

WILSON COUNTY CONNECTION

Lebanon Mt. Juliet Watertown



September 2017

Volume 7 Issue 9

A Word From Your County Mayor Randall Hutto



The devastation of Hurricane Harvey is difficult to watch. I cannot imagine facing the incredibly difficult circumstances surrounding the citizens of Houston. My heart breaks for the families that have lost their loved ones, as well as their homes and sources of income. Hurricanes are truly nondiscriminatory and this one in particular has wrecked havoc upon one of our nation's largest and most vibrant cities. Though we live in a community where hurricanes in particular are not an immediate threat, natural disasters of vari-

ous kinds remain a cause for concern. That is why, among other reasons, public safety is one of the top priorities of my administration and has been ever since I assumed the role of County Mayor.

Here in Wilson County, our men and women that are active in public safety are some of the most dedicated and courageous individuals you will ever meet. Throughout this edition of the County Connection, you will see stories surrounding the response to Hurricane Harvey, as well as the importance

of our Volunteer Fire Department in Watertown. As you read the articles, and view the events that aren't directly tied to public safety, please know that none of them would be possible without the protection of our local law enforcement and first responders.

Public safety is a fundamental key to a community surviving in the midst of difficult circumstances. However, public safety is also the key to a thriving community. When citizens feel safe, they are

free to live abundant lives. It has been humbling to witness the response to the flooding in Houston. Though it isn't always promoted, there is still a lot of human kindness in the world and it seems to show itself most clearly in the face of disaster. Our hearts are with the citizens of Houston and we pray for the men and women traveling there from Middle Tennessee to aid in relief efforts.

WILSON COUNTY DISTRICT 8



Frank Bush
District 8

Frank Bush

1804 Lake Meadow Trail

Mt. Juliet, TN 37122

615-714-8775





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[SEPTEMBER 7 - OCTOBER 19]
4PM THURSDAYS AT WILSON COUNTY EXPO

945 E Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon



We'll close out the season with our friends at Taste of Wilson County!

Mark your calendars for the new location:

300 N. Maple Street, Lebanon





RELAY FOR LIFE - MT. JULIET - DONELSON - HERMITAGE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH 2017

2:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Charlie Daniels Park
Mt. Juliet, TN

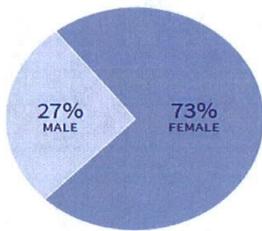
www.relayforlife.org/mtjuliettn

JOIN US TO HELP END CANCER

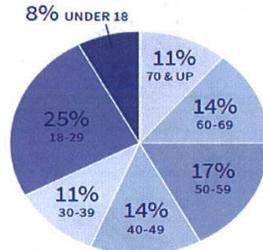


The American Cancer Society Relay For Life movement – it's the world's largest fundraising event to save lives from cancer. With 6,000 events uniting 4 million people in 24 countries across the globe, we celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change.

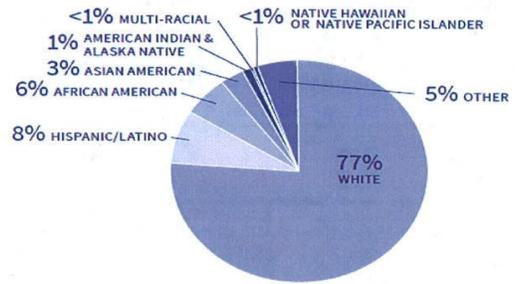
RELAY FOR LIFE PARTICIPANTS ACROSS THE US*



BY GENDER



BY AGE



BY RACE/ETHNICITY

*percentage per total respondents

Being involved in Relay For Life events provides your employees, customers, and communities the opportunity to help free the world from the pain and suffering of every type of cancer. **GET INVOLVED TODAY!**



ONE IN THREE SAY THEY ARE MORE LIKELY TO PURCHASE A PRODUCT IF IT'S PARTNERED WITH THE SOCIETY BRAND.*

*American Cancer Society Corporate Partnerships survey: September 2013



THE SOCIETY CONTINUES TO BE A **HIGHLY TRUSTED SOURCE FOR CANCER INFORMATION**, WITH 96 PERCENT AIDED BRAND AWARENESS AMONG CONSUMERS.*

*American Cancer Society Market Research: 2013 Brand Tracker



HELP SAVE LIVES, AND SHOW YOUR COMMUNITY HOW YOU PROVIDE EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS:

- > A quality team-building experience
- > A platform for volunteerism and philanthropy
- > A commitment to their well-being

BENEFITS CAN INCLUDE:

- > Generating a more positive corporate image
- > Improving customer loyalty
- > Increasing sales potential

special recognition

“What an honor to witness Staff SSgt (Sergeant) Ralph Hudson’s promotion to GySgt (Gunnery Sergeant). GySgt Hudson has been with the Marine Corps since 2004. He is a recruiter for Wilson County in the Mt. Juliet area. Thank you for your service GySgt Hudson. You, along with all of our Veterans and active service men and women make Wilson County so proud”.

-Mayor Randall Hutto



Do you know someone who should be acknowledged for their volunteer work?

Nominate them for the

Governor's Volunteer Star Award

For more information visit:

www.wilsoncountyttn.gov/volunteer-stars-awards

Or

Lebanondemocrat.com/GVSA

Application deadline is December 15, 2017

FIFTH ANNUAL HARVEST WINE & CHEESE

Proceeds to benefit



Pickett Chapel Restoration

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16, 2017

6:30 PM – 10:30 PM

**CUMBERLAND UNIVERSITY'S BAIRD CHAPEL
ONE CUMBERLAND SQUARE, LEBANON, TN**

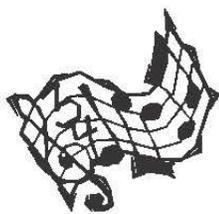
SILENT AUCTION *(Items on view at 6)*

MUSIC

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

AND

Sweet Treats



DANCING



**TICKETS \$50 EACH
or \$375 for table of 8**

(\$25 PER TICKET IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE)

For more information

Call 615 444-9487



**PICKETT CHAPEL
THIS PLACE MATTERS**

JOINT ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

“Wilson County, the place to be” It’s a phrase we’ve all uttered at one time or another and it rings true daily. It’s evident in our school systems, our public safety organizations, our booming economy and our quality of life. Just travel a short distance in any direction in Wilson County and you’ll be sure to find either a place to grab a bite to eat, a shopping center or tourist attraction. Our proximity to Nashville make us very appealing to both perspective business investors and residents. So how does one find pertinent information about our county? What “tips the scales” in our favor for a business or potential new resident? A great resource that is often overlooked is our Joint Economic Community Development (JECDB) website.

JECDB is a vital part of our county’s growth. It is a governmental economic development agency. The communities of Mt. Juliet, Lebanon, Watertown and Wilson County comprise the JECDB and participate in funding of the organization. The JECDB is focused on industrial, office, retail and business recruiting. The recruiting efforts are part of a strategic plan to increase and diversify the overall tax base of Wilson County.

In addition, the JECDB serves the existing business base for all of Wilson County through business retention efforts and expansion efforts. Much of these efforts

are accomplished through the Industry Alliance Part-



nership and serving as an information source for local businesses. The organization serves as the sole economic development organization for Wilson County and garners support from the local Chambers of Commerce and elected bodies.

The Joint Economic & Community Development Board of Wilson County, Tennessee was created in 1989 by a group of local community and business leaders. The leaders’ goal was to lay a foundation for economic and community development for Mt. Juliet, Lebanon, Watertown and Wilson County within one organization. The leaders strived to encourage economic and community development to broaden and increase the tax base of Wilson County.

The organization still develops its annual marketing plan and goals to ensure consistency with its purpose and

mission. JECDB believes that working together as a

community builds consensus and positive results in economic and community development for all of Wilson County, Tennessee.

Visit the site (www.doingbiz.org) and you’ll find a wide range of search criteria for locating buildings for lease or purchase; a resource perfect for both business investors and real estate agents. You can find information surrounding our business climate complete with logistics, demographics and incentives just to name a few. You can also get direct links to utilities, chambers of Commerce and cities information. stay abreast of what’s happening by subscribing to the newsletter.

In addition to business information there is wealth of community information. You can research tourism, healthcare facilities, entertainment and education with-

in Wilson County. This tool is useful for both real estate agents or residents looking to relocate to our area. With 2 tremendous school systems in the county, the JECDB website provides an opportunity to research the schools in our area this includes private and higher education. You will also find a listing of our local parks and family recreation facilities.

“G.C. Hixson and all the members of the JECDB team have a tremendous task before them. They focus much of their time and energy looking for ways to promote our county and bring in more industry and retail. Throughout the years, their hard work has helped to bring in many businesses allowing us to provide local jobs for our residents and, in turn, boost our economy. I appreciate all the work they do and thank them for continuing to make Wilson County the place to be.” – Wilson County Mayor, Randall Hutto

www.doingbiz.com has something for everyone. Whether you’re looking for a building to start your business, a realtor looking to promote the location or a resident who wants to experience something new in our county, Wilson County is the place to be.

Call the JECDB office for more information at 615/443-1210.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR 2017



The 2017 Wilson County Fair was a success. Friends and visitors gathered from all over the United States to experience a showcase of all that Wilson County has to offer. This year's fair was even more special as the 2017 Great American Eclipse occurred on the first Monday of the Wilson County Fair. The fair opened early allowing visitors a chance to experience the eclipse in one of the greatest atmospheres on earth. This

year's fair had a total attendance of 488,299 which is an increase from last year. In addition to the eclipse, there were a variety of performers that drew in large crowds.; including concerts by Tony Jackson, The Oak Ridge Boys, Zach Williams and Jason Crabb. Wilma Hudson was this year's Great Give-Away winner. Out of the variety of choices available, Ms. Hudson chose to drive away in a new 2017 Ford Focus from Bates

Ford. Special guests, such as Commissioner of Tourism Kevin Triplett and Commissioner of Agriculture Jai Templeton, were also in attendance at this year's fair. One of the most exciting aspects of this year's Wilson County Fair was the inclusion of the Wilson County Expo Center. The Expo Center was a dream of the late Hale Moss', who was honored at this year's fair as well. The Expo Center provided a covered, state of the art space that host-

ed exhibits and all of this year's pageants.

Mayor Hutto participated in a variety of events throughout fair week including the Farmer's Appreciation Breakfast, Century Farm Luncheon, Grand Opening of the Expo Center and the Opening Parade. Mayor Hutto also spoke at the Appreciation Dinner and tourism dinner where he welcomed State of Tennessee Tourism Director Kevin Triplett.

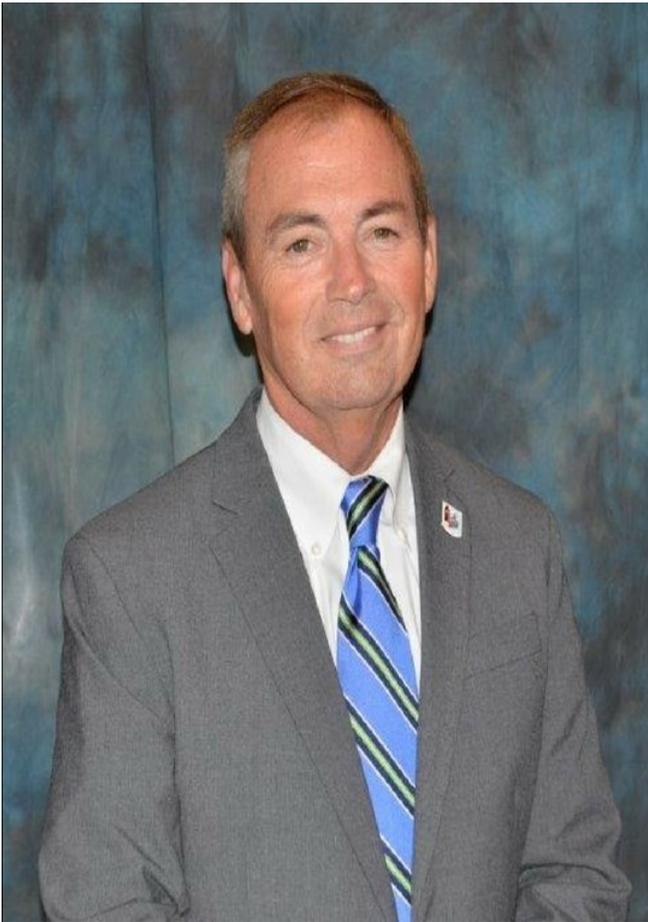
Stay Connected

Stay Connected with Mayor Hutto and the Wilson County Mayor's Office! Follow Mayor Hutto on Twitter and Facebook. Also be sure to



Wilson County
www.wilsoncountyttn.gov





MEET THE MAYOR

LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

MT. JULIET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 8:30-10:00 AM

WATERTOWN- MI RANCHITO 11:00-12:30 AM

LEBANON CHAMBER 1:30-3:00 PM

COMING SOON TO ^{WILSON COUNTY} EXPOSITION CENTER



EVERY THURSDAY 4-7PM
THIS SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER



**VENDOR
INQUIRIES:**

615.450.3049

Mt. Juliet

36TH ANNUAL

POW WOW

Saturday & Sunday • Gates Open at 10:30AM

SEPTEMBER 23-24 2017

Mundy Park • Mt. Juliet, TN

300 MUNDY MEMORIAL DRIVE • MT. JULIET, TN 37122



FEATURING

- Competition Pow Wow
- Intertribal Dancing
- Native American Food
- Native American Arts & Crafts
- Native American Music
- Gourd Dance

DANCE CONTEST

Over \$11,000 in Prize Money
Intertribal Dancing • All Dancers Welcome

Chicken Dance Special
\$500 • Winner Takes All

EVENT PRIZES

- Dance Contest \$11,000
- Adults \$500, \$300, \$200
- Golden \$500, \$300, \$200
- Drum Contest \$2,000, \$1500, \$1000



Scan this QR code to visit us on Facebook

CELEBRATE SEPTEMBER 2017

American Indian Heritage Month
for the State of Tennessee

Arena Director
Jimmy Reedy
McMinnville, TN

Head Judge
Gabe Bullock
Livingston, TX

MC
Rob Daugherty
Jay, OK

Host Drum
Medicine Tail

Host Gourd • Dance • Drum NAMMY Award Winning Flute Player
Otter Trail

Ryan Little Eagle

ADMISSION

Adults (13+) \$8

Kids Ages 6-12 \$4

5 & Under Free



Bring Your Lawn Chairs!

For more information: **Cindy Yahola 615.443.1537**

Host Hotels: **Executive Inn** • 631 S. Cumberland St., Lebanon, TN • 615.444.0505 • I-40, Exit 236 • Ask for the "Pow Wow Rate"
Middle Tennessee Pow Wow, Inc. is a 501(c)3 chartered in the State of Tennessee

Watertown Volunteer Fire Department

A rural community located on the southeastern part of the county, Watertown could easily be referred to as a modern day “Mayberry”. A small town square occupies the center of town and is full of businesses and restaurants. It isn’t uncommon to see children riding their bikes through the streets. People walk to their destinations and everyone waves at their neighbors. Watertown, in short, is a haven for growing families and farmers alike. One unique feature of Watertown is the high esteem placed on public safety. Thanks to funding by the Wilson County Commission, the Wilson Emergency Management Agency recently expanded their service to the Watertown area providing much needed assistance to all citizens in both the city limits and rural areas. However, there is a particular emergency response team founded in Watertown that deserves the upmost respect and gratitude: The Watertown Volunteer Fire Department.

The Watertown Volunteer

Fire Department was founded close to a century ago, if not longer and is



Photo taken from *The Wilson Post*

the only volunteer fire department in Wilson County. It is technically the City of Watertown’s fire department. It is located in a three divisional building housing not only the fire department, but a WEMA station and the Watertown Police Department. The Watertown Volunteer Fire Department responds to both city and county emergency calls.

Equipped with four pumpers, a rescue truck, brush truck and a medical squad unit, the small but mighty fire department serves the citizens of Watertown and surrounding areas in the most professional manner possible. Unlike most fire departments funded through the

city government, the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department is operated

under a strict volunteer basis. The city pays for equipment and supplies. The firefighters themselves, work for free.

The Mayor of Watertown appoints the position of fire chief. However, volunteers are required to go through a rigorous application process. Volunteers must be interviewed, pass a physical ability test and attend three consecutive drills. Drills are held every Monday night, with each drill dedicated to perfecting a different set of skills. Once a volunteer is selected to be a part of the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department, the volunteer is required to attend the State Basic Fire Academy. While attending the acad-

emy, volunteers can choose to take a medical (first responder) or basic course. Firefighters must also participate in a live burn to put their skills to the test in a real world situation. After the first year, a volunteer’s training does not end. Drills are held every Monday night and all firefighters are expected to attend. In 2016, volunteers spent 2,108 accumulative hours training in house. The total number of accumulative specialized or state training hours was 624. Altogether, the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department spent over 3,000 hours training.

At the current time, there are over 20 volunteers that work with the fire department. Mr. John Jewel has served as Fire Chief for over 15 years and has been with the Volunteer Fire Department for 52. Tony Lea is the Assistant Fire Chief. Blake Haun and Joe Fischer are Captains. Christopher Strobel and Chris Tubbs are Lieutenants. *(Continued on next page)*

The following individuals serve as either firefighters, emergency responders, or work in the administration side of the Fire Department: Terri Strobel, Elijah Smith, Garrett Parks, Ginger Tubbs, Rachel Chambers, Jason Bolton, Winston Beard, Ray Fish, Bryin Hager, Johnathon Sanford, Chad Flores, Joe Decker, Scott Hoger, James Copas, Josh Lawrence, and Brandon Howard.

Each volunteer working with the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department is always on call. Not only is each volunteer always

on call, but each volunteer works for free. Last year alone, the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department responded to 475 calls. 70% of those calls were medical in nature. That means 475 times, the volunteers of the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department left their families and homes to serve someone else in need and did not expect a single thanks in return, much less payment.

Tennessee is known as the "Volunteer State". Yet, how many times to we stop and thank those citizens who prove that title to be true? Wilson County

has so many organizations that help others in need. Rarely, if ever, are those volunteers recognized. County Mayor Randall Hutto grew up in Watertown. He thinks very highly of the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department and all they continue to do for his hometown. He had the following to say about the men and women who work diligently to serve as volunteer firefighters "What a testament to Wilson County, and to the State of Tennessee, to have such an incredible group of volunteers silently serving in the City of Wa-

tertown. They serve without any recognition or applause. For years they have ensured the citizens of Watertown, and rural eastern Wilson County had help in medical and fire emergencies and they are still going strong. I am personally, very grateful for their service and contribution to our county". The next time you're in Watertown, make plans to attend the Fish Fry that benefits the Watertown Volunteer Fire Department. Stop in, grab a plate of delicious food, and thank the men and women who work hard to ensure every citizen receives

HR CORNER

WILSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Human Resources is doing a Monthly Employee Giveaway. We have several fun items for you to pick from. All Wilson County Employees will have a chance to win during their anniversary month. Please contact HR at 615-466-5152 or 615-466-5138 to claim your prize.

September Winners: Melanie Beaty (Circuit Court); Jennifer Rushing (Finance); Nancy Fowler (Library); Luann Rosson (Health Dept.); and Joette Starham (WEMA).

Dell Discount Program:

Wilson County Employee Member Benefits:

- * Best Price Guarantee on consumer PCs from Dell
- * Up to 30% off desktops and laptops
- * Discounts on thousands of electronics and accessories
- * Exclusive Monthly Offers
- * Free enrollment in Dell Advantage Loyalty Program (3% E-Gift Card and free expedited shipping on all future personal purchases). Enroll at: Checkout

Wilson County employees, friends and family can shop at: www.dell.com/mpp/wilsoncountyttn

You can go to www.dell.com/mpp and use Member ID: GS41699800 when prompted.

BRIDGE DEDICATION

Mayor Hutto attended a bridge dedication for Robert J. "Bobby" McGuire this month. SSGT McGuire was a 1992 graduate of Watertown High School. He

was assigned to the 16 Special Operations Squadron at USAF Hurlburt Field, Florida. SSGT McGuire was a Load Master on a C-130 Hercules (Combat Talon II).

His plane crashed on August 7, 2012, 15 miles south of Puerto Rico killing all 10 personnel on board. Senator Mae Beavers and

Representative Mark Pody sponsored the bill. The dedication took place in the Norene community across Florida Creek.



"Our hearts and prayers are with the city of Houston and surrounding areas that have been devastated by Hurricane Harvey. In typical volunteer fashion, the State of Tennessee has responded in a mighty way by providing flood relief to the area. Wilson County is also playing a part in the relief effort. Wilson Emergency Management

Agency and the Lebanon Fire Department have joined together to provide the following resources to the citizens of Texas:
 WEMA-Pickup truck, 2 boats, a trailer and 3 personnel
 Lebanon Fire-Pick-up truck, 3 personnel
 The personnel from WEMA and Lebanon Fire met with a Strike Team from Middle Tennessee.

They were briefed in Nashville by TEMA and departed for their assigned area on Wednesday, August 30. Please keep these individuals in your thoughts and prayers as they travel to Texas to aid those in need. The severe flooding in the area has caused widespread destruction and multiple deaths. As the County Mayor, I am

truly amazed at the volunteer spirit constantly displayed throughout our community, especially by those that work in public safety. A special thank you to WEMA, Lebanon Fire and the various community service organizations participating in flood relief efforts following this event. You make Wilson County proud."- Mayor Hutto

**Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce
Economic Development Committee invites you**



Bob Rolfe

**Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of
Economic and Community Development**

Lunch & Learn

**Lebanon Golf and Country Club
1300 Coles Ferry Pike, Lebanon**

September 13, 11:30 a.m.

\$15 per person

**RSVP to tonya@lebanonwilsonchamber.com
or Call 615-444-5503**