



THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



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A Word from Mayor Hutto...

As we welcome the month of April, our hearts turn toward the hope and promise that Easter brings. This season reminds us of the greatest act of love ever given, Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. His compassion, humility, and willingness to give everything for each of us remain the foundation of our faith and the source of our deepest hopes.

Through the years, we have been reminded time and time again that the Lord makes a way even when we cannot see one. My staff and I are truly blessed to work in an office where we can serve the public in numerous ways, whether we are responding to storm recovery, helping families find the resources they need, or working each day to strengthen our community. Along the way, we have witnessed countless moments where God opened doors, brought hope, and provided answers in ways only He can. *Continued on next page...*

Commissioner Spotlight: John Gentry District 11



Contact INFORMATION

Phone: [615-689-3890](tel:615-689-3890)

Wilson County LANDFILL

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

CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY

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

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CALL 615.449.6684

A Word from Mayor Hutto...

Continued from front page... Modern-day miracles truly do happen, and we are humbled to witness them and play even the smallest part in some of those stories.

Easter invites us to pause and remember that renewal is possible within our homes, our community, and our own hearts. As we move through this month, may we carry forward the spirit of grace and compassion that this season represents. From my office to each of you, we wish you a very Happy Easter and a blessed month ahead.

“He is not here; He has risen, just as He said.” — Matthew 28:6

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall Hutto".

Wilson County Government
Offices, Landfill and
Convenience Centers will be
closed on April 3, 2026 in
observance of Good Friday.

Convenience Centers will
also be closed on April 5,
2026 in observance of Easter
Sunday.

All departments will resume
to their regular schedules on
Monday, April 6, 2026.



WILSON COUNTY EMA WELCOMES NEW ENGINE

WEMA had an exciting month, welcoming their brand new Engine 4, a Pierce Saber Pumper! They also installed upgraded AEDs in every county building and hosted CPR certification training for



employees across multiple departments. These new AEDs connect to WiFi and offer far more capability in an emergency than the older models. WEMA shared their thanks to Mayor Hutto and the County Commission for making the upgrades possible, and we're grateful to our emergency management team for always staying prepared and looking out for the safety and wellbeing of our citizens!

**TURN OFF
DO NOT
DISTURB**

Take your phone off silent

Have your programmed weather radio nearby

Follow trusted sources for updates

TN Department of Military TEMA

2026 WILSON COUNTY AG HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Credentials have been released for the 2026 Wilson County Ag Hall of Fame Inductees. The 19th Annual Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame Banquet will take place on April 7, 2026, 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 19th class of inductees: Glenda Booker, Terry & Helen McPeak, William M. "Bill" Talley, and Billy Jack & Alice Tubb.

GLENDABOOKER

Glenda began her 4-H Career in the fall of 1956 when she joined the 5th Grade 4-H Club at Oakmont Elementary in Dickson County. Glenda was the first member of her family to attend college. Following graduation from UT Knoxville, Glenda was employed as the Home Agent in Houston County, with responsibilities for Adult and Youth Home Economics programs. But her heart was with 4-H and devoting more time to programming with youth. She transferred to Wilson County on January 1, 1966, and served as Assistant



Home Agent/later Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development. Titles changed, but our responsibility was the same---4-H Youth Development. Glenda was a member of Lebanon First Baptist Church, Lebanon Junior Women's Club, Lebanon Business and Professional Women's Club and Morning Rotary. She was a member of the Wilson County Fair Board, with responsibilities for the Youth Exhibit Building and the Youth Fair Board. Glenda retired from UT Extension on December 30, 2022, and resides in Dickson County. Since that time, she has continued to Volunteer with Regional and State All Stars and the Tennessee 4-H Performing Arts Troupe. She was member of the State Health Rocks Training Team and attended National and State training sessions. She served on the Operation Military Kids Training Team, attended National OMK Training, and assisted with several OMK summer camps. Glenda also worked part-time in four counties as a Program Assistant with 4-H, TNCEP, 21st Century Grant, and Workforce Readiness Grant. *Continued on page 12.*

Honoring Dispatchers Week

April 12 - 18, 2026

This week (and every week!) we're proud to honor our Wilson County 911 dispatchers and all our first responders across the Sheriff's Office, WEMA, and our city fire and police departments. Their dedication to answering the call and keeping our community safe never goes unnoticed. Our dispatchers undergo extensive training to provide life-saving instructions and coordinate emergency responses. This is the work that truly makes them first responders in every sense of the word. We send a big thank you to our dispatchers and first responders for everything they do to protect our community!

(You'll find the submitted photos of our Wilson 911 and WEMA Dispatchers below. We hope to feature the remaining team members in a dedicated Facebook post during Dispatchers Week.)



WILSON COUNTY
GOVERNMENT



Meet *Your* Mayor

LEBANON

Lebanon Wilson Chamber
Chamber
149 Public Square
Lebanon, TN
11 - 12NOON

MT. JULIET

Mt. Juliet Chamber
2055 N. Mt. Juliet
Rd, Ste 200
Mt. Juliet, TN
8:30 - 9:30AM

WATERTOWN

The Adopted
Farmhouse Social Co.
100 Public Square
Watertown, TN
1 - 2PM



LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Spend some time with
Wilson Co. Mayor Randall Hutto
as he answers your questions and provides
important county updates.
- no appointment necessary -

WILSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE TO HOST TRAVELING EXHIBIT “OUR AMERICAN STORY: VOICES FROM TENNESSEE”

The Wilson County Mayor’s Office is thrilled to announce that, in honor of our nation’s 250th Anniversary, the traveling exhibit Our American Story: Voices from Tennessee will be on display at the Wilson County Courthouse Monday, March 30 – Monday, April 20, 2026.

Created as an extension of the acclaimed Tennessee Voices, American Stories exhibit, this special anniversary edition invites visitors to reflect on a powerful question: “How will you make history?” As the United States marks 250 years, this exhibit celebrates the Tennesseans whose courage, leadership, and innovation helped shape the nation we know today.

“These stories remind us that Tennessee’s history—and Wilson County’s history—are deeply woven into the fabric of our nation,” said Mayor Randall Hutto. “As we celebrate America’s 250th Anniversary, we are honored to bring this exhibit to our community. We hope it inspires future generations to see themselves as contributors to our shared American story. We are grateful to the Tennessee State Museum for partnering with us to make this possible.”

Plan Your Visit!

The exhibit will be open Monday, March 30 – Monday, April 20, 2026, and is free to the public. Visitors are welcome weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during regular courthouse business hours.

For questions, contact Brooke Cummings in the County Mayor’s Office at 615-444-1383.



WE INVITE YOU
EMPOWER ME CENTER



DARING
 TO
DREAM
LUNCHEON



PRESENTED BY



CONTACT AMYCARVER@EMPOWERMECENTER.COM
 TO SAVE YOUR SEAT

APRIL 09, 2026
11:30AM

MADE IN TENNESSEE BUILDING

JAMES E. WARD AGRICULTURAL CENTER
 945 EAST BADDOUR PARKWAY, LEBANON, TN 37087



HISTORIC
 WATERTOWN

**MILE
 LONG
 MARKET**

SHOPPING • MUSIC
 FOOD •

APRIL 11TH | 9AM - 3PM

4.25.26

**GET
 READY TO
 RIDE**

TICKET DETAILS



Ride the WeGo Star all the way to the starting line of the St. Jude Rock N Roll Nashville Marathon. Proceeds benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



POND FIELD DAY

APRIL 10TH, 2026 2 PM TO 6 PM

343 OLD ROME PIKE LEBANON, TN 37087

Pond Construction
Aquatic Pest Prevention
Basic Pond Management
Pond Renovation
Stocking Density

CALL 615-444-9584 TO RSVP

BRING A LAWN CHAIR



Hang up or ignore suspicious calls or messages.

Government employees will NEVER threaten you or demand immediate payment.



RSVP to Christen Jones
jonesc@wcschools.com

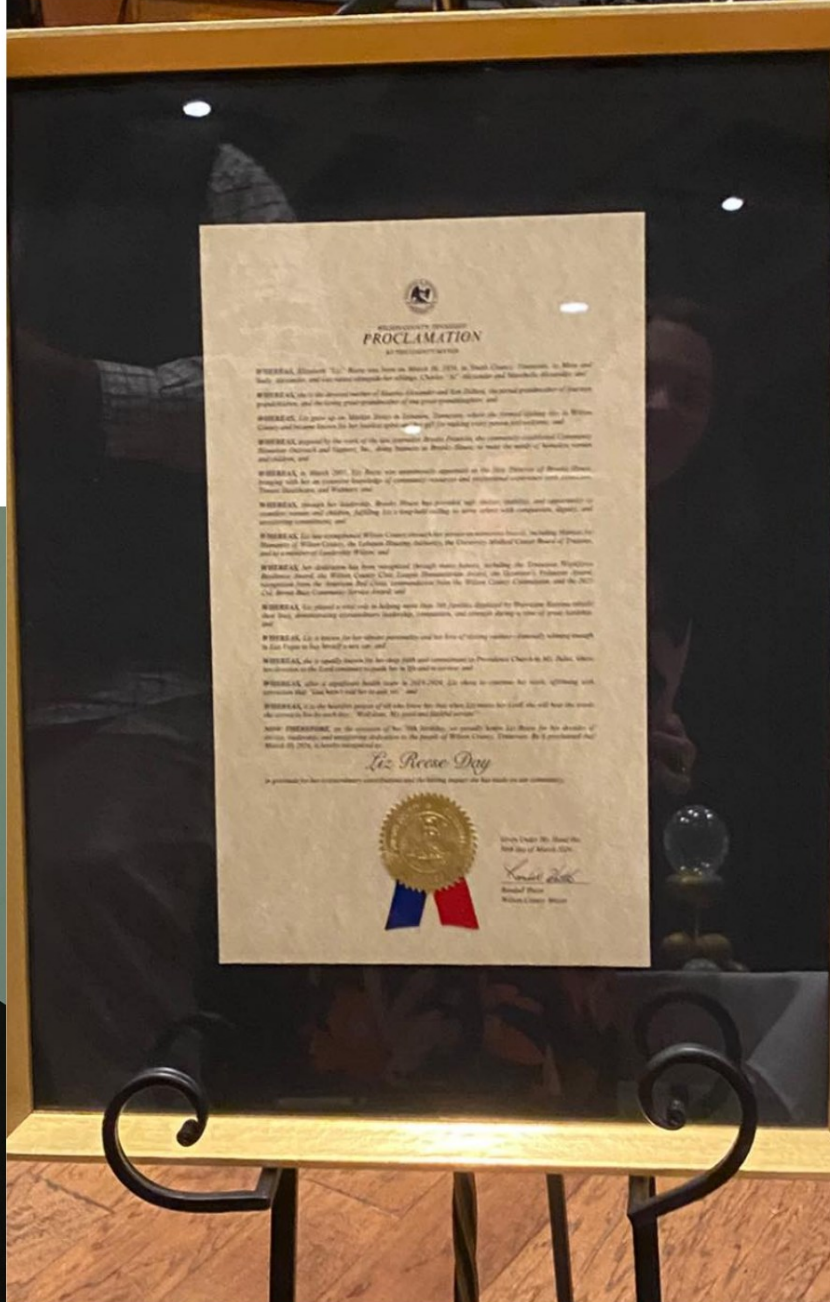
**WILSON COUNTY SCHOOLS
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL LUNCHEON
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026
11:00AM-12:15PM
WILSON CENTRAL HS LIBRARY-2ND FLOOR**

HAPPY 70TH BIRTHDAY TO LIZ REESE!

We're celebrating a remarkable member of our community, Ms. Liz Reese of the Brooks House.

In honor of her incredible contributions to our community, Mayor Hutto signed a proclamation which declares March 30, 2026 as "Liz Reese Day" in Wilson County.

Please join our office in wishing Ms. Liz a joyful and unforgettable 70th birthday! Thank you for all you do for Wilson County, Ms. Liz!



Celebrating Liz at 70

Having you here to celebrate Liz's 70th birthday truly means the world - your presence is the best gift she could ask for.

If you're feeling inspired to mark the occasion in another way, Liz would love for you to consider supporting Brooks House, a cause close to her heart and life's work.

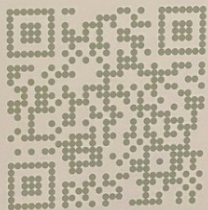
But most of all, today is about joy, laughter, stories, and celebrating the incredible woman who brings so much to all of us.

Let's honor Liz the way she lives every day - with generosity, kindness, and a whole lot of love.



BROOKS HOUSE
A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

Community Homeless
Outreach and Support, Inc
@TheBrooksHouse





Mayor Hutto
OUT AND ABOUT



2026 WILSON COUNTY AG HALL OF FAME

INDUCTEES

Helen & Terry McPeak

Helen is the daughter of Harold & Carmine Wilson Cunningham. She grew up on the family farm near the Greenvale and Norene communities.

The family Century Farm was established in 1808 with the deed was signed by John Sevier, the first Governor of TN. Helen graduated from Watertown High School, played basketball and was active in 4-H. She worked at the Baptist Sunday School Board. She attended Cumberland University and UT Nashville. She was a realtor and worked at Farm Credit Services. In 2003 she was asked to help in the Fair office. Thus, beginning of her Fair Career. Over the years she has served as Volunteer Coordinator, interim Fair Coordinator and Executive Director. Terry is the son of Lee (Bo) & Dorothy Travis McPeak, Lebanon, TN. He grew up on the family farm in Norene and attended Norene School and graduated from Lebanon High School. He was active in 4-H and FFA. After graduation, he worked as a livestock service agent, the Wilson Farmers Coop, Neely Coble Center, and retired after 41 years as a lineman and safety coordinator from Middle Tennessee Electric. Terry serves on the Wilson County Promotions Executive Committee, Director of Wilson County – TN State Fair livestock department; serves on the DTC (DeKalb Telephone Coop) Board. Their children (grandchildren) include Justin & Madison McPeak (Hank & Will); Luke McPeak; Travis & Shelby McPeak (Keaton, Walker & Jack). The entire family volunteers and helps at the Wilson County-Tennessee State Fair. Helen and Terry have helped to promote, improve and make positive contributions to the Wilson County - TN State Fair and the James E. Ward Ag. Center. Improvements include: increased livestock shows and Ag Education, 4-H and FFA competitions, livestock judging, Made in TN Exhibits, buildings such as the Farm Bureau EXPO Center, Made in TN, 4-H and FFA, State Perishables, Johnson Event Pavilion, Hale Moss Exhibit, Heritage Barn, skyride, adding adjoining property, livestock barns, fencing, paving, electrical and plumbing upgrades, upkeep of Fiddlers Grove Historic Village, Fiber to the ticket booths and many of the buildings, storage, Wi-Fi, and a First Aid and restroom building. They have seen Fair attendance increase from 59,015 in 1989 to 795,523 in 2025. They have seen an increase in competition and revenue that has enabled many improvements to the fairgrounds. They have been honored to serve the Fair Board and to see the growth and impact to the community and state over the years.



Article continued on page 19.

WILDERNESS DAY IN THE GLADE COMING UP MAY 30TH

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and Tennessee State Parks are partnering to host a full day of outdoor education, hands-on activities, and family fun at Cedars of Lebanon State Park.

Join us for Wilderness Day in the Glade, where visitors can learn about Tennessee's incredible outdoor opportunities from wildlife professionals and conservation partners. Throughout the day, guests can explore exhibits and demonstrations focused on conservation, fishing, hunting, hiking, and wildlife management.

Activities and demonstrations include:

Fly casting instruction and casting games

Archery and pellet rifle shooting

Hiking and camping essentials

Wildlife and Habitat Management Displays

Deer hunters: Bring your mounts and have them officially scored on-site by Boone and Crockett official scorers.

This is a great opportunity to meet the people who manage Tennessee's wildlife and public lands, ask questions, and learn new outdoor skills in a fun, family-friendly setting.

Partner organizations joining the event include the Tennessee Division of Forestry, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Quail Forever, Ducks Unlimited, NWTF and the Tennessee Wildlife Federation.

Don't miss this chance to learn, try new outdoor skills, and celebrate Tennessee's natural resources with the agencies and organizations dedicated to protecting them.

Where:

Cedars of Lebanon State Park
328 Cedar Forest Rd
Lebanon, Tennessee

When:

May 30, 2026

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Visit tn.gov/twra to register.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) 2026 COLLECTION EVENTS

Tennessee's Mobile Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Service will host several collection events throughout 2026. These free events are open to all Tennessee residents, and households may attend any county's event. Please note that only residential waste is accepted; no commercial, institutional, or agri-business waste will be allowed.

Below are upcoming Spring and Fall events convenient to Wilson County residents:

- Rutherford County – April 11, 2026, 8:00–12:00
Murfreesboro Solid Waste Department, 4765 Florence Road, Murfreesboro TN
(615) 898-7739
- Trousdale County – April 25, 2026, 9:00–1:00
Trousdale County Convenience Center, 600 Industrial Park Drive, Hartsville TN
(615) 374-9574
- Wilson County – October 3, 2026, 8:00–1:00
James E. Ward Agricultural Center, Wilson County Fairgrounds
945 E. Baddour Parkway, Lebanon TN (615) 444-8360...continued on next page.

**APRIL IS SAFE
DIGGING MONTH**

Happy spring, y'all! The month of April is annually recognized as Safe Digging Month. Before making any landscaping adjustments, remember to call 811 first to prevent damaging any possible underground utility lines.

MAY 16, 2026
8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

**CEDARS OF LEBANON
STATE PARK
ASSEMBLY HALL**
328 Cedar Forest Rd.
Lebanon, TN 37090

OVER 120 SPECIES OF NATIVE
TENNESSEE PERENNIALS, TREES
& SHRUBS!

WILSONCOUNTYMG.ORG

TENNESSEE
NATIVE PLANT SALE
Plant with a Purpose

MASTER GARDENERS OF
WILSON COUNTY

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) 2026 COLLECTION EVENTS

Continued from previous page...

HHW events accept a wide range of materials, including:

- Automotive/marine products such as gasoline, antifreeze, grease solvents, and additives
- Home maintenance materials like adhesives, thinners, roofing tar, and driveway sealant
- Lawn and garden chemicals including pesticides, fertilizers, and wood preservatives
- Miscellaneous items such as pool chemicals, fluorescent bulbs, mercury thermostats, aerosols, medicines, and sharps (in puncture-proof containers)

The following materials are not permitted at HHW events:

- Medical or biological waste (including infectious waste and materials from medical or veterinary offices)
- Explosives, ammunition, fireworks, gun powder, or military ordnance
- Radioactive materials, such as smoke detectors or radium paint
- Any business, institutional, hospital, school, contractor, or agribusiness waste
- Miscellaneous items including empty containers, automotive gas tanks, and alkaline batteries (these may go in regular trash)
- Electronics and paint (contact your local Solid Waste Department for proper disposal)

Since 1993, Tennessee's Mobile Collection Service has conducted more than 1,500 one-day events. Over 383,000 households have safely disposed of more than 25 million pounds of hazardous materials. The program is funded by a \$0.90-per-ton surcharge on waste entering landfills.


For more information, visit tn.gov/environment or call TDEC at (888) 891-TDEC (8332).

COME JOIN US! YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR UPCOMING LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE PANEL

Join us for an informative panel discussion on "Property Reappraisals, Land Use & Growth." Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from local leaders, connect with vendors, and enjoy a complimentary breakfast provided by Wildberry Catering.

 Tuesday, April 14, 2026

 Networking Breakfast: 7:30 AM

 Program: 8:00–9:00 AM

 Made in Tennessee Building 945 E. Baddour Parkway, Lebanon, TN 37087

This event is free and open to the public. Anyone interested in learning more about growth and development in Wilson County is encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP: shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov We look forward to seeing you there for this timely and engaging discussion.

The Looking into the Future series first launched in 2024 as an effort to keep the community informed about completed projects, ongoing initiatives, and long-term planning across Wilson County and the three cities. We are proud to continue this series and look forward to seeing you at this timely and engaging session. Special thanks to our partners, sponsors Middle Tennessee Electric and Garner Construction, and all who have worked so hard to make these Looking into the Future sessions possible.



REAL-LIFE HEROES!

We celebrate real-life heroes this month as we recognize organ donors and their families for their extraordinary generosity in giving the gift of life.



MAYOR HUTTO TO DELIVER STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS IN LEBANON

Mayor Hutto will present the State of the County Address in Lebanon on April 30 at 11:30 a.m. The event will be held at the Wilson Bank & Trust Operations Center. Tickets are \$25 and benefit the Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce; lunch is included with each ticket. Tickets can be purchased at lebanonwilsonchamber.com

LEBANON WILSON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS 2026

RANDALL HUTTO

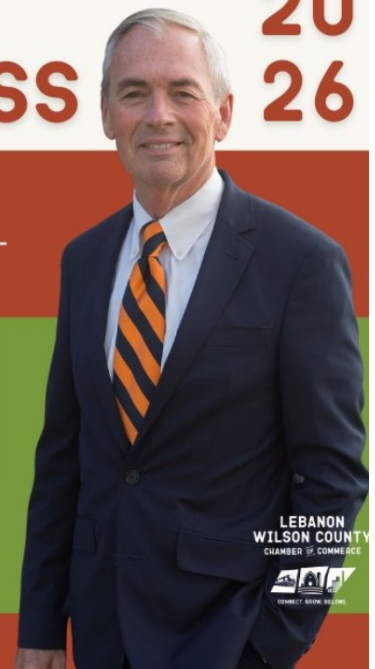
WILSON COUNTY MAYOR

This special forum will discuss critical issues such as growth, achievements & goals that lie ahead for Wilson County.

APRIL 30 11:30AM-1PM

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

\$25/EACH TICKETS AT: lebanonwilsonchamber.com



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

For those unable to attend, WCTV (Wilson County's television channel) will record and air the event. We hope you can join us!

TENNESSEE FARMERS INVITED TO HELP GUIDE THE FUTURE OF COST-SHARE PROGRAM

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) is inviting farmers, agricultural partners and members of the public to participate in the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) Listening Tour, a series of public meetings designed to gather input on the future of one of the state’s most impactful agricultural programs.

As TAEP continues to evolve to meet the needs of modern agriculture, TDA is hosting listening sessions across the state to hear directly from producers and stakeholders about what is working, what could be improved and what opportunities exist for the future.

Farmers, agricultural organizations and community members are encouraged to attend and share their experiences and suggestions on how TAEP can best serve Tennessee agriculture.

TAEP, created by the Tennessee General Assembly in 2005 and administered by TDA, provides cost-share opportunities to help farmers invest in improvements to their operations, diversify production and strengthen long-term agricultural sustainability.

Visit TDA’s Facebook page for more information.

TAEP LISTENING TOUR

March 20, 2026 Friday 9-11 am Central	West TN Ag Research and Education Center 605 Airways Blvd. Jackson, TN 38301
April 9, 2026 Thursday 2-4 pm Central	Tennessee Farm Bureau Clyde York Conference Room 147 Bear Creek Pike Columbia, TN 38401
April 10, 2026 Friday 12-2 pm Eastern	UT Eastern Region Extension Office 1801 Downtown West Blvd. Knoxville, TN 37919

TN Department of Agriculture | Health & Development

GrandFam Fest

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

Saturday, April 18th
8:30 AM- 12 PM

Space limited, register today!

Family Center of FUMC
415 W Main St, Lebanon, TN 37087

Learning | Resource Fair | Kids' Activities | Breakfast & Lunch!!

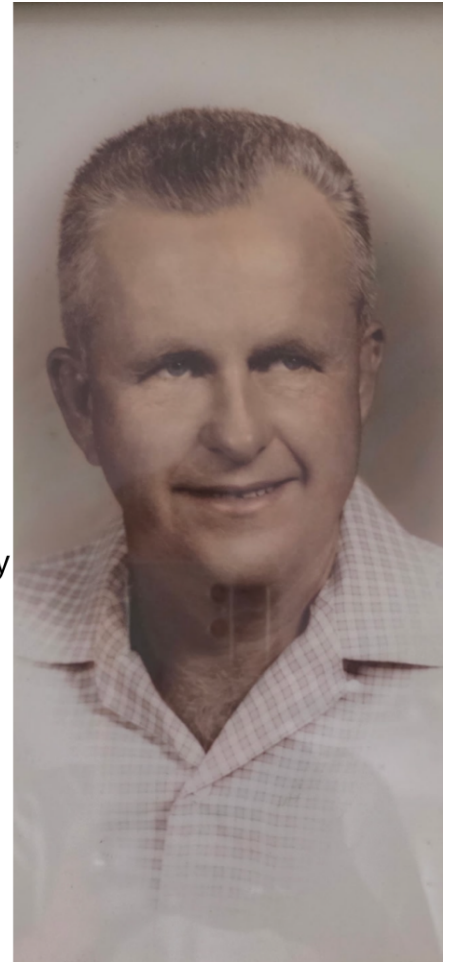
FAM Essentials | LANTERN LANE FARM | Foster 180

Scan QR code or visit www.Foster180.com to register.

2026 WILSON COUNTY AG HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

WILLIAM M. “BILL” TALLEY

Bill was born on August 2, 1908, and passed on September 8, 1981. His wife was Gladys Haley Talley. Their children included Bettye Talley Andrews Richardson and Mary Sue “Susie” Talley Earley. He was born to Ferrie Ola and Carver Talley in the Bellwood Community. After attending Lebanon schools, he became a major livestock producer while also raising crops on the Old Rome Pike farm. At a time when the 2nd Army Maneuvers lived and trained across the Talley farm, Gladys drove supply trucks from Nashville to Lebanon’s Maneuvers headquarters at Cumberland University. Later, Bill Talley taught farming practices to soldiers and sailors returning from World War II service through the newly enacted GI Bill program. A partner in Wilson County Livestock Market for almost two decades, Talley was on the scene of a fire that destroyed the sale barn in 1954. That barn was located near the railroad tracks on South College Street. When Talley and partners needed to rebuild, the city wanted the barn way out of town on Highway 70. It was located on West Main Street, where the Goodwill store now sits. The city’s rationale was that Lebanon’s city limits would never reach that far. Talley was known for innovation and the introduction of new livestock to the revenue streams of Wilson County. Texas was known for its robust sheep ranches, giving Talley the idea of traveling to the Lone Star State to purchase some. Over the years, he shipped in thousands of sheep to provide replacement females and flock expansion for producers. As a result, Wilson County became the largest producer of sheep during the 1950’s & 60s, when Wilson County Livestock was the scene of large 4-H sheep shows. With a keen interest in beef cattle, Talley produced Herefords for many decades, adding to their dominance in the area. In the late 1950s, he bought Santa Gertrudis from the noted Winrock Farms in Arkansas. In the mid-1960s, he and Gladys moved to Palmetto, Florida, where he established Talley Ranch. He may have been far away, but that did not stop Talley’s influence on agriculture in Wilson County. While Talley sold his interest in the livestock market in 1963 to his son-in-law, Sam Andrews, he continued to trade livestock in Wilson County, shipping and receiving various breeds through the Lebanon sales. Co-owners of the market were Fisher Smith and Arnold Atwood. Talley never fell out of love with his Tennessee home, often saying, “I’d rather be dead in Wilson County than be alive anywhere else.” As his health began to fail, he directed Gladys that if she could not take him back home for burial, to make sure he was in a mausoleum, far above ground, as he had seen so many graves flooded in Florida. He was entombed in a mausoleum until a decade ago, when his grandchildren had the idea to send Bill and Gladys back home to the Bellwood Cemetery, where many Talley ancestors are buried. During a 12-hour drive, grandson Jere Andrews brought them back in a U Haul. He made sure to drive them around Lebanon’s Square and past their farm one last time. Article continued on next page...



2026 WILSON COUNTY AG HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Billy Jack & Alice Tubb

Billy Jack was born in Mt. Juliet, TN on December 22, 1934, to James Howard Tubb and Mildred Elizabeth Bradshaw Tubb. Billy Jack was an only child. Alice lone Vance Tubb was born in Lebanon, TN on August 3, 1938, to James (Jim)Vance, and Edna Maie Harrelson Vance. Alice was one of thirteen children. Billy Jack grew up on his family farm in the Riverview community in Mt. Juliet, and Alice grew up on her family farm in Lebanon located on Vance Lane. They both attended and graduated Lebanon High School, where Billy Jack was an avid baseball player, and Alice an avid basketball player. Alice was elected Future Farmer Attendant in 1956. They started their life journey together and married on May 31, 1957. Billy Jack and Alice moved to the Laguardo community in 1958, where they made it their forever home. They soon started their family and raised four daughters: Vickie, Tammy, Jacqueline (Jackie), and Toni. Billy Jack and Alice shared a love of farming, faith, and community. They were active members of the Laguardo Church of Christ, Laguardo Saddle Club, Lebanon Saddle Club, and Suggs Creek Saddle Club. They raised a variety of crops including burley tobacco, corn, hay, tomatoes, and vegetables. They also enjoyed raising cattle, pigs, and horses. Billy Jack was named Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year by the Lebanon Jaycees in 1963. While Billy Jack spent most of his time on the farm planting, maintaining, and harvesting crops, he also stocked the local grocery stores in Lebanon with vegetables for resale. He provided produce for Moser's, Lebanon Food Center, Dick's Food Market, and Piggly Wiggly for many years. You would find Alice selling their produce at the local farmer's market in Lebanon and Gallatin. In 1977, they became the second owners of the Bradshaw Farm, which was established in 1916 by Willie and Lena Bates Bradshaw, grandparents of Billy Jack. The farm consisted of 104 acres and was inducted into the Tennessee Century Farms Program in March 2025. Over the years, Billy Jack and Alice purchased adjoining acreage to add to the farm. Today the farm consists of 133.63 acres. While Billy Jack passed away in 2022, he was truly blessed with a long and successful life as a farmer. Alice continues to be blessed with her health and still lives on the farm.



Continued on next page.

2026 WILSON COUNTY AG HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Continued from last page...“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, Diane Major-Treasurer, Ben Powell, Louis Fletcher, Isabel Hall. Neal Oakley. Don Willoughby & Lucas Holman. The organizers have established a non profit status for the organization to enable them to raise money to be used for a facility 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 this purpose” states Jeffrey Turner, Vice Chairman of the Hall of Fame. Tickets for the April 7 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 7” says Harrison. “We owe these folks a great deal of gratitude for everything they have done for agriculture.” For info on the Wilson County Ag Hall of Fame, visit www.wilsoncountyaghalloffame.org.

