



Vernon Township

2025 Year In Review

Serving Our Community with Pride and Dedication



A Message from Trustee Florence May

Reflecting on 7 Years of Growth

Dear Residents of Vernon Township,

As we reflect on 2025, I am pleased to share this Year in Review highlighting the progress that defined the past year. Continued growth in McCordsville, Fortville, and our unincorporated area brought increased expectations for high-quality services and responsible stewardship.

The Vernon Township Fire Department added a life-saving Whole Blood program in partnership with the American Red Cross, expanded operational capabilities with drone technology for search and rescue, and secured funding for the Township's first ladder truck (quint) with delivery anticipated in Summer 2026. Most importantly, we received approval of our Growth Appeal to fund critical staffing for a second ambulance. With nearly 2,000 emergency runs per year and 21 percent call overlap, this second ambulance is essential for timely emergency response. The new training room, completed summer 2025, now hosts fire, EMS, library, and educational programs that strengthen collaboration across departments.

Township Assistance applications increased as population growth and rising costs strained households. Our FARM (food pantry) partnership became more vital as federal services reduced. Community Garden production increased dramatically with Master Gardener support, and our second year of Junior Green Thumb met with strong participation. We concluded the year coordinating the CASA Care Bag program, providing essential items to 170 children after removed from their homes; provided 42 immediate care meal bags during the SNAP crisis and hosting the New Year's Eve Library program.

This report includes a "by the numbers" overview tracking trends from 2019 through 2025, reflecting substantial growth in McCordsville and Fortville—new subdivisions, business development, and school expansion—translating directly into increased service demand.

New State laws took Township funds for road funding and tested our ability to continue all components of the strategic plan. Despite these challenges, Vernon Township continues strict accountability as demonstrated in our successful State Board of Accounts audit.

I am deeply proud of the talented individuals who make this work possible: Vernon Township staff, Fire Department, Township Board, Fire Territory Board, Building Corporation Board, and Vernon Township Merit Board. Our success results from their shared commitment to teamwork, constant improvement, and service to our community.

Thank you for the trust you place in Vernon Township. It is an honor to serve as your Trustee, and I look forward to continuing this work together as we plan for the future.

Sincerely,

Florence May

Vernon Township Trustee



Board Members

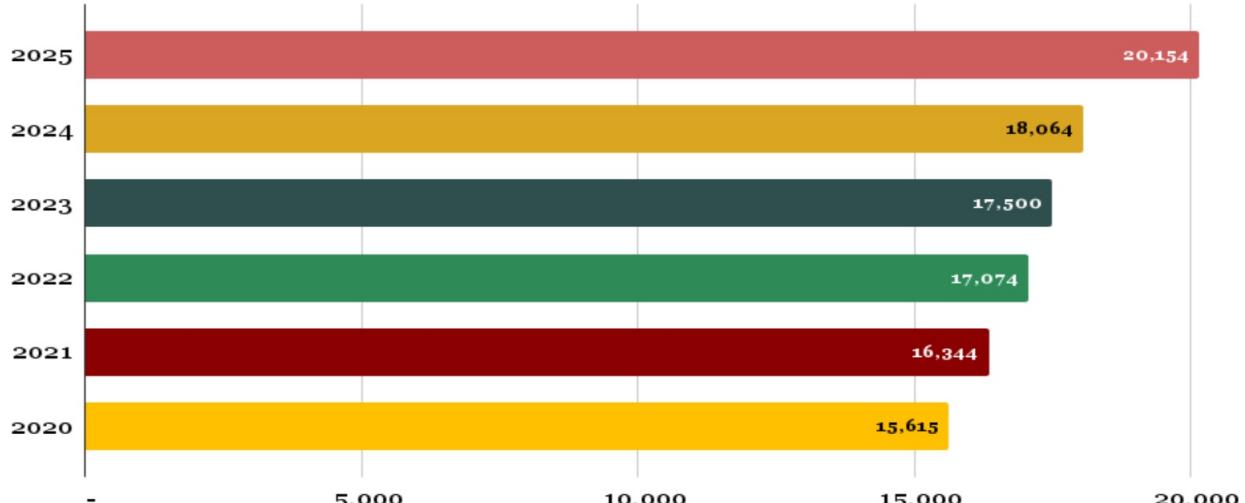


Vernon Township Office

SECTION ONE

Population Growth

Vernon Township Population Growth 2020-2025



4,539
NEW RESIDENTS

29.1%
TOTAL GROWTH



NineStar Connect Grand Opening in McCordsville (credit: Tom Russo - Daily Reporter)



Prana IV Hydration & Wellness Clinic
Grand Opening in Fortville (photo
credit: Instagram prana_iv_wellness)

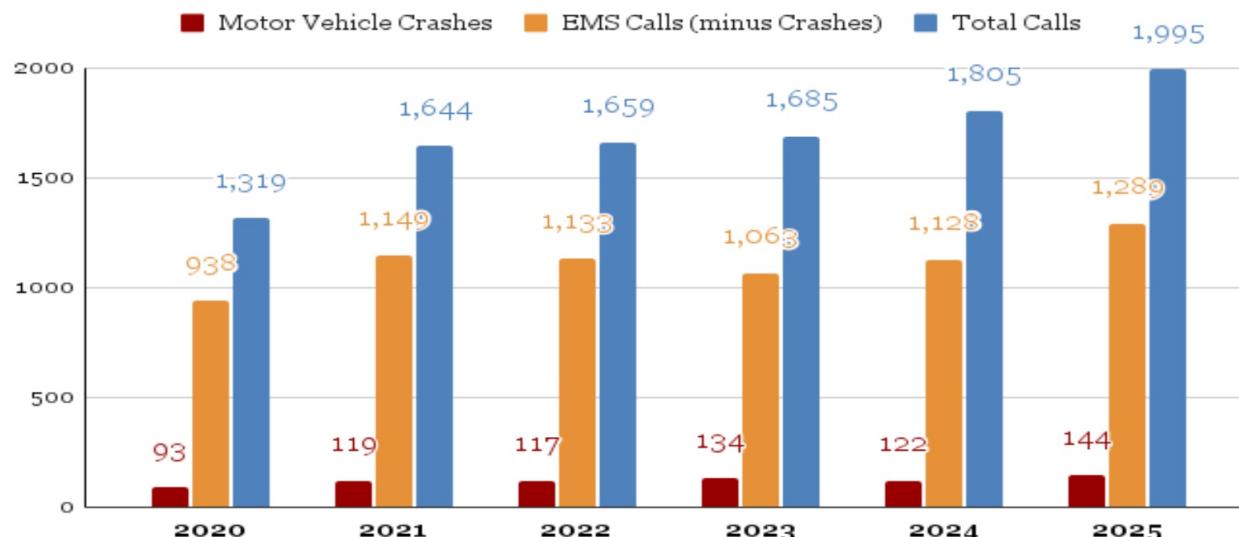


Mt Vernon Elementary School Ribbon Cutting (credit: Shelley Swift - Daily Reporter)

SECTION TWO

Fire & Emergency Medical Services

Motor Vehicle Crashes, EMS Calls (minus Crashes) and Total Calls



Major Milestones: Vernon Township Fire Department

The Vernon Township Fire Department continues to expand its capabilities to serve our growing community. In 2025, the Department added a life-saving Whole Blood program in partnership with the American Red Cross; expanded operational capabilities with drone technology for search and rescue, and invested funds in Trustindiana for the Township's first ladder truck (quint) with delivery anticipated in Summer 2026. Most importantly, we received approval of our Growth Appeal to fund critical staffing for a second ambulance. With nearly 2,000 emergency runs per year and 21 percent call overlap, this second ambulance is essential for timely emergency response. The new training room, completed summer 2025, now hosts fire, EMS, library, and educational programs that strengthen education for our public safety professionals, staff and the public.



TFD Chief Mark Elder and Director Noah Jaehnert demonstrate the department's new drone for fire rescue operations (credit: Tom Russo - Daily Reporter)



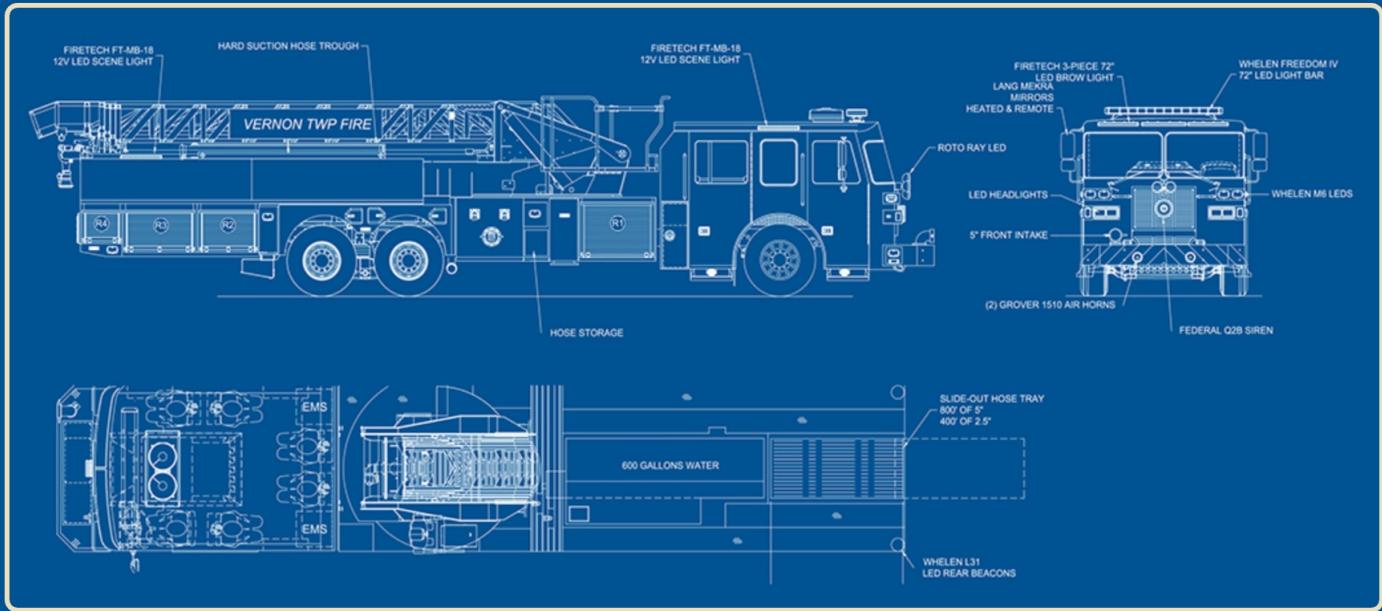
VTFD firefighters saved a woman's life using their new whole blood program to treat a postpartum hemorrhage (credit: Vernon Township Fire Department)



VTFD received growth appeal funding which allows the hiring of manpower for the second ambulance in 2026.

SECTION EIGHT

Coming Soon in 2026



Vernon Township enters 2026 focused on strengthening essential services. Key initiatives include:

Expanded Emergency Medical Services

Growth Appeal funding will allow VTFD to staff a second ambulance, addressing increased call volume and improving emergency medical coverage.

New Ladder Truck (Quint) - Summer 2026

The Fire Department's first Ladder Truck arrives Summer 2026, enhancing fire suppression and rescue capabilities for multi-story and commercial structures.

McCordsville Township Assistance Office Hours

Starting March 2026, Township Assistance services will be available at McCordsville Town Hall, improving access for residents seeking housing and utility assistance.

Community Health Fair

In partnership with local healthcare providers and community organizations, the Township will host a Health Fair offering screenings, safety information, and resources.

These initiatives reflect Vernon Township's commitment to public safety, fiscal responsibility, and community well-being.

SECTION NINE

Vernon Township Staff

Vernon Township Board

Tim Plank - Board Chair
Dave Hawkins*

Mary Beth Sears
Larry Longman**

*Stepped down in December 2025

**Effective January 5, 2026

Vernon Township Fire Protection Territory Board

Florence May - Board Chair
Greg Brewer
Tonya Drake Davis
Chief Mark Elder - Ex-Officio

Vernon Township Building Corp.

Jeff Augustinovicz - Board Chair
Brendan Hartnett
Robert Holland

Vernon Fire Department Merit Board

Florence May - Board Chair
Greg Brewer
Tonya Drake Davis
Chief Mark Elder - Ex-Officio
Jeff Augustinovicz - Board Chair

Vernon Township Staff

Florence May - Trustee
Mark Elder - Fire Department Chief
Jenny Kriger - Township Assistance Manager
Stacy Nielsen - Director of Administration



Vernon Township Fire Department Administration

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Fortville, IN 46040
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www.vernontownship.us

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