



# WILSON COUNTY CONNECTION



Lebanon Mt. Juliet Watertown

December 2018

Volume 8 Issue 12

## A Word From Your County Mayor Randall Hutto

“A thrill of hope” is a small, but touching phrase in the popular Christmas carol *Oh Holy Night*. We toss the word “hope” around as frequently as the word “love” and sometimes, I think we miss the weight that the word itself carries. Hope. Merriam-Webster defines the word “hope” as “to cherish or desire with anticipation”. What a word to describe this holiday season, and the upcoming year. 2018 has been a year for the books. It has been fast paced, and has often felt like a roller-coaster ride. However, despite the exhaustion and changes, it has been a year of great success. I could write down every accomplishment Wilson County Govern-

ment and the Wilson County Commission has made this year, and there still wouldn’t be enough time or paper to list them all. But in this particular edition of The County Connection, there are a few noteworthy accomplishments that I want to point out because they directly bring hope to so many of our citizens. First of all, Wilson County Government took a stand against the opioid crisis by establishing Drug Free WilCo. An organization made up of government and community members, Drug Free WilCo brings awareness and resources to the citizens of Wilson County who struggle or know someone who struggles with drug addic-

tion. Drug Free WilCo recently held its first panel discussion for the community and the response was overwhelming. I can’t wait to see the help and hope that this group will bring to so many. 2018 was also a great year for Tennessee Achieves mentor recruitment. Wilson County not only met but exceeded its recruitment goal. Tennessee Achieves Mentors work with college students in our county to provide encouragement and support. Wilson County also obtained a \$500,000 home grant to be used to repair damaged homes for the low-income families in our commu-



nity. These are only a few of the many “hope-filled” projects that our office has played a small part in this year—and I only expect to continue to serve our citizens in ways that positively impact each one. What we do day-to-day in government is important but what we do for each other is all that matters at the end of the day. Wishing each and every one of you a happy, hope-filled holiday season.  
-Randall Hutto

## WILSON COUNTY DISTRICT 22



Wendell Marlowe

Wendell Marlowe  
434 Tyrone Road  
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122  
615-758-5277



# COURTHOUSE HALLOWEEN

Halloween 2018 at the Wilson County Courthouse was sponsored by Pinnacle Bank. A special thank you to the team of judges from Pinnacle Bank for spending their day with us and for donating a prize for the best costume. Janie Phagan, dressed as Jim Major, Wilson County Trustee, was the 2018 winner. Thank you to everyone that participated!



# Vets for the Holidays

**Military veterans to ride  
RTA commuter buses,  
Music City Star for free**

**NASHVILLE** – In honor of Veteran's Day, the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) Board of Directors has launched Vets for the Holidays so that military veterans can ride RTA commuter bus services and the Music City Star commuter train for free. The program, which begins November 1 and ends December 31, 2018, is a first for the RTA. It aims to make public transportation services more accessible to military veterans, both as a gesture of appreciation and in recognition of the fact that access to transportation ser-

vices is a critical resource for returning and disabled veterans as they connect to medical, employment, and support services while reintegrating to civilian life. “As Chair of the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority and Mayor of the City of Clarksville – home to so many military veterans – I am delighted that we at the RTA are able to offer free service on our commuter buses and the Music City Star during the holiday season to our veterans who have served us with such honor and bravery,” said RTA Board Chair and Clarksville Mayor Kim McMillan. “It is a pleasure for the members of the Regional Transportation Authority to be able

to offer free rides to our veterans throughout the holiday season. It is a small token of our appreciation for their service to our country,” said Williamson County Mayor and RTA Board Member Rogers Anderson. “Hopefully there will be many of our veterans to take advantage of this opportunity and save some money they can utilize elsewhere.”

To qualify, participants need only show a valid form of military veteran identification to the RTA bus operator or Music City Star train conductor. Forms of identification that will be accepted are:

United States Uniformed Services Identification Card)

- Tennessee Driver's License or Identification Card with "Veteran" designation on front

- VA Health Benefits Identification Card

DD214 form in lieu of a Veteran's identification card

For more information on the Vets for the Holidays program, contact RTA Customer Care at 615-862-5950 from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays, or visit

- DD Form 2 (Retired [www.rtarelaxandride.org](http://www.rtarelaxandride.org))

**Meet the  
MAYOR**

*the last Wednesday of every month*

**Mt. Juliet  
Chamber of Commerce  
8:30AM-10:00AM**

**Watertown  
The Depot Junction Cafe  
11:00AM-12:30PM**

**Lebanon  
Chamber of Commerce  
1:30PM-3:00PM**



*no appointment necessary,  
drop by and let's talk*

# 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.**

## **December 2018 Winners**

Amy Nichols- CVB

Betsy Jakalski- Probation

Leanne Atwood- Register of Deeds

Jessica Huff- County Clerk

Lindsey Roberts- Veteran's Office

# COURTHOUSE CLOSED

DECEMBER 24, 2018



DECEMBER 25, 2018



DECEMBER 26, 2018

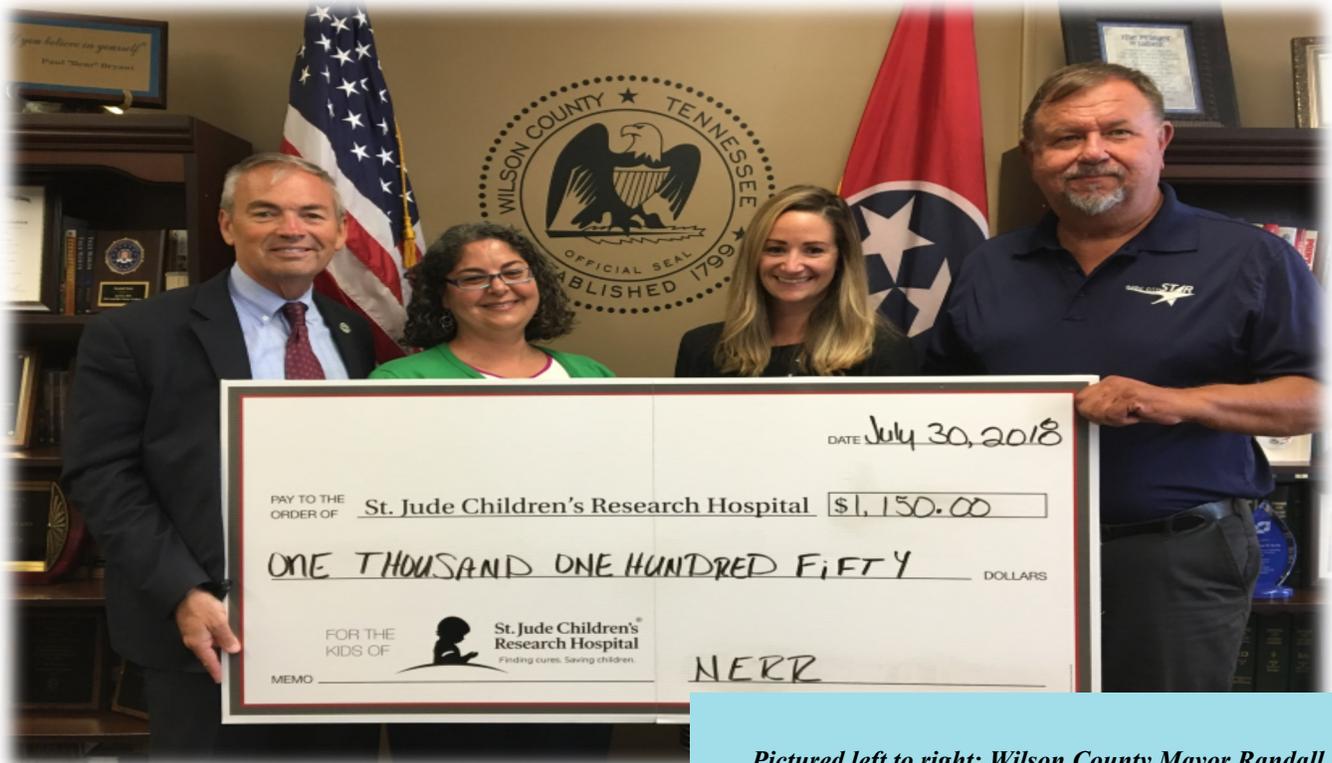


XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

# Nashville Eastern Railroad Donates to St. Jude



*Pictured left to right: Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto, RTA staff representative Miriam Leibowitz, St. Jude Staff representative Courtney McMahon, NERR representative Terry Bebout*

The Music City Star heated up the rails on April 30<sup>th</sup> with 2 separate events. Riders enjoyed round trips to both the St. Jude Rock N Roll Nashville Marathon that morning, sponsored by Famous Footwear followed by A Toast to Tennessee Wine Festival sponsored by the Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce that afternoon. This was the second year for both sponsors to be “on board” with the project. Just as they did last year, the

Nashville Eastern Railroad pledged to donate \$5 per rider for each event resulting in a total of 230 riders and \$1,150.00 in donations to St. Jude. **“Donating \$5 per rider per event to St. Jude last year was such a great feeling and we were so excited to be able to do that again this year. We enjoy the ease of working with St. Jude, RTA and Mayor Hutto’s office. We hope to be able to continue this dona-**

**tion in the future.” Terry Bebout, NERR** County Mayor, Randall Hutto went on to say, **“The Nashville Eastern Railroad does an outstanding job with the Music City Star, day in and day out. Their commitment to impeccable transit service is without measure. If you’ve never experienced a ride on the train, I encourage you to do so. You can**

**avoid parking fees and traffic and it’s just a great ride to and from Nashville. I appreciate their willingness to continue this donation to St. Jude for two years now. It’s a contribution I hope we continue in the future.”**

IT'S ABOUT TO GET



UGLY

December 21, 2017

Courthouse Ugly Christmas Sweater Day

Don't get your tinsel in a tangle—it's not a competition.

HOSTED BY MAYOR HUTTO'S OFFICE

# *Taste of Wilson County*



The Lebanon Wilson County Chamber of Commerce hosted Taste of Wilson County on October 25, 2018 at the Wilson County Expo Center. Mayor Hutto, a regular attendee at the event put his grilling skills to the test in a grilling cook-off against fellow elected officials and Director of Schools, Dr. Donna Wright. Taste of Wilson County featured several other contests as well including a cook-off between some of Wilson County's high schools. The annual event features tastings from Wilson County's finest restaurants as well as local wineries and distilleries. The event always has a great turnout and this year was no exception. Thank you to all who participated!

## *Spotlight Articles*

*will resume in the January 2019 edition.*

Thank you to all of the offices  
that participated in 2018.  
Everyone working together is  
what makes Wilson County the  
Place to Be!

# Game-Day Express

The Game-day Express is back for the Tennessee Titans 2018 season.

The Game-Day Express train will operate for all Tennessee Titans regular season home games, beginning with the September 16 game against the Houston Texans. Service begins in Lebanon with stops in Martha, Hamilton Springs, Mt. Juliet, Hermitage, and Donelson before arriving in downtown Nashville.

Tickets for the September 16 and 30 games will go on sale Tuesday, Sep-

tember 4. Tickets for the remaining games in October, November, and December will be released prior to each month for purchase.

Round-trip train tickets for all Titans regular season home games are \$10 each, allowing fans to travel responsibly and enjoy the game without stress over parking prices and downtown traffic. Children age 4 and younger will not need a ticket to board; however, they are required to sit in a parent's lap.

Tickets must be acquired in ad-

vance by going online to MusicCityStar.org or TicketsNashville.com. Tickets are not available for purchase on the train on game days. Weekday Music City Star tickets and passes are not valid on the Game-Day Express train.

For noon games, the Music City Star will operate the schedule listed below:

For afternoon and evening games, please visit musiccitystar.org for detailed train departure information.

Parking is free at all of the outlying

stations and passengers may tailgate at the outlying train stations prior to the game as well as on the train. In addition, they may bring small coolers onboard and leave them on the train upon arrival at Riverfront Station.

More information about Game-Day Express service is available online at musiccitystar.org. For additional information, contact Customer Care at 615-862-5950 weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

## Schedule

Depart from Lebanon Station	10 a.m.
Depart from Martha Station	10:07 a.m.
Depart from Hamilton Springs Station	10:15 a.m.
Depart from Mt. Juliet Station	10:25 a.m.
Depart from Hermitage Station	10:35 a.m.
Depart from Donelson Station	10:45 a.m.
Arrive at Riverfront Station	11 a.m.

# Introducing: Wilson County TV

## Wilson County Television to Begin Broadcasting

Wilson County Television (WCTV) began broadcasting on Monday, November 5, 2018. WCTV can be seen on AT&T Cable Channel 99 and streaming on the county's website. WCTV is a Public, Education and Government (PEG) Channel. Cable companies are required by law to provide a channel to municipalities within their service area. As part of the county commission's resolution to start WCTV, the channel will broadcast live the county commission's monthly meetings and air recordings of the budget and education

committee meetings. "As a governing body, we want to be as transparent as possible. Airing our meetings is a great and convenient way for us to

In addition to government meetings, WCTV will produce programs including: *Talkin' with Tatum*, *Valerie's Kitchen*, *WilCo on the Go!* and *Walkin'*

When meetings and local programs are not airing, folks can enjoy watching PEG programs from other channels. WCTV falls under the county's Cable

and IT Committee which includes: Chairman Dan Walker (District 10). Vice Chair Bobby Franklin (District 3), Joy Bishop (District 24), Justin Smith (District 25) and John Gentry (District 11). WCTV is on social media as well! Follow



accomplish that goal. It also allows residents who are unable to attend our meetings to stay informed", stated Wilson County Mayor. "We will also stream the channel on our county website".

*thru Wilson.* WCTV plans to work closely with the county's high schools and their television departments to produce programming including sports, awards ceremonies and special projects.

along on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and the WCTV YouTube Channel. (Article is derived via press release submitted by WCTV Television Manager, Tressa Bush).

## 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 check out our website for information on all county offices.



Wilson County  
[www.wilsoncountyttn.gov](http://www.wilsoncountyttn.gov)





## Put an end to joint pain.

**Free Hip & Knee Pain Seminar hosted by an orthopedic surgeon.**

Join us for a free seminar on arthritis and joint pain. A Tennova Healthcare orthopedic surgeon will discuss the most common causes of pain and the latest treatment options, from diet and exercise to medications and surgery — including robotic-assisted total and partial knee replacement and total hip replacement.

**To RSVP, call 615-235-6937, or visit [TennovaOrtho.com](http://TennovaOrtho.com).**

**Thursday, January 10 ▪ 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Tennova Healthcare - Lebanon**

1411 W. Baddour Pkwy. ▪ Community Cares Classroom

Space is limited.

Patient results may vary. Consult your physician about the benefits and risks of any surgical procedure or treatment.



*Your Local American Job Center is here to help!*

# **JOB FAIR**

**EVERY Third Wednesday of the month**

**From 9 am - 1 pm**

*“American Job Center”*

*Located inside the Tennessee College of Applied Technology  
School (TCATS)*

*415 Tennessee Blvd. Lebanon, TN 37087*

*615-444-9355*

## **The American Job Center provides the following services:**

- Jobs4tn.gov registration assistance
- Resource room with computers, internet, telephones & fax machine
- Daily and monthly Hiring Events
- Variety of training and certification programs
- Re-employment services
- Veterans services

**All services are FREE OF CHARGE!!!**

Priority of service is given to veterans and their eligible spouses who meet certain eligibility requirements.

**In order to utilize any of our services, we ask that you register on [Jobs4TN.gov](http://Jobs4TN.gov)**

**For more information you may also contact [Katrina.Moss@tn.gov](mailto:Katrina.Moss@tn.gov) or call (615) 494-4278**

# Drug Free WilCo Holds First Outreach Event

Drug Free WilCo held its first community outreach event on Thursday, November 1, 2018. The public meeting and panel discussion took place at Providence Church in Mt. Juliet, with open doors to the entire community. Drug Free WilCo is a coalition whose mission is to not only educate citizens on the opioid crisis in Wilson County, but also to provide resources to those struggling with addiction.

The first of many community outreach events, this particular discussion featured a panel of the following individuals: Mt. Juliet Police Chief James Hambrick, Wilson County Parent Lisa Bass Tappley, Faith Based Community Coordinator with the Middle Tennessee Grand Division, James Harper; JourneyPure Medical Director Dr. Stephen Loyd; Tennova Healthcare-Lebanon's Dr. Scott Wilson; Addiction Campuses Treatment Specialist Tricia Brienne Benitez; Cedar Recovery CEO Joe Bond; Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Faith-Based Initiatives Director Monty Burks; and Pastor Jacob Armstrong of Providence Church. Mayor Hutto also

spoke at the meeting and something that they can't



led the Pledge of Allegiance. A former teacher and coach in Wilson

whip on their own, and we must pull together and we must find a way to



County, Mayor Hutto has faced many situations where addiction has impacted the lives of young people in his classes, on his teams and in his community. He had the following to say "There is a world of people out of the 135,000 that live in our county that are battling

help".

The panel opened with discussion from Tammy Grow, a School Health Coordinator with the Lebanon Special School District who noted that everyone in Wilson County is affected by the opioid crisis in one way or another. Ms. Grow cited that sta-

tistically 93 out of 100 people were prescribed opioid prescriptions last year in Wilson County alone. Dr. Stephen Loyd noted that the national average of pain prescriptions per person is 1.14. Dr. Loyd also pointed out that nationally speaking, there have been more deaths from overdoses than American deaths in the Vietnam War. As the night continued, several other alarming statistics were shared highlighting what an epidemic drug use is among Americans, and most specifically Wilson County residents.

In addition to the panel discussion, several audience members also shared testimonies expressing the personal affect addiction has had on their lives.

Drug Free WilCo's mission statement is as follows: "The coalition is dedicated to uniting the collective community of Wilson County with the mission to prevent and reduce drug misuse and addition; and to provide education, communication and awareness of resources" If you or someone you know is struggling with addiction, please seek help. Information on future events and helpful resources can be found at [Facebook.com/drugfreewilco](https://www.facebook.com/drugfreewilco).

# Drug Free WilCo Holds First Outreach Event



# WILSON COUNTY AWARDED HOME GRANT

Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) has awarded a \$500,000 HOME grant to Wilson County that will be used to make home repairs for low-income homeowners. The HOME program, funded by HUD and administered in Tennessee by THDA, is used for the production, preservation, or rehabilitation of affordable housing for low and very low income families and individuals. The \$500,000 HOME grant award to Wilson County will be used to renovate or rebuild seven single-family homes. “My mission is to make Wilson County the best place to call home in all of Tennessee. This funding will help make those homes safe and sound,” said Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto. During the most recent funding round, THDA awarded 22 competitive HOME grants to local governments and nonprofit

organizations statewide totaling \$11.5 million. “This HOME Program funding is important because it goes to the people that need it most,” THDA Executive Director Ralph M. Perrey said. “This money will assist homeowners in Wilson County to make re-

pairs to their homes that they would not have been able to make otherwise.” The next step will be to hold a public meeting to outline application procedures and grant guidelines. Once applications are received, a priority list will be formed based on the level of rehabilitation work required, as well as each applicant’s socioeconomic factors. Homes that cannot be brought up to code will not be considered

for the project. Each home selected under the program will receive a per-unit subsidy for rehabilitation that will bring it up to code. Efficiency-sized dwellings can receive up to \$58,787, while one-bedroom homes can receive up to \$67,391, two-bedrooms to \$81,947, three-bedrooms up to \$106,013 and four or more bedrooms up to \$116,369. Financial assistance for home repairs will be provided in the form of a deferred grant that is forgivable at 20 percent per year if the family



remains in compliance. As the State’s housing finance agency, the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) is a self-sufficient, publicly accountable entity of the State of Tennessee. Our purpose is to meaningfully expand affordable housing opportunities for Tennesseans. More information about THDA can be found online at [THDA.org](http://THDA.org)

# New Schedule for Music City Star

The Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee Board of Directors recently voted to approve the new Music City Star service schedule, which is a product of customer feedback and will improve on-time performance in coordination with afternoon bus service that connects to Riverfront Station for train riders.

After closing the 30-day public comment period earlier in November on three potential scenarios for commuter train service, RTA staff made its recommendation to the

board of directors. This recommendation was in line with customer feedback, which was to leave the train schedule consistent with the existing service schedule, with additional modifications made to improve timing for the 93 Music City Star West End shuttle to reliably deliver passengers to Riverfront Station for their afternoon commutes, in light of increasing congestion between the West End corridor and downtown Nashville. As previously announced, in order to have the least impact on passengers and the

train's growing commuter ridership while adhering to changes in operating requirements by the Federal Railroad Administration, the RTA is no longer able to operate the Music City Star's Friday evening train beginning in 2019. The last Friday night train will run on December 28, 2018.

In addition to making adjustments to the train's current schedule, RTA staff will conduct a rail improvements study to identify opportunities to update Music City Star equipment, vehicles, and tracks, as well as optimiz-

ing the schedule further for improved reliability to meet customers' growing needs and a possible later extension of the rail's service area. The new schedule for the Star, effective Monday, December 31, 2018, is outlined in the chart below. For more information on the Music City Star, contact RTA Customer Care at 615-862-5950 from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sundays, or visit [www.rtarelaxandride.org](http://www.rtarelaxandride.org)

To Nashville (Weekdays Monday thru Friday)						
	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
LEBANON	5:40	6:35		3:20	3:55	
HAMILTON SPRINGS	5:47	6:42		3:27	4:02	
MARTHA	5:52	6:47		3:32	4:07	
MT JULIET	6:01	6:56	7:45	3:41	4:16	5:05
HERMITAGE	6:09	7:04	7:53	3:49	4:23	5:13
DONELSON	6:16	7:11	8:00	3:56	4:35	5:25
RIVERFRONT	6:35	7:30	8:15	4:10	4:50	5:40
From Nashville (Weekdays Monday thru Friday)						
RIVERFRONT	6:53	7:45	8:25	4:20	5:10	5:55
DONELSON	7:04	7:56	8:36	4:32	5:22	6:07
HERMITAGE	7:19	8:09	8:43	4:39	5:29	6:14
MT JULIET	7:29	8:17	8:51	4:50	5:37	6:22
MARTHA		8:26	9:00		5:46	6:31
HAMILTON SPRINGS		8:31	9:05		5:51	6:36
LEBANON		8:40	9:20		6:05	6:50

# Wilson County Meets Mentor Goal!

Congratulations, Wilson County! We reached 100% of our mentor goal for the upcoming year! You may have seen notices in the newsletter and on Mayor Hutto's social media in the past promoting tnAchieves and asking Wilson County residents to sign up to be a mentor with tnAchieves. So, what exactly is TN Achieves and why get involved? TnAchieves is the partnering organization to the TN Promise Scholarship in 84 of the 95 counties in Tennessee. tnAchieves

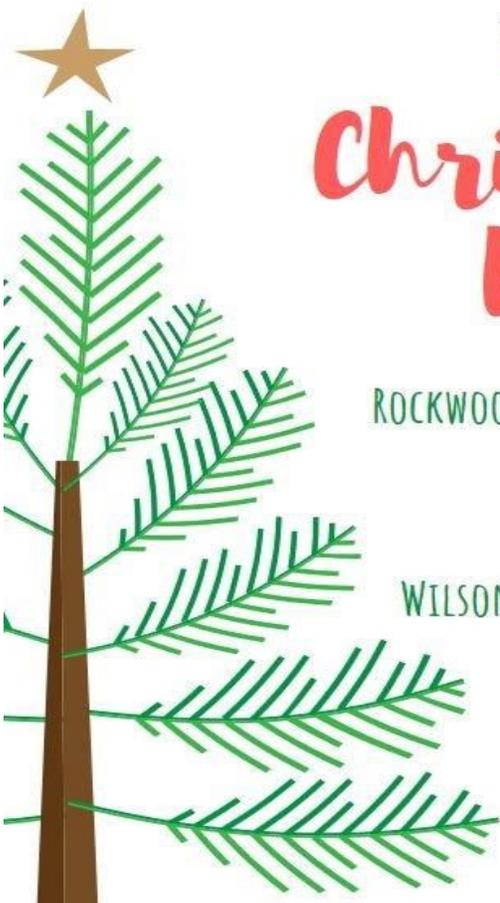
exists to increase higher education opportunities for Tennessee high school students by providing last

dents, need more than funding to complete college. Mentors provide much needed support to

Wilson County set out to recruit 223 mentors for the class of 2019. As usual, the citizens of Wilson County showed up in a big way and we ended up with 235 mentors overall, meaning we achieved 105% percent of our goal. Thank you so much to all of those that signed up, and for all of those that worked diligently to recruit members for this cause. You are helping Wilson County students excel in college and in life.

-dollar scholarships with mentor guidance. The founders of tnAchieves understood that students, particularly at-risk stu-

students throughout their college experience in hopes to increase Tennessee's post-secondary attainment rate. This year,



WILSON COUNTY SOLID WASTE

## Christmas Tree Recycling

ROCKWOOD RECYCLING- (510 HARTMANN DRIVE) ACCEPTING LIVE TREES FROM 12/26 UNTIL 1/5

WILSON COUNTY LANDFILL (378 DUMP ROAD) ACCEPTING LIVE TREES MONDAY THRU FRIDAY FROM 7 AM UNTIL 3 PM

LIVE TREES ONLY

WILSON COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY

ALL LIGHTS AND ORNAMENTS MUST BE REMOVED

# Mt. Juliet-City on the Rise

Corley and Sons General Store celebrated a ribbon cutting the morning of November 29th in Mt. Juliet. Corley and Sons is a welcome and information center. It's also a miniature version of an old service station. The

center is full of memorabilia transporting you back to simpler times. The center is always open and promises to be a great tourist attraction. Later that afternoon, the Tri-Star Mt. Juliet ER had its ribbon cutting and open

house. Guests enjoyed refreshments and a tour of the facility. We are so excited that our citizens now have an additional avenue for medical services if the need arises. Mt. Juliet is definitely continue to boom!



## 4H Poster Contest

Wilson County 4-H is active in 8 County Schools, 1 Lebanon Special School District School and 2 Home Schools. There are a total of 53 clubs in these schools. 606 4-Hers competed in these local clubs in the 2018-2019 4-H Poster Contest. 140 of them were blue ribbon winners and went to the county level. This year Mayor Randall Hutto and Sara Davenport judged the county level poster contest. The winners of the county contest were as follows:



(4th grade) 1st place, Seth Farina, Rutland Elementary; 2nd place, Violet Teckenbrock, Rutland Elementary; 3rd place, Jackson Ricketts, Gladeville Ele-

mentary.  
(5th Grade)  
1st place, Dillon Whitlock, Watertown Elementary; 2nd place, Zoey Moon, Glade-

ville Elementary. 3rd place, Sarah Powell, Watertown Elementary  
(6th to 8th Grades)  
1st place Eli Shehane, Wilson County Home-school; 2nd place, Caleb Bobel, Wilson County Homeschool; 3rd place, MaKayla Cook, Mt. Juliet Middle School.  
(9th to 12th Grades)  
1st place, Gunner Gossett, Honor Club; 2nd place, Sophia Roberts, Wilson County Home-school. 3rd place, Christine Oldham - Heritage Home-school  
Congratulations to everyone!