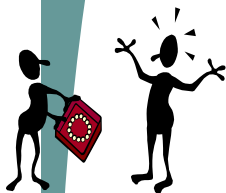


Happy Birthday

- Mike Smith, August 11
- Jody Nolan, August 21
- Adam Cooper, August 26
- Christina Crabtree, August 30
- Keith Zackery, September 9
- Kate Shannon, September 16
- Kristen Vineyard, September 25

Happy Anniversary

- Trudy Henry, 11 years in July
- Sue Roberts, 18 years in August
- Fay Puckett, 16 years in August
- Amanda Harden, Ryan Turner, Laurel Roysden, 2 years in August
- Tom Wall, 3 years in September
 - Keith Zackery, 2 years in September
 - Edmetris Moore & Katie Quinn, 1 year in August



911's 411

Volume 2, Issue 3

July—September 2005

Covington–Newton County 911 Center

United Way Contributions

The City of Covington has been contributing to the United Way for many, many years and some of you may already contribute to the cause, by having money taken out of your check every two weeks. The City is aiming for 100% participation this year!!

According to the United Way, the recommended donation amount is one hours wage per month, which can be divided and taken out of each pay check a month. However, Danny Stone a member of the United Way board and a former County Commissioner, said that every little bit counts so if you can't afford to contribute that much, even a dollar every pay check will help. The donations are tax deductible and can be claimed on your tax returns as charitable donations. All of the money given to the Newton County United Way stays in Newton County.

The Newton County United Way contributes to the following funds: American Red Cross, Boy Scouts of America–Yellow River District, Covington Family YMCA, Empty Stocking Fund, Food Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Mental Health Association of Newton County, Newton County Heart, Cancer and Emergency Relief, Newton County READS, Newton County Senior Services, Newton County Special Olympics, Project ReNeWal, The Alcove, The Learning Center, The Salvation Army, and Washington Street Community Center. You can give to the main fund for Newton County United Way and your donations will contribute to all of the programs above, but if you want to pick one of the programs and only donate to that program you can.

On September 16th, we got United Way pledge cards in our pay checks. They asked that each department donate a theme basket for a silent auction. The

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

Poker Run	2
911 Center Training	2
Ryan Turner's Ride—A—Long	2
United Way & Hurricane Katrina continued	3
A Trip to Forsyth	3
Games for Newsletter	3
Streets Word Search Puzzle	4

Hurricane Katrina – After the Storm

It is obvious, now looking back at what has happened to the inhabitants of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, that Hurricane Katrina will go down as the costliest, natural disaster in American history. However, it is not until you get to look people in the eye who have lost everything; possessions, homes, jobs, even family members that the actual extent of what happened hits home. Over the past two weeks, I have had the opportunity to meet many of these poor souls. Some of whom appear to have simply given up on life, some of whom display great tenacity and determination to make a better life for themselves. Then there are those people who had nothing before the storm, are now getting things for free they could

never afforded previously and see no reason to put forth any effort to change anything, after all why ruin a free ride??

Unfortunately, I also learned that people will not be denied when they want to do a good deed. I cannot even begin to count the number of times people who wanted to donate to the evacuees became incredibly hostile when told they couldn't donate their items at the camp. Some of these "do-gooders" actually got in to very aggravated arguments with those at the front gate. On a couple of occasions they literally had to be taken to the warehouse and shown just

how much the building was overflowing before they could be convinced that we were not rejecting their items because 'they' brought them but because we had no room for the stuff. I wish I could explain the things that some of the evacuees described about their experiences, some of them described entire city blocks disappearing under a wall of water. Others who lived farther inland described unbelievably powerful winds that uprooted trees, demolished buildings and hurled cars and trucks incredible distances. Most people will never know what these people have gone through. At times, I do find it easy to complain about the opportunities the evacuees are being given on a silver platter while others work and work but

(Continued on page 3)

Poker Run

We are currently in the process of planning a "Poker Run" as a fundraiser for our third year participating in the Relay for Life; the Poker Run will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2005. Erin and I decided to do a motorcycle event after we helped with the Ride for Matt Gunnin and Family last year; we had a good time and they raised a lot of money! Mike Smith suggested a Poker Run instead of a ride, because it involves more rider participation.

A Poker Run is an independent ride not a guided ride. There is a designated starting and stopping point and

time for everyone. The ride is mapped out and there are set places or "stops" that each rider must go to along the way. During the ride, everyone gets a poker card with five boxes. At each designated point, the riders are dealt a card and a volunteer marks the rider's poker card. The poker hands are judged and the rider with the highest and lowest hand winning a prize at the end.

Right now, we know the Poker Run is going to begin and end at Mickey Dee's in the Covington Crossing Shopping Center. This is a pivotal part of the planning process, Mike Smith and

Larry Westmoreland have a potential route mapped out, but they will have to test ride it before it is finalized. I would like to go ahead and thank the following people who have already given up some of their personal time to assist with planning and helping secure donations for the Poker Run: Katie Quinn, Christina Crabtree, Trudy Henry, Mike Smith, Larry Westmoreland, Erin Ruppel, and myself. In addition, thanks to Adam Cooper our D.J. (and will provide tents), along with D.J. Seals and Ryan Ralston from the Covington Police Department who have agreed to help as well.

However, we still need more volunteers and every little

bit counts, even if you are unable to attend every planning meeting you can still participate. We currently need sponsors for cash donations, door prizes, and raffle items. If you aren't interested in actually participating in the event itself, but know of anyone or any companies that would be willing to be a sponsor, please get with Erin or myself.

Thanks, once again, to EVERYONE who has supported our fundraising efforts for the American Cancer Society! This charity is very important to me, because many members of my family have been affected by cancer and I feel that the funding for a cure is beneficial to everybody!

911 Center Training

Recently, an e-mail was sent out inviting personnel to volunteer to be part of the newly formed training committee. Those that responded include: Sue Roberts, Christina Crabtree, Katie Quinn, Ryan Turner, Amanda Harden and Tom Wall. Our S.O.P. guidelines (T020 # III-E) for the committee state that the committee will consist of no more than eight members. If you are interested in becoming a member there are **two seats available**. The committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 3pm to 5pm here at the center. If anyone has an idea for a training class or knows someone who teaches a class that we might be interested in please get with one of the above members.

Training classes for September thru December.

CPR:

Instructor: Cindy Bentley

Sept. 21st noon to 4pm

Sept. 26th 10am to 2pm

Oct. 12th (checking on times)

Listening Skills:

Instructor: Lynda Ryder

Train the Trainer:

Instructor: Anessa Westmoreland

Nov. 8th 9am to 11am

Nov. 9th 1pm to 3pm

VOIP:

Instructor: Mike Smith

Looking ahead to 2006 we will be offering a Professionalism and a Security and Integrity class.

-Sue

"Truth does not become more true by virtue of the fact that the entire world agrees with it, nor less so even if the whole world disagrees with it."

-Maimonides

An Interactive Ride—A—Long, by Ryan Turner

I was riding with Doug Allen, 245, for my ride-a-long, with Covington Police Department. When Shane Brown, 250, attempted to stop a vehicle, Doug and I were just behind him. The car then took off down Petty Street. The chase was on. We followed the vehicle down Petty Street and took a right on Peoples Street. The car then turned right onto Chaney Drive as Shane followed the car, we saw the driver open the door and get ready to run on foot. Doug and I went down Peoples Street and turned onto Puckett Street. Doug then left me, all by myself, in the patrol car as he and Shane went 10-80 on foot. Well, somewhere along the way, they lost the perp. When I was sitting in the car, a male ran in front of it. I was about to get a description of the male but Sgt. Arvo Bowen, 204 beat me to it. When I heard the description of the male, I hopped on the radio and told 245 that the male had just run in front of his vehicle. Doug then got on his portable radio and told everybody the street he was running towards. About five seconds later, I saw Doug running back to the car, we then searched the area that I saw the male in but did not find him. After all that hard work and adrenaline running through the officers and myself, he still got away. I could tell the frustration they had because I had it in myself also. It was disappointing but those who run away live to be caught another day. I had a lot of fun on my ride-a-long.

(Continued from page 1)
911 Center came together and donated two baskets; a spa basket and a kitchen/cooking basket. A big thanks to everyone who contributed to the baskets.

-Anessa

still never get so far. I have to remind myself that they have gone through hell, in some fashion, and to some extent different for each one of them – but still their own private hell.

I think the most important thing I take away from this experience is this: all this time the people I have helped have been mere voices without any substance. Sometimes an irritation that went away as soon as I hung up the phone, they were always somebody else’s problem whether they needed a deputy, a police officer, the fire department, or an ambulance – when the line disconnected, I forgot about them and

moved on. The people who call 911 are real, with families and lives of their own, bills to pay, jobs to go to, a real life that has gone horribly wrong for some reason, and they have had to call 911. The people who are now leaving the FFA Camp are real, they have their own problems, they are not just something that can be forgotten when the phone is hung up. I can only hope that nothing like Katrina ever happens here, I do not ever want to be that voice on the other end of the phone line.

—Tom Wall

10 Georgia Agencies Share CAD

Ten public safety agencies in Newton County, Ga., purchased a \$1.6 million integrated public safety software package from Spillman Technologies featuring CAD, records management, fire/EMS management, mobile communications, and resource management capabilities. The system, acquired through a special sales tax approved by local voters, will enable the agencies to share data across the county and access information from federal and state databases. The Covington-Newton County 911 Communications Center will house the main server for the system, which will be maintained by a full-time system administrator.

July 2005 issue of Mission Critical Communications Magazine
www.mccmag.com

A Trip to Forsyth

It started out on an early foggy Monday morning. Krista traveled down to Larry’s 4-way, home of the greatest homemade biscuits in the world, to pick me up. We then were 10-76 to Sherbert’s 10-88. After picking up sleepyhead and trusting her directions, we headed down deer infested highway 83. We arrived in Forsyth, and figured out we had no idea of where to go. We spotted a local unit, so we flagged him down and Krista got out and got directions. She then got back in the car and said “Ok, so ya’ll know where to go?” We advised her that she was the one that had gotten directions, and we had no clue of what they said. We then were off again to figure out where to go. We finally found the road and Krista slammed on brakes and placed her hand on me to stop me from hitting the window. We finally saw other cars and followed them to the center. The security guard greeted us with a “Hey beautiful!” as he did every morning for the rest of the week. {of course,

he was talking to Sherbert and I, not Krista ;)} We then went to class and met lots of people from other parts of the state. We were liked by everyone and were recognized for representing Newton County, although we couldn’t convince them that we did not arrive on the short bus. Krista did 10-87 to the restroom, she walked by the toilet paper holder and it fell off of the wall, making a loud BANG! Sherbert then had to use the restroom. Another pointer, turn your phone off in class! I was embarrassed when Sweet Home Alabama started blaring while we were in class; the instructor called me a redneck and continued on teaching. During the week we did very well in class, but had a lot of trouble keeping up with our receipts. We breezed thru the class and the practicals, but beware if you are from Newton County, they will pick on you! Also, pointers for doing the practicals, THEY CAN SEE YOU! Do not say curse words, they can read your lips! Do not pick your nose, etc, they are watching!! We did learn a lot and came home with a certificate after passing our tests with flying colors. We

“Praise those of your critics for whom nothing is up to standard.”

-Dag Hammarskjöld

Newsletter Games

On the back page of this quarter’s newsletter is a new game. This time Anessa Westmoreland and Christina Crabtree created a word search puzzle using some common streets found in Newton County.

I have created some “clues” for the street names that are found in the puzzle to make this game a little more challenging. Some of the clues are hard and some of them are quite easy. I got most of my “facts” of the internet & they shouldn’t be that difficult to search if you wanted.

I would like to continue these games and puzzles—and put some of them on our web-site too. Anyone that wants to make up a game either by yourself or with some help, please send Adam and I a copy of the game so that I can include it in the next newsletter and Adam can get it on our web-site.

The first person to submit the answers to the clues for the streets and find all the names in the word search will get a special word search prize! I am sorry to those of you that helped create the puzzle, but you will not be eligible to win this time—but maybe next time you will. When you finish the puzzle, please e-mail me (so I know what time you finished) and leave the answers and a copy of your puzzle in my box.

I hope you enjoy this and all the future games! Erin



A recent visit from Past APCO President Vincent Stiles to our center in July. Mr. Stiles was here helping out with a promotional video that was filmed at our Center on VoIP that will be aired on APCO TV in Denver.

Covington-Newton County 911 Center

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Striving for Excellence



Covington-Newton
County 911

A	T	H	O	M	P	S	O	N	B	C	D	A	C	A	D	E	M	Y	E
N	H	A	R	T	S	O	O	K	M	L	R	C	I	K	J	I	H	G	F
O	E	P	Q	E	R	S	A	A	U	A	V	C	W	L	X	Y	Z	A	B
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M	A	H	D	E	E	N	O	P	E	Q	R	R	A	I	L	R	O	A	D
Y	S	X	W	V	U	S	T	S	S	A	D	D	L	E	B	R	O	O	K

This **road** is in the west has several businesses, including Dale Etheridge Auto

This **street** is in the city the name also can be used at war time

This **drive** has many different names that can sometimes be confusing, but it doubles as a mascot for a high school

There is a business that backs up to this, has an address using it, however it faces Hwy 142/Hazelbrand Rd.

This **road** is in the east and runs off Poplar Hill Rd

There are three of these **streets**, one in Jamestown/one in Porterdale/one in Mansfield and is a BIG tree

This **drive** is in the west, if the name is broken into two words the first is a big tree and the second is a body of water,

This **avenue** is actually a paved road, if you weren't careful you might think a train could drive on it

This **circle** is in the west is a dark brown/black mammal found in Siberia

This **road** starts off of Hwy 212 goes into Jasper County near Jackson Lake

This **drive** is in zone 2 runs between Newton Drive & West Street

This **court** is a girl's name, in the west, its Greek meaning is 'victory' & 'people'

This **drive** is in zone 4, is a girl's name, a village in Ireland that is the home of ancient Irish Kings, a famous plantation in south GA

This **drive** is in zone 1 super heroes sometimes wear one

This **lane** is in the west, if you remove the (s) it can be an ancient city in Ireland, Rocky used to yell this out to his wife

This is a **parkway**, is in the west, runs off of Christian Circle

There are two of these **streets**, one in Oxford & one in zone 3, one of the first 8 Crayola Colors introduced in 1903

Break this **court** in two words, one is what you sit on to ride a horse, one is a small body of water that your horse drinks out of

This **way** is a type of nut that squirrels eat from big trees – if they don't first fall all over your yard, it is in the south

This **trace** is in the west it was an elite female college established in 1879 that later combined with Harvard

This **court** is in the west, is a female name, its Greek meaning is 'pure'

This **lane** is in the north & is near City Pond Rd (**hint** starts with an 'O')

This **court** is in the west, it is one word, in Parkscapes Subdivision

This **trail** is in the south, North American Indians, located in New Mexico and Arizona – making the largest tribal group in the US

This **street** is in zone 4, female name, Geena Davis' character in a movie from 1991, the mother in the TV show "Mama's Family"

This **avenue** is in zone 2 and 3, it can be a Scottish surname, it has the word 'son' in it

This **street** is also known as Hwy 11 & Covington has a bank named after it

This **road** is in Mansfield, is the name of a town in Massachusetts, near Boston, an English surname

This **street** is in zone 1 was first used as a surname in England around 1066AD, during the Norman conquest

This **drive** is in zone 2 houses the business 'Triple Horse Production'

This **road** is in the west off of Kirkland Rd, is an English surname, the first US settlers came to Texas from England

This **road** runs along side I 20

This **street** is in zone 4 means free from blemish/imperfection/or any impairments

This **road** is in the west, is partially in Rockdale County, when two of these get close they either attract or repel

This **drive** is in the west in the Silos of Ellington – can be described as an area suitable for growing crops for milk cows

This **court** is in Oxford can be a secondary school

This **road** is in the west, is a Scottish surname, is a town in central Washington

This **circle** is a male name, in the south, is the name of a jewelry company in Atlanta

This **road** is in the south, is an English surname, is a city in Massachusetts, is off of Flat Shoals Rd

This **street** is in zone 4, is a natural elevation in the earth's surface, is an English surname