



THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



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A Word from Mayor Hutto...

Summer is a wonderful time here in Wilson County! Despite the heat, we are looking forward to our upcoming community events. Some of these events are full of fun for families, while others are deeply meaningful. As always, Watertown, Lebanon and Mt. Juliet will host their annual Fourth of July celebrations. These are free for the public to attend and are a great way to celebrate our nation's independence with family and friends! The Annual Dewaal Shoe Giveaway will be held on July 26th for Lebanon students. (See page 23 for details!) On another note, my office and I are pleased to take part in the Red Sand Project again this year. The Red Sand Project is an interactive art exhibition which works to raise awareness and prevent human trafficking. We'll share information about how to help spread awareness later this month. Keep an eye on social media for details! In the meantime, my office and I would like to wish you all a very Happy 4th of July!

Commissioner Spotlight: Tommy Jones District 14



Contact

INFORMATION

Phone: 615-308-9629

Additional Phone:
615-308-9629

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.**

**FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CALL 615.449.6684**

MR. WELDON LACKEY OF MT. JULIET PRESENTED WITH QUILT OF VALOR

Mr. Weldon Lackey of Mt. Juliet was presented with a Quilt of Valor on Thursday, June 20th. Mr. Lackey served in the U.S. Army from 1946-1966 and eventually retired with the rank of Staff Sergeant.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation awards handmade quilts to Service Members or Veterans touched by War. All quilts gifted are embroidered with the phrase "Thank you for your service and sacrifice in serving our nation". Quilts of Valor has presented 393,702 quilts to Service Members and Veterans. We thank Quilts of Valor for honoring our service members in this way. Congratulations, Mr. Lackey!



Happy Fourth Of July!

Wilson County Government Offices,
Convenience Centers, and Landfill
will be closed on

Thursday, July 4th

We will return to our
regular business hours
on Friday, July 5th. We
hope you all have a
fantastic day with your
friends and family! God
bless!

Human Resources
is doing a monthly
employee
giveaway. Winners
will receive a
Wilson County
pullover, please let
us know your size.
All Wilson County
Employees will
have a chance to
win each month.
Please contact HR
at 615-206-5065 to
claim your prize.

July Winners

Maryann Grubbs
Election
Commission

Johanna Ambriz
Health Dept.

Craig Brown
Drug Court

Kimberly Kees
Sheriffs Dept.

Tony Null
WEMA

INTRODUCING OUR SUMMER INTERNS

Wilson County Government has partnered with Workforce Essentials, Inc. to participate in their Summer Youth Employment Program. This program is funded through the TN Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The state handles their timesheets, wages, and worker's comp. Thus, there is no cost to the county! This is a great way to accomplish extra projects while providing experience to young professionals!

The Mayor's Office has two interns this summer. Ms. Abigail Floyd, a senior at LHS, and Ms. Chloe Poston, who is a student at UT Knoxville. Both young ladies have settled into our office, and we are looking forward to a great summer with them! (Read about their experiences so far on the next page.) Other county government offices have partnered with Workforce Essentials, Inc. to offer internships as well! This is a wonderful program, and we are happy to help these young professionals gain some experience while learning about county government. Here's a brief introduction into what they've experienced so far in the Wilson County Mayor's Office:



Chloe Poston

My name is Chloe Poston, and I am from Watertown, TN. I am currently a sophomore at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in accounting. My goal is to get my CPA certification after graduation and work as a public accountant! I'm so grateful for this internship opportunity at the Wilson County Mayor's Office and have already learned so much over the past few weeks from the entire office staff. I've had the chance to gain experience in many different areas including public writing, advertising, and computer applications. Being able to hone in on critical skills such as problem-solving, communication, and organization has allowed me to grow as a person and in my professional career. I am excited to see what the future has in store over my next couple of months here in the Mayor's Office!

Article continues on next page...

INTRODUCING OUR SUMMER INTERNS



Abigail Floyd

My name is Abigail Floyd, and I am from Lebanon, TN. I am going to be a senior at Lebanon High School this August. After High School, I plan to attend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and study International Business. I am so thankful for the opportunity to work in the Mayor's Office!

I have learned so many crucial skills that I can apply later on in life. I have learned about teamwork, organization, multitasking, and professionalism only to name a few in these past weeks. This internship has been a great introduction to my professional career. I cannot wait for what's in store for the rest of my time in the Mayor's Office!



ALL ROADS LEAD TO SUMMER FUN! FREE BREAKFAST, LUNCH & BOOKS

June 3-28 and July 1-19
(Buses don't run on July 4-5)

NEON BUS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
11:00-11:20 - Upton Heights
11:30-11:50 - Inman Court
12:00-12:20 - Ironwood Apartments
12:40-1:00 - Limestone Trail

Tuesday, Thursday
10:55-11:10 - Cedar Station
11:25-11:40 - Head Homes
11:55-12:15 - Peyton Park
12:30-12:40 - Tater Peeler
12:55-1:10 - Weatherly Estates
1:25-1:45 - Mid Cumb. Head Start

NEON REMIX BUS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
11:00-12:30 - Don Fox Park
12:45-1:15 - Greentree Pointe Apartments
1:25-1:40 - Rollingwood Apartments

Tuesday, Thursday
11:00-12:30 - Don Fox Park
12:45-1:15 - Villages of Hunters Point
1:25-1:40 - The Ridge

FREE for all 18 and under.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

WILSON COUNTY HIRES NEW AG CENTER DIRECTOR

The Wilson County Mayor's Office is pleased to announce a new James E. Ward Agricultural Center Director has been hired. Mr. Josh Major recently accepted the Ag Center Director position. Mr. Major attended Western Kentucky University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. He started working with the Ag Center in 2023 and was briefly our former director's right-hand man. When our former director, Mr. Quintin Smith, passed away our county and agricultural community suffered a great loss. Out of respect for Mr. Quintin, the job was not posted immediately. Instead, Mr. Josh Major was hired



as the interim director for the time being. Later, the job opening was posted, and applications were accepted during April 1st -26th, 2024. All applications were received by the Wilson County Human Resource Office. The applications were copied and ranked for the selection committee, which consisted of seven individuals. The committee met during May 6 – 10, 2024, to review all applicants and determine candidates for interviews. Human Resources scheduled the interviews that were conducted by the selection committee for the week of May 13 – 17, 2024. The selection committee conducted nine interviews and recommended their best candidate to the Wilson County Mayor on May 20, 2024. The mayor conducted the final interview on May 24, 2024, and from there, it was decided that an offer be made to hire Mr. Josh Major as the new James E. Ward Ag Center Director. We are thankful to the committee and all who worked through this process, and we are excited about the future of the James E. Ward Ag Center under Mr. Major's leadership. We know that he has 'big shoes to fill' so to speak, as the late Mr. Quintin Smith left a significant legacy on our county. We know that Mr. Josh Major will do a great job and we congratulate him as he begins his new role as Agricultural Center Director!

GRAND OPENING OF NEW PICKLEBALL COURTS AT THE JIMMY FLOYD FAMILY CENTER IN LEBANON

The Jimmy Floyd Family Center made an exciting new addition to their current facilities during this past month-- pickle ball courts! Mayor Rick Bell and Alex Major, Director of the Jimmy Floyd Center, hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on the new courts, conducted by the Lebanon Wilson Chamber of Commerce, on June 5th. The event received quite the turnout with many community members showing up to support!

If you're not familiar with pickle ball, it is a game comparable to tennis but with its own court, paddles, ball, and rules. Most would find pickle ball to be easier and more forgiving than tennis, so don't be afraid to get out there, even if you're a beginner! Pickle ball is a great workout that people of all ages and experience levels can enjoy!

Photos courtesy of the Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce



FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS IN WILSON COUNTY

We are ready to celebrate Independence Day in Wilson County with all kinds of fun events that you won't want to miss!

Lebanon, Tennessee

The City of Lebanon will hold their annual celebration at the Wilson County Fairgrounds on Thursday, July 4th from 5:00pm to 9:30pm. The event will feature live music, lots of fun games and activities, food trucks, and, of course, a firework show!



JOIN MAYOR RICK BELL FOR LEBANON'S 2024

4TH OF JULY

CELEBRATION!

THURSDAY, JULY 4TH · 5:00PM-9:30PM

THE MIDWAY AT THE WILSON COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS

Live Music
SweetN3 and El Dorado

Games and Kids Activities
Cornhole, Face Painting, Inflatables and Balloon Art

Food Trucks

FIREWORK SHOW

CityofLebanonTN | City of Lebanon Tennessee | lebanontn



MT. JULIET'S BIGGEST JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

US Community CREDIT UNION | John Barber's TWO RIVERS Ford

FIREWORKS SHOW | **TAILGATE PARTY**

FREE ENTRY

FIREWORKS - FOOD TRUCKS
LIVE MUSIC - FOAM PARTY

CIRCLE P RANCH
563 E MAIN ST, MT. JULIET, TN 37122
5-9 P.M.

MT. JULIET PARKS & RECREATION
LET'S PLAY IN MT. JULIET
FAMILY, FITNESS, AND FUN

Mt. Juliet, Tennessee

Mt Juliet will be hosting their biggest Fourth of July celebration yet! Taking place at Circle P Ranch, this event is guaranteed to be full of family fun with live music, food trucks, and a foam party! The festivities will start at 5:00pm and end at 9:00pm with fireworks to follow at 9:00pm sharp!

Watertown, Tennessee

Watertown will continue with their popular Independence Day tradition, the “Stars, Stripes, and Squirt Guns” Parade! This event is hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and will take place at 4:00pm on Thursday, July 4th with fireworks at dusk!



CELEBRATE JULY 4TH WITH WEGO

WeGo Public Transit can help families celebrate the Let Freedom Sing! Music City July 4th celebration with safety and ease. There will be special WeGo Star train service to and from downtown, and bus routes will operate on a Sunday schedule with final departures at 11:15 p.m.

Bus riders are encouraged to use the Elizabeth Duff Transit Center at WeGo Central, located downtown, for the bus ride home. Road closures and congestion may require unexpected detours of stops downtown.

Order your tickets today at www.wegotransit.com.



FIELD OF FLAGS

JUNE 29-JULY 4, 2024

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

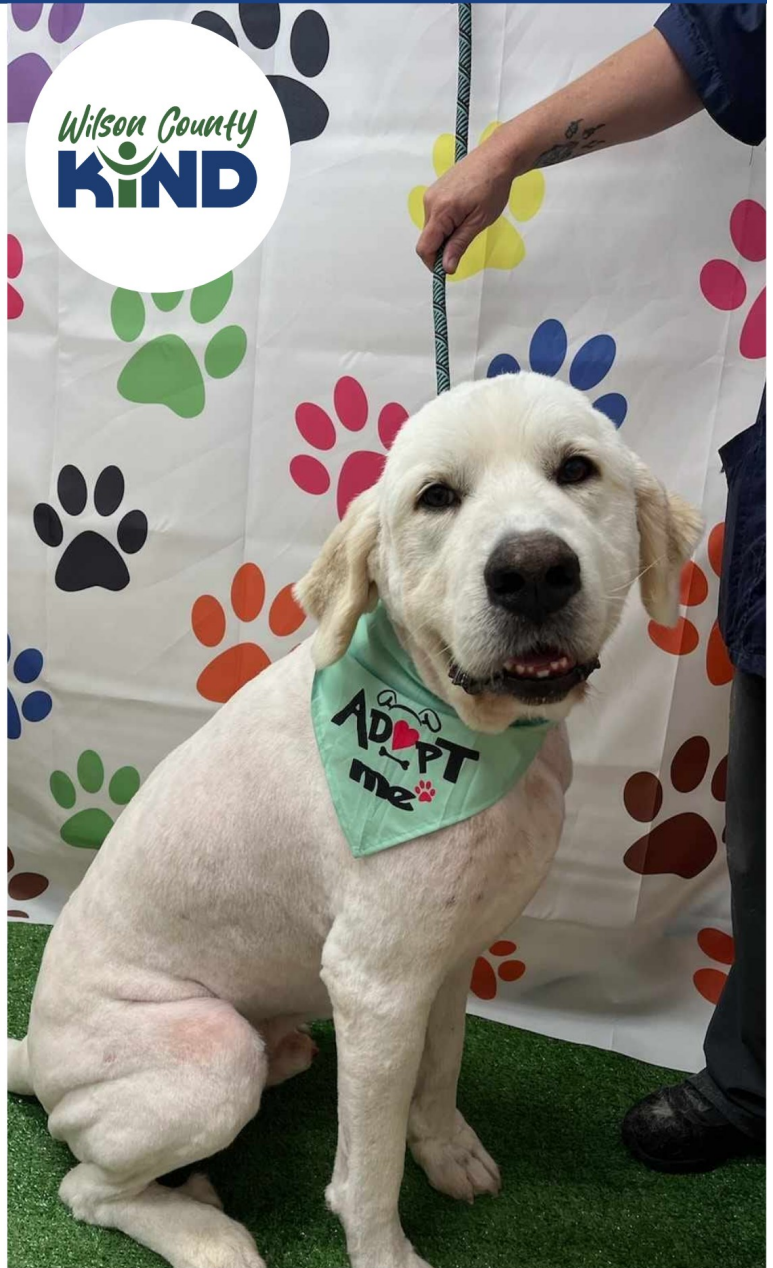
THE 2024 STATE FAIR IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

The Tennessee State Fair is approaching fast! Be sure to mark your calendars for August 15-24, 2024, for ten days of family fun including delicious food, exciting carnival rides, concerts, tractor pulls, fascinating exhibits, and more! The State Fair will be taking place at the James E. Ward Agricultural Center in Lebanon, TN. We hope to see you all there!

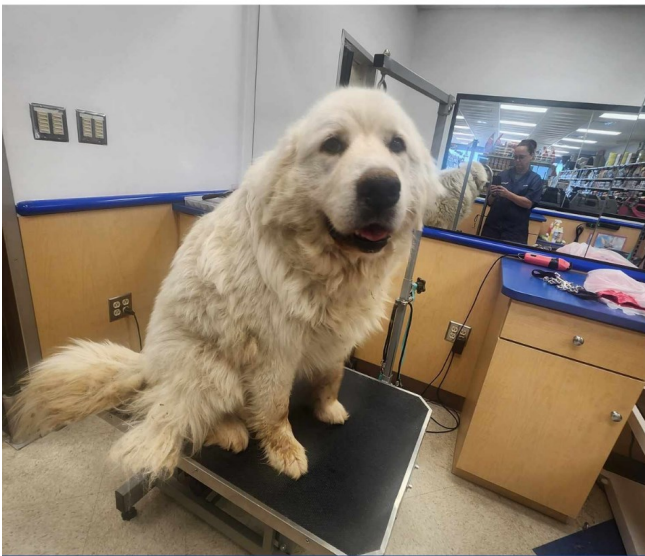


WILSON COUNTY KIND SPOTLIGHT

Big John , a very large Great Pyrenees, was checked into the Wilson County Animal Control Shelter in late May as a stray. The Animal Control Department was unable to locate his owners. He was dirty and his fur was matted. The Animal Control Department's friends at Petsense stepped in and volunteered to give Big John a spa day! He was matted all the way to the skin and had to be shaved. This big guy had a great day and he loved Ms. Nicole the Petsense groomer. Ms. Nicole loved him so much that she came back with her family and adopted Big John! Thank you to Ms. Nicole and her family for giving Big John his forever home!



Photos courtesy of Wilson County Animal Control





WILSON COUNTY VOAD

Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster

Let's prepare together as a community!

Are you a part of an organization that would respond to serve after a disaster?
Interested in learning more?

- 1 Contact Regina Girten at regina@volunteernetworktn.org.
- 2 Join us on August 8 at 10:30 AM at the Lebanon Wilson County Chamber Of Commerce.



CALL & SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO ADOPT TODAY!



PET ADOPTION

ANYONE LOOKING FOR A FURRY COMPANION?

PUPPIES AT THE ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER ARE WAITING TO BE ADOPTED!

AND IT'S NOT JUST PUPPIES! THERE'S DOGS FROM A RANGE OF AGES, BREEDS AND SIZES AT THE WILSON COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER.



615-444-9775

EST. 2020
HAMMER & Stain
MOUNT JULIET



SUMMER ART CAMP

6-10 years of age
9am-12pm M-F

hammerandstainmountjuliet.com

National Ice Cream Day

Sunday, July 21st, 2024

Grab a scoop!



MT JULIET HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI BUTCH WILMORE LAUNCHES INTO OUTERSPACE IN NASA'S BOEING STARLINER SPACECRAFT

Barry "Butch" E. Wilmore was raised in Mt Juliet, TN, receiving his high school diploma from Mt Juliet High School. He then went on to obtain his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from Tennessee Technological University followed by his Master of Science in Aviation Systems from the University of Tennessee.

To add to his lengthy list of accomplishments, Wilmore is also a highly decorated Navy Captain who graduated from the United States Naval Test Pilot School. While serving as a Naval officer and aviator, Wilmore completed numerous operational deployments, accumulated more than 8,000 flight hours, and completed 663 carrier landings in tactical jet aircraft.

Wilmore was selected by NASA in July of 2000 for a position as an astronaut. Prior to his most recent launch on June 5th, Wilmore has logged 178 days in space through his first two missions where he held positions as a pilot and flight engineer.

He is now commander of the Crew Flight Test mission aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft which is the first crewed flight in that spacecraft. Accompanied by astronaut Suni Williams, their hope is that this spacecraft will successfully provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective transportation on space station missions to extend research time. Good luck Butch and Suni, we are rooting for you!



WATERTOWN, TENNESSEE
 BLUEGRASS
 FESTIVAL
 LOCAL ARTIST
 LIVE MUSIC
 SEPTEMBER 3RD
 9AM - 3PM



SUN SAFETY

- ✓ **COVER UP**
Wear clothing that covers your skin.
- ✓ **APPLY SUNSCREEN**
SPF 30 or higher, 20 minutes before sun exposure. Reapply every 2 hours.
- ✓ **WEAR A HAT & SUNGLASSES**
Broad-brimmed hats provide better protection.
- ✓ **SEEK SHADE**
Reduce UV radiation by taking shelter under a tree, umbrella or another shady spot.

JULY IS UV SAFETY MONTH!

SUMMER READING 2024 MT. JULIET LIBRARY

Summer Reading Guidelines

- Children ages **2-5 years (Pre-k)** read 20 books & receive a pass to the Jimmy Floyd Center.
- Children ages **5-12 years (finished Kindergarten- finished 6th grade)** read 20 books for a ticket to the Wilson County Fair.
- Teens **13-18 years** read 5 books & receive a prize.

Sign up: May 13- June 29

Prizes: June 17- July 31



Mt. Juliet Library
 2765 N. Mt. Juliet Rd
 (615)-758-7051



Library Hours
 Mon-Tue-Thu 8:00-7:00
 Wed-Fri-Sat 8:00-5:00
 Closed Sunday



2024 WILD TURKEY HUNTING SEASON HARVEST REPORT

The Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency has analyzed statistics from this year's spring wild turkey hunting season that recently took place. In total, the reported harvest for the state of Tennessee was 31,647, down only one percent from last year. Roger Shields, the Turkey Program coordinator, said the numbers started off high and experienced a steep fall off as the season progressed, likely in response to the 2-bird bag limit. However, TWRA Region II (Middle Tennessee area) saw an increase in harvests from last year's numbers by 255 with 11,961 harvested turkeys.

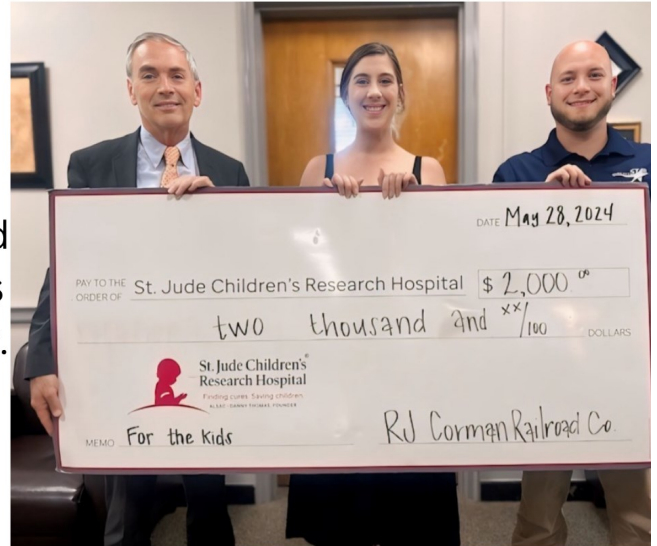
The Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency is encouraging the public to take part in their summer observation survey by reporting sightings of wild turkeys. Doing so will help the TWRA more accurately monitor Tennessee's wild turkey population, a task that has been very difficult in previous years with their limited staff. Last year, the Agency received feedback from 93 of Tennessee's 95 counties, and their goal this year is to obtain feedback from all 95 counties. For more information and instructions on how to be a part of the survey, visit www.tn.gov/twra/turkeyobs.

Turkey hunters, mark your calendars for the 2025 wild turkey hunting season which will begin April 12 and end May 25, 2025!



WEGO STAR DONATES TO ST. JUDE VIA ROCK N ROLL MARATHON

The WeGo Star heated up the rails on April 27th as it transported runners and spectators to the St. Jude Rock 'n Roll Nashville Marathon. Sponsored by RJ Corman Railroad Co. ticket proceeds totaled \$2,00.00 and were donated back to the kids of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Mr. Danny Key of WeGo joined Wilson County Mayor, Randall Hutto in presenting a donation check to Chelsea Frument, Development Specialist for St. Jude Children's Research hospital.



Pictured left to right: Randall Hutto, Chelsea Frument, Danny Key

“We look forward to this event each year because it’s a win for everyone involved. Introducing folks to the benefits of the WeGo Star while also supporting St. Jude...there’s nothing better. I’m thankful that we have such generous and thoughtful partners and participants who make it all possible,” said Randall Hutto, Wilson County Mayor.

Wilson County “The Place to Be”



Benefiting Wilson Rides & Available at your County Clerk's Office

SUPPORT OUR FARMERS THIS SUMMER BY VISITING ONE OF WILSON COUNTY'S WONDERFUL FARMERS MARKETS!

If you are looking to support local farmers this summer and find some fresh, locally grown produce, head on down to your local Farmers Market! Farmers Markets are in full swing this time of year with delicious fruits and vegetables for sale. Listed are some Farmers Markets in Wilson County that we highly recommend.

- Breeden's Orchard 631 Beckwith Rd., Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
- Lebanon Farmers Market 143 South Maple St., Lebanon, TN 37087
- Mt Juliet Farmers Market 1075 Charlie Daniels Pkwy., Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
- Shop Springs Farms 3939 Sparta Pike, Watertown, TN 37184
- Watertown Farmers Market 101 South Central Ave., Watertown, TN 37184

The logo for Lebanon Farmers Market 2024 features a wooden plank background. At the top left is the 'pick TENNESSEE' logo, and at the top right is the 'Lebanon FARMERS MARKET' logo with a tree icon. The main text 'Farmers Market' is in a large, green, cursive font with leaves above it. Below this, '2024' is written in white on a green banner. The schedule is listed as 'March - December Mon - Sat' and 'December - February Sat'. Hours are '5:00am until Dark (no later than 7:30pm)'. The address is '143 S Maple Street Lebanon, Tennessee 37087 (615) 443-2824'.

The poster for Mt Juliet Farmers Market has a red and white checkered border. At the top is the 'pick TENNESSEE PRODUCTS' logo. The main text 'FARMERS MARKET' is in large, bold, black and red letters. Below it, 'May 4th - Oct 26th' is written in white on a green banner. The schedule is 'EVERY SATURDAY 7am-1pm'. The products listed are 'Produce, Spices & Sauces, Honey & Berries, Local Meats, All things Bakery, Fresh Flowers & Plants, Handmade Crafts, Bodycare & Tallow, and Dog Treats'. The location is 'CHARLIE DANIELS PARK' in large red letters. The address is '1075 CHARLIE DANIELS PKWY. MT. JULIET, TN 37122'. Contact information is 'MORE INFO CALL: 615-758-6522'. At the bottom, it says 'Follow us @MtJulietFarmersMarket on' with a Facebook icon.

Please Join Us For The

9.28.2024

WILSON COUNTY VETERANS BENEFIT BALL
VET GALA

5:30pm -9:30pm

THE MILL
EDGERTON HALL
300 North Maple Street
Lebanon, TN 37087



Ticket Pricing: Veterans \$50 | Non-Veteran \$75| Table Sponsor \$1000

Tickets Available in person at Wilson County Veterans Service Office | 304 East Main Street, Lebanon, TN |
Monday - Friday 8am -4pm

Formal Attire



DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY HIGHLY ENCOURAGES GUN STORAGE SAFETY BY OFFERING FREE CABLE GUN LOCKS

The Department of Safety and Homeland Security is offering FREE 15-inch cable locks to the public. These locks secure most shotguns, rifles, pistols, and revolvers. The cable lock works by running through the barrel or action of the firearm preventing it from being fired. The rubber coating on the cable helps to protect the firearm. The cable lock has a secure keyed deadbolt locking mechanism with a 4-pin cylinder.

To date, 69,500 gunlocks have been distributed. It is important to remember that additional safety precautions should be in practice along with the use of cable locks. Guns with engaged cable locks should be stored in some form of locked container like a gun case or lock box. Ammunition should be stored in a separate locked container, meanwhile the keys to the cable lock should be stored away from the firearm in a location that is not easily accessible. Visit [SafeStoreTN.com](https://www.SafeStoreTN.com) for a list of locations in all 95 counties that Tennesseans can acquire these FREE cable locks.



WILSON CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE



2024 CITIZENS ACADEMY

SEPTEMBER 17 - NOVEMBER 5, 2024

An 8 week course meeting every Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. The academy is designed to give the citizens of Wilson County an in-depth look at our agency and the training our officers receive through interactive training. Participants who complete the program will receive a certification of completion at the Citizens Academy Graduation. However this is not a program to become a sworn officer.

- Corrections & Patrol Operations
- Criminal Investigations
- Identify Scams & Frauds
- Dangerous Drug Awareness
- Situational Awareness & Defensive Tactics
- Firearms Safety
- S.W.A.T. Operations & Live Scenarios
- Building Communication

Requirements:

Applicants must be 18 and live or work in Wilson County. You must also pass a background check. No physical requirements are required to attend the Citizens Academy.



"Don't miss this opportunity to engage with your community and gain valuable insights into the operations of the Wilson County Sheriff's Office. It is our goal to create a bridge of communication between our officers and the community"

HOW TO APPLY:

[WCSO95.ORG](https://www.WCSO95.org)
APPLICATIONS CAN BE MAILED, FAXED, OR HAND DELIVERED TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT
CPL. MATT BUSH
AT 615-444-1412 EXT. 272
OR MBUSH@WCSO95.ORG

IDENTIFYING AND ADDRESSING CONCERNS OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE



Last month, Mayor Hutto met with the Alzheimer's Association to declare the month of June as Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month in Wilson County, Tennessee. When discussing Alzheimer's and dementia, it is important to note that experiencing issues with memory and cognitive ability as one ages is very common. However, changes in cognitive ability that begin impacting daily life is a warning sign of dementia. Dementia is an overarching term used to describe a person's decline in memory, thinking, and behavior. Dementia can be caused by numerous conditions, the most common being Alzheimer's, a progressive disease resulting in the loss of brain cells and function.



The Alzheimer's Association lists ten warning signs of Alzheimer's that are as follows:

1. Memory loss that disrupts daily life
2. Challenges in planning or solving problems
3. Difficulty completing familiar tasks
4. Confusion with time or place
5. Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships
6. New problems with words in speaking or writing
7. Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps
8. Decreased or poor judgment
9. Withdrawal from work or social activities
10. Changes in mood or personality

If you notice someone experiencing these changes, it can be difficult to voice your concern out of fear of upsetting them, but taking action is crucial in a situation involving serious health concerns. Decide who would be best to approach that person about memory changes in order to facilitate a conversation that is as comfortable as possible for those involved. As mentioned earlier, dementia can be the result of multiple health conditions, so seeing a doctor is imperative for identifying the cause of cognitive changes. Some changes are treatable if they are not the result of Alzheimer's or another dementia. Regardless of cause, it is very beneficial to receiving a diagnosis as early as possible to plan for the future, access support, and explore treatment options.

Visit the Alzheimer's Association website <https://www.alz.org/> for more information and resources or call the Free Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900.

RECLASSIFYING DISPATCHERS FROM “CLERICAL STAFF” TO FIRST RESPONDER STATUS

A resolution was passed during June’s County Commission Meeting that focused on obtaining first responder status for our 911 dispatchers & public safety telecommunicators. According to Wilson911, Wilson County is the 6th in the nation to pass a resolution like this!

911 dispatchers are currently classified as “clerical staff” under federal guidelines. Only a handful of counties across the nation recognize emergency dispatchers as first responders. The Wilson County Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution that reclassified the position from “clerical staff” to the status of “First Responders.”



The Resolution states: “Wilson County could not wait for the 911 Saves Act that is stalled in Congress to give our dispatchers the classification of First Responders that they have earned and deserved. Wilson County recognizes Public Safety Telecommunicators are far from just clerical and supports the national movement to re-classify telecommunicators as First Responders and truly recognize the work they do.”

Dispatchers in Wilson County undergo specialized training in order to give life-saving information to people in distress and effectively coordinate an emergency response. This is just one way we can thank them for all they do to help keep us safe!



WILSON COUNTY OPIOID REMEDIATION FUNDING COMMITTEE

APPLY FOR OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDING

Applications for funding will be made available and accepted beginning August 1st through September 30th, 2024.

Applications can be picked up at Wilson County Finance, and completed proposals must be submitted to Labraunya Horton at Wilson County Finance no later than 4:00pm on the last business day of September.

OVERVIEW

In response to the extensive damage and loss of life caused by the opioid crisis, a consequence of the unethical and over-prescribing of opioid medications, the state of Tennessee will be receiving settlement funds over the next 18 years from several large corporations. Wilson County has been allocated a portion of these funds, which will be received in the form of annual payments. The Wilson County Opioid Remediation Funding Committee has been established by the County to oversee the spending of these funds for the abatement and remediation of opioid use and misuse, exclusively for the benefit of Wilson County.

Applications will be accepted from community non-profit organizations and government agencies that serve residents of Wilson County within the approved Remediation Uses set forth by the TN Opioid Abatement Council. The Committee will dispense funds in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations that counties must adhere to when allocating funds to community organizations. After reviewing and scoring all applications received, organizations can expect to receive notice of award in January.



ELIGIBILITY



TYPES OF ORGANIZATIONS

- Non-profit charitable organizations with 501(c)(3) status
- Non-profit civic organization
- Government organization in Wilson County



REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Application for Opioid Settlement Funding
- Wilson County Budget Template
- Budgeted Annual Revenue and Expense (prior year)
- Actual Annual Revenue and Expense (prior year)

If applicable, the following documents must also be included

- 501(c)(3)
- State certification, licensure, or accreditation
- List of Current Board Members



APPROVED REMEDIATION USES OF FUNDS

- Primary Prevention
- Harm Reduction
- Treatment
- Recovery Support
- Education / Training
- Research & Evaluation



Labraunya Horton



WCOpiFund@wilsoncountyttn.gov



Wilson County Finance
228 E. Main Street
Lebanon, TN 37087

2024 Annual Dewaal Shoe Giveaway – Hosted by the Wilson County Salvation Army

Lebanon children will soon return to school. The commitment of the Annual Dewaal Shoe Giveaway team is to continue providing new shoes, socks and undergarments to students as they prepare to return to class remains steadfast. Why provide these basic items? New clothing of any type makes students feel better about themselves and, in turn, approach learning with a better attitude. Many children in our community, especially underserved families, are just trying to survive, often with just enough money for food, rent, gas, and utilities but little left for anything else.

In 1993, recognizing these needs, Becky Dewaal (1955-2003) and Bertie Alligood began finding ways to provide shoes to a few children in partnership with The Potters House Ministry, located in Upton Heights. First Baptist Church of Lebanon began contributing financially toward this ministry. Through the years other non-profits, schools, churches, volunteers, and businesses have joined in. Last year, over 450 pairs of new shoes (as well as new socks, and underwear) were given to about 150 families, thanks to those many partners.

The Salvation Army (formerly Potters House), now partners with the Shoe Giveaway at the same location as always, Mary Chaffin Chapel. Spanish translators will be available. Numerous church congregations provide workers to make this event successful. Multi-cultural ministers are available to pray and connect with families. Beginning with the passion and actions of one or two people, this ministry has reached thousands of children in Wilson County over the past 30 years.

As preparations are made for this year's Annual Shoe Giveaway, we anticipate giving away over 400 pairs of shoes (in addition to socks and underwear) for school-age children in this drive through event.

The Shoe Giveaway is scheduled for **Friday July 26, from 4-6 p.m.** at **Mary Chaffin Chapel- The Salvation Army Church, 715 Lake Street** in Lebanon . If you want to volunteer to help, arrive at 2:00 pm or as soon as you can to check in and see where you can serve. Supplies will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. School age children must have a parent or adult with them to receive one (1) pair of tennis shoes, socks and undergarments, as supplies last. Food and drinks will be provided for families.

For anyone who wishes to give First Baptist Church Lebanon, 227 E. Main St., Lebanon TN 37087 has an account set up for donations under the name of Annual Dewaal Shoe Drive. All gifts are tax deductible with checks made out to First Baptist Church and designated **Annual Dewaal Shoe Drive**.



EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 | 4PM - 7PM

Wilson County Judicial Center | 115 E. High Street, Lebanon, TN 37087

Find out if you have a path to clear your legal record during this unique expungement event. You **MUST REGISTER** by **September 3rd** so your records can be retrieved by the Court Clerk before the clinic. Please, use the QR code to register, or email for more info.

WILSON COUNTY RECORDS ONLY:

- Criminal Record Review
- Judge On-Site
- Expungement Advice & Preparation
- Meet 1:1 with an Attorney

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Mobile American Job Center
- Justice Bus
- Adult Education Resources
- Second Chance Employers

SCAN TO REGISTER
<https://tinyurl.com/vyцу2kab>



Supported by:



For more information email: Sarah.Buckles@tn.gov

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.
The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
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