn to Play" program beginning April 6.

The program is for kids 4 -10 years old. It is designed to teach the basics of hockey such as stick handling, passing and shooting. It will be held from 6 - 7 p.m. at the hockey rink, located in Veteran's Memorial Park, on April 6, 13, 20 and 27.

This program is a great way to introduce kids to the game of hockey in a fun and relaxed environment. Best of all, it's free.

To register your child -- or for more information -- call Youth Inc. at 865-0003.

Youth Incorporated, founded in 1945 by the late Allen Dobson, has seen thousands of young people from Middle Tennessee participate in a variety of programs and activities including summer camp, church camp, in-line hockey and pro basketball.

Their mission is to advance the mental, moral and physical development of boys and girls through a variety of sports, recreational activities and camping.

Their motto is "Building Leaders for Tomorrow."

# Rutherford County Workhouse inmates now cleaning library

By Teresa Wilberscheid, interim Library Director

The library has recently started using inmates from the Rutherford County Correctional Workhouse to perform daily cleaning tasks. The inmates are low-risk offenders, undergo a background check and are supervised by both library and public works staff. The library previously spent part of its budget to professional companies to clean the building.



The good news for the citizens of La Vergne is that the library is now being cleaned for free, allowing the library to purchase more new materials and host more programs with the money saved on cleaning. Whereas the outside companies only cleaned the building three times a week, the inmates work every weekday, allowing us to enjoy a cleaner library.

This was not a decision made lightly, and was not made solely for financial reasons, even in this tight budget year. Please know that we have the best interests of our community and our employees in mind with every decision we make.

## La Vergne History: La Vergne was burned in 1862

*The Union and Confederate armies battled at least seven times in La Vergne in the winter of 1862.*

*In November and December of 1862, the Union and Confederate armies fought over the territory, known as La Vergne. In the process, the Union gathered forces and burned the town.*

*Only a few buildings remained including Cherry Shade, a home that served as a hospital for both armies as well as the old fort (formerly located in the vicinity of Lookout Drive, off Old Nashville Highway) and the Nelson Home (formerly located near Bridgestone on Waldron Road).*

*A few days after skirmishing in La Vergne, both forces battled in Murfreesboro at the Battle of Stones River.*

*Because of the war — and the fact that there were so few men left to make “decisions” about the town (!) — the city, which was incorporated in 1852, was unincorporated in 1881.*

*The city finally — after three tries — voted to reincorporate in 1972.*

## “The Survey Says...”

**A recent survey at [www.lavergne.org](http://www.lavergne.org) revealed the following answers to the burning question, “Do you attend City Council meetings?”**

Yes	11% (14)	—
No	55% (58)	—————
Sometimes	11% (14)	—
I watch them on TV	22% (27)	—————
A total of 123 people voted in the survey.		

## Celebrate La Vergne to take place on 13th

The annual “Celebrate La Vergne” historical event will take place from 3—5 p.m. on March 13 at the Civic Auditorium, 283 Old Nashville Highway.

Stop by to learn interesting facts about La Vergne and meet some of those who’ve help shape our city in a number of ways.

For more info, call Angie at 4312 or 287-8690.



## ***Our Sympathy to:***

*Ricky Quinn*, whose sister **Linda** passed away in January.

The family of **Chuck Painter**, who passed away in early February. Painter owned Painter and Sons towing in La Vergne. His is one of the services that the Police Department uses for towing needs.

The family of **Tim Kirsch**, who passed away on Feb. 6. He was an umpire for the La Vergne Youth Baseball Association. He also was an umpire for the annual Just for Kicks kickball tournament.

*Jim Doxtater's* great-aunt, **Gladys Kanneigator** passed away in February.

So did *Jeremy Morris's* great-aunt, **Mildred Ditillo**.

*Terry Miller's* Step-Father, **Billy Rogers**, passed away in February.

## **Adult softball information**

***Sign-ups at Parks Building, 294 Sand Hill Road***

*March 1st-March 24th.*

*Opening Day will be March 29th.*

*The league plays at the adult softball league ball fields, beside the Multi-Purpose Building, behind City Hall.*

*The league is for Ages 18 +*

***Call Michael Tisdell***

***793-3224***

## ***Did you know?***

We used more than 200 tons of salt during the late January snow/ice storm?

Public Works crews worked extremely long hours making sure the roads in La Vergne were as clear as possible.

Comments? Call Public Works at 793-9891.

***The Library has 34,975 patrons, about 66,000 print items (books, magazines, etc.), 3,488 audio items (books on CD, cassette, music discs, etc.), and 3,383 video items (DVD and videotape).***

## ***Classifieds***

**Euro-gym** — similar to Chuck Norris' Total Gym (not XLS, 2000 or 3000). Like new. \$100. Call Angie, 4312.

**Harley Davidson** — 1997 HD Heritage Softtail FLHST, 1340 cc, more chrome than a '57 Caddy, 20,000 original miles, well-maintained, \$10,000 OBO. Call Harley, 796-3995.

**Wanted** — Tenor Sax. See JoAnn at City Hall or call her at 3272.