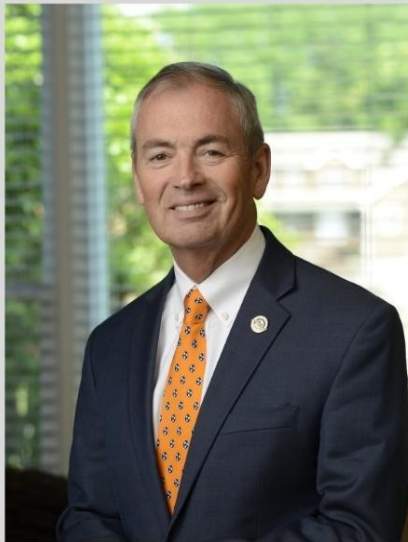




# THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



*In this newsletter:*

**Commissioner Spotlight:  
Kevin Costley, District 8**

(Page 02)

**Lebanon's 'Tis the Season  
Weekend Extravaganza**

(Page 03)

**Wilson Rides, Inc. Offers  
Transportation for Senior  
Adults**

(Page 05)



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

It's Christmas time in Wilson County! I don't know about you, but I certainly am excited for all the holiday festivities that are coming up this month. The Dancing Lights of Christmas will be taking place at the Wilson County Fairgrounds now through January 2, 2022, and it is always a sight to see! The City of Lebanon will host their FREE "Tis the Season" Weekend Extravaganza from December 3rd-5th, and it will offer many different activities for the family. Be sure to check out page 03 of this newsletter for the full list of the "'Tis the Season" programs. Other upcoming community events include Watertown, Lebanon, and Mt. Juliet's Christmas parades. There's much more to enjoy this month, so keep an eye out on my Facebook page for more upcoming holiday events.

While this month is a time to enjoy various holiday activities and gift giving, it is also a time to remember to give back. Have you ever heard the phrase "we rise by lifting others"? The words are painted on one of our murals here in Wilson County. We are blessed to have countless volunteers and organizations who are working tirelessly to help others in need. In the coming months, we'll include a spotlight article on some of the amazing organizations that are working to better our communities. It is because of the many groups and people like these that I am happy to call Wilson County my home. With that said, let's lift one another up this holiday season!

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randall Hutto".

## Commissioner Spotlight: Kevin Costley District 8



### Contact INFORMATION

214 Grandview Drive  
Old Hickory, TN 37138

+1 (615) 496-7419

## Wilson County LANDFILL

### WINTER HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY  
7:00AM-3:00PM

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

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS  
TO 615.449.6684

## Sign Up for Your Wilson County Specialty License Plate Today!

You can be one of the first 1,000 residents with a specialty license plate for Wilson County! The license plate is part of the unique identity of Wilson County and would proudly be displayed on vehicles in our county and state. Sales of the license plate will benefit our local non-profit Wilson Rides Inc, an organization which helps to preserve the quality of life and foster a connected community for older adults in Wilson County by providing safe transportation to local destinations. (Read more about Wilson Rides Inc. on page 06). You can help make these license plates available in Wilson County by taking part in the pre-sale. Plates will only be produced once 1,000 signatures and \$35 per plate are collected! Plates will be mailed to the County Clerk, and you will be notified by mail by the Tennessee Department of Revenue, Vehicle Services Division when your specialty license plate is available. Usual license registrations fees apply, and your specialty plate fee of \$35 will have been pre-paid. For more information, scan the code below or contact:

**Gaye Lynn Wilson**, Director of  
Wilson Rides, Inc.  
[gayelynn@wilsonridesinc.org](mailto:gayelynn@wilsonridesinc.org)  
615-622-5557

**Susan Shaw**, Office of Wilson  
County Mayor  
[shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov](mailto:shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov)  
615-444-1383





**Historic Lebanon Square • December 3-5, 2021**

**Friday**

**5PM - 10PM**

- Tree Lighting • 5pm
- Choir • 5:30pm
- Ice Skating Rink
- Food Trucks
- Nativity Scene
- Agricultural Learning Center
- Letters to Santa
- Music by Wade Hayes • 7pm

Ice Rink  
Provided by:



Kid Zone  
Provided by:



**Saturday**

**10AM - 8PM**

- Photos with Santa • 11-4pm
- Letters with Santa
- Shopping & Dining
- Music by C-Dock Boyz • 1pm
- Ice Skating Rink
- Kid Zone
- Imagine That Art!
- Carriage Rides
- Food Trucks
- Nativity Scene
- Agricultural Learning Center
- Music by Janelle Arthur • 4pm
- Historic Lebanon's Historic Places Tour • 5:00-8:30pm
- Capitol Theatre movie: "Home Alone" • 8:00pm

Presented by:



**Sunday**

**1PM - 4PM**

- Jingle Jog Fun Run • 1pm
- Christmas Parade • 2pm
- Food Trucks on the Square
- Letters to Santa



Entertainment  
Provided by:



Carriage Rides  
Provided by:



For more information, call 615-444-5503

December's unofficial  
**Holidays**

**December 5**  
International  
Volunteers Day

**December 10**  
International Animal  
Rights Day

**December 12**  
International  
Children's Day

**December 18**  
Bake Cookies Day

**December 21**  
Winter Solstice

**December 24**  
National Chocolate Day

**December 26**  
National Candy Cane Day

**December 1-7**  
National Handwashing  
Awareness Week

**December 6-12**  
National Influenza  
Vaccination Week

Safe Toys & Gifts Month

National Drunk & Drugged  
Driving Prevention Month

# MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wilson County Government Offices will be closed on the following dates in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays:

Friday, December 24  
Monday, December 27  
Friday, December 31  
Monday, January 3



## Get your flu vaccine today and protect the ones you love.

Learn more at [tn.gov/health/fightflu](http://tn.gov/health/fightflu)

### Free Flu Shots

Wilson County Health Department  
1401 Leeville Pike, Lebanon TN, 37090  
November 9th from 8:30am to 4:00pm  
No appointment needed, simply walk in

Join us in making the Wilson County  
Community a safer place!



Protect. Promote. Improve.  
the Health and Prosperity of People in Tennessee



**December 7, 1941**

Honoring the courageous servicemen and  
civilians that lost their lives 80 years ago during  
the attack on Pearl Harbor.

## Wilson Rides, Inc. Offers Transportation for Senior Adults

Wilson County is changing the face of aging with services to reduce isolation and support the active lifestyles of our older adults. As transportation continues to rank as a top need for senior adults in Wilson County, Wilson Rides will operate a Volunteer Driver program for residents of Wilson County age 55+ and support senior adults by keeping them connected to the community, providing mobility for maintaining health and quality of life, and creating valuable relationships between Volunteer Drivers and Riders.

Senior adults want to be as independent as possible and need transportation to shopping, grocery stores, hair appointments, doctor's appointments, pharmacies, visits to friends and lunch dates and/or visit spouses in assisted living or nursing homes. In 2021, Wilson Rides Inc. plans to give back to our community by providing Volunteer Drivers and services to fill the gap in transportation services with individual, scheduled ride services in Wilson County, TN.

Wilson Rides Inc. transportation services will reduce isolation, help seniors stay connected, reduce burdens on caretakers and give older adults a sense of purpose and meaning in life - something to look forward to.



**We Drive. You Ride.**

CONTACT US

1616 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 300

LEBANON, TN 37087

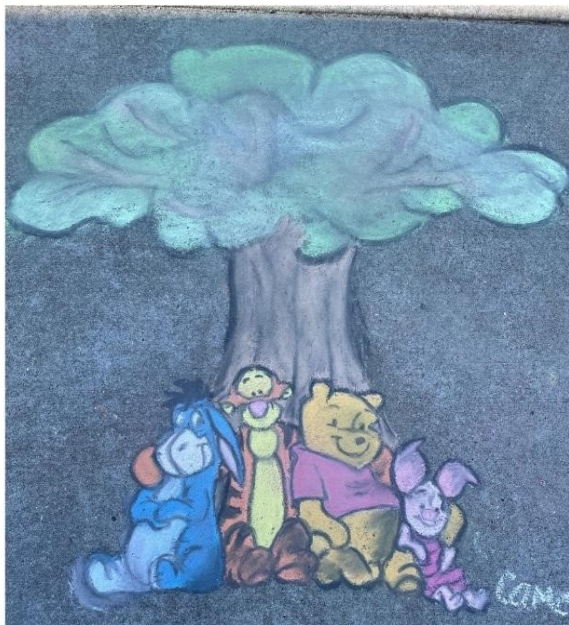
615-622-5557

[www.wilsonridesinc.org](http://www.wilsonridesinc.org)

## 2nd Annual Chalk It Up! Art Fest Winners Announced

*submitted by Susan Shaw*

The 2nd annual Chalk Art Fest came to a great finish with a Runoff Contest and Awards Garden Party on November 6th for the artists, their families, sponsors, and members of CUCAC. Leading up to the final Runoff Contest, artists drew their chalk creations and submitted photos on Facebook for public voting. In the category for 13-18 years of age, Cameron Bryan won with her drawings of Winnie the Pooh and Friends. In the Teams category, People's Choice was awarded to "New Leash On Life" with their colorful cat and dog drawings with the message to rescue, spay, neuter, and adopt...*continued on page 06.*



PEOPLE'S CHOICE: CATEGORY 2  
CAMERON BRYAN



NEW LEASH ON LIFE TEAM  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE: CATEGORY 4

## 2nd Annual Chalk It Up! Art Fest Winners Announced

*continued from page 05...* Four contestants competed by drawing new chalk art on the parking spaces at McClain Circle of Cumberland University on Saturday the 6th of November with local artist Kim Gregg as the lead artistic judge. And the winners are! The Three Musketeers team won 1st Place with their vivid Koi Pond drawing. Cameron Bryan won 2nd Place with her Spiderman above the street drawing, showing great perspective. In 3rd Place, the Phoenix Flairs drew a Disney/DreamWorks colorful water scene. With a 4th Place win, New Leash on Life drew It Takes a Village with their cat and dog theme.

The Fite-Fessenden house garden was the perfect setting for music and refreshments before the awards ceremony. They invite the public to visit and tour the renovated home and garden. Cumberland University Community Arts Council looks forward to continuing their mission to bring art to the Wilson County community and to encourage participation.



1ST PLACE: THREE MUSCATEERS)



2ND PLACE: CAMERON BRYAN



3RD PLACE: PHOENIX FLAIRS



4TH PLACE: NEW LEASH ON LIFE



# LOOKING FOR WAYS TO "GIVE BACK?"

We'll be accepting donations for a food drive at the county courthouse **now through Dec. 15th**. Donations will go to benefit Compassionate Hands, Hope's House, and our Wilson County and LSSD Family Resource Centers. If you would like to make a donation, we have a box ready for you in the front lobby of the courthouse! **Thank you for your donations!**



## FREE COMPUTER TRAINING

Basic Computer Skills

**Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Learn new skills, get noticed, accelerate your job search, and improve your ability to complete online job applications!

### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Basic Computer Skills, Keyboarding, Internet Usage, Copy/Paste, and Email

Goodwill Career Solutions Center  
 1985 Providence Pkwy, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122  
 For more information, contact our office at 615-288-2389.



## FREE COMPUTER TRAINING

Office Productivity Skills Course

**Wednesday & Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Introduction to Microsoft Word, Excel & PowerPoint
- Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Docs, Sheets, and Drive

### OTHER INFORMATION:

Students must complete a basic computer assessment before attending the class. Space for this class is limited to allow for social distancing. You need to sign up in advance by calling 615-288-2389 or emailing serena.sheppard@givegw.org.

### -WHERE & CONTACT INFO-

Mt. Juliet Goodwill Career Solutions  
 1985 Providence Pkwy, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122  
 For more information, contact our office at 615-288-2389.



# Upcoming Christmas Parades

the City of Watertown's  
 Christmas Parade  
 Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
 at 3:00p.m.

the City of Lebanon's  
 Christmas Parade  
 Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
 at 2:00p.m.

the City of Mt. Juliet's  
 Christmas Parade  
 Saturday, December  
 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00a.m.

# Community Resources



## Veterans Crisis Line

Are you a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one?

Connect with the Veterans Crisis Line to reach caring, qualified responders with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Many of them are Veterans themselves.

Veterans and service members with hearing loss and/or their loved ones may contact the Veterans Crisis Line by sending a **text** to **838255** or engage in an online chat with a veteran [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE**  
1-800-273-TALK (8255)  
[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

The **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline offers a chat service via its website. TTY users may use their preferred relay service or dial 711 then **1-800-273-8255**. The service is **FREE**.  
**The Crisis Text Line** can be reached at 741741, and it can also assist people with hearing loss by texting "TN" to 741741.

## BRIDGES FOR THE DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

Bridges for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing offers after-hours interpreting services for emergencies, including mental health situations.

If you need an interpreter for a medical or mental health emergency and you live in Middle Tennessee, you can contact Bridges TN at these numbers Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM and 5 PM:

Voice/TTY: 615-248-8828  
Video Phone: 615-290-5147 (local); 866-385-6524 (toll-free)

After hours or on weekends, you may call 615-244-0979.

## HOME SAFE, INC.

THEIR MISSION:  
TO PROVIDE SAFETY AND SUPPORT TO PEOPLE IMPACTED BY DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE, TO FOSTER SURVIVORS' HEALING AND EMPOWERMENT, AND TO PROMOTE NONVIOLENCE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

WILSON COUNTY OFFICE  
107 S. GREENWOOD ST. SUITE D  
LEBANON, TN, 37087  
(615)-454-8149

MONDAY—FRIDAY 8:30AM—4:30PM  
OFFICES ARE CLOSED SATURDAY & SUNDAY AND FOR FEDERAL HOLIDAYS.



# Wilson County Christmas for All



submitted by Jill Booker

Every child deserves something to look forward to at Christmas Time, and Wilson County Christmas For All helps make that possible!

Wilson County Christmas For All is a Nonprofit Organization that helps less fortunate children have a wonderful Christmas, by providing Christmas gifts. These gifts will go to families that are in need of assistance during what could be a difficult time of year. We serve over 2,000 children each year.

To find out more ways to help please check out our Facebook page (Wilson County Christmas for All) and website, <https://wilsoncocfa.org/>. We are needing Donations, Sponsors, Volunteers and don't forget - Toys!



# MT. JULIET CAREER SOLUTIONS



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### EVERY MONDAY

1-1:30 P.M.  
EXPLORE JOBS ONLINE (VIRTUAL)

2-3:15 P.M.  
APPLYING FOR WORK (VIRTUAL)

### EVERY WEDNESDAY

9-9:30 A.M.  
RESUME WRITING (VIRTUAL)

10-11:15 A.M.  
PREPARING FOR SUCCESS AT WORK (VIRTUAL)

### EVERY THURSDAY

1-1:30 P.M.  
RESUME WRITING (VIRTUAL)

2-3:15 P.M.  
INTERVIEWING FOR WORK (VIRTUAL)

### FRI., DEC. 3

9-10 A.M.  
WORK FROM HOME (VIRTUAL)

### THUR., DEC. 9

9 A.M.-NOON  
BASIC DIGITAL LITERACY

### WED., DEC. 15,

9 A.M.-NOON  
OFFICE PRODUCTIVITY (TWO DAY)

### TUES., DEC. 14

9-10 A.M.  
FINANCIAL LITERACY (VIRTUAL)

### THURS., DEC. 16

9-11:30 A.M.  
FINANCIAL LITERACY (VIRTUAL)



FOR MORE INFO, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:

[giveit2goodwill.org/careersolutions](https://giveit2goodwill.org/careersolutions)

1985 Providence Pkwy.  
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122

(615) 288-2389  
mtjulietcs@givegw.org

**CareerSolution**  
CHANGING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOY

TN



Getting both your COVID-19 vaccine and your flu vaccine is the best way to minimize risk to you and your loved ones.

[covid19.tn.gov](https://covid19.tn.gov) & [tn.gov/health/fightflu](https://tn.gov/health/fightflu)

# Holiday

## DAD JOKES

HOW DO YOU  
HELP SOMEONE  
WHO HAS LOST  
THEIR CHRISTMAS  
SPIRIT?

*NURSE THEM BACK TO ELF.*

WHAT DO YOU CALL  
A CAT SITTING ON  
THE BEACH ON  
CHRISTMAS EVE?

*SANDY CLAWS*

WHAT IS A  
CHRISTMAS TREE'S  
FAVORITE CANDY?

*ORNA-MINTSI*



# SUDOKU

A Game for Mathematicians

Fill out the blocks so that the numbers one to nine will only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 grid.

		9	7	3		5	2	6
		5		2		8		
6		8					4	7
					9		6	2
	4		6		3		8	
8	9		5					
2	6					1		8
		7		1		6		
9	5	1		6	4	2		

S A L R E E T  
U B E A N S R  
G P D S Q P O  
A L R S K R A  
R E I H T E S  
E M I L K S T  
Q U K K K S N  
T A S T E O R  
E S C A R F C

FIND WORDS ABOUT

**COFFEE**



# COVID-19 Testing & Vaccines Available at College Hills Church of Christ

This is a reminder that the Wilson County Health Department is offering booster doses of the Pfizer COVID vaccine to all adults ages 18 and older.

The Wilson County Health Department offers COVID-19 testing and vaccinations at the College Hills Church of Christ, located at 1401 Leeville Pike, Lebanon, TN 37090.

Drive-thru COVID-19 PCR testing are available 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Monday-Friday.

Drive-thru COVID-19 vaccines will be available 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Both COVID-19 testing and vaccinations are free, and no appointment is necessary.

Check out our blog on Wilson County's website, [www.wilsoncountyttn.gov](http://www.wilsoncountyttn.gov), for updates!



TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN SERVICES  
COMMISSIONER TOMMY BAKER

# Meet & Greet

DECEMBER 3, 2021

WILSON COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

304 EAST MAIN STREET

LEBANON, TN 37087

8AM - 10AM

# tnAchieves Needs Mentors by Dec. 3rd



Over 40 mentors are still needed in Wilson County. Your willingness to share the need for mentors in your community can make a significant difference in ensuring every Wilson County student is supported. Below is a heat map highlighting statewide mentor recruitment progress and an updated county dashboard reflecting the number of mentors needed locally.

New mentors can learn more and complete a mentor application at [tnAchieves.org/mentors!](http://tnAchieves.org/mentors!)

As a reminder, the mentor application deadline is this Friday, December 3rd.

# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Funeral Assistance

FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred on or after January 20, 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.



To be eligible for COVID-19 Funeral Assistance, you must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States.
- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses on or after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien.
- The death certificate must attribute the death to COVID-19. If the death occurred between Jan. 20 and May 16, 2020, and the death certificate doesn't attribute the death to COVID-19, you may submit a signed statement from the medical official who certified the death certificate, or the local coroner or medical examiner, linking the cause of death to COVID-19.

### Which expenses will qualify for reimbursement?

Examples of eligible expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- Transportation to identify the deceased individual
- The transfer of remains
- A burial plot or cremation niche
- A marker or headstone
- Clergy or officiant services
- The use of funeral home equipment or staff
- Cremation or interment costs

### What information do I need to provide to FEMA?

Please have the following information before contacting FEMA to apply:

- Your name, Social Security number, date of birth, mailing address and contact phone numbers.
- Name, Social Security number and date of birth for each deceased individual.
- Location or address where the individual died.
- Documentation and receipts for funeral assistance received from other sources, including burial or funeral insurance, donations, other government programs or non-profit organizations.
- The name and information of up to one co-applicant, if anyone besides you incurred funeral expenses for the deceased individual(s).

### HOW DO I APPLY FOR THIS ASSISTANCE?

**Call FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Helpline** at 1-844-684-6333 (TTY: 800-462-7585) from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET, Monday – Friday and begin the application process. Multilingual services are available.

**For the fastest service after you apply, submit documents online through [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov)**

Or, fax or mail documents to:  
Fax: 855-261-3452

Mail: COVID-19 Funeral Assistance  
P.O. Box 10001  
Hyattsville, MD 20782

**You can also visit us online at [FEMA.gov/funeral-assistance/faq](http://FEMA.gov/funeral-assistance/faq).** Information is provided in multiple languages.



**tnAchieves**  
Changing Lives, Transforming Communities  
**Mentor Recruitment**  
As of 11/29/2021 8 AM ET



## Rockwood Sustainable Solutions Sponsors 4th Annual Christmas Tree Recycling *submitted*

Rockwood Sustainable Solutions announced today a partnership with Wilson County to launch the "Merry Mulching" initiative, providing Wilson County residents a convenient way to recycle, for free, live Christmas trees. Beginning December 25 - January 10, 2022, residents are invited to participate in "Merry Mulching" by dropping off their live Christmas trees in the designated recycling bin placed at the entrance of the Rockwood property located at 510 Hartman Drive in Lebanon, Tenn. All decorations, including lights, ornaments and tinsel must be removed from the tree prior to being placed in the recycling bin. The bin is accessible 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

"We are honored to partner with Mayor Hutto and Wilson County to provide our neighbors free live Christmas tree recycling" said Lincoln Young, CEO of Rockwood Sustainable Solutions. "This is our fourth consecutive year to offer this service, and we are amplifying our efforts this year with the launch of the 'Merry Mulching' initiative, encouraging every live tree owner in Wilson County to recycle."

Once processed by Rockwood, the recycled live trees will become landscaping mulch used to beautify, and enrich the soil at, commercial and residential properties across Wilson County. Wilson Farmer's Coop is the local retailer of Rockwood's range of mulch offerings. In addition to the environmental benefits of recycling live Christmas trees, doing so is much safer than breaking down and burning a live tree in a residential fireplace. Rockwood will also make a monetary donation to the Wilson County FCA for each tree recycled during the "Merry Mulching" initiative.



PROUDLY PRESENTS

# MERRY MULCHING

LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

DEC. 25 - JAN. 10

510 HARTMAN DRIVE - LEBANON, TN 37087

PLACE LIVE TREE IN BIN LOCATED AT ENTRANCE  
NO DECORATIONS • NO LIGHTS • NO TINSEL

FINANCIAL DONATION TO WILSON COUNTY FCA FOR EACH RECYCLED TREE  
MORE INFO AT [ROCKWOODRECYCLING.COM](http://ROCKWOODRECYCLING.COM)



## VETERANS BREAKFAST

HOSTED BY:  
WILSON WARRIORS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY  
1010 LEEVILLE PIKE, LEBANON, TN

8AM - 10AM

NO FEE FOR ENTRY: DONATIONS ONLY

## Remastered "Underground Galaxy" Mural Unveiled

The 'Underground Galaxy' mural on the Cedar City Trail was recently unveiled after being remastered. This mural was presented, in part, by a grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission and matching funds from the Wilson County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Originally painted in 2016 by local high school students, the concept was created by Fiona Hayward and Eliza Felos. This became one of the very first murals to Wilson County and was enjoyed by those passing by on the Cedar City Trail. After being vandalized this past October, the Wilson County CVB and the City of Lebanon Parks and Recreation department partnered together to bring the original artists back, who recreated the original mural with a new updated design. Next time you are at the park, stop by to see it! The remastered mural is located at 555 N Castle Heights, Lebanon, TN.

*Photos by Susan Shaw*



*Wishing You A Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year*

FROM THE WILSON COUNTY MAYOR'S OFFICE