



THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



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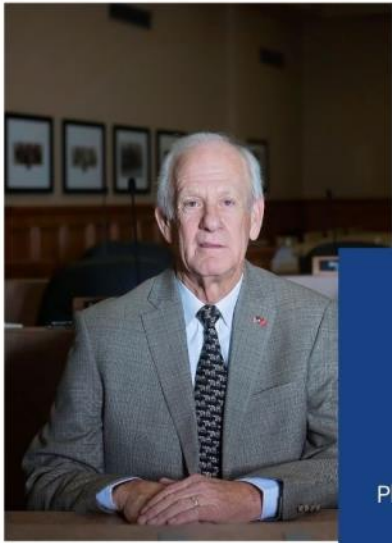
**Grocery & Other Tax
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A Word from Mayor Hutto...

It's an honor to be a public servant. As County Mayor, I am grateful for the privilege to serve my home community, and I am not alone. Wilson County is blessed to be filled with public servants from all walks of life. Last month, the Wilson County Emergency Management Agency held a graduation ceremony for their class of recruits. *(See photos on page 05)*. These individuals went through countless hours of training, much of it physically and mentally exhausting. It takes a calling to pursue a career such as theirs. We sincerely thank all our first responders and EMS personnel for their service to our community. Congratulations, Class of 2023!

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

**Commissioner Spotlight:
Robert Fields
District 1 Commissioner**



Contact
INFORMATION

Phone: 615-519-1819

**Wilson County
LANDFILL**

**MONDAYS - FRIDAYS
7:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

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

CLOSED JUNETEENTH

**PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS
TO 615.449.6684**



Happy Juneteenth

Wilson County Government Offices, Convenience Centers, and Landfill will be closed on Monday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth and will re-open at their regular business hours on Tuesday, June 20th. We wish you all a Happy Juneteenth!

COUNTING DOWN 'TILL FAIR TIME!

Who's ready for the BEST 10 Days of the Year at the Wilson County – Tennessee State Fair?! Delicious fair food, memorable times with your family and friends and laughter are just a few short weeks away! Mark your calendars and make your plans now to attend, August 17-26, 2023, in Lebanon, TN, at the James E. Ward Agriculture Center. We'll see YOU at the Fair!



May's
Holidays

June 6
D-Day WWII

June 11
National Children's Day

June 12
Womens Veterans Day

June 18
Father's Day

June 19
Juneteenth

June 20
National Bald Eagle Day

Dairy Month

Cancer Survivor Month

You're Invited To
Tennessee's
STATEHOOD DAY
CELEBRATION

AT THE TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

LIVE MUSIC

LIVING HISTORY
INTERPRETERS

GAMES & MORE

June 3, 2023
10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.



GROCERY & OTHER TAX HOLIDAYS COMING THIS AUTUMN

The TN Department of Revenue announced in a press release last month that the Tennessee General Assembly approved more than \$400 million in tax cuts for Tennessee families and businesses through the Tennessee Works Tax Act, marking one of the largest tax cuts in Tennessee history and supporting future economic growth.

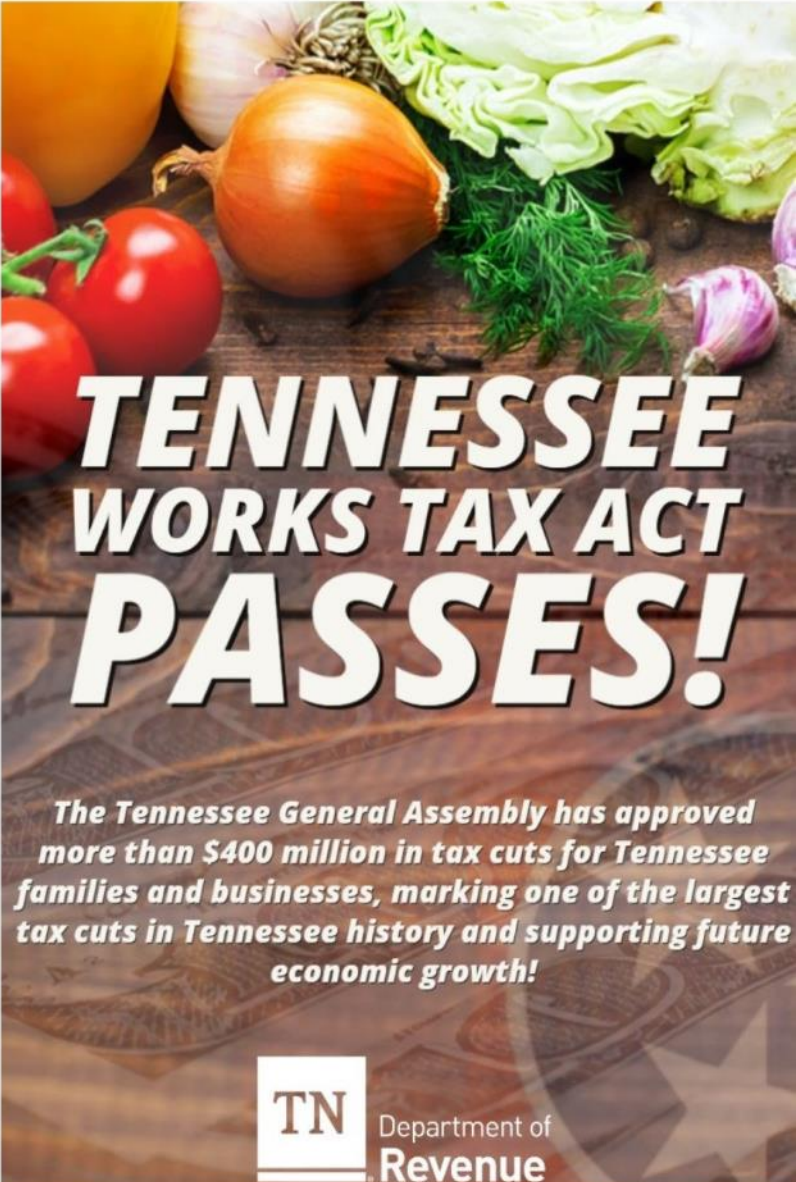
The legislation includes a three-month grocery tax holiday and an optional paid family leave tax credit for companies to support Tennessee families. It also provides tax relief for Tennessee businesses and increases the state's economic competitiveness through several changes to Tennessee's tax laws.

Helping Families: Grocery Tax Holiday & Paid Family Leave Credit

From August through October 2023, Tennesseans will not pay tax on food and food ingredients sold in grocery stores. On average, each Tennessee family will save over \$100 in taxes. Additionally, local governments will be reimbursed by the state for any tax revenues lost during the period.

The legislation also provides support for families through an optional state paid family leave tax credit for companies that mirrors a similar federal credit. A company offering paid family leave may be eligible for a maximum 50% franchise and excise tax credit.

To learn more about these and other tax cuts, visit www.tn.gov/revenue.



**TENNESSEE
WORKS TAX ACT
PASSES!**

The Tennessee General Assembly has approved more than \$400 million in tax cuts for Tennessee families and businesses, marking one of the largest tax cuts in Tennessee history and supporting future economic growth!

TN Department of Revenue



Congratulations
WEMA GRADS!



REMEMBERING D-DAY & LOCAL WWII VETERANS

The 79th Anniversary of D-Day is right around the corner. On June 6, 1944, courageous American troops and allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, which ultimately began the liberation of France and the end of World War II. The Allies landed more than 160,000 troops at Normandy, of which 73,000 were American. These 73,000 troops were from towns and communities across our nation. While we may not know all the Wilson County service members who were there on that day, we do have records of a few who were stationed in or near Normandy during that time, thanks to the work of our Wilson County Archives Director, Mrs. Linda Granstaff, and her department.

One of these service members was Technical Sergeant Benjamin H. Johnson (pictured top right). He was in the U.S. Army during WWII. He was a Prisoner of War and fought on the beaches of Normandy.

George E. Williams (pictured bottom right) served in the military during WWII from 1943-1946. He received several honors for his service, including: the Good Conduct Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the American Theater Ribbon, and the European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with 4 Bronze Service Stars. His first place of entry into the military was at Camp Forrest, Tennessee. Later, he would become a soldier fighting in the Battle of the Bulge.

George lived at Norene when he entered the Army. When he passed away in 1989, he was married to Gladys Jean Gannon, who was the...*continue on next page...*



Technical Sergeant Benjamin H. Johnson



George E. Williams

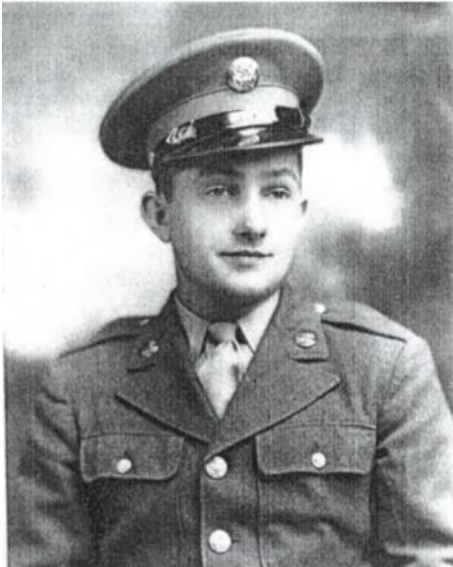
REMEMBERING D-DAY & LOCAL WWII VETERANS (CONT.)

...continued from previous page...sister of Mrs. Linda Granstaff, Archives Director.

James Alton Paschal was born in 1918. His photo is shown below, where he was photographed sitting in a B-17 at the Lebanon Airport dated 1997. He enlisted in 1941 and left the military in 1952 as a Staff Sergeant in the Air Force. He flew a B-17 and a Charlier 54 for eleven years. James was in the Berlin Airlift 115 Mission.

Earl Wendell Oakley (pictured left) served during WWII in the army, in Japan. He was married to Alice Arretha White. His parents were Aura Wendell and Hallie B. Granstaff Oakley from the Commerce and Watertown area.

Today, Wilson County is home to nearly 9,000 veterans, not to mention the many others who currently serve our nation. On the anniversary of D-Day, let us honor the legacies of those who were there on that day, as well as those gave the ultimate sacrifice so that we might enjoy our many freedoms today.



Earl Wendell Oakley



James Alton Paschal



FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT COMING UP JUNE 10TH!

A FREE community concert is coming up on Saturday, June 10th at 7:30pm. The Symphony on the Lawn will be presented by the Cumberland University Fine Arts Council and will include performances by the Nashville Symphony and Camp F.A.M.E. students. The concert will take place on Cumberland University's campus on Memorial Hall's Lawn.

Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, and a picnic if you'd like! Arrive early to find a spot to lay your blanket and chairs and enjoy a picnic, or food from local food trucks.

Prior to the concert, kids will be able to participate in an "Instrument Petting Zoo" where they can learn more about orchestral instruments. So be sure to join us! We'll see you there.

SYMPHONY ON THE LAWN
CUMBERLAND UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
FEATURING THE
NASHVILLE SYMPHONY
Nathan Aspinall, Conductor

JUNE 10th, 2023
Saturday evening at Cumberland University - Symphony Begins **7:30PM**

Join us on Cumberland University's Memorial Lawn

PRE-CONCERT ACTIVITIES | STARTING AT **6:00PM**
Join us before the concert for some great activities and appearances, including:

- Camp FAME Musicians (Fine Arts Major in Education)
- Sidewalk Chalk Art Demonstration
- Nashville Symphony Instrument Petting Zoo
- Food Trucks
Including: Houston's Mr. Jalisco • Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1004
Two For Me/For Cuzin

ENJOY A NIGHT OF MUSIC & MORE!
Bring your picnic basket and a lawn chair or a blanket to this wonderful night of music on the lawn.
If you prefer, you can also purchase food from one of the on-site food trucks.

In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held in Cumberland's Dallas Royal Phoenix Arena.

SYMPHONY ON THE LAWN SPONSORS

Nashville Symphony | Cumberland University Community Arts Council | WILSON Bank & Trust | Rotary Club of Lebanon, TN Breakfast Club of Lebanon, TN |

COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES SPONSORS | Benefits, Inc. | METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DADESBORO COUNTY | mte | PUBLIC SISTER SIBLING CHARITIES

Behind on your mortgage payment due to COVID?

TNHAF
HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND

THDA.ORG/HAF
855-890-8073

WOMENS VETERANS DAY

★★★

June 12, 2023

HISTORIC LEBANON RECEIVES MAIN STREET AMERICA ACCREDITATION *submitted*

Main Street America leads a movement committed to strengthening communities through preservation-based economic development in older and historic downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts. Since 1980, communities participating in the program have generated more than \$101.58 billion in new public and private investment, generated 168,693 net new businesses and 746,897 net new jobs, rehabilitated more than 325,119 buildings, and levered over 33.7 million volunteer hours. Historic Lebanon has been designated as an Accredited Main Street America™ program for meeting rigorous performance standards! Each year, Main Street America and its partners announce the list of Accredited programs to recognize their exceptional commitment to preservation-based economic development and community revitalization through the Main Street Approach™.

Historic Lebanon's performance is annually evaluated by the Tennessee Main Street program which works in partnership with Main Street America to identify the local programs that meet rigorous national performance standards. To qualify for Accreditation status, communities must meet a set of rigorous standards that include commitments to building grassroots revitalization programs, fostering strong public-private partnerships, nurturing economic opportunity for small businesses and entrepreneurs, and actively preserving historic places, spaces, and cultural assets....*continued on page 19.*



Tennessee STATEHOOD DAY

Come See **Tennessee's Original Founding Documents on Display**

June 1, 2023
8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.



Open Office Day

United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service cordially invites you to an Open Office Day!

Friday, June 9, 2023

From 9AM-3PM

W.H. Neal Building

925 E Baddour Parkway, Suite 101

Lebanon, TN 37087

This event will give producers a chance to learn about USDA-NRCS programs and all the great conservation opportunities that are being offered currently. Conservationists will be available to explain USDA-NRCS programs and the steps of applying for assistance.

Who We Are and What We Do

With the mission of "Helping People Help the Land," NRCS Tennessee provides products and services that enable people to be good stewards of the Nation's soil, water, plants, and other related natural resources on private lands through voluntary conservation efforts.

Office Contact Information:

Phone: 615-444-1890 ext. 3

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

★ Mt. Juliet Parks & Rec

FOOD & FLICK

Bring your blanket and chairs
Food Trucks Available

MOVIE FREE TO PUBLIC

June 2nd 8:30PM
July 7th 8:40PM
Aug. 4th 8:15 PM
Sept. 8th 7:40 PM
Oct. 6th 6:45 PM

MT. JULIET PARKS & RECREATION



HIRING EVENT

The Journey Church
1240 Leeville Pike
Lebanon, TN
37090

For more information,
email
Sarah.Buckles@tn.gov
Antonio.v.scott@tn.gov

- AMAZON
- COOK'S PEST CONTROL
- DESTACO
- ENTERPRISE COMMUTE
- FEDEX
- J.CUMBY CONSTRUCTION
- LUTTRELL STAFFING
- PPG
- REI
- TRITIUM
- YATES SERVICES (NISSAN)
- WWS

4:00PM - 7:00 PM
TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023

American Job Center
Tennessee is not responsible for the participation of any advertised employers at our hiring and resource events. We solicit their participation in good faith that they may attend but acknowledge that unexpected events occur, which may prevent their attendance.



PACT ACT FOR WOMEN VETERANS

YOU BELONG AT VA

The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. Women Veterans, we know you were there too. VA is here for you.

The Act (1) expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era, and (2) expands eligibility for benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances.



What new or expanded presumptions will the Act create and when will they be in effect?

VETERANS AND SURVIVORS CAN FILE CLAIMS FOR ALL CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THE PACT ACT IMMEDIATELY.

For Gulf War and Post-9/11 Veterans, that includes:

Brain cancer, Glioblastoma, Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type, Gastrointestinal cancer of any type, Head cancer of any type, Lymphoma of any type, Neck cancer of any type, Pancreatic cancer, and Reproductive cancer of any type, including cervical, ovarian, uterine and breast cancers. Vaginal and vulvar cancers are also on the presumptive list.

For Vietnam Veterans and other Veterans exposed to tactical herbicides, that includes two Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

High blood pressure (hypertension) and Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS).

How can Veterans apply for VA health care?

Apply online at va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction.

Call our toll-free hotline at 877-222-8387, M-F, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET.

Mail a completed, signed Application for Health Benefits (VA Form 10-10EZ).

Bring a completed, signed VA Form 10-10EZ with you to your nearest medical center or clinic, or get help through your state's Department of Veterans Affairs Service Office.

Get help filing your claim by working with an accredited representative.

What are the PACT Act key components?

The Act expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era.

VA will improve the decision-making process for determining what medical conditions will be considered for presumptive status.

Every enrolled Veteran will receive an initial toxic exposure screening and a follow-up screening at least every five years. Veterans who are not enrolled, but who are eligible to enroll, will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.

VA health care staff and claims processors will receive toxic exposure-related education and training.

The Act requires research studies on mortality of Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War, Post-9/11 Veteran health trends, and Veteran cancer rates.

The Act will help VA build a stronger, more skilled workforce to meet the growing demand for benefits and services.

The Act authorizes 31 new facilities across the country, providing greater access to VA health care.

How can a Veteran file a claim?

Veterans who would like to file a claim must complete VA Form 21-526EZ to apply for benefits and submit any supportive evidence.

To learn about standard VA disability claims, supplemental claims, secondary claims, and more, visit va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/when-to-file.

If a Veteran was previously denied a claim, what can they do?

VA will contact Veterans when a presumption of service connection is established or changed. However, Veterans previously denied a toxic-exposure related claim are encouraged to file a supplemental claim. Once a supplemental claim is received, VA will review the claim under the new law.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at va.gov/PACT
Download the VA Health and Benefits App
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)
Find a VA at va.gov/find-locations/

TENNESSEE AGENCIES RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF FLOOD PREPAREDNESS

National meteorologists are forecasting above average rainfall across a large portion of the U.S. this spring including most of the Mississippi and Cumberland river basins, which could include significant portions of Tennessee.

In an effort to help Tennessee homeowners prepare for potential flood risks, the Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance (“TDCI”) is joining the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (“TEMA”) to raise awareness about the importance of having flood insurance as a part of every homeowner’s disaster preparedness toolkit. TEMA encourages Tennesseans to prepare for all types of weather hazards, including flooding.

Before a flooding event, Tennesseans should review their flood risk and emergency plan. Individuals should have multiple ways to receive weather alerts and stock an emergency kit with supplies for several days.

Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the U.S. and has occurred in every region of Tennessee. For more information, visit www.tn.gov/commerce/news/2023/5/3/tn-agencies-raise-awareness-flood-preparedness-importance.html. For questions, call TDCI at 615-741-2218 or 1-800-342-4029.

THE VOLUNTEER NETWORK

The Volunteer Network is a newly formed non-profit with the mission to connect Wilson County residents with volunteer needs to create more efficient and effective change for our community. By partnering with local nonprofits, businesses, and churches in need of broadening their volunteer base, they provide a system to amplify local organization needs and connect them with individual residents and community groups. Partnerships allow them to connect people to the needs of Wilson County.

As the predecessor to The Volunteer Network, the GNRC Wilson Rides platform will continue to serve a role to connect volunteers with needs. Existing clients may also be transferred to the new platform which will enhance recovery actions in times of natural disaster.

The Volunteer Network’s Community Partner Program engages nonprofits, schools, government agencies, and other civic organizations working to help meet a variety of needs in Wilson County. Members of the Community Partner Program gain access to tools to recruit and manage volunteers, support to help reimagine volunteer potential, and elevated visibility for their service opportunities and missions through...*continued on next page.*

THE VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Continued from previous page...
TVN's social media channels and email newsletters.

Those wanting to volunteer in the community may create a profile, fill out the skills assessment and sign up for volunteer opportunities. This platform seeks to meet the needs of the community, but also to provide a space for community members to plug into an area of volunteerism that they are passionate about.

Additional Community Partners will be added on an ongoing basis. Initial Community Partners are: The Adult Learning Center, All for Him, Compassionate Hands,

DrugFree Wilco, Everyone's Wilson, The Family Resource Center for Wilson County Schools, Lantern Lane Farm and Counseling Center, Mid-Cumberland Meals on Wheels, The Mt. Juliet Help Center, New Leash on Life, Pawster, SALT, Ten Thirty-Five, Wilson County Community Help Center, and Wilson Rides Please go to <https://www.volunteernetworktn.org/> to volunteer with any of the partner organizations.

Volunteers bring The Volunteer Network to life. VTN provides a platform for nonprofits, businesses, and churches to post their volunteer opportunities and connect with the broader community. It also provides an efficient method for engaging volunteers in times of disaster. We believe we are better when we do things together, and this platform gives a consistent space to come together and serve in Wilson County.

The Volunteer Network is working directly with Wilson Emergency Management Agency and Wilson County Mayor's office to ensure that volunteers respond in the most helpful, efficient, and safe ways. Eventually, we will be providing workshops and training on disaster response and on volunteerism within a community.

BE READY TO HELP IN TIMES OF DISASTER



In partnership with Wilson County EMA, the Volunteer Network will act as the leading volunteer management hub for Wilson County in times of disaster. Additionally, the Volunteer Network will be the launching point for community leaders and organizations to coordinate long-term recovery for the community.

To be notified when the Volunteer Network needs disaster-response volunteers, be sure to check YES when asked if you want to help in a disaster and make sure you keep your Skills Profile up-to-date.

[volunteernetworktn.org/disaster-volunteer](https://www.volunteernetworktn.org/disaster-volunteer)

*First responders have a unique mindset.
They run toward crises in order to help.
Our goal is to help them stay on mission.*



Ways We Serve

Civil First Responders/Military Members & Families—

- Individual or group coaching sessions
- Defusing/Debriefing after traumatic events
- Departmental workshops
- Hosting events to promote first responder appreciation
- Respite and Hospitality

Pastors & Missionaries—

- Mission and pastoral coaching—Individuals or groups
- Launch/Re-entry sessions for missionaries
- Self-care workshops
- Respite and hospitality



Crossroads Mission Care



Who is Crossroads Mission Care?

VISION

To create places where appreciation, self-care, and restoration are accessible, feel close to home, and are a mainstay of military, civil and spiritual first responder culture.

MISSION

We provide restorative hospitality programs to those who serve others during times of crisis; specifically focusing on military personnel, and spiritual and civil first responders. Our goal is to help them remain effective in their calling.

METHODS

- Provide hospitality, services, and space to heal on a 35 acre farmstead.
- Provide independent coaching to address their individual needs.
- Walk alongside those who are experiencing trauma and stress—either individually or in group settings.
- Facilitate collaboration and networking to better share resources to serve these communities more effectively.
- Build a community of comradery and support through quality events and activities.

How We Are Funded

- Individuals/Family Partners
- Churches/Mission Committees
- Corporate/Nonprofit Grants
- Donation of equipment/materials

To Give Online:



Other Ways to help:

- Pick us as your Amazon Smile charity
- Become an Amazon Angel. (Follow the link on our Facebook page to the ministry's Amazon wish list)
- Volunteer for workdays at Crossroads Farm—individuals or groups
- Invite us to speak (your church, organization, or local first responder unit)
- Become a Champion for us with your company's charitable giving



**Herd it's
Dairy Month**

**Thank you to all our
Wilson County Dairy
Farmers!**



SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES STILL AVAILABLE!

The Wilson County Specialty License Plate is a great way to support Wilson County Tennessee, and now is the time to sign up for your own specialty license plate with **no charge!**

Sponsors have paid the \$35 fee in advance to help produce this license plate for Wilson County allowing us to offer you this gift to sign up for the Wilson County "The Place to Be" Specialty License Plate with no charge. The new plate should be available later this year, and you will be notified when it is in the County Clerk's Office. Proceeds from this pre-sale benefit Wilson Rides Inc., a volunteer ride service for seniors in Wilson County. More information about Wilson Rides, Inc. can be found at www.wilsonridesinc.org.

Free currently! Claim your specialty license plate while supplies last. Vehicle owner is still responsible for standard vehicle tag fees. To reserve your specialty license plate or for more information, **call Ms. Susan Shaw in the Wilson County Mayor's office at 615-444-1383.**



FIELD OF FLAGS

JULY 1-4, 2023

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.

Thank you for
supporting this
important cause

START TODAY!



FOR MANY, THE AMERICAN DREAM FEELS LIKE IT'S FAR FROM REACH.

We know families across Middle Tennessee have dreams. We know how important a little extra support can be. With rising costs for just about everything and the impossible situation some families face when striving for the American Dream, we believe the benefits cliff is the greatest problem keeping many families from getting ahead.

Eligible Families

Have a household income of \$0-\$55,000?

Have 1 to 4 children aged 17 or under?

Are enrolled in 1 or more public benefits: TANF, SNAP, Medicaid (TennCare), Housing Choice Vouchers/PublicHousing/PBRA, or Free/Reduced Lunch?

Want to work and are willing to work towards gaining employment or increasing their pay/employment?

Are U.S. Citizens?

Live in Davidson, Dickson, Maury, Montgomery, Rutherford, Sumner, or Wilson Counties?

Our Chance TN, an initiative by TAEM, supports families in moving beyond the benefits cliff. The Tennessee Alliance for Economic Mobility is a public-private partnership comprised of 32 organizations and counting that has developed an innovative approach to transforming Tennessee's safety net and ultimately improving low-income families' economic mobility and well-being.

Eligible families receive support for 2.5 years that includes:

- Individual coaching
- Financial counseling
- Customized resources

Catholic Charities
Diocese of Nashville
411 W Main St
Lebanon TN, 37087

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:

Vicky Chilton
vchilton@cctenn.org
615.946.9868
Matthew Orman
morman@cctenn.org
615.693.1513

Wishing all fathers and father figures a blessed and

HAPPY
Father's Day

June 18, 2023

Our Chance TN, an initiative of the Tennessee Alliance for Economic Mobility, is a part of a study funded by the Tennessee Department of Human Services which is being conducted to determine how these pilot programs help people improve their economic well-being and become self-sufficient. During the study, all new eligible applicants will be selected by lottery only.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT HOSTS COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

The Wilson County Health Department hosted a Community Baby Shower in the Charlie Daniel's Park gymnasium on May 18th. This was a great educational event, where attendees were invited to meet local community partners and organizations, as well as learn about the various resources in the Wilson County community. There were giveaways, snacks, and the opportunity to meet the wonderful people that work hard to serve our amazing community. We sincerely appreciate the health department staff, as well as the wonderful sponsors and community partners who worked so hard to make this possible! (Pictures continued on next page.)





Celebrating Johnnie Payton a TRIBUTE CONCERT

featuring an Alumni Choir
(former choir students and music students)

JUNE 17
6:00 PM

Winfree Bryant Middle School
Lebanon, TN

Join the Facebook group for updates:
Celebrate & Sing - Ms. Johnnie Payton Memorial Page

For more information contact
Gerald Patton (recital22@gmail.com) OR Soniya Patel (soniyapatel75@gmail.com)

TN Department of
Mental Health &
Substance Abuse Services

BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH
SAFETY NET
FOR CHILDREN



FREE
THERAPY & MEDICATION
MANAGEMENT

Eligibility Requirements

- Ages 3-17
- TN Resident
- Mental Health Diagnosis
- No Insurance
- Lack of full mental health benefits

Caregivers, we can help you too!

Make a referral today!

TN VOICES

Scan the QR code to make a
referral



800-670-9882 | 500 Professional Park Dr., Goodlettsville, TN 37072 | tnvoices.org

This project is funded under a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee,
Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

POISON IVY FACTS *submitted by Lucas Holman*

Recently, I received three questions from different people regarding poison ivy. It's extremely common in shady areas and is easily found across Tennessee. We have three poisonous plants in Tennessee, but only poison ivy is found in Wilson County. Poison oak is found in 6 counties in Tennessee, while poison sumac is only found in 4 counties. This is based upon the geographic distribution map found on the CDC's website that was last updated in 2018. So, these numbers could have changed in the past 5 years.

Poison ivy can be found in any wooded lot or along forest line. The plant contains a toxic compound called urushiol which causes an irritation on the skin. All people react differently to it, and some will not have any reaction at all. As I'm typing this article, I have it on my right arm along my elbow. I seem to get it every year even though I know 100% what it looks like. Poison ivy has a compound leaf with three leaflets. They will always be in a group of three and the leaves are glossy. We do have a lookalike vine called Virginia Creeper that has leaflets in a group of 5.

Eliminating poison ivy from your property is not for the faint of heart. It can be spread by underground rhizomes and seeds that are dropped by birds eating the poison ivy fruit. If you are going to dig it up and move it, be sure to wear gloves and long sleeves. Herbicides are the most effective way and there are many options but look for those that work on brushy plants. Glyphosate is the most effective when the plant is small. Keep in mind that it will also kill anything around it also, especially if it is in a flower bed with other plants that you want to keep. It will probably take more than one application of an herbicide to completely kill it. The herbicide works best on new leaves that are just emerging. Even when you spray the plant and kill it, the oil is still on the stems and leaves. It is advised to not burn it since the toxins can be carried in the smoke and irritate the mucous membranes.

If you have any questions regarding horticultural matter in your garden or lawn, feel free to contact Lucas Holman, Horticulture UT-TSU Extension Agent, Wilson County at 615-444-9584 or Lholman1@utk.edu.

The University of Tennessee Extension offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Through its mission of research, teaching and extension, the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture touches lives and provides Real. Life. Solutions. ag.tennessee.edu



HISTORIC LEBANON RECEIVES MAIN STREET AMERICA ACCREDITATION *submitted*

Continued from page 09...The statistics for Lebanon's Main Street District in 2022 show continued growth and strength. \$1.8M private and public dollars were invested in the district in 2022. A net of 25 new businesses opened and a net of 116 new jobs were created. In 2022, 15 building renovations were completed and over 1500 volunteer hours were logged!

"Our focus is to preserve the historic buildings, increase tourism, entice more entrepreneurs and to create a sense of place in our Main Street District. We want to use the historic properties in new ways to create a vibrant area with restaurants, retail/office spaces and urban living," explained Kim Parks, Executive Director for Historic Lebanon.

One of Historic Lebanon's goals is to create a more walkable downtown with streetscaping, a direct connection to the commuter train station through a walking trail and the installation of public art. These improvements will create a gathering place for locals and increase tourism.

Historic Lebanon believes the historic downtown core is a place for everyone. The organization is a strong advocate for the proper development of the Lebanon Square and surrounding neighborhoods for now and for generations to come. They want to preserve the small-town charm of Lebanon and its sense of community, but understand to stay vibrant, the historic area must have smart growth.

For more information, visit mainstreet.org.



WILSON RIDES, INC. CELEBRATES 2ND ANNIVERSARY

Wilson Rides, Inc. celebrated their 2nd Anniversary in May 2023! The Just Love Coffee Shop in Mt. Juliet hosted a celebration for the senior ride service. The day was filled with prizes, sweet treats and fellowship. Wilson Rides, Inc. also received donations. Thank you to Just Love Coffee and everyone who came by to show their support!



RUN FOR THE WALL 2023 RIDERS STOP IN WILSON COUNTY

Run For The Wall (RFTW) riders stopped by the Wilson County Veterans Museum on May 22nd to lay a wreath and have a quick lunch. The group of motorcyclists followed the RFTW mid-way route, with their final destination being the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. It was a privilege to welcome them to Wilson County and give them break before hitting the road again! Learn more about the Run For The Wall at www.rftw.us.



GREAT TURNOUT AT EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC *submitted*

There was a great turnout at the expungement clinic last month! Many hours of planning went into this event, and it certainly showed. Thank you to everyone involved in making this possible! The goal of the clinic was to provide a one-stop legal shop where individuals could receive legal reviews and where qualifying misdemeanors could be expunged when signed by a judge. Expunging qualified misdemeanors can provide individuals with a path to employment and education. This initiative was a group effort of many legal resources and job assistance providers.

The process began with records pulled by the Circuit Court Clerks represented by Debbie Moss and her teams for Criminal and General Sessions court, reviews with Public Defender's office and Shelly Gardner's legal team, reviews with District Attorney General Jason Lawson and team, and final discussion and signoff by Judge Brody Kane. Cumberland University students helped people move through the stations with help from American Job Center's Sarah Buckles. Many others supported the clinic as volunteers.

Over 200 people registered for the clinic and of those who passed the screening criteria, 82 people went through legal reviews, and a total of 375 expungement records were signed. People walked out with smiles and happy tears, and volunteers felt that they participated in an impactful event. This was the second expungement clinic, and it will now be an annual event. In total, over 540 records were expunged for at least 130 people from the two events. We are so appreciative of all the work and planning that went into their event. Thank you, all who participated!



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER OBSERVED EACH MAY

The annual National Day of Prayer was celebrated last month, and Wilson County makes sure to participate each year. The City of Mt. Juliet held a special service on May 3rd, and an additional service was held the following day at the Capitol Theater in Lebanon. The theme of the day was "Pray Fervently in Righteousness." Wilson County Mayor, Randall Hutto, and City of Lebanon Mayor, Rick Bell, signed a joint proclamation which declared May 4th as a "Day of Prayer" in our community. Thank you to everyone involved with the Wilson County National Day of Prayer and the Wilson County Prayer Coalition for making this annual event possible!



Joint Proclamation signed by Lebanon Mayor Rick Bell and Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto

Pictured left to right: Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto, City of Mt. Juliet Mayor James Maness. Photos courtesy of the City of Mt. Juliet

Wilson County Schools Resource Event

Thursday
June 1, 2023

*Wilson County Schools Family Resource Center & McKinney-Vento Program
Food and Resource Giveaway 12:00-3:00 or until supplies run out*

Community partners are excited to meet you and share information about available community resources, healthy child development, mental and physical health information, employment, and basic resources. Items will be available to take home for your family until supplies run out: Food, cleaning supplies, hygiene products, some shoe sizes, and some clothing.

*Also assistance with applications such as:
TennCare, SNAP/Foodstamps, etc.*

We want to help you connect to:

Mt. Juliet Help Center
Wilson County Health Department
TN Voices
TenThirty Five
TN Justice Center
Goodwill Industries
DrugFree WilCo
Nurture the Next
Second Harvest
New Leash on Life
Mid-Cumberland Community Action Agency
And more!

Location:

Mt Juliet High School
1875 Golden Bear Gateway
Mt. Juliet

**Look for signs to
direct you**

(Inside Commons area next
to the gym)

Questions?

615-444-3282

extension:

7415, 7467, or 7417

**If you would like to have a set
time to meet with someone
and receive resources, please
use your phone's camera with
this QR Code**



#I.AM.WOMAN

Women Veterans Day

#SHECANDOIT

304 East Main Street

Monday, June 12th, 2023 from 10am-2pm

WOMEN'S RESOURCE FAIR

For vendor information, please contact (615) 444-2460



Download the app
TODAY!

Explore Wilson TN is a new, exciting and modern tool to help residents and visitors easily navigate and fully experience EVERYTHING Wilson County has to offer. This is your "one-stop-shop" for Lebanon, Mt. Juliet and Watertown! After downloading the App, you will have access to city/county resources, job listings, community events and local restaurants and businesses...all at your fingertips. Download the Explore Wilson TN App today to experience Wilson County like never before.



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**LEBANON
WILSON COUNTY**
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Market Street

JUNE teenth COMMUNITY

Games Kids' Zone
Vendors **FESTIVAL** Food Trucks

Live Entertainment

Black Heritage Landmark Tour

Fun for the Whole Family

Saturday, June 17th, 10:00 - 5:00

209 Market Street, Lebanon, TN

Sponsored By:



For more information, contact us at: pickettchapel@gmail.com

US Community CREDIT UNION

4TH OF JULY

Circle P Ranch

LARGEST FIREWORKS SHOW IN WILSON COUNTY'S HISTORY

PRESENTED BY

Needham's
NURSERY & LANDSCAPING
MT. JULIET, TENNESSEE

FOOD TRUCKS LIVE MUSIC INFLATABLES
563 E MAIN ST, MT. JULIET, TN 37122
4-9 P.M.