



# THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



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

In the role of County Mayor, I am blessed to see many local government initiatives come to fruition. One such initiative is our Wilson County Kind Campaign. To put it simply, this initiative shines a spotlight on the kind acts of others through social media platforms and the hashtag #WilsonCountyKind.

Kindness is often taught to children at an early age. In Daycare, Sunday School, and Kindergarten, children learn about the "Golden Rule." However, there is much for adults to learn about kindness. The American Heart Association published an article on kindness and its effects on older adults who were diagnosed with high blood pressure. A study was referenced in the article which concluded that acts of kindness could improve heart health. Kindness is powerful, and it could even help mend the health of a human heart.

With that said, my staff and I would like to go ahead and wish you all a very Happy Valentine's Day. For us, home is where the heart is. We are proud to call Wilson County home, and we are honored to serve our community. Together, we make Wilson County Kind!

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District 21**



*Contact*  
**INFORMATION**

Phone: 615-218-8014

**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**

WILSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CONVENIENCE  
CENTERS AND THE LANDFILL WILL BE CLOSED ON  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH IN OBSERVANCE OF

*President's Day*

WE WILL RETURN TO OUR REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS  
ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH. WE WISH YOU ALL A  
HAPPY AND SAFE PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND!

# JOIN MAYOR HUTTO ON FEBRUARY 4TH!

Happy New Year! Please join Mayor Hutto and leaders from the Sheriff's Office and city Police Departments for a moderated panel discussion on Public Safety on February 4, 2025 at the Farm Bureau Expo Center. Please **RSVP** to [shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov](mailto:shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov) or call 615-444-1383. *This session is sponsored by Middle Tennessee Electric and presented by the Farm Bureau Exposition Center, Lebanon/Wilson County Chamber of Commerce, Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce, and the Watertown Chamber of Commerce.*



Wilson Co. Mayor's  
Looking Into the Future Series



## PART 1: PUBLIC SAFETY

A moderated panel discussion among law enforcement officers addressing key public safety concerns.



Tuesday  
02.04.25



Farm Bureau Exposition Center  
945 E. Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon



7:30am Network/Breakfast  
8:00 - 9:00am  
Presentation

### RSVP

[shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov](mailto:shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov)  
615/444-1383

Presented by: Farm Bureau Exposition Center · Lebanon Wilson Co. Chamber of Commerce · Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce · Watertown Chamber of Commerce



# American Heart Month

Learn more by visiting the American Heart Association's website at [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org).

# TDOT ANNOUNCES SPEED LIMIT TO CHANGE ON SR 109 IN WILSON COUNTY

Following speed studies, crash analysis, and conversations with the community, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is modifying the speed limit on SR 109 in Wilson County.

The following changes have been made to the speed limit on SR 109 from south of Interstate 40 to Bloodworth Road:



- From south of the I-40 interchange to north of Rock Castle Drive: changed to a consistent 45 mph
- From north of Rock Castle Drive to Bloodworth Drive: changed to a consistent 50 mph
- From north of Bloodworth Road to the county line: speed limit remains 45 mph

This change was made in close coordination with the City of Lebanon and the Tennessee Highway Patrol. “It’s essential to recognize that speed limits are established not just as arbitrary numbers but as crucial measures to ensure the safety of all road users,” says Tennessee Highway Patrol District Captain Christopher Dye. “Even when these limits change, our collective responsibility as community members is to respect them. Ultimately, our choices on the road can make a significant difference and by driving responsibly, we help ensure that our communities remain safe for all.”

TDOT crews will be replacing and adding signage on Thursday, January 16, 2025, along this corridor. All work is weather-dependent. As always, drivers are reminded to slow down and move over when traveling through a work zone. The Move Over Law was passed in 2006. The penalty for violating the law in Tennessee carries the possibility of up to 30 days in jail and a maximum fine of up to \$500. Get the latest construction activity traffic updates from the TDOT SmartWay map (<https://smartway.tn.gov>). Travelers can also call 511 for travel information.

## LEBANON/WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY AWARDED SENSORY GRANT

AutismTN and the Lebanon-Wilson County Public Library have partnered to launch new programs designed to make the library more inclusive and welcoming for Autistic patrons, neurodiverse families, and the entire



community. Thanks to funding from the KFC Foundation, the library will offer:

- **A Sensory-Friendly Space:** A relaxing area equipped with adjustable lighting and comfortable seating to support sensory needs.
- **Sensory Kits:** Available for use in the library or to check out, these kits include stim aids and other tools to enhance comfort during library visits or at home.
- **Updated Collections:** Books and materials authored by Autistic people, offering neuro-affirming perspectives and valuable insights into neurodiversity.

For more information about these resources and programs, visit <https://www.youseemore.com/lebanon-wilson/>.

World Cancer Day

February 4, 2025

World Cancer Day is day set aside to discuss the importance of prevention, early detection, and treatment. Learn more at [www.worldcancerday.org](http://www.worldcancerday.org).



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A

# Valentine Gala Dinner & Auction

Presented By:  **CenterWell**  
Senior Primary Care

BENEFITING THE LEBANON SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

FORMAL DINNER AND DANCE  
\$50 PER PERSON

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2025  
COCKTAIL HOUR 5 PM-6 PM  
DINNER AT 6 PM

THE MILL AT LEBANON  
300 NORTH MAPLE STREET  
615-449-4600



## Wilson County Mental Health Tool Kit

Created and distributed by the Wilson County Mental Health Committee, this tool kit provides resources for accessing mental health needs in Wilson County.

SCAN ME



## 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

- ✔ New problems with words in speaking or writing
- ✔ Challenges in planning or solving problems
- ✔ Memory loss that disrupts daily life
- ✔ Changes in mood and personality
- ✔ Decreased or poor judgment
- ✔ Confusion with time or place
- ✔ Difficulty completing familiar tasks
- ✔ Withdrawal from work or social life
- ✔ Difficulty with visual and spatial understanding
- ✔ Misplacing things and struggling to retrace steps



Office of Healthy Aging  
[health.tn.gov/healthyaging](http://health.tn.gov/healthyaging)

## THE CAPITOL THEATRE

110 West Main St. Lebanon

02.22.2025

Doors open at 6 pm- Concert starts at 7 pm

*A night of soulful melodies, dancing,  
and a cash bar.*



**JAIMEE**  
*Paul*

**LEIF**  
*Shires*



Reserved Seating: \$35  
General Admission Seating: \$25  
[CapitolTheatreTN.com](http://CapitolTheatreTN.com) for tickets

Proceeds to benefit the Rotary Foundation



# COURTHOUSE TO DISPLAY EXHIBIT

February 18 - March 27, 2025

The Wilson County Courthouse is pleased to announce that it will present a temporary exhibit in honor of Black History Month and Women's History Month. Building a Bright Future: Black Communities and Rosenwald Schools in Tennessee, presented in partnership with Fisk University's John Hope and Aurelia E. Franklin Library, is a community-focused exhibition that highlights the work of alumni, descendants, and organizations to preserve the legacies of Rosenwald Schools across the state.

Building a Bright Future: Black Communities and Rosenwald Schools in Tennessee leads the visitor through the development of Rosenwald Schools and their legacies by first tracing the history of education for Black Tennesseans beginning with the Reconstruction period. It explores early partnerships between churches, schools and agencies like the Freedmen's Bureau, and the



work of Black leaders, residents, parents, and teachers to improve educational opportunities for Black students. Featured exhibit topics include Black Education before 1912, Black Tennesseans and Rosenwald Schools (1912-1960s), and the Legacies of Rosenwald School Communities.

One of the former schools presented in the exhibit is the Wilson County Training School. The Wilson County Civic League helped provide information for Building a Bright Future by sharing stories of the Wilson County Training School. A school ledger of the first year the school opened in Wilson County is also highlighted in the exhibit.

The display will be FREE to the public. Anyone is welcome to stop by on weekdays during regular business hours to view the exhibit. We especially thank our friends at the TN State Museum for making this possible! The courthouse is located at: 228 East Main St, Lebanon. Regular business hours are Monday thru Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm.

# PRIME POTHOLE SEASON

TDOT has crews tackling pothole repairs, but you can help them find potholes and fix them faster by reporting potholes on state roads as soon as you see them. Call 833-TDOTFIX (836-8349) or fill out a form online here:

<https://www.tn.gov/tdot/maintenance/maintenance-request.html>. For county roads, call the Wilson County Road Commission at 615-444-9022. Thank you for helping keep our roadways smooth and safe!



# REAL ID DEADLINE MAY 7, 2025

The REAL ID Act of 2005 established minimum security standards for license issuance and production. These standards provide an additional level of security to protect your identity. It also prohibits Federal agencies from accepting driver licenses and ID cards from states that do not meet the Act's minimum standards. Beginning May 7, 2025, everyone must have a REAL ID license or passport to enter certain Federal buildings, military bases and nuclear power plants or board commercial flights within the United States. Learn more at <https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/real-id.html>.

REAL ID CREDENTIAL



REAL ID compliant driver licenses and identification credentials have a black circle with a star in the right corner of the license to indicate it is REAL ID compliant.

STANDARD ID CREDENTIAL



Non-REAL ID driver licenses and identification credentials display the phrase, "NOT FOR REAL ID ACT PURPOSES" on the front of the credential.

	REAL ID Driver License or ID	Standard Driver License or ID
Driving (DL only)	✓	✓
General Identification Purposes	✓	✓
Boarding Domestic (U.S) Flights after May 7, 2025	✓	✗
Enter Federal Facility (that require ID) or Military Base	✓	✗

## WILSON COUNTY/TN HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFERS DENTAL SERVICES

The dental clinic at the health department provides basic dental services and emergency care for uninsured adults and children. The clinic also provides services for TennCare members.

The services they offer include:

- Exams
- Cleanings
- Extractions (no wisdom teeth)
- Sealants
- X-rays
- SDF (silver diamine fluoride). This stops cavities.
- Stainless steel crowns for children
- Fillings
- Prenatal dental services
- Emergency services (toothaches or broken tooth).

They start seeing patients at 2 years of age. To schedule an appointment, please call (615) 444-5325, press option 1, and one of the staff members will make you an appointment. If you need a Spanish interpreter, please say interpreter, and one of our wonderful interpreters will assist you. If using an interpreter, please be patient, as we only have two of them and they help out in all of our programs (CHANT, WIC, medical, dental, and clerical).



# Health Department Programs and Services



Scan the QR codes for additional information and resources!



## CHILDREN'S SPECIAL SERVICES (CSS)

- Comprehensive medical care and services for children and youth with special health care needs up to age 21

## COMMUNITY HEALTH ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

- Links individuals to community resources
- Offers care coordination of medical and social services, and assists patients in navigating the health care system



## IMMUNIZATIONS

- Vaccination services for all adults and children in need of necessary vaccines



## HEALTH SCREENINGS

- Screening for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) including HIV, Hepatitis C, and Syphilis, and STI treatment
- Breast and cervical cancer screenings



## FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

- Confidential clinical services including check-ups for men and women, fertility services, pregnancy testing and counseling, birth control information and supplies, etc.
- Telehealth appointments available

## WOMEN, INFANT, CHILDREN (WIC)

- Supplemental food assistance and nutrition education program based on eligibility
- Available to women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum, infants and children until age 5



## ADDITIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

- Primary care and dental services
- Health department specific programs\*
- Vital records



\* Call your local health department for program availability and eligibility information.



Wilson County Health Department  
927 E. Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon TN  
(615) 444-5325



# COLEMAN & CO. TALKSHOW

TUNE IN FEB. 18  
AROUND 7:45AM!

GUEST, MAYOR RANDALL HUTTO

WANT 98.9 FM / WCOR AM 1490  
DEC. 16TH | WITH COLEMAN WALKER

## Valentine's Day Word Search



Find the words below in the word search.

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



HUG  
CARD  
PRESENT  
FEBRUARY

LOVE  
LETTER  
CHOCOLATE  
HAPPINESS

KISS  
COOKIE  
KINDNESS  
TEDDY BEAR

# H O M E

is where the heart is



# Heart-Healthy Chili

Recipe by: American Heart Association

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 pound 96% lean ground beef
- 1 onion (diced)
- 4 garlic cloves (minced)
- 2 tablespoons paprika
- 1 teaspoon ground chipotle powder
- 2 teaspoons cumin
- 2 cans kidney beans (14.5 ounce cans with juice)
- low-fat sour cream (optional)
- shredded, low-fat cheddar cheese (optional)
- fresh cilantro leaves (garnish)
- 1 cup no salt added, canned corn
- 2 cans no salt added tomato sauce (8 ounce cans)
- 2 cans no salt added diced tomatoes (14.5 ounce cans with juice)

## DIRECTIONS

1. Place a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the oil followed by the ground beef, onions, and garlic. Cook and break up the ground beef as you go until it is browned, about 7 minutes. Add the paprika, chipotle, and cumin then cook for 2 minutes more.
2. Add the tomato sauce, diced tomatoes with their juices, kidney beans with their juices, and canned corn to the pot. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer until you achieve your desired thickness, about 20 minutes.
3. Ladle into bowls, garnish with fresh cilantro leaves and serve with optional toppings, if desired (shredded cheddar, sour cream). Enjoy!

<https://www.heart.org/en/recipes/hcm-heart-healthy-chili>