



# THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



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

April is annually recognized as Organ Donor Appreciation Month. The gift of organ donation doesn't always get the attention it deserves, especially for the families who make the decision to donate their loved one's life-saving organs. We often reflect on the word "sacrifice" during this time of year. Organ donation is just that for the families who've lost a loved one. That sacrifice can go on to save multiple lives. This month and every month, let us give donors and their families our upmost respect. Easter season is a time when we should reflect on the sacrifices of others—and of course—on the greatest sacrifice of all. My office and I wish you all a blessed and Happy Easter!

**Commissioner Spotlight:  
Jeremy Reich  
District 23**



*Contact*  
**INFORMATION**

Phone: [615-456-5714](tel:615-456-5714)

**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 Friday,  
April 18, 2025** in observance of

*Good Friday*

Convenience Centers will also be  
**closed on Easter Sunday, April  
20th**. We will return to our regular  
business hours on Monday, April  
21st. We wish you all a blessed and  
Happy Easter!



HAPPY  
*Easter*

*April 20, 2025*



# COUNTY NEWS

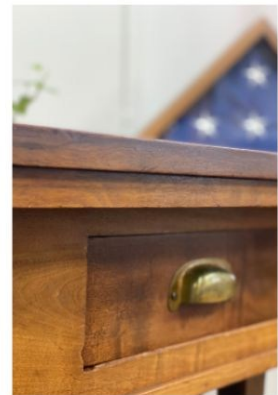
## HISTORIC TABLE FINDS ITS WAY HOME

### *TABLE THAT FURNISHED THE OLD COURTHOUSE*

In 1882, the Quarterly County Court of Wilson County, predecessor to the County Commission, authorized the construction of a new County Courthouse on the southwest corner of the town square in Lebanon. In 1966, a new courthouse was constructed on East Main Street in Lebanon. An auction was held shortly thereafter of furniture used in the old Courthouse.

At the auction, General Sessions Judge Dan Seay and County Clerk Don Simpson, struck a deal to jointly buy an eight-foot-long table which had been purchased for use in the upstairs courtroom sometime between 1882 and the 1940's. They made an agreement that the last one of them to leave county employment would own the table. Judge Seay left office in 1974, and the table passed to newly elected County Mayor Simpson.

Shortly before Mayor Simpson left office in 1994, he gifted the table to Senator Bob Rochelle, who had also been Wilson County's first County Attorney. The table was used in the law office of Senator Rochelle until



2006 when it was moved to his home at Hunter's Point.

In 2025, Senator Rochelle gifted the table to the county for use in County Mayor Randall Hutto's office.

The exact age and other details of the table remain unknown.

"I am sure that in the future, we will have citizens knowledgeable about items like this who will be able to fill in more details on the table," stated Mayor Hutto.

# WILSON CO. RECOGNIZES WINNERS & NOMINEES OF THE 2024 GOVERNOR'S VOLUNTEER STARS AWARDS

Wilson County is pleased to announce the adult and youth winners and nominees of the 2024 Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards. Claudia Levine and Rachel Blumhardt were recognized during the



Wilson County Commission meeting on March 18, 2025. These outstanding volunteers were presented with plaques sponsored by Wilson Bank & Trust and honored for their commitment to their community.

For her outstanding volunteer work with Compassionate Hands, College Hills Church of Christ, FAM Essentials and Phoebe Connection, we are proud to announce this year's adult winner, Ms. Claudia Levine.

For her outstanding volunteer efforts as a member of the Mt. Juliet High School Marine Corps JROTC the Committee chose as Wilson County's youth winner, Rachel Blumhardt.

Congratulations Claudia and Rachel! We are humbled by your volunteer spirit and honored to recognize you as Governor's Volunteer Stars.

As a GVSA recipient, Claudia and Rachel represented Wilson County at the GVSA State of TN banquet in February where they were honored along with other counties across the state.

Also recognized during the March County Commission Meeting were the 2024 nominees. These included 8 nominations from Wilson Rides, Inc. for the service they...  
*Continued on next page.*

# WILSON CO. RECOGNIZES WINNERS & NOMINEES OF THE 2024 GOVERNOR'S VOLUNTEER STARS AWARDS

*Continued from last page...* provide for our senior population providing safe rides to doctor's appointments, grocery shopping and everything in between. Nominees included: Kathy Streets, Ron Tatlock, Nancy Hodny, Bob Morrison, Joetta Wood, Carol Martin, Lucy Di Benedetto, and Diana Cavender.

New Leash on life and the Joy Clinic nominated 2 of their volunteers: Macy Thompson and Jeanne Dravants.

Two nominees for volunteers who provided services for Hurricane Helene Relief efforts were recognized: Cindy Wood and William Shipper.

Nominated for establishing and running the Community Service Officer Program: Richard Frankich.

Wilson Co. Promotions nominated Randall Clemons for his tireless efforts throughout the year to make the Wilson Co. TN State Fair among the top in the country.

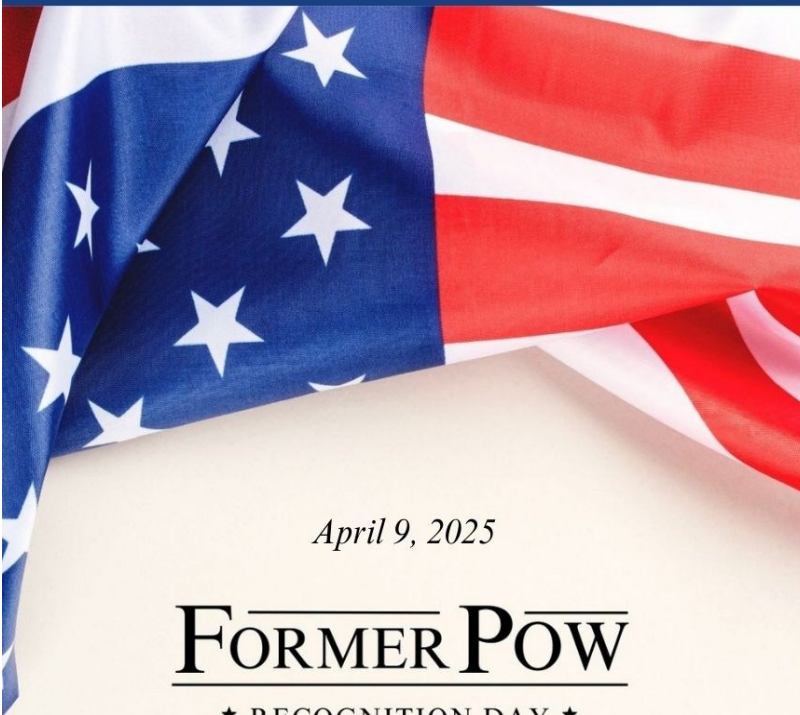
Greg Butler was nominated for his volunteer work with Wilson Rides, Inc., the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and a host of other volunteer efforts.

Georgia Flowers was nominated in the youth division for her volunteer work with Run4Water, 84 days and volunteer work at FCS.

These volunteers were presented with a plaque sponsored by Wilson Bank and Trust. Congratulations to all our volunteers! We appreciate your work and dedication to your community!

Be on the lookout for outstanding volunteers in your community and be ready to nominate them for a Governor's Volunteer Stars Award this fall. For more information, contact Sara Davenport at the Wilson County Mayor's office at 615/444-1383.

The Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards (GVSA) is an initiative from Volunteer Tennessee that seeks to recognize outstanding volunteers from each of Tennessee's 95 counties. Participating counties conduct a call for nominations and recognize one outstanding youth and one outstanding adult volunteer.



April 9, 2025

# FORMER POW

★ RECOGNITION DAY ★

Today and every day, we recognize and honor the courageous prisoners of war (POW) and those who are still missing in action (MIA). Thank you to all who serve.



# COLEMAN & CO. TALKSHOW

TUNE IN APRIL 21  
AROUND 7:45AM!

GUEST, MAYOR RANDALL HUTTO

Presented by:

Lebanon Wilson Co.  
Chamber of Commerce

Mt. Juliet  
Chamber of Commerce

Watertown  
Chamber of Commerce



Wilson Co. Mayor's  
Looking Into the Future Series

## Part 2: Education

A moderated panel discussion among educational leaders addressing key concerns related to safety, academics, career preparedness, and more.

04.29.25

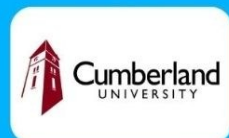
7:30a Network/Breakfast  
8:00-9:00a Program

College Hills Church of Christ  
1401 Leeville Pike, Lebanon

RSVP : shawsu@wilsoncountytg.gov



sponsors



# WEGO STAR OFFERS RIDES TO ST. JUDE ROCK 'N' ROLL MARATHON

Wilson County Mayor and RTA Chair Randall Hutto is partnering with WeGo Public Transit to transport runners and supporters to the St. Jude Rock 'n' Roll Marathon on April 26, 2025.

The train to the marathon is a collaborative effort between WeGo, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and Wilson County.

All ticket proceeds will benefit St. Jude. RJ Corman is supporting the special event train as this year's corporate sponsor.

Tickets cost \$15 plus a \$2 processing fee and may be purchased with a credit card through [TicketsNashville.com](https://TicketsNashville.com). Tickets will be on sale until 24 hours prior to departure or until tickets are sold out, whichever comes first. Children ages 4 and younger will not need a ticket to board; however, they are required to sit in a parent or guardian's lap. Anyone needing special accommodations to board is asked to contact WeGo Customer Care at 615-862-5950 prior to their trip.

## Departure schedule

- Lebanon Station 5:00 a.m.
- Hamilton Springs Station 5:08 a.m.
- Martha Station 5:15 a.m.
- Mt. Juliet Station 5:25 a.m.
- Hermitage Station 5:35 a.m.
- Donelson Station 5:45 a.m.

The train will arrive at Riverfront Station at 6:00 a.m. The return train to Lebanon leaves Riverfront Station at 1:30 p.m.

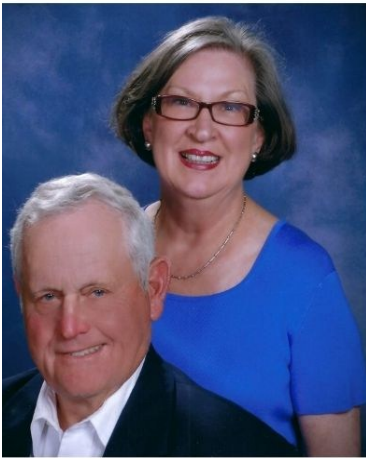
WeGo Public Transit on social media ([@WeGoTransit](https://twitter.com/WeGoTransit)) and visit [WeGoTransit.com](https://WeGoTransit.com). Customers can check mobile real-time information on the Transit App. The Transit App can be downloaded in your app store.



# WILSON COUNTY AG HALL OF FAME 2025 INDUCTEES HONORED



The Eighteenth Annual Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on April 1st in the Farm Bureau Exposition Building. Area FFA and 4-H members will serve as ushers for the evening. The following individuals are listed as the eighteenth class of inductees: Stratton Bone, Ruth Correll, Debbie Joines, and Quintin and Vicki Smith. Congratulations to the inductees and their families on this wonderful achievement!



*Pictured (left to right): Mr. and Mrs. Stratton Bone, Mrs. Ruth Correll, Mrs. Debbie Joines, Quintin and Vicki Smith*



# STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

Mayor Hutto delivered his Annual State of the County Address on March 26, 2025 at the Wilson Bank & Trust Operations Center. Several community leaders, local business owners, and citizens were in attendance. The address was recorded live for those who were not able to attend. It can be watched on WCTV's YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/live/7w1TJUbjxU8](https://www.youtube.com/live/7w1TJUbjxU8). Mayor Hutto's oldest son, Alex, gave him a very warm introduction to the podium. The Wilson County Mayor's Office would especially like to thank the Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce and Wilson Bank & Trust for making this event possible. Wilson County is truly blessed, and through the State of the County Address we got to share some great information with our community. Thank you to everyone in attendance!



# WILSON COUNTY – TENNESSEE STATE FAIR RECOGNIZES TOP DAIRY PROCESSORS IN BEST OF TENNESSEE CHAMPIONSHIP

The results are in! The Wilson County – Tennessee State Fair proudly announces the top dairy processors products in Tennessee with the prestigious Best of Tennessee State Champion titles for the 2025 Wilson County – Tennessee State Fair Dairy Processors Products Competition. Dairy processors from across the state competed in nineteen categories showcasing the best dairy products Tennessee offers. In partnership with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and the Tennessee Dairy Processors Association, the competition took place February 21-22, 2025, in the Made in Tennessee Building at the James E. Ward Agricultural Center also known as the Wilson County Fairgrounds in Lebanon, TN.

A total of twelve Tennessee dairy processors entered forty-six products into the competition which was facilitated by the University of Tennessee Center for Dairy Advancement and Sustainability. Judges evaluated each entry based on their overall judges' score selecting winners for each category. The Best of Tennessee State Champions were then announced during a special awards luncheon on Saturday, February 22. Winners in each category included the following:

Category	Best of Tennessee State Champion
Homogenized Whole Milk	Heritage Farms (Kroger)
Homogenized 1% Milk	Mayfield Dairy Farms
Homogenized Whole Chocolate Milk	Middle Tennessee State University
Homogenized Reduced Fat Chocolate Milk	Heritage Farms (Kroger)
Non-Homogenized Whole Milk	Old Stone Creamery
Non-Homogenized Whole Chocolate Milk	Flowers Creamery
Flavored Milk of the Year	Weigel's
Whole Buttermilk	Purity Dairies
Strawberry Yogurt	Heritage Farms Dairy (Kroger)
Plain Yogurt	Heritage Farms Dairy (Kroger)
Vanilla Ice Cream	Nash Family Creamery
Chocolate Ice Cream	Mayfield Dairy Farms
Strawberry Ice Cream	Mayfield Dairy Farms
Butter Pecan Ice Cream	Nash Family Creamery
Ice Cream Flavor of the Year	Mayfield Dairy Farms
Aged Cheddar Cheese	Flowers Creamery
Mild Cheddar Cheese	Flowers Creamery
Chevre	Merry Oak Manor Dairy
Flavored Cheese of the Year	Flowers Creamery

"We are proud to recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of Tennessee's dairy processors," said Randall Clemons, President of the Wilson County - Tennessee State Fair. "Their dedication to quality and craftsmanship continues to set the standard for excellence in the dairy industry. We look forward to showcasing their award-winning products at the Fair and honoring the Best of Tennessee State Champions."

The Best of Tennessee State Champions will be exhibited at the 2025 Wilson County – Tennessee State Fair that runs August 14-23, 2025. We'll see YOU at the Fair!



## Gold Star Spouses Day

April 5, 2025

Today, we honor the families of fallen Servicemembers and honor the legacy of those who gave their lives in service to our nation.



Traveling abroad?

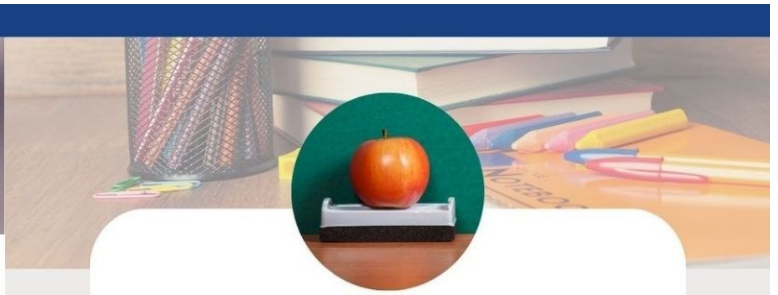
## Enroll in STEP

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**



## National Assistant Principals Week

April 7-11, 2025

Wishing our WCS, LSSD, and private school Assistant Principals a wonderful week.

Thank you for your dedication to our students!  
Happy National Assistant Principals Week!

## FOSTER CARE COMMUNITY DAY



**Saturday, April 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**11:30am-2:30pm**

## A DAY OF FUN, FREEBIES AND FOOD FOR FOSTER AND KINSHIP FAMILIES!

Community partners will also be onsite answering questions, providing resources and sharing how everyone can do their part to support foster care



**You're invited!**

# NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

# Mental Health Fair

Hosted by the Wilson County Mental Health Committee  
In conjunction with the Wilson County Health Council  
And the Wilson County Health Department

Join us and learn about the mental health resources here in the community!



May 3rd, 2025



10 AM - 2 PM



228 E Main St,  
Lebanon, TN 37087

- Several mental health organizations and resources will be available
- Food trucks, hot dogs, and giveaways
- Family fun activities and bouncy houses
- Many community partners will be present!



**Estás invitado!**

# Feria de Salud Mental

Organizado por el Comité de Salud Mental de Wilson en colaboración con el Concilio de Salud del Condado de Wilson y el Departamento de Salud de Wilson.

Únete a nosotros para aprender de los recursos de la salud mental aquí en nuestra comunidad!



El 3 de Mayo del 2025



10 AM - 2 PM



228 E Main St,  
Lebanon, TN 37087

- Varias organizaciones y recursos de salud mental estarán disponibles
- Carritos de comida, hot dogs, y regalos
- Actividades divertidas para toda la familia y casas inflables
- Muchos socios comunitarios estarán presentes



April is National Donate Life Month. Local organ donor Jayden Lackey was just 5 months old when he passed on March 19, 2023 along with his parents, Cali Minor and Toby Lackey in a tragic accident. Jayden's family made the selfless decision to donate his life-saving organs to those in need. Those recipients are alive and thriving today because of Jayden.

In memory of Jayden and all organ donors, the courthouse was lit in green on March 19, 2025. (See photo on next page.) This month, we honor their memory and thank the many organ donor families that made the selfless decision to give others a chance at life.

Learn more about donation and how to support the mission at [donatelife.net](http://donatelife.net).



DonateLife.net





Photo credit: Ginger Minor, grandmother of Jayden Lackey



Please RSVP to Debbie McChurch  
mcchurchd@wcschools.com  
by April 14th for lunch planning

**WILSON COUNTY SCHOOLS  
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER  
FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL LUNCHEON  
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025  
11:00AM-12:00PM  
WILSON CENTRAL HS LIBRARY-2ND FLOOR**

# WELCOME HOME, NASA HEROES!

Mt. Juliet native, Barry “Butch” Wilmore returned to Earth after a prolonged 9-month stay at the International Space Station. On March 18, 2025 at 5:57 p.m. EDT., Butch and his fellow NASA astronauts Suni Williams, Nick Hague, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Aleksandr Gorbunov, splashed down near the coast of Florida. A pod of curious dolphins swam around the strange capsule as ground crews prepared it to be opened. Welcome home, NASA heroes!



# HELPFUL TIPS ON STAYING PREPARED FOR SPRINGTIME'S SEVERE WEATHER

## STORM PLANNING TIMELINE

### A few days out

If the forecast calls for severe weather in a few days, start preparing now.

-  Make sure that you have emergency supplies
-  Know your safe places
-  Have a family communication plan

### The day before

The day before, forecast accuracy continues to improve.

-  Adjust plans
-  Make sure your phone can receive WEAs
-  Ensure your shelter is clean and accessible

### The day of

Remain vigilant and aware of any active Watches. A Warning may be issued at a moment's notice!

-  Remind your family of the communication plan
-  Know how to evacuate and/or get to safety from wherever you are
-  When a Warning is issued, you may only have seconds to take action!

weather.gov



## Be Prepared for Nighttime Tornadoes

### Cell phone

Turned on, charged and Wireless Emergency Alerts enabled

### NOAA Weather Radio

Test regularly and make sure it's tuned to your local station

### Safe Place

Have a safe place prepared if you know storms are coming

### Flashlight & Shoes

Keep flashlight and sturdy shoes handy



weather.gov



# WILSON COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ANNOUNCES FOREVER HOMES & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*Wilson County Animal Control recently posted the following message on their Facebook page:* If you're looking for a pup that loves to have a good time, look no further. We have many dogs whose love language is PLAY (and snacks... and pets... and more snacks...).

Not looking adopt? One of the perks of becoming a volunteer is getting to walk and play with some very adorable pups.

Call the Wilson County Animal Control office at 615-444-9775 to learn more about volunteering or to meet one of our dogs!

BROWSE THE DOGS HERE:

[https://www.petfinder.com/search/pets-for-adoption/?shelter\\_id%5B0%5D=TN703&sort%5B0%5D=recently\\_added](https://www.petfinder.com/search/pets-for-adoption/?shelter_id%5B0%5D=TN703&sort%5B0%5D=recently_added)

