



WILSON COUNTY CONNECTION



Lebanon Mt. Juliet Watertown

April 2019

Volume 9 Issue 4

A Word From Your County Mayor Randall Hutto

The St. Jude Rock N Roll Marathon is just around the corner and once again, Wilson County has partnered with WeGo Public Transit (formerly RTA) and the Music City Star to offer a stress-free ride to and from the marathon for runners and spectators alike. Saturday, April 27th promises to be a big day in Nashville and this is great way to get to and from the marathon without the hassle of traffic and parking. But that's not even the best part! When you purchase a \$12 round trip ticket onboard the Music City Star, for this event, it goes back to the kids of St. Jude Children's Re-

search Hospital. Famous Footwear will sponsor the Music City Star for this special event and we can't thank them enough for their willingness to give back in such a way. On the same day, the Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce will also host the "A Toast to Tennessee" Wine Festival. In addition to providing the marathon train, WeGo Public Transit has partnered with Wilson County Government once again to provide transportation to and from the wine festival. This is a separate ticket from the marathon train, but proceeds will also benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The Mt. Juliet Chamber of Com-

merce will sponsor the Music City Star for this event. Additionally, as a bonus, both RJ Corman Railroad Company and Mr. Bill Drunic, formerly of the NERR, will donate \$5 per rider directly to St. Jude for train tickets purchased for either event. Visit www.ticketsnashville.com and click the wine festival flyer or the marathon flyer to see how you can leave the keys at home, avoid the traffic and ride with us while helping some great kids at the same time. I sincerely hope that you take advantage of these great opportuni-



WILSON COUNTY DISTRICT 1



Robert Fields

500 Suffolk Ct.
Old Hickory, TN 37198
615-519-1819

ties. Please note that tickets must be purchased 24 hours in advance for the marathon train. Also, A quick note to those interested in riding the train from Nashville to the Wine Festival, with the NFL draft setting up at Riverfront Park the same day, we encourage our Nashville passengers to purchase your tickets for the Donelson station.



HIRING EVENT

americanjobcenter
TENNESSEE

JOBS4TN.GOV

Wilson County Hiring Event

Event Time

Wednesday, April 17, 2019
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location

Wilson County Civic
League Community
Center
[321 East Market Street](#)
[Lebanon, TN 37087](#)

For additional information, contact
Sarah Buckles at Sarah.Buckles@tn.gov
or 615-494-4278

Register on Jobs4TN.gov for even more!
***Priority of service is given to veterans and their
eligible spouses who meet eligibility requirements.**

American Job Center

Tennessee is not responsible for the participation of any advertised employers at our hiring and resource events.
We solicit their participation in good faith that they may attend but acknowledge that unexpected events occur, which may prevent their attendance.

Employers Include:

Wal-Mart (Mt. Juliet)
Verizon Wireless
Yates (Nissan)
Staffmark (Geodis, Ceva)
Waffle House
We Go Transit(Formerly MTA)
Zaxby's
2020 Census Bureau
LSI- Landscape Services
Bethel University
Alliance HR
HomeGoods (Mt. Juliet)
PermaPipe
The Budd Group
& MORE!!!

*****Warehouse, Forklift, Call Center,
Food Service, Janitorial and Many
More positions available!***

Wilson Books From Birth **IMAGINATION DINNER**

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019 @ 6:30 P.M.
WILSON COUNTY EXPOSITION CENTER
945 E BADDOUR PKWY. LEBANON, TN 37087



A TABLE OF 8 (TABLE SPONSOR): \$250.00
CONTACT WILSON BOOKS FROM BIRTH AT
615-444-5586 TO SPONSOR A TABLE



CATERED BY:



**DOOR
PRIZES**

**LIVE &
SILENT
AUCTIONS**



SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

Ride the Music City Star

ST. JUDE *Rock'n'Roll*

NASHVILLE MARATHON

All net proceeds
benefit St. Jude
Children's Hospital



to marathon:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Lebanon | 5:00 a.m. |
| Hamilton Springs | 5:07 a.m. |
| Martha | 5:12 a.m. |
| Mt. Juliet | 5:21 a.m. |
| Hermitage | 5:29 a.m. |
| Donelson | 5:36 a.m. |
| Riverfront | 5:55 a.m. |

TICKETS
\$12
ROUND-TRIP*

plus processing fee

get your tickets at:

TicketsNashville.com

from marathon:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Riverfront | 12:00 p.m. |
| Donelson | 12:11 p.m. |
| Hermitage | 12:18 p.m. |
| Mt. Juliet | 12:26 p.m. |
| Martha | 12:35 p.m. |
| Hamilton Springs | 12:40 p.m. |
| Lebanon | 12:55 p.m. |



**Wilson
County**
GOVERNMENT

FAMOUS
footwear

MUSIC CITY **STAR**



Your Local American Job Center is here to help!

JOB FAIR

EVERY Third Wednesday of the month

From 9 am - 1 pm

*Located inside the Tennessee College of Applied Technology
(TCAT)*

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.

Veterans Services:

Pete Pritchard – DVOP (615) 444-9355 or (615) 898-8081 Peter.Pritchard@tn.gov

Joe Ferguson – Veterans Employment Representative (615) 898-8081

Joseph.Ferguson@tn.gov

In order to utilize any of our services, we ask that you register on Jobs4TN.gov

For more information you may also contact Sarah Buckles at Sarah.Buckles@tn.gov

or call (615) 494-4278

Wilson County Ag Hall of Fame

Credentials have been released for the 2019 Wilson County Ag Hall of Fame Inductees. The thirteenth annual Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame Banquet will take place on April 2, 2019 in the Wilson County 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 thirteenth class of inductees into the Hall of Fame:

Billy Joe and Jean Allison

Billy Joe was born in Smith



Co. and moved to Wilson Co. at an early age. He was an only child to Victor and Irene Winfree Allison. His parents owned a grade A dairy farm where he learned milking when he was very young. They also grew tobacco, hay and corn. Jean grew up on her parent's farm approximately five miles from the Allison

farm. Her parents were Lacy and Ethel Simpson. She has one sister, Mrs. Jackie Wright. Jean always loved the farm following her Father many times to check on livestock. He was a farmer and livestock trader. They raised sheep, hogs, cattle, mules and goats. Billy Joe graduated from Watertown High in 1955 and Jean followed in 1956. Jean went on to attend Cumberland University and Billy Joe went to work in Nashville at Western Electric. In 1958 they were married and moved to the farm where they still live. This started their farming career on nights and week-ends. However, the dairy

cows were calling, so in 1964 they built a Grade A milk barn which began a thirty-year shared career. In 1993 the dairy cows were sold and so began the Allison's commercial beef herd which allows them to travel. Jean has served

on the Farm Service Agency County Committee for nine years. She currently serves a minority advisor for this committee; a position she has held for six years. Billy Joe has served as a director for the Wilson Farmers Co-op and the Wilson County Farm Bureau. Jean and Billy Joe are members of the Wilson

County Livestock Association. Billy Joe was an original member of the Community Council for Wilson Bank and Trust. In 1989 they were recognized as the Conservation Farmer of the Year and have completed the Master Beef Producer program. They are both members of the Commerce Church of Christ. Home is the same farm where they have lived for sixty-one years. Their picturesque

farm can be seen on the north side of I-40E being the last farm in Wilson County. They will tell you farming is and has been a rewarding life. Their greatest accomplishment is their children and grandchildren and the caring people that they have become.

Sam E. (Sammie) Forbes

On May 16, 1933, Sammie Forbes was born at home, on the family farm located on Shop Springs Road in Wilson County. He was the only son born to Ebb and Maude (Merinda) Tucker Forbes. The log cabin that Sammie was born in was relocated to the Fiddler's Grove Historic Village in 1992. Sammie began school at the age of four and attended Shop Springs School first through eighth grades. He graduated from

Watertown High School in 1950. He was an active



member of FFA, 4-H, and he proudly played high school football. Sammie began farming early in life. He raised a variety of livestock which included both beef and dairy cattle, horses, mules, chickens, turkeys, goats, sheep and hogs. Tobacco was grown; but the primary focus of the farm was growing produce. When not in school, to financially help his parents, he went to work for his Uncles in the food concession and meat business. In the 1960s, Sammie purchased the family farm from his parents where he continued to farm. In 1953, Sammie married Edna Gannon from the Norene community and they began married life living with Sammie's parents.

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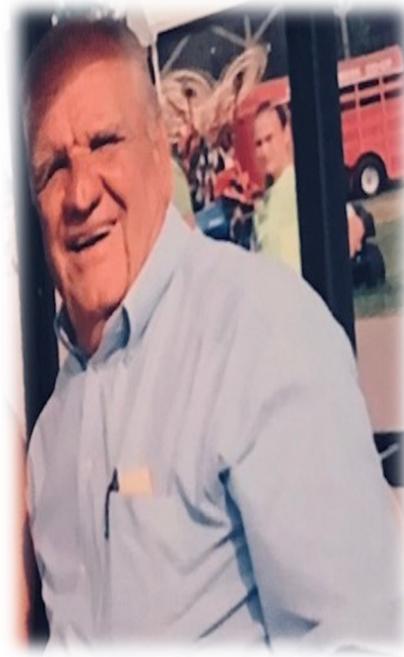
Wilson County Ag Hall of Fame

Unbeknownst to them at the time, this purchase would prove to be one of the most valuable decisions in Sammie's life. At the Sparta Pike location, in 1963, Sammie began his Shop Springs produce stand; now known as Shop Springs Farms. Sammie became known as "The Tomato Man" to all his roadside customers. He earned that name due to his outstanding ability to grow an excellent and early tomato crop as well as other garden produce. He ran his roadside Farmer's Market for 52 years before handing it over to the next generation in 2015. Sammie became the owner of the family's food concession and part-owner of the family's Tucker's Sausage meat business. He would sell his own home-grown farm products through these two businesses. Sammie was a "Master" salesman and promoter. Even though Sammie was in many businesses, if "Occupation" was asked, he always answered "Farmer"; his proudest achievement. As an adult, he was active in his community. Sammie was a member and a past President of the Lebanon High School Parent-back Club. He coached several Lion's Club Babe Ruth baseball teams and was an avid fan and supporter of his children's and grandchildren's sports teams, especially Wattertown football. Sammie and Edna were honored in 2008 as Old Timer's of the Wilson County Fair and Grand Marshals of that year's Fair. Sammie was a

member of Greenwood's Bethel Church of Christ and attended that church his entire 83 years; from birth until death.

Gilbert Graves

Gilbert Graves was born on his grand-parents farm in 1932 to Grafton L. and Clara Bell Hamblen Graves. The



family bought a farm on Central Pike to be near his paternal grand-parents, Edgar and Essie Philpot Graves. Gilbert later built his house on this farm and lived there until his death. Gilbert was involved in farming from a very early age as farming was the natural way of life on Central Pike. He milked cows before going to school each day. He helped tend to his great Uncle's farm that he later came to own. This farm was certified a Tennessee Century Farm in 2002. It was established in 1816 by

his fourth great grand-parents. Gilbert was a member of the Mt. Juliet High School FFA Chapter for four years. After graduating high school from Mt. Juliet in 1950, he went to work at AVCO, while still farming. It was also when he bought his first tractor, a used 1948 red belly Ford. In January 1955, he married Mary Lou and a week later was inducted into the United States Army. He spent two years at Fort Knox in Kentucky serving as a Military Policeman. After his military service, he accepted a job with Southern Tire Service in Nashville, creating a career in sales that lasted for more than fifty years. A special election was held in December 1965 for Magistrate in the 25th district. Gilbert won the seat and retained it in the 1966 August General Election.

When he took office in 1965, Gilbert Graves was the youngest member on the County Court and when he left the seat in 2010, he was the oldest member on the County Commission. While serving on the County Commission, Gilbert was involved in many projects that have improved life for Wilson county citizens.

He was among those who were instrumental in preserving our farm heritage and history by supporting the purchase of land for the James E. Ward Agricultural Center. During his 45 years,

he served for many years as Chairman Pro Tem and on various committees and boards some of which included the Planning Commission, Road Commission, Ag Management Committee and the Joint Economic Development Board. Gilbert was a lifelong member of Center Chapel Church of Christ. He was a charter member of the Mt. Juliet Breakfast Rotary Club, Big Brothers of Mt. Juliet, Wilson County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, and the Wilson County Fair Board. Gilbert Graves was passionate about all things Wilson County. He dedicated the bigger part of his life trying to make it a better place for all of us to live.

Terry Thompson

Terry Thomas Thompson was born in Wilson County to William Dean and Mildred Neal Thompson. He grew up with brother, William Dean Thompson, Jr. on the family farm on Central Pike in the Bairds Mill Community. The Thompson farm was home to a dairy operation, Suffolk Sheep and Duroc hogs along with crops of tobacco and hay. Terry attended Major and Flatt Rock Elementary Schools and graduated from Lebanon High School in 1970

(Continued on next page)

Wilson County Ag Hall of Fame



growing fresh corn for the farmers market. In 1976 Terry was hired by the Wilson County School Board of Education to be the new Vocational Agriculture teacher at Watertown High School. Terry says the worst headache he ever had was his first day of

He was active in the FFA serving as an officer and earned his State and American FFA Farmer Degrees. He was also recognized as Star Farmer of Middle Tennessee during his senior year. Terry then attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville graduating with a Bachelor of Science for Dairy Science and Production in 1974. His summers were devoted in helping William Dean and wife, Nelda on the dairy farm. In 1975, Terry married Nell Scott and began working for Brown Milling Company of Galatin as an outside salesman in Wilson and Sumner Counties. He also was raising beef cattle and harvesting hay, gardening and

teaching, but things did get better. He feels that he was blessed throughout the years to have good students which included students from farms and students who lived in town. Students, parents, grandparents, and the community were always supportive of the FFA chapter and its activities. Teaching and mentoring students are a source of great enjoyment when they grow and become successful at all levels of life. One of Terry's passions is the love of the land and raising livestock. He and his family raised and sold produce at the farmers market for 35 years. He gives A.C. Hill the credit for getting him interested in growing sweet corn and tomatoes. Terry,

Nell, and their family have worked very hard raising tobacco, sows, feeder pigs, beef calves and 25 acres of corn. Now they raise feeder calves, a family garden, and make homemade country sausage. Their favorite activity is watching the grandchildren grow. Terry humbly acknowledges that his 40-year successful teaching and administration career at Watertown High School was due to his principal and mentor, John D. Johnson, and principals Rick Martin and Jeff Luttrell and all the faculty members that supported Agricultural Education and FFA.

“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 Ben Powell, 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 Keith Har-

rison -Vice Chairman, Jeffrey Turner-Secretary, Diane Major-Treasurer, Ruth Correll, Louis Fletcher & Neal Oakley. The organizers have established a non-profit status for the organization to enable them to raise money to be used for a building 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 the building,” states Diane Major, Treasurer of the Hall of Fame. Tickets for the April 2 banquet can be purchased from Diane Major by calling 444-1890 ext. 3. The cost is \$20 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 2,” says Powell. “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.

Wilson County Government will be

CLOSED

April 19, 2019



 tbf

Watertown Egg Hunt

Hosted by The Bridge Fellowship

www.tbfonline.net

SATURDAY
April 13th

12:00 - 2:30pm

Three Forks Community Park

EVERYTHING IS FREE!

Food, bounce houses, face painting,
games with prizes, a photo booth with
the Easter Bunny, and more!

Egg Hunt Age Categories: 3 and under, 4-5, 6-8, 9+

Mayor Hutto Out and About



Mayor Hutto was the guest reader at Cedars Preparatory Academy on March 6, 2019. He read to a fantastic group of boys and girls! (Pictured above)



Mayor Hutto was a guest speaker and participant at this year's "Walk Across Wilson" event. Citizens all throughout the county came together to take action in an effort to become a healthier community. (Pictured above). Mayor Hutto was also a guest speaker and the MC for the FCA Banquet held at Victory Baptist Church on March 26th. Ryan Succup from the Tennessee Titans spoke at the event in addition to several presentations made by students and sponsors, FCA does wonderful things in our schools and our community.

Mayor Hutto Out and About



Mayor Hutto attended the 2019 Governor's Address at The Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce with other GNRC members on Thursday, March 28, 2019. Governor Bill Lee shared insights about the state, its economy & business environment, and his first proposed budget. Mayor Hutto participates in the Greater Nashville Regional Council among other regional organizations each month in Nashville.

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.

March Winners:

Amy Nichols | Phoebe Neal | Ashley Abernathy | Misty Thomas | Tracy Horvath

Job Openings:

Do you know anyone looking for a great place to work? Wilson County Government is looking to add to our team! Check out the job listings below on our website at www.wilsoncountyttn.gov/job-openings

Heavy Equipment Operator (Solid Waste Department)

Full Time Truck Driver (Solid Waste Department)

Postings close on April 12, 2019

VETERAN SERVICES

AmericanJobCenter
TENNESSEE

JOBS4TN.GOV

Have You Ever Served in the Military?

We believe Veterans are special people who deserve our efficient, productive, and compassionate advocacy in return for their service to our nation.

American Job Center – Tennessee

Career Services

- Guarantee Veterans' Preference in Job Referrals
- Free Testing and Skills Assessment
- Training Information
- Resume' Writing, Interviewing and various Job Preparation Classes
- Specializing in matching applicant skills with employer needs
- Veteran Only "Job Clubs" and Employer Advocacy

For more information on Veterans Services Eligibility

<https://www.tn.gov/workforce/jobs-and-education/services-by-group/services-by-group-redirect/job-placement-for-veterans.html>

Location(s)

American Job Center - Murfreesboro , TN

(615) 898-8081

1313 Old Fort Parkway (Rear Entrance of TCAT)

Lebanon, TN (615) 444-9355

415 Tennessee Blvd (Inside TCAT building)

Register on Jobs4TN.gov for even more!

American Job Centers – Tennessee provide Priority of service to registered/eligible Veterans

American Job Center

Tennessee is not responsible for the participation of any advertised employers at our hiring and resource events.

We solicit their participation in good faith that they may attend but acknowledge that unexpected events occur, which may prevent their attendance.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

Ride the Music City Star

A Toast to Tennessee Wine Festival



Wilson County Expo Center

12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

All net proceeds benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital

to wine festival:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Riverfront | 12:00 p.m. |
| Donelson | 12:11 p.m. |
| Hermitage | 12:18 p.m. |
| Mt. Juliet | 12:26 p.m. |
| Martha | 12:35 p.m. |
| Hamilton Springs | 12:40 p.m. |
| Lebanon | 12:55 p.m. |



plus processing fee

get your tickets at

TicketsNashville.com

from wine festival:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Lebanon | 5:30 p.m. |
| Hamilton Springs | 5:37 p.m. |
| Martha | 5:42 p.m. |
| Mt. Juliet | 5:51 p.m. |
| Hermitage | 5:59 p.m. |
| Donelson | 6:06 p.m. |
| Riverfront | 6:25 p.m. |



* Music City Star
weekday and monthly passes
not valid for this event

**Wilson
County
GOVERNMENT**

SPONSORED BY

MT. JULIET
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





11th ANNIVERSARY



Youth Litter Challenge Saturday, May 18th

8:00 AM – Litter Teams Arrive at their School

11 AM – 2:00 PM – TGTC 2019 Celebration

(@ James Ward Ag Center, Lebanon)

Door Prizes, Games, Food, etc.

PRESENTATION of PRIZE MONEY

TO WINNING SCHOOLS OF LITTER CHALLENGE



JOIN US: Contact Your Schools to be a part of your School Team, or Contact Beautification Commission Chair, Patsy Anderson, 615/444-3647, ext 2309



Governor's Volunteer Star Awards

Each year, in conjunction with the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award program, one youth and one adult in all of TN's participating counties are selected to attend the Governor's banquet and be honored for their volunteer

work. Here in Wilson County, we like to take it a step further and recognize *all* of our nominees. In the next several editions of "The County Connection", we will be highlighting each nominee. While we know there

are many outstanding volunteers in Wilson County, this year we received 10 nominations; 6 youths and 4 adults. We were fortunate enough to have Wilson Bank & Trust sponsor our award plaques again this year. They also spon-

sored a ticket to the Lebanon/Wilson Co. Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet where our nominees/winners were honored for their volunteer work.

The Underwood Siblings



Bryson, Mollie Anne and Evyn Underwood were all nominated for various acts of volunteerism by Mr. John Hunn. Here's what John had to say about these young people:

Bryson has been on several local mission trips and has recently served at the headquarters for Operation Christmas Child in Atlanta Georgia. Mollie Anne has served meals for Compassionate Hands to for local families in need. Evyn, the youngest is just starting his mission work. all three have reached out to several homeless individuals in Lebanon and provided bags with snacks and waters to help. Bryson and Mollie Anne have participated in the homeless and hungry program at their church have collected food for the needy. They participate in setting up VBS camps at other churches and help witness to the younger age kids. Mollie Anne has baked cookies and attached Bible verses and randomly taken them to our neighbors and the smiles and gratefulness are amazing. all three children have worked in the mobile food pantry at Immanuel Baptist Church.

Governor's Volunteer Star Awards

Ina Neal - Adult Winner



Ms. Neal was selected as the winner in the adult category. As such, Ms. Neal was invited to attend the banquet hosted by the state of Tennessee. Ms. Neal was nominated by Shelly Barnes. Here's what Shelly had to say about Ms. Ina:

Mrs. Ina has a servant heart and always thinks of others first. She spends her time thinking of and helping others. Her life's work was an educator. She spent 27 years teaching at Tuckers Crossroads School and molded young minds. She has touched many lives and continues to make a significant impact on the Tuckers Crossroads community. When Mrs. Ina is approached with vol-

unteer opportunities, she never says no. Her response is always, "I will do my best." Mrs. Ina is a volunteer for the University of Tennessee Extension and has served for 25 years. She volunteers in many capacities for our educational programs. She is also a member of the Family and Community Education Clubs (FCE), formerly home demonstration clubs. She serves in Tuckers Crossroads FCE Club and participates in all FCE activities at the local and county level.

Mrs. Ina's volunteer work is vast but ranges from baking cakes for the blood mobile to making visits to local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. She has organized and led the walker bag project and made blankets for the elderly. Recently, she has found a passion for sewing angel gowns, tiny dresses for miscarriages or stillborn given to grieving parents. She has also made premie quilts, curtains for Tuckers Crossroads school and volunteered at the Wilson County Fair. She is active in her church by teaching the ladies class, teaching Sunday school, working on projects with Vacation Bible School, providing food for members and organizing meals for grieving families. Mrs. Ina's service impacts people, their families, friends and their environments. Her service to others makes people feel welcome and loved. It's hard to determine a number because Ina doesn't keep a running tally of her service activities, she just does it. Serving others comes naturally to her, it is part of who she is and what she does on a daily basis. She is an educator, a mother and a friend. She is the definition of community service. If I had to give a number of how many people she has impacted, the number would be thousands and then some! Mrs. Ina believes that she has made the most difference with the walker bag and lap blankets projects. She says that the people at Lebanon Health & Rehab really appreciate them. Mrs. Ina is unique in that she quietly serves others. She asks for nothing in return and is bashful of any attention related to her good work. Serving and helping others is not something that Ina looks to do. Serving and helping others is engrained in her, part of her moral fiber and her love for people reflects that. More people should aspire to be like Ina. As a mother of 4 adult children, it is apparent that she has been a giving person her entire life. Her children reflect her giving spirit in all that they do. Tim McGraw's song, *Humble and Kind* describes Ina Neal perfectly. She is what we all need to be.

Governor's Volunteer Star Awards

Deya Wuerdig Van Winkle



Deya Wuerdig Van Winkle was nominated for the outstanding volunteer work she does with C-Factor Athletics by Courtney Alms. Here's what Courtney had to say about Deya.

I am most impressed Deya's work with C-Factor Athletics. Last season, she was the assistant coach for a team of cheerleaders who all have special needs known as the "Eye of the Tiger Handi-Capable" Team. She volunteered countless hours and worked weekly with these athletes to prepare and perfect a cheer routine that was performed at multiple competitions and events throughout the state. Through the Eye of the Tiger squad, Deya helped celebrate all the things that make us unique and different.

Volunteering to help coach the Eye of the Tiger team has a positive impact on our community in Lebanon. Deya was able to help empower these individuals to accomplish goals of performing as well as bring awareness to a variety of disabilities. Deya is a unique honoree because very few high school students would commit and follow through with a year-long service project. Though C-Factor Athletics did close this season, Deya continues to look for ways to improve the community around her. I feel confident that she will continue to positively impact the global community through her service.

Nadine Bean



Ms. Nadine Bean was nominated for the outstanding volunteer work she does for the students and teachers of West Elementary School. Nominated by Principal Chris Plummer, Chris had the following to say about Nadine:

I have had the pleasure of working alongside Nadine over the course of the past five years. She and the teachers have collaborated, problem-solved, and conferenced with one another multiple times over the course of their working relationship with the Wilson County School System. Nadine has proven to be prepared for all volunteer settings while working at West Elementary School. She is dedicated to task completion and driven to effectively serve the students of our school.

Governor's Volunteer Star Awards

Nadine Bean-cont.

In addition, she has a very cooperative attitude and cheerfulness that is appreciated in our sometimes hectic and fast-paced work environment. She has admirable characteristics which not only aid in her volunteer work for our team. but also, when assisting teachers and students at West.

Nadine is a loving, caring, and selfless individual that performs far beyond the expectations of a “typical volunteer”. She has a reputation of being a hard-worker and a go-getter in every way. I have observed her as she has collaborated, planned and motivated others to be better stewards of children. In addition, to her amazing accomplishments and acts of service for our school, West has also been designated as a Reward School by the Department of Education thanks to volunteers as herself. Nadine has a gift of building relationships with children, faculty and staff members and parents.

As I have advanced as an administrator, I recognize that Nadine’s qualities of a true volunteer make her very deserving of this accomplishment. She is exceptional in every way and I’m comforted knowing that her gifts and talents can be shared with the children and faculty and staff of West Elementary School.

Landry Williams



Landry has proven to be an outstanding volunteer through his community service through several different activities. He has in excess of 150 volunteer hours serving on the Wilson County Youth Fair Board from 7th grade through his senior year of high school—2013-2018 and 75 volunteer hours through the Future Business Leaders of America Spirit Wear Booth 2015-2018.

During his time serving on the Wilson County Youth Fair Board he has been recognized three times as one of the top-ten volunteers based upon number of hours worked for that year (2013-2015). At this year’s Fair Board Banquet, he received the Wilson County Junior Fair Board Dedication Award for being a Junior Fair Board Member all 6 years he was eligible with 152 volunteer hours during these 6 years. The Wilson County Fair has a major impact on Wilson County’s economy. It also provides community outreach through its special activities geared to children, the elderly, and the disabled. Landry is unique in his service to the Youth Fair Board in that he never missed his assignments and was always one of the first youth called when someone did not show up to work their assign-

ments. *(Continued on next page)*

Governor's Volunteer Star Awards

Landry Williams

This shows great maturity and responsibility for a young man in this age range. He was always recognized by the adult leaders as a valuable asset to the Wilson County Youth Fair Board. He has been requested year after year by the adults that are responsible for the livestock barns as he is always willing to complete the physical tasks during barrel racing and livestock shows. His contributions to the fair have allowed hundreds of people to compete in various events.

He has been a member of the Future Business Leaders of America from 2015-present and served as Spirit Wear Manager from 2016-2017. In this position he was responsible for setting up the Spirit Wear Booth at all home football and basketball games. He volunteered selling the Spirit Wear during the games. He raised in excess of \$10,000 during his service. These funds were used to pay expenses for FBLA members at Watertown High School to attend CTSO Leadership Conferences, Regional Leadership Conference, State Leadership Conferences, and National Leadership Conferences. His hard work as a volunteer gave many students the opportunity to attend and compete on the regional, state, and national level. Many of these students and their families would not have had the financial resources to afford to pay their expenses for these conferences; however, through his diligence and willingness to work during the games rather than hang out with his friends, they were given opportunities they would not have had otherwise.

While he has been a dedicated volunteer, he has also been an outstanding student with a GPA of 4.15. He has served as State Officer for FBLA, been very active in FFA earning many awards for his land judging skills, and active in various other organizations such as Beta, National Honors Society, Alpha Mu Theta, and National Business Honor Society.

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*

Happy Retirement Carol Dedman

Ms. Carol Dedman retired from the Wilson County Veterans Services Office at the end of March. Carol worked in the office from 1988 to 2019. She has served the veterans of Wilson County with respect and dedication and will be greatly missed by all. The Veterans Service office hosted Carol a retirement party on March 29th to celebrate her many years of service to Wilson County Government. The party was beautifully orchestrated by Lindsey Roberts and Michael McPherson. *(All photos courtesy of Lindsey Roberts)*



RTA Rebrands to WeGo Public Transit

The Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) is now WeGo Public Transit, creating a seamless system that is committed to connecting people to their lives and their communities throughout Middle Tennessee. The rebranding process, which saw Nashville

MTA become WeGo Public Transit in July 2018, is a major component of the nMotion strategic plan. By bringing the RTA into the WeGo brand, the region's 10 commuter bus routes, commuter rail service (now known as the Star), and public information materials such as schedules, website, and ride guides will be redesigned in a manner that is consistent with the WeGo brand already adopted in

Davidson County. The RTA Board of Directors



are excited to take this step toward making our transit options in Middle Tennessee truly regional under one system, just as we intended in 2016 when we adopted nMotion," RTA Board Chair and Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto said. In FY2018, the RTA provided more than 600,000 commuter service-based rides, with system-wide ridership between both services totaling nearly 10.4 mil-

lion for the year. "nMotion recognized the

need to unify the system so those living in Clarksville, Murfreesboro, Gallatin, Dickson, Spring Hill, and everywhere in between could have a riding experience that was consistent, seamless, and easy to understand. The rebranding of the RTA is the first of many critical upcoming steps to bring the goals of nMotion to life," WeGo CEO Steve Bland said. Key upcoming capital projects and

service improvements coming to WeGo's regional system include:

- The purchase of 10 coach buses for commuter service;
- Rehabilitation of four locomotives on the Star;
- A complete replacement of passenger cars on the Star; and,
- Account-based fare collection system, including reloadable cards, electronic fare media, and mobile ticketing.

These improvements and more are underway. The MTA and RTA remain separate operating entities under the brand name WeGo Public Transit. For more information, visit www.wegotransit.com.