



# THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



## *In this newsletter:*

**Commissioner Spotlight:  
Wendell Marlowe, District 22**  
*(Page 02)*

**Tennessee Department of  
Safety and Homeland  
Security Adds More Than  
1,400 Daily REAL ID  
Appointments as May 7  
Implementation Deadline  
Approaches**  
*(Page 03)*

**Prevention Day on the Hill**  
*(Page 09)*



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

Each March, I present the State of the County Address for the Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are available at the chamber, so give them a call if you'd like to join us on March 26th! It's always a great time, as the chamber provides the audience with lunch, and I get to brag about our county and its people. We are a truly blessed community, as we have many citizens and county employees who rally together to help others in need. Last month, we experienced extremely cold temperatures. Our employees at WEMA, the Volunteer Network, and other groups joined together to open an emergency warming shelter for those without adequate access to heat. The shelter would not have remained open without the help of volunteers, so several individuals donated their own time to make sure others could sleep in a warm bed during those cold nights. This is just one example of the kind of community that we live in. This March, it is important to remember that we aren't lucky – we're BLESSED! My office and I wish you all a blessed and happy month of March!

## Commissioner Spotlight: Wendell Marlowe District 22



### Contact INFORMATION

Phone: 615-758-5277

## 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'S 2025 AG HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED

In 2007, a group of concerned Wilson Countians came together to form the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame. Since Wilson County was founded back in 1799, Agriculture has been a cornerstone of this community. To recognize the contributions of the many folks involved in agriculture to our community, the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame was organized. Each year, at least four (4) Wilson Countians are recognized during a banquet designed to bring attention to Agriculture's prominent place in our county.

The 18th Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame Banquet will take place on April 1, 2025, in the Farm Bureau Expo Building at the Ward Agricultural Center in Lebanon with a reception at 6:00 pm and the actual banquet at 6:30 pm. Area FFA and 4-H Members will serve as ushers for the evening. The following individuals will be part of the 18th class of inductees into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame:

- **Stratton Bone**
- **Ruth Correll**
- **Debbie Joines**
- **Quintin & Vicki Smith**



*Continued on page 06.*

# TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY ADDS MORE THAN 1,400 DAILY REAL ID APPOINTMENTS AS MAY 7 IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINE APPROACHES



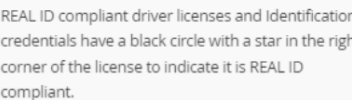
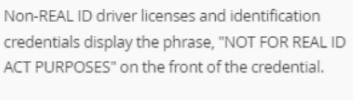




With the REAL ID Act of 2005 taking effect in three months, the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, TDOSHS, is expanding access by adding 1,432 additional REAL ID-specific appointment slots per day at Driver Services Centers across the state.

The REAL ID Act requires anyone 18 or older to have a REAL ID or another federally issued photo ID to board commercial flights within the United States or to enter certain federal buildings, military bases, and nuclear power plants.

“The REAL ID appointment expansion helps ensure that Tennesseans have the opportunity to obtain a REAL ID ahead of the federal deadline,” said TDOSHS Commissioner Jeff Long. “Our goal is to make the process as convenient as possible and to help travelers avoid last-minute delays. The added appointments reflect our commitment to both security and customer service.”

More than 2.7 million Tennesseans have already received REAL ID-compliant credentials, while nearly 1.2 million have not yet made a decision about getting a REAL ID. Another 1.9 million Tennesseans have chosen not to get a REAL ID-compliant credential. TDOSHS began issuing REAL IDs on July 1, 2019.

“We encourage Tennesseans to take advantage of the increased appointment availability now, rather than waiting until the last minute,” said Commissioner Long. “By planning ahead, you can avoid longer lines and ensure you have the credentials needed for travel and federal access.” *Continued on next page...*

	REAL ID CREDENTIAL	STANDARD ID 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			✓	✗

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.

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

# TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY ADDS MORE THAN 1,400 DAILY REAL ID APPOINTMENTS AS MAY 7 IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINE APPROACHES

*Continued from last page...* To apply for a REAL ID, customers must bring proof of U.S. citizenship or legal presence, proof of their Social Security Number, and two proofs of Tennessee residency. If your name has changed, you must also bring certified legal documents supporting the name change(s). All documents must be original or certified. Photocopies are not accepted. To ensure you're bringing the correct documents, TDOSHS encourages you to have your REAL ID required documents pre-approved online. A complete list of accepted documents and the pre-approval portal are available at [tnrealid.gov](https://tnrealid.gov).

Federal law requires REAL ID applications to be made in person. If you have a Tennessee Driver License or ID, you can apply for a REAL ID at a Driver Services Center or a participating County Clerk. If you do not have a Tennessee Driver License or ID, you must apply for a REAL ID at a Driver Services Center. Tennesseans can save time at the Driver Services Center by scheduling an appointment to get a REAL ID. Find a Driver Services Center or participating County Clerk near you and schedule an appointment at [tnrealid.gov](https://tnrealid.gov).

Obtaining a REAL ID is optional. Non-REAL ID licenses will continue to be accepted for general identification purposes such as driving, purchasing alcohol or tobacco products, applying for federal benefits, voting or accessing hospitals, post offices, banks, federal courts, etc.

After the REAL ID implementation, Tennesseans may also use a valid passport or other federally issued photo ID to fly domestically. For the complete list of acceptable ID, visit the Transportation Security Administration, TSA, website, [tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification](https://tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification).

If you are getting a Tennessee license for the first time or it is time to renew your license, the cost to get a REAL ID is \$28.00. If you get a REAL ID outside of your renewal period, there is an additional duplication fee of either \$8 or \$12 depending on your license classification.

For more information about Tennessee REAL ID, visit [tnrealid.gov](https://tnrealid.gov).

# A MESSAGE FROM WILSON COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

EVERYONE NEEDS A BEST FRIEND! Adopt a dog from Wilson County Animal Control. The adoption fee is only \$45. Dogs not already fixed require a \$50 spay/neuter deposit that will be refunded when the dog is fixed. Dogs adopted will be microchipped and up to date on vaccinations. So call **615-444-9775** and make an appointment to come pick out a pup today!



## Traveling abroad? Enroll in STEP

Are you traveling or living outside the U.S.? STEP is a free service that sends you emails with updates from the local U.S. embassy or consulate. If there's an emergency where you are, it helps us contact you with instructions on what to do.

### Why join STEP?

- Get real time updates about health, weather, safety, and security in the country.
- Plan ahead using information from the local U.S. embassy.
- Help the embassy or consulate contact you if there's an emergency like a natural disaster, civil unrest, or a family emergency.

**MORE INFO AT  
STEP.STATE.GOV**

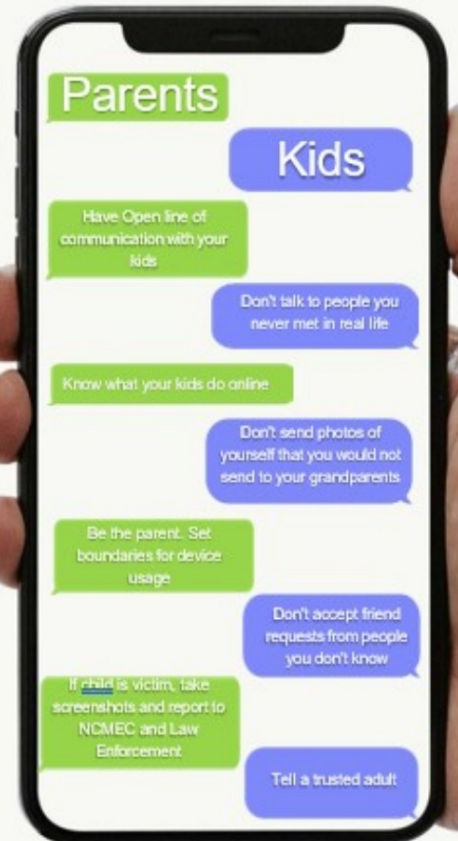
## Internet Safety 101

TENNESSEE  
BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION

If you are a victim or would like to report a crime against a child involving the internet, please report to the following:

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)  
CYBERTIP Line  
Missingkids.org

TBI Tip line  
tipstortbi@tn.gov  
1-800 - TBI-FIND  
615-744-4000



# WILSON COUNTY'S 2025 AG HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED *Continued from page 02*

"The purpose of the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame is to recognize citizens of Wilson County who have made a significant impact on agriculture in Wilson County, Tennessee, nationally or worldwide" states Keith Harrison, the Chairman of the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame. "We feel the time is right to pay tribute to these very deserving individuals. Each has made significant contributions to Wilson County Agriculture, as well as Wilson County in general."

Other members of the Board of Directors of the Wilson County Agriculture Hall of Fame are Jeffrey Turner, Vice Chairman; Neal Oakley, Secretary; Diane Major, Treasurer; Ben Powell; Louis Fletcher; Isabel Hall & Lucas Holman. The organizers have established a non-profit status for the organization to enable them to raise money to be used for a building on the Ward Agricultural Center to be dedicated to the individuals inducted into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame. "Any funds raised over and above the costs of putting on the annual banquet will be set aside for the building," states Jeffrey Turner, Vice Chairman of the Hall of Fame.

"This is a tremendous honor for our inductees and their families. It is important to recognize the irreplaceable value that farmers bring to Agriculture is a leading industry in Tennessee and agricultural stewards have brought to our county, state, and nation overall. We sincerely thank the

Tickets for the April 1 banquet can be purchased by calling 444-1890 ext. 3. The cost is \$30 each. Jordan's Catering will be preparing the meal that evening, which is another reason to join in on the festivities. "We want folks to come together to recognize these deserving individuals on April 1," says Harrison. "We owe these folks a great deal of gratitude for everything they have done for agriculture as well as Wilson County." For information, please visit [www.wilsoncountyaghalloffame.org](http://www.wilsoncountyaghalloffame.org).





*a Message from Mayor Hutto...*

On National Agriculture Day, we recognize the exceptional and irreplaceable value that farmers and agricultural stewards have contributed to our county, state, and nation. Farmers, thank you for feeding our communities, for making Wilson County a leader in Tennessee's Century Farms, and for making agriculture a leading industry in Tennessee. Thank you to all of our Wilson County farmers! #NationalAgDay

*National Agriculture Day  
March 18, 2025*



# COLEMAN & CO. TALKSHOW

**TUNE IN MARCH 17  
AROUND 7:45AM!**

**GUEST, MAYOR RANDALL HUTTO**

**WANT 98.9 FM / WCOR AM 1490  
MARCH 17 | WITH COLEMAN WALKER**



# COURTHOUSE DISPLAYS EXHIBIT IN HONOR OF WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

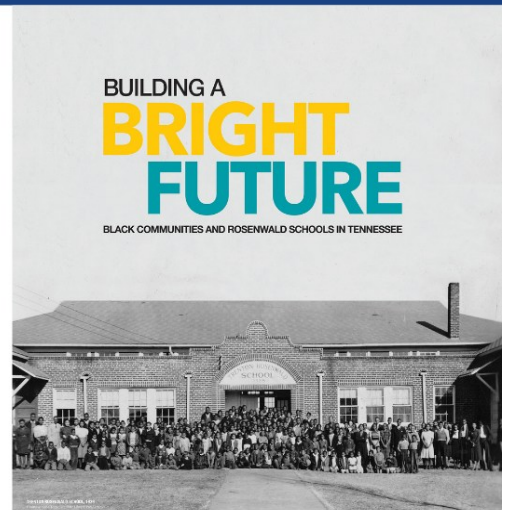
Stop by the Wilson County Courthouse to view the “Building a Bright Future: Black Communities and Rosenwald Schools in Tennessee.”

In the early 20th century, a historic collaboration led to the building of nearly 5,000 public schools in the Southeastern United States to improve education opportunities for African American students. These schools became known as Rosenwald Schools, and they drove dramatic improvement in Black educational attainment and educated the generation who became leaders of the Civil Rights movement.

The self-guided exhibit was installed at the courthouse last month in honor of Black History Month. With March being Women’s History Month, the Mayor’s Office is encouraging residents and citizens to stop by and learn about the female teachers and students who would go on to make positive impacts in their communities.

The display will be showcased in the courthouse’s upstairs lobby now through March 27, 2025, and it is FREE to the public. Anyone is welcome to stop by on weekdays during regular business hours to view the exhibit. The courthouse is located at: 228 East Main St, Lebanon. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm.

“Building a Bright Future” is presented in partnership with Fisk University’s John Hope and Aurelia E. Franklin Library, as well as the Tennessee State Museum.



# PREVENTION DAY ON THE HILL *submitted by Tammy Grow*

DrugFree WilCo participated in Prevention Day on the Hill, giving the Youth Prevention Coalitions (YPCs) the opportunity to advocate for critical prevention initiatives with Senator Mark Pody and Representative Clark Boyd. The youth members also learned about the legislative process by participating in a mock session, empowering them to lead the charge for a brighter future. The YPCs represented Wilson County with professionalism, passion, and knowledge.





**K-9**  
*Veterans Day*  
 March 13, 2025



**VIETNAM WAR**  
*Veteran's Day*  
 March 29, 2025

Government Relations Division Presents:

# STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS **2025**



MAYOR RANDALL HUTTO



**Wilson County**  
*Tennessee*

Wilson Bank & Trust Operations Center  
 105 N Castle Heights Ave  
 Lebanon, TN 37087

**MARCH 26 11:30AM-1PM**

Forum will discuss critical issues such as growth, achievements & goals that lie ahead for the next 10 years in our County.

**QUALITY OF LIFE | PUBLIC SAFETY  
 EDUCATION | TRANSIT & ROAD PROJECTS**

**LEBANON WILSON COUNTY**  
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



CONNECT. GROW. BELONG.

**HEAR FROM MAYOR HUTTO ABOUT WHY WILSON COUNTY IS THE PLACE TO BE**

**PURCHASE TICKETS AT:**

**LEBANONWILSONCHAMBER.COM/EVENT/STATE-OF-THE-COUNTY-2025**



# ST. PATRICK'S DAY

## Word Search

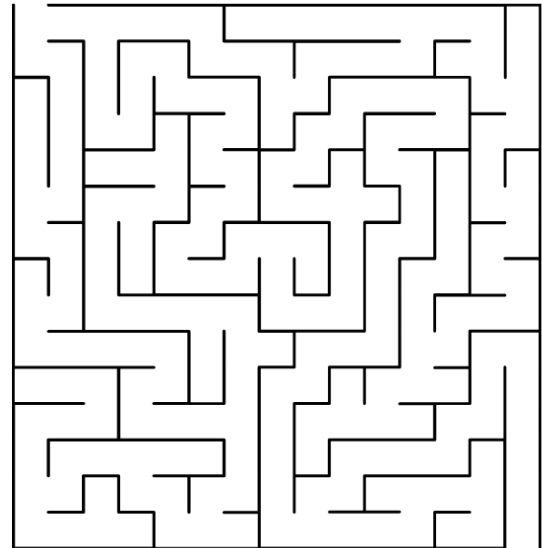
Find 9 words related to St. Patrick. They could be in any direction.



SHAMROCK	LIMERICK	GREEN
EMERALD	LEPRECHAUN	GOLD
LUCK	POTATO	SNAKE

# St. Patrick's Day Maze Puzzle

Help Lucky the leprechaun to find the way through to the pot of gold.



Start here



## WILSON CO. MAYOR'S LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE SERIES

Part 2: Education

# save the date

# 04.29.25

COLLEGE HILLS  
 CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 1401 LEEVILLE PIKE  
 LEBANON

7:30A- NETWORK & BREAKFAST  
 8:00A - PROGRAM

## Remembering Don Fox

Our community was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Lebanon's former mayor, Don Fox, on February 21, 2025. Fox served as a Second Petty Class Officer in the Navy for four years during the Vietnam War. He was elected as Lebanon's Mayor in 1994 and served until 2008. This made him the second-longest tenured mayor in Lebanon's history. Former Mayor Fox left behind a great legacy for our community. His positive impact on the City of Lebanon and Wilson County overall will continue to last for years to come. Please continue to pray for the Fox family as they go through this difficult time.



**Don Fox**  
1938-2025



Lebanon Mayor Don Fox shakes hands with former Lebanon City Judge Rodney Ahles after he is sworn into office in 1994. Courtesy of the *Wilson Post*.