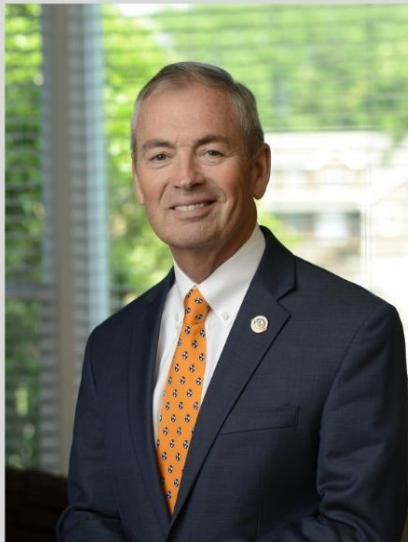




# THE COUNTY CONNECTION

A Monthly Newsletter from Mayor Randall Hutto  
Mt. Juliet | Lebanon | Watertown



## *In this newsletter:*

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**Commissioner Spotlight:  
Chris Dowell, District 15**  
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**SALT Ministries Announces  
Open Food Pantry Dates**  
(Page 05)

**Tennessee Attorney  
General Issues Consumer  
Alert: Scam Home Warranty  
Letters**  
(Page 07)

## *A Word from Mayor Hutto...*

When we look at the American flag, we see stars, stripes, and the colors red, white, and blue. Every school-aged child learns about our nation's flag, designed to represent our fifty states and the thirteen original colonies. However, our nation's flag holds more meaning than only that of its past and present-day. In fact, the American flag has a history just as intricate as the United States itself. In 1777, the Continental Congress passed an act establishing an official flag for United States, which said: "Resolved, that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." While our flag has changed gradually throughout the years, its meaning has remained the same. Each component has its own significance, just as the white stars on the blue background represent a new constellation. The color red was chosen because it represents valor, courage and readiness to sacrifice. The color white stands for purity and innocence. Pure, because we are independent from other countries and hold true to our ideals. Blue signifies justice for all, as well as vigilance and perseverance. With the Fourth of July just around the corner, we have several upcoming events to look forward to, one of these being the Field of Flags (see page 02). I encourage everyone to stop by and observe the hundreds of awe-inspiring flags, which signify much more than just our nation, but also its citizens, dreams, and values. With that said, I wish you all a safe and Happy Fourth of July!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randall Hutto".

# Commissioner Spotlight: Chris Dowell District 15



### Contact INFORMATION

816 Lovers Lane  
Lebanon, TN 37087

+615-812-2972

## Wilson County **LANDFILL**

7:00AM-3:00PM  
MONDAY - FRIDAY

FIRST SATURDAY OF  
EACH MONTH  
8:00AM - NOON

ALL LOADS MUST BE  
CHECKED INTO THE  
SCALE HOUSE BY 2:30 P.M.

PLEASE DIRECT  
QUESTIONS  
TO 615.449.6684

# FIELD OF FLAGS JULY 1-4, 2022

LEBANON, TENNESSEE

### BENEFITING:

American Legion Post 15,  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Post 5015, Vietnam Veterans  
of America, Chapter 1004,  
and Associates Vietnam  
Veterans of America,  
Chapter 1004. Inc.



Purchase and  
dedicate a  
flag.

SCAN ME



*"Year of Hay"*

# TENNESSEE

## STATE FAIR

**AUGUST 18-27, 2022**

[www.wilsoncountyfair.net](http://www.wilsoncountyfair.net)



### 95 Reasons to Celebrate Tennessee

**LEBANON  
YOUTH  
BASEBALL**

# FALLBALL REGISTRATION STARTS NOW!

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER...  
FRIDAY AUGUST 5TH**

PLAYERS REGISTERED AFTED DEADLINE WILL  
BE PLACED ON WAITLIST



VISIT WEBSITE TO REGISTER!

[WWW.LEBANONYOUTHBASEBALL.NET](http://WWW.LEBANONYOUTHBASEBALL.NET)



**July 01**  
National Postal  
Worker Day

**July 04**  
Independence Day

**July 17**  
Nat'l Ice Cream Day

**July 24**  
Parents' Day

**July 26**  
Aunt & Uncle's Day

**July 27**  
Korean War Veterans  
Armistice Day

**National Parks &  
Recreation Month**

Happy 4th of July!

Wilson County Government Offices will be closed on Monday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

Offices will return to work at their regular business hours on Tuesday, July 5th.



CITY OF MT. JULIET

# 4TH of JULY

**JULY 4TH 2022 • BEGINS AT 9PM**

FREE PARKING AT MT. JULIET LEAGUE

- FOOD TRUCKS
- FIREWORKS

10835 LEBANON RD. MT. JULIET TN 37122

94 FM THE FISH 93.7 | 94.1 | 104.9

KONA ICE, Hot Dog Mamma's, BRASIED COCONUT, Bag Lady's, SNACK BARR



# STARS STRIPES AND SQUIRTGUNS

City of Watertown

**INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE  
"Stars Stripes and Squirt Guns"  
Monday, July 4th 3:00 PM**

★ THE CITY OF LEBANON PRESENTS ★

# 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY

CELEBRATION

★ ★ ★

**MONDAY JULY 4, 2022**

★ ★ ★

FREE EVENT / FREE PARKING / FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT NOON / FIREWORKS AT 9PM  
 CAR SHOW / CRAFT TABLE / INFLATABLES / SELFIE PHOTO BOOTHS / FREE HOT DOGS / FREE WATERMELON  
 BALLOON ARTIST / FACE PAINTING / LEBANON POLICE DISPLAY / FIDDLERS GROVE OPEN  
 AWARD WINNING EVERMEAN EVERGREEN CLOGGERS / SWEETNS BAND / GLENN MARTIN DUO (JAZZ)

**JAMES E. WARD AGRICULTURAL CENTER**

945 E BADDOUR PKWY, LEBANON, TN 37087

## SALT MINISTRIES ANNOUNCES OPEN FOOD PANTRY DATES

SALT ministries has opened its pantry to Wilson County residents from 9am-12pm on the second Saturday of each month. This will be in addition to their regularly scheduled food deliveries. The pantry will not open in months when a mobile food pantry is scheduled, but those needing food may receive it at the mobile food pantry. (See schedule below.)

While anyone in need may receive food, those wishing to receive the additional food offered through the USDA should bring the following information which will allow us to qualify them to receive it:

Monthly household income, or  
Proof of receipt of one of the following benefits:

- SNAP (food stamps)
- Residence in public housing
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Families First
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Including the USDA food allows SALT ministries to frequently provide additional food that they don't always otherwise have available such as dairy items, fresh fruits and vegetables, and meats.

### 2022 Open Pantry or Mobile Pantry Dates

**June 11 (Open Pantry)**  
**July 9 (Mobile Pantry)**  
**August 13 (Open Pantry)**  
**September 10 (Open Pantry)**  
**October 15 (Mobile Pantry)**  
**November 12 (Open Pantry)**  
**December 10 (Open Pantry)**

The SALT pantry is located at **7019 Hickory Ridge Rd., Lebanon** behind the Leeville United Methodist Church. You may contact them at [SALT2015@gmail.com](mailto:SALT2015@gmail.com) or 615-965-5361 (leave message). We are also on Facebook (SALT Foodbox Ministry) and on <https://www.salt-ministry.org/>.

FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

# ROCK THE BLOCK

DOWNTOWN LEBANON'S HISTORIC SQUARE

**PRESENTED BY:**



**May 27 | June 24 | July 29**  
**Fridays 6-9pm**  
**LIVE MUSIC, FOOD TRUCKS, FASHION & FUN!**

**OTHER EVENT SPONSORS:**



**NEED AN EXCUSE FOR AN ICE-COLD TREAT?**



**JULY IS NAT'L ICE CREAM MONTH & NAT'L WATERMELON MONTH!**



*Mayor Hutto*  
**OUT AND ABOUT**



## **TENNESSEE ATTORNEY GENERAL ISSUES CONSUMER ALERT: SCAM HOME WARRANTY LETTERS**

The Division of Consumer Affairs (DCA) in the Tennessee Attorney General's Office is warning homeowners about a home warranty scam.

The letter urges Tennessee homeowners to purchase a home warranty claiming the current home warranty "may be expiring or may have already expired." Each letter contains the same claim, even if the homeowner has never purchased a home warranty. The letter also heavily implies an affiliation with the homeowner's mortgage company and the "county deed records" office. The people responsible for these letters are in no way affiliated with the homeowner's mortgage company or the Register of Deeds office.

The letter asks for a response to the notice by a certain date and threatens that failing to respond could result in a potential loss of coverage. Solicitations that use threatening language or unnecessary urgency are almost always a scam.

Many consumers wonder how these scammers know the name of their mortgage company. Some information about mortgages, such as the name of your lender and servicer, are public record and that information can be found online. These scammers use the name of your mortgage company in the letter in order to appear legitimate.

If you are interested in purchasing a home warranty with a legitimate company, we strongly encourage you to do thorough research as well as check with the Better Business Bureau for reputable companies. As for these letters from Home Warranty Direct, it is recommended that they be ignored and discarded.

If you have received this letter or one like it you can file a complaint with DCA here:

<https://www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral/working-for-tennessee/file-a-consumer-complaint.html>.

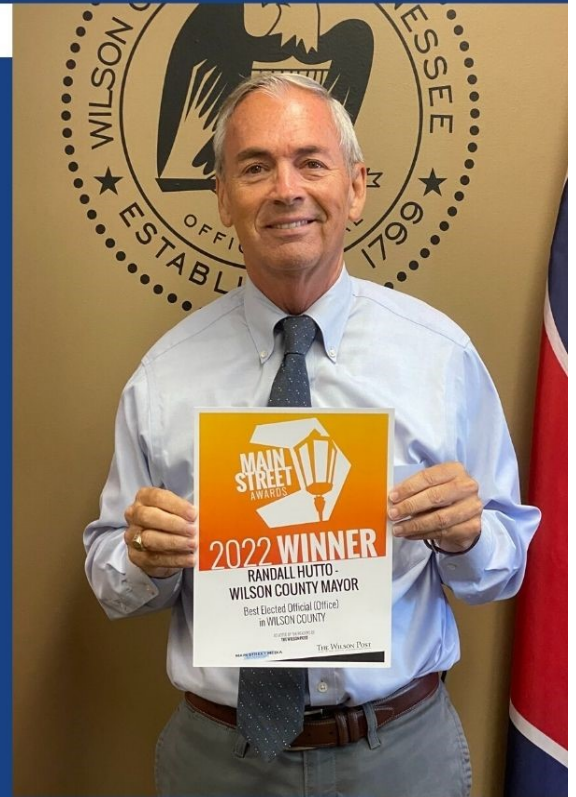
## **STATE FEE WAIVED ON VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS STARTING JULY 01**

The Tennessee General Assembly has waived state registration fees for Class A and Class B motor vehicles, for renewals after July 1, 2022 and before June 30, 2023. The state portion of the fee that is waived under this law is \$16.75 for Class A (motorcycles and autocycles) and \$23.75 for Class B (motor vehicles and motor homes). Other fees that are earmarked for safety and system improvement purposes, as well as the additional electric vehicle registration fee and county fees, are *not* waived under the new law. More information can be found by reading Important Notice #22-12 on the Department of Revenue's website, [www.tn.gov/revenue](http://www.tn.gov/revenue).

# MAIN STREET MEDIA AWARDS

T H A N K   Y O U !

"I'm honored to be the winner for the '2022 Best Elected Official' Main Street Awards. I work with the best team, serving the best people. Thank you all so much!"  
- Randall Hutto, Wilson County Mayor



## STAY SAFE WHILE HAVING FUN IN THE SUN!

### Sunscreen is key.

Always use sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30 to protect your skin against harmful UV rays.

### Wear protective clothing.

Try to wear clothing that covers most of your body, too.

### Hydrate!

Drink at least 6 to 8 glasses of water a day to avoid dehydration.

### Shade, shade, shade.

Wear sunglasses, a hat, or use an umbrella to protect your eyes and body.

### Re-apply SPF!

Re-apply SPF every two hours to ensure maximum protection from the sun.



## BRENT BISHOP MEMORIAL SIGNS UNVEILED ON CAINSVILLE ROAD

Last month, portion of Cainsville Road was named in honor of Brent O'Neal Bishop, a 17-year-old Wilson County citizen who lost his life in 1985 in a tragic car accident. The son of Coach Jerry and Carolyn Bishop, Brent was active in church and school activities, and he was known as an outstanding young man. We are pleased that Brent's memory could be honored in this way!



## AGRIBUSINESSES CAN APPLY FOR AG ENTERPRISE FUND COST SHARES

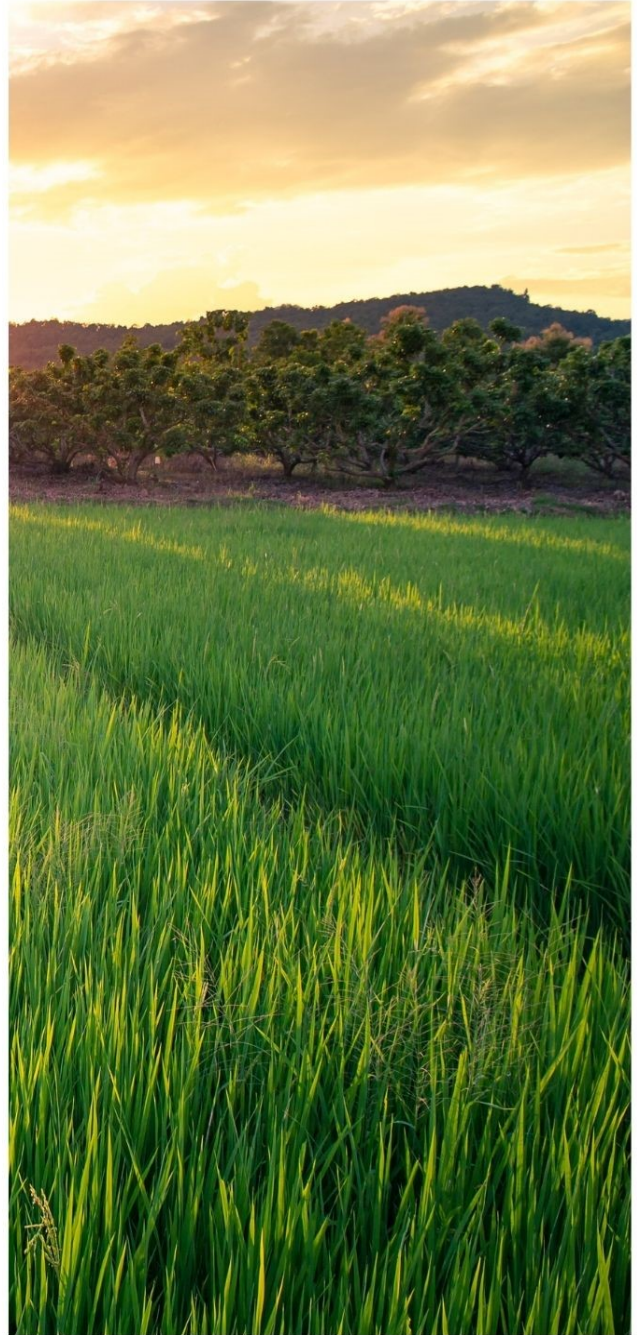
The Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) is accepting applications from agricultural, food, and forestry businesses to receive cost-share funding through its Agricultural Enterprise Fund (AEF) program.

AEF grants are awarded to agricultural businesses in Tennessee that demonstrate a potential for impact on local farm income, access to markets, increased capacity, or agricultural innovation. The program prioritizes businesses located in or adjacent to economically at-risk or distressed counties.

“The strategic investments made from the AEF program have shown to create a \$17.55 economic impact from every dollar we put in,” Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, D.V.M. said. “Ag and forestry businesses that are starting out or investing in their growth are ideal applicants for the program. We want to help strengthen those businesses to support cumulative economic improvements in the communities they serve.”

The application for the AEF program can be found online at [agriculture.tn.gov/AEF/AEF\\_Application/Create](http://agriculture.tn.gov/AEF/AEF_Application/Create), and **the deadline to apply is July 15, 2022**. Businesses must include proof of financing and a business plan with their application for it to be considered.

Since 2017, the Agricultural Enterprise Fund has awarded nearly \$7 million in funding, leading to more than \$98 million in private investments from agriculture and forest-product business development. You will find more information about the Tennessee Agricultural Enterprise Fund at [www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/aef.html](http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/aef.html) or by emailing Will Freeman at [william.h.freeman@tn.gov](mailto:william.h.freeman@tn.gov).



## TAEP PROJECT INVESTS IN TENNESSEE FARMS

The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) provides cost share dollars to farmers to make long-term investments on TN farms and in rural communities. Since 2006, the TAEP has paid for 1,682 projects in Wilson County, worth \$4.1 million dollars. Learn more about TAEP at [www.tn.gov/taep](http://www.tn.gov/taep)

(615) 837- 5160 | [WWW.TN.GOV/TAEP](http://WWW.TN.GOV/TAEP)



The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program provides cost share dollars to agricultural producers for the purpose of making long-term investments on Tennessee farms and in rural communities. The annual application period is October 1-7, 2022. New application materials will be available mid-August 2022.



## TDOT LAUNCHES NEW MAINTENANCE HOTLINE

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) launched a new hotline for drivers to report potholes and other maintenance issues that may be considered roadway safety hazards. The new hotline number is **833-TDOTFIX (836-8349)**. The virtual call center operates Monday – Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Citizens will have the option to leave a message during holidays, weekends, and after hours or call back during business hours.

TDOT must collect as much relevant information as possible about a maintenance work request. The call center agent will ask the driver a series of questions and submit that information through TDOT's online maintenance work request form.

Drivers should remember the Tennessee's Hands-Free Law when calling the hotline. Citizens can still alert TDOT to potholes and other maintenance issues by using the online form on their website. For maintenance issues on county roads, please call the Wilson County Road Commission at 615-444-9022.



## Watertown, TN JAZZ FESTIVAL

A FULL DAY OF LIVE MUSIC AND GREAT FOOD ON THE HISTORIC WATERTOWN, TN SQUARE!

JULY 16TH, 2022

## 150,000TH LITTLE FREE LIBRARY UNVEILED IN LEBANON

Summer is here and school is out! So what better way is there to keep both children and adults learning than by reading?

Last month, the 150,000th "Little Free Library" was unveiled right here in Lebanon, Tennessee! Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization with a goal of providing communities with free 24/7 book access to combat the literacy crisis and encourage those who love to read. The tiny libraries can be found around the globe, and with ours being the 150,000th, a special celebration was held. Children's author Tami Charles read her book "All Because You Matter" during the grand opening. Furthermore, John Carter Cash (son of Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash) and his wife, Ana Christina Cash, were present to give a live performance. Others in attendance for the library's unveiling included Mid-Cumberland Head Start, the national Little Free Library nonprofit organization, and various special guests.

The newest Little Free Library can be found near the Mid-Cumberland Head Start School on Newbell Street. If you're in the area, stop by and see what books it has, or even donate a few of your own! Visit [LittleFreeLibrary.org](http://LittleFreeLibrary.org) to find a tiny library near you!



## COMMUNITY PARK OPENS IN LEBANON'S 6TH WARD

This month is National Parks and Recreation Month, so we're shedding a spotlight on the newest park in our area! The City of Lebanon was pleased to open their sixth district's first community park in June! This park includes a paved loop for walking, a playground, open grassy areas, and a pavilion with restrooms. The park was funded in partnership with Goodall Homes and the City of Lebanon.

We would like to send a special thank you to all of those who made this possible for our youth! The playground is located right off of Cairo Bend Road, so be sure to stop by and check it out with your youngsters if you haven't already!



## MAYOR HUTTO ASSISTS HOSPITAL IN HEART ATTACK DRILL

Last month, Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto assisted the Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital (VWCH) in a STEMI drill. For the drill, Mayor Hutto arrived at the VWCH emergency department and made the complaint of having “chest pains.” This began a timed and live test of the hospital’s ability to treat a patient having a heart attack, including having intervention within 90 minutes from the patient’s arrival at the hospital.

“These types of drills are very important for staff to be aware of any potential barriers so that we can treat the patient as quickly and efficiently as possible,” said Steven Katz, M.D., medical director, Emergency Services at VWCH. “We look for anything that can be streamlined. When it comes to heart attack patients, getting the vessel open and blood flowing is our focus.”

The VWCH is currently an accredited Chest Pain Center and now can actively treat patients that have a ST Segment Myocardial Infarction (STEMI), better known as a heart attack, at the Lebanon campus. They have a goal to provide additional coverage and expand to 24/7 Cath Lab coverage soon.

“This was an awesome experience. I really felt cared for and comforted through it all,” said Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto. “It was an eye opener to what a jewel we have in Wilson County. Thank you for allowing me to participate.”

Vanderbilt LifeFlight has an extensive network of air and ground ambulances to transport patients with critical time sensitive needs. In Lebanon a Vanderbilt LifeFlight ambulance is based next to the hospital, and a helicopter is just minutes away in Gallatin, Tennessee. LifeFlight ground EMS operates these emergency interfacility transports to help take the burden off local EMS and let them focus on 911 calls. If weather does not permit for a helicopter to fly, the ground ambulance is available.





**Smith Brothers Produce**

## WHAT IS RAISED AND ROOTED WILSON COUNTY?

Each year Leadership Wilson selects approximately 30 participants from the business, education, civic, religious and government communities of Wilson County. These individuals are provided a comprehensive leadership training opportunity through experiential learning, daylong seminars, group discussions, field trips and retreats which creates a forum to exchange ideas and discuss areas of interest. Each class presents the opportunity to understand and analyze a particularly important segment of the county, including government, health care and social services, agriculture, business and industry, public safety, education and quality of life.

After the energy gained from Agriculture Day, a certain group of participants in the 2022 Leadership Wilson class decided they were going to work together to increase the accessibility and awareness of the farm fresh products available here in our county. They knew we had the farms, the products, the people – we were only missing the convenience of bringing all together in a more usable format and that is what Raised and Rooted Wilson County is here to achieve!

Wilson County enjoys the access of over fifty working farms and farmers who were willing and excited to share their information and products with us to make this social media campaign possible. (The list is actually growing daily!) Although there is a broad range of products available locally, we have chosen specifically to focus on beef, pork, poultry, eggs, dairy, fruits, and vegetables as we felt these are in highest in demand among the average consumers.

## WHAT IS OUR FOCUS?

It's simple - our focus is to bring awareness to the fantastic resources we have available in Wilson County and to encourage consumers to shop local and farm fresh.



**Steed Market Farm**



**Servant Farms**

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Like and Follow Our Page
- Interact with the Community - Make Comments, Share Post, Ask Questions!
- Invite Others to Join the Raised and Rooted Community
- Make a Purchase from a Local Wilson County Farmer
- Share Your Local Farm Fresh Experience with a Friend or Family Member



*Follow Along!*

# WE'RE READY.

Proactively working to bring students back to college.



tnAchieves is introducing a reimagined mentoring program in 2023 to combat a nine percentage point drop in the state's college-going rate since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The mentoring program will combine proven, time-tested strategies with virtual tools to allow volunteers to make a greater impact for local students pursuing a post-secondary degree.

The fundamentals of tnAchieves mentoring will remain the same; however, the 2023 mentoring role will introduce several key elements that lead to a longer-lasting, more meaningful mentor/student connection.

**Mentors will return to an in-person meeting with their students.** For the first time since the pandemic, mentors will gather at a tnAchieves team meeting in December or January to begin relationship building with their assigned students.

**Mentors will begin work with their 2023 students earlier than ever before.** tnAchieves will provide mentors with their student's contact information in November of 2022, allowing mentors to have earlier access to their students during their college-going planning.

**tnAchieves will continue to leverage familiar virtual tools.** During the pandemic, tnAchieves introduced online tools to assist mentors in maintaining effective student connections. The mentoring role will continue to rely on and encourage use of these tools for effective mentoring.

"We are incredibly excited to be announcing these updates to the mentoring program," said tnAchieves Senior Director of Mentors Tyler Ford. "By providing our volunteers with earlier access to their students and facilitating an in-person meeting opportunity, we believe tnAchieves mentors will play a significant role in reversing some of the downward trends we have seen through the pandemic."

While tnAchieves mentors will support students in completing requirements and navigating the college-going process, their greatest impact may be in the encouragement and support they provide to students. Ultimately, any individual who has one hour per month and is committed to making a difference in the lives of local students can serve as an effective tnAchieves mentor.

To ensure every student is supported, tnAchieves needs more than 9,000 mentors by October 21, 2022. Mentoring takes just one hour per month and all volunteers are provided a training as well as ongoing support from the tnAchieves team. **Those interested in applying or learning more can visit <https://tnAchieves.org/mentors>.**