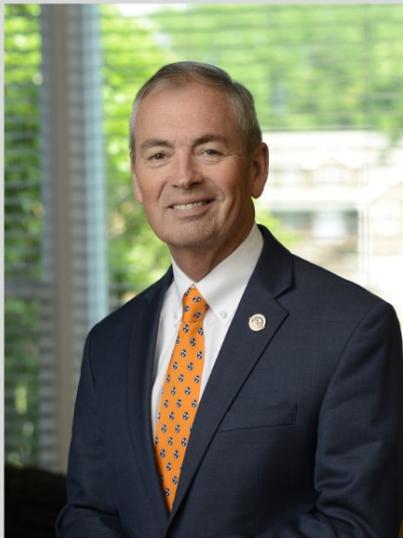




THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



In this newsletter:

**Commissioner Spotlight:
Sonja Robinson, District 13**
(Page 02)

**Spotlight on the Veterans
Services Offices**
(Page 03)

**Wilson County Debris
Removal**
(Page 04)

**Pre-K & Kindergarten
Registration**
(Page 05)



A Word from Mayor Hutto...

The world we live in has changed significantly. Even though we are staying apart physically, our community has joined together to make sure that resources are available to assist those in need. Food programs, financial assistance, mental health resources, health resources, and many more types of assistance are available and can be found on the Wilson County Government's website.

Staying home plays a key role in our own health, as well as the health of our loved ones and neighbors. For those who are unable to stay home because they work on the front lines of this pandemic, I would like to say thank you. Our first responders, health care workers, grocery store employees, and many more are working on the front lines serve others. Thank you to all of those who are working diligently on the front lines to keep us safe.

During this time, check-in with your family and friends through phone call, text, and video chat. If you or someone you know is in need of information on available resources, visit www.wilsoncountyttn.gov or call my office at (615)444-1383.

"A true community is not just about being geographically close to someone or part of the same social web network. It's about feeling connected and responsible for what happens. Humanity is our ultimate community, and everyone plays a crucial role."—Yehuda Berg

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

Commissioner Spotlight: Sonja Robinson District 13



Sonja Robinson
District 13

Contact INFORMATION

Address: 1824 Underwood
Road Mt. Juliet TN 37122

Phone: +1 (615) 604-2226

Wilson County LANDFILL

WILL ACCEPT:

- Drywall
- Wood
- Blocks
- Sheetrock
- Brick
- Vegetation, treelimb, etc.

Tipping fees will apply.

It will be the homeowners' responsibility to submit receipt(s) to their insurance company for reimbursement, if possible.

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS
TO 615.449.6684

IDENTIFYING & AVOIDING COVID-19 SCAMS

The Federal Trade Commission advises everyone to take precautionary measures during this time, as scams are more frequent than ever due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are some of the FTC's recommendations on how to avoid scams:

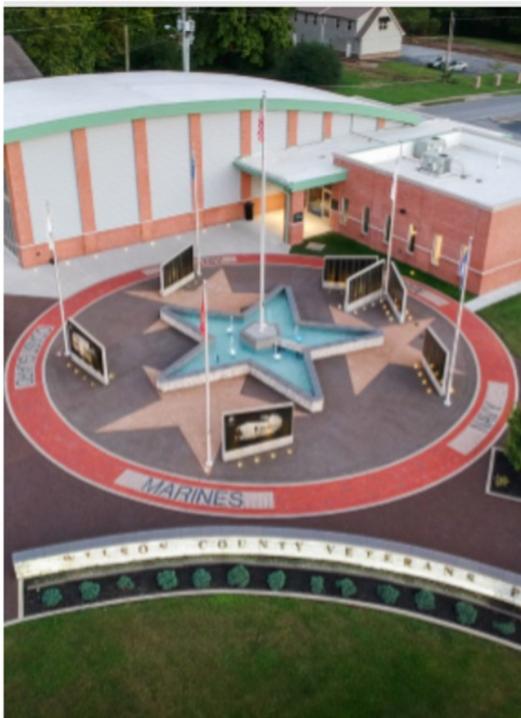
- Hang up on robocalls
- Ignore online offers for vaccinations and home test kits. At this time, there are no at-home test kits for the Coronavirus.
- Fact-check information. Before you pass on information, contact trusted sources.
- Know who you're buying from.
- Don't respond to texts and emails about checks from the government.
- Don't click on links from sources that you don't know.
- Be skeptical of emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or experts who claim to have information about the virus. The most up-to-date information is available on the CDC's website and the WHO's website.
- Research charities and websites before making donations.

For more information on the Federal Trade Commission's recommendations, visit consumer.ftc.gov.

Spotlight on the Office of...

VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Wilson County Veterans Services Office is our spotlight office for the month of April. The Veterans Services Office is located near the Wilson County Courthouse and can be found in the Veterans Plaza and Museum. This facility offers citizens of Wilson County and visitors alike the opportunity to connect with the past through exhibits and memorials. In addition to all that the Plaza and Museum offers, the Veterans Services Office is housed in the facility to provide much needed quality services to Veterans and their families. The Veteran's Mission statement is, "To Serve Wilson County Veterans and their Families with dignity and compassion; to be the Veterans' advocate by ensuring they receive quality care, support, entitlements and the recognition earned in their service to the nation." The main objective of the office is to promote an atmosphere where all veterans and their families are treated with dignity and respect while working to ensure all allocated benefits are awarded and received. The Veterans Services Office works to ensure county, state and federal agencies work together in providing veterans the services they earned whether that be in the form of compensation, pension, healthcare, or education. The office conducts various outreach initiatives to Wilson County's community of Veterans and their families to ensure they are aware of the information on benefits available under federal and state laws. The Veterans Services Office also informs and advises local government officials on veteran issues. The staff of the Wilson County Veterans Services Office includes ZaBrina Seay, Veterans Services Director, Lindsey Roberts, County Service Officer and Padrion Scott, Administrative Assistant. The Veterans Services Director's position is not elected but rather appointed with the approval by the County Commission. While the Veterans Services Office is currently closed to the public, the staff is working during normal office hours and can be reached via email or phone at (615) 444-2460.



ZaBrina Seay, Veterans Services Director



Lindsey Roberts, County Service Officer

CONTACT

Wilson County
Courthouse
Offices

Wilson County employees are at work and can be reached by phone, internet, and mail during regular office hours.

Contact us

County Clerk's Office

(615)444-0314

Trustee's Office

(615)444-0894

Register of Deeds

(615)443-2611

Property Assessor

(615)444-8661

Planning Office

(615)444-2836

Mayor's Office

(615)444-1383

Finance Office

(615)443-2630

Human Resources

(615)466-5122

Veterans Services Office

(615)444-2460

WILSON COUNTY DEBRIS REMOVAL

Wilson County debris removal contractors began debris removal process on April 13th. The contractors will remove the debris from *Wilson County maintained roads* in response to the recent tornado on March 3rd. If you need debris removal, please move the debris to the right-of-way. Residents are urged to separate the debris as follows:

- vegetative debris
- construction & demolition debris
- appliances & white goods
- household
- hazardous waste
- electronics

Only loose debris will be collected; bagged debris should not be placed on the public right-of-way. Normal household trash or “spring cleaning” waste will not be collected. Only debris placed on the public right-of-way will be eligible for collection until further notice. The Wilson County contractors will make multiple passes through the impacted areas. The cities of Lebanon and Mt. Juliet are handling debris removal as well. If you live within Lebanon City Limits, please call (615)444-0825 ext. 5103. If you live within Mt. Juliet City Limits, call 615-754-2552 for more information.

Please contact the Wilson County Contractor at (407)312-1670 for information on the debris removal on county maintained roads.

Separating Your Debris

Debris should be placed curbside, without blocking the roadway or storm drains.

NO PICKUP ZONE
Any debris placed from the sidewalk toward your property will not be picked up.

DEBRIS SEPARATION
Separate debris into the six categories shown below.

DO NOT STACK OR LEAN
Placing debris near or on trees, poles, or other structures makes removal difficult. This includes fire hydrants and meters.

UNSURE WHERE TO PLACE DEBRIS?
If you don't have a sidewalk, ditch, or utility line in front of your house, place debris at the edge of your property before the curb.

Normal Household Trash
Normal household trash and bagged debris of any kind will not be picked up with disaster debris. You should continue to follow your normal garbage removal schedule.

VEGETATIVE DEBRIS

- Leaves (do not put in bags)
- Logs
- Plants
- Tree branches

CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS

- Building materials
- Carpet
- Drywall
- Furniture
- Lumber
- Mattresses
- Plumbing

APPLIANCES & WHITE GOODS

- Air conditioners
- Dishwashers
- Freezers
- Refrigerators
- Stoves
- Washers, dryers
- Water heaters

ELECTRONICS

- Computers
- Radios
- Stereos
- Televisions
- Other devices with a cord

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

- Cleaning supplies
- Batteries
- Lawn chemicals
- Oils
- Oil-based paints and stains
- Pesticides

For more information contact your local government.

PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The Wilson County School district has announced that Kindergarten registration is open online. The in-person portion of the registration process will be announced at a later date. If you already have a child who attends a school in the Wilson County School district, Wilson County Schools asks that you use your existing Skyward Family Access account to add your incoming Kindergarten student in the section titled "New Student Online Enrollment."

Pre-K students who are currently enrolled in a Wilson County School may be enrolled as existing students. For families with a currently enrolled Pre-K student, you will be instructed to login to your account and complete the "Returning Student Registration" process on July 8th.

Parents interested in applying for the 2020-2021 Vountary Pre-K program an register in the "Enrollment" section within the "Students and Families" tab on the Wilson County Schools website, www.wcshcools.com.

It is very important to complete this online process if you haven't done so already. Wilson County Schools are working diligently to get the approximate numbers to expect during the upcoming school year to prepare for incoming Pre-K and Kindergarten students. For all online registration process information, visit www.wcschools.com/Page/1484 .

SEWING FOR LIVES

Sewing for Lives is a group of thousands of volunteers nationwide. These volunteers create mask covers to donate to medical professionals. The inspiration for Sewing for Lives occurred when the CDC announced the new last resort face mask recommendation, which stated, "HCP (Healthcare Providers) use of homemade masks: In settings where facemasks are not available, HCP might use homemade masks (e.g., bandana, scarf) for care of patients with COVID-19 as a last resort. However, homemade masks are not considered PPE, since their capability to protect HCP is unknown. Caution should be exercised when considering this option. Homemade masks should deally be used in combination with a face shield that covers the entire front (that extends to the chin or below) and the sides of the face." The machine washable covers are not intended to prevent infection nor replace personal protective equipment, but rather cover the medical grade masks. At which, the cover can be washed and reused over the medical grade mask. If you are a first responder or a health care facility in need, please visit www.sewingforlives.com for more information.



FEMA

Still need help with your disaster assistance case?



Visit:
DisasterAssistance.gov



Call us at:
800-621-3362
800-462-7585 (TTY)



Go to the
FEMA App

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MAY 4, 2020



The Mental Health impact of COVID-19 will last longer than the physical virus.

CRISIS TEXT LINE

TEXT "TN" TO 741741 AND A TRAINED CRISIS COUNSELOR
WILL BE CONNECTED TO YOU IMMEDIATELY.

MY MENTAL HEALTH CARE HOME

WWW.MYHCHTN.ORG

DIRECTS MIDDLE TENNESSEANS TO THE NEAREST
CHARITABLE CLINIC AND INCLUDES PRESCRIPTION
DISCOUNTS, SCREENINGS, AND MORE INFORMATION.

SUICIDE PREVENTION LINE

800-273-8255

A CHAT FEATURE IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

[HTTPS://SUICIDEPREVENTIONLIFELINE.ORG/](https://SUICIDEPREVENTIONLIFELINE.ORG/)

MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA

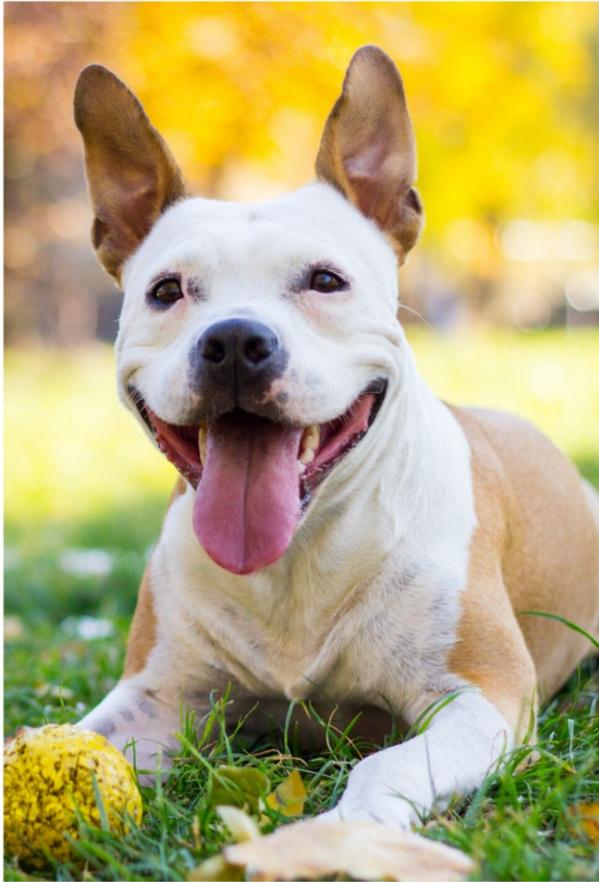
MHANATIONAL.ORG/MENTAL-HEALTH-MONTH

VISIT

[HTTPS://SCREENING.MHANATIONAL.ORG/SCREENING-
TOOLS?REF=MHAMT](https://SCREENING.MHANATIONAL.ORG/SCREENING-TOOLS?REF=MHAMT) FOR FREE, ANONYMOUS, EVIDENCE-
BASED SCREENINGS FOR ANXIETY, DEPRESSION,
TRAUMA, AND MORE FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

MAY IS THE MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT WWW.MHANATIONAL.ORG



507 JIM DRAPER BLVD, LEBANON, TN 37087

NEW LEASH ON LIFE

Pet Food Pantry Open to Anyone in Need

Deliveries available on
Tuesdays & Thursdays for
Wilson County Residents.
For more information, contact
director@newleashonline.com

Essential Veterinary Services are available

For more information about
veterinary services, contact
fix@newleashonline.com or
call or text **(615)281-0664**.

Motor Vehicle Registrations Expiration Dates Delayed

The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-104(a)-(d), are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to delay the expiration of all valid motor vehicle registrations set to expire between March 12, 2020 and May 18, 2020. Such motor vehicle registrations shall instead expire on June 15, 2020; provided, however, that such registrations shall return to their original renewal schedules in subsequent years. Therefore, vehicle emissions testing has been suspended until further notice. Driver's Licenses The provisions of the Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 55-50-336 and 55-50-337, are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to delay the expiration of all valid Class A, B, C, D, P and M driver licenses and Class ID photo identification licenses set to expire between March 12, 2020, and May 18, 2020. Such licenses shall instead expire six (6) months for the current date the license is set to expire. The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1351(n)(1), are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to delay the expiration of a valid enhanced handgun carry permit set to expire between March 12, 2020 and May 18, 2020. Such permits shall instead expire (6) months from the current date the permit is set to expire. Please call the Wilson County Clerk's Office during normal business hours for more information.

SALES TAX INCREASE TO BEGIN MAY 1ST

The local consumer sales tax increase in Wilson County, Tennessee will begin on May 1, 2020. The resolution to increase the sales tax was brought for a vote by the Wilson County Commission on November 18, 2019. This resolution was amended during the same meeting with the intent to give the revenue a specific designation: classroom teacher raises. The Primary Election ballot in March 2020 held a referendum to increase the sales tax by one-half cent from 9.25% to 9.75%. This increase translates to the taxpayer spending an additional 5 cents for every \$10 spent. Sales tax is distributed into three categories when an item is purchased. Seven percent of the sales tax goes to the State of Tennessee. The remainder, which is called the local option sales tax (2.75% beginning May 1st), will be divided in half. One-half of the local option sales tax will be designated to fund education, and one-half will go to the city the purchase was made in. Teachers in the Wilson County School District and the Lebanon Special School District will receive raises. All certified staff, excluding assistant principals, principals, coordinators, directors, supervisors, Deputy Directors, and Director of Schools, will receive the pay increase. The cities in Wilson County (Lebanon, Mt. Juliet, and Watertown) will have an increase in revenue as well.



Still need to complete your 2020 Census?

Visit [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov)

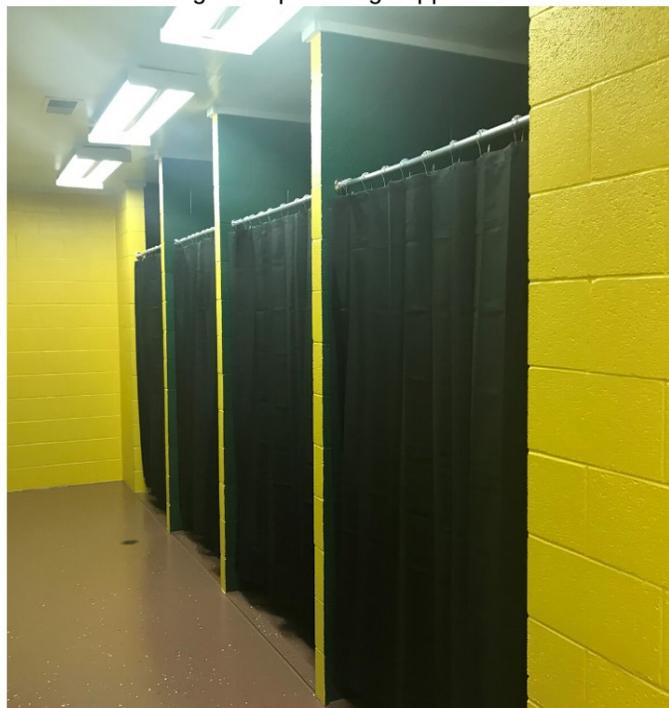
Census counts are completed every 10 years and the data forms the basis for federal funding which supports county education, roads, and healthcare along with many other benefits to our residents.

Be counted and help shape our future!

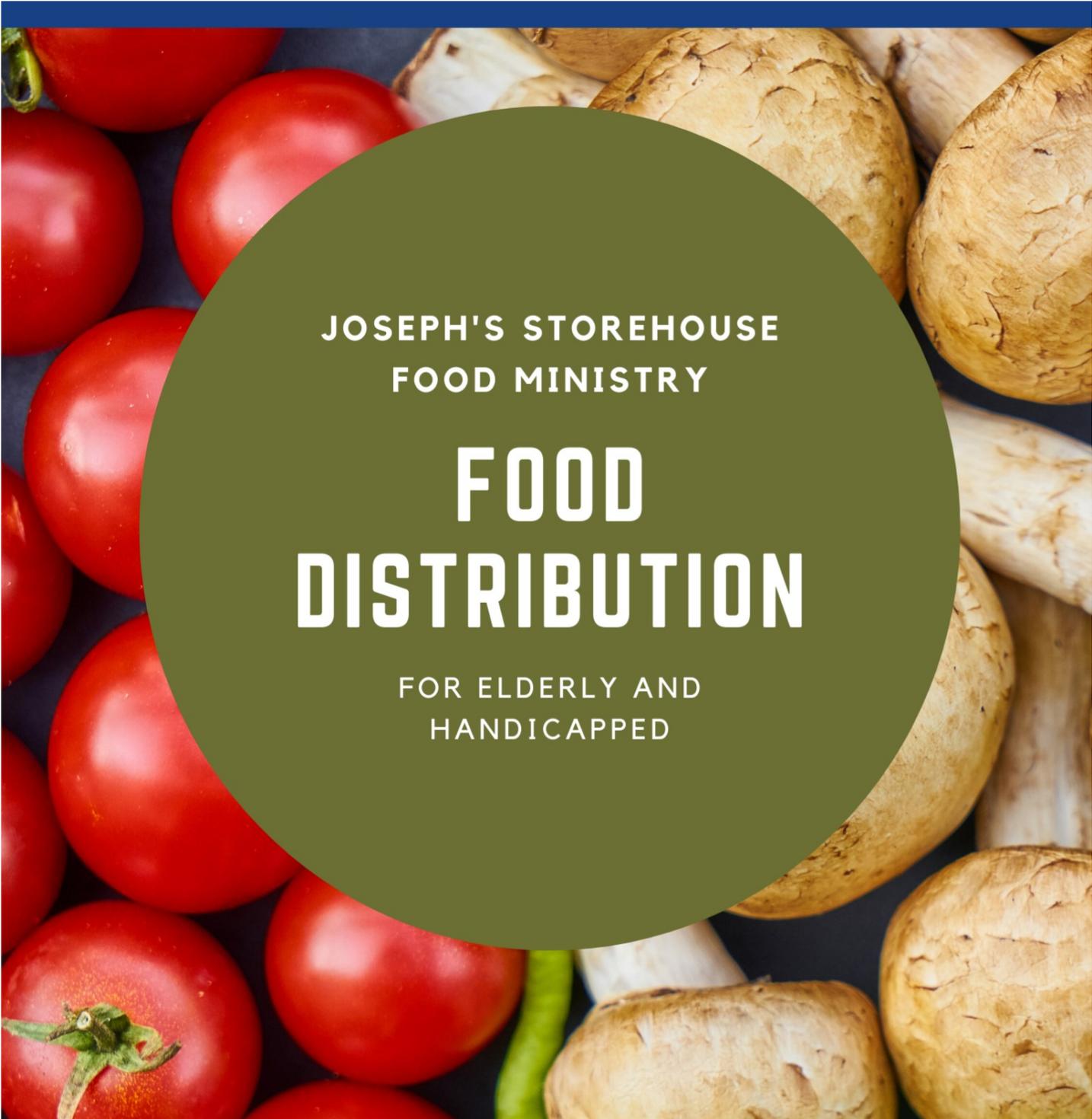
AG CENTER RESTROOM RENOVATIONS

The restrooms located on the Agriculture Center's grounds have received a fresh coat of paint. The yellow and green walls were painted by Kendra Stanford, Bubba Denson and Teresa Pyles. "We've needed to have this done for quite some time," says Quintin Smith, Ag Center Director. While the buildings are closed to the public, staff can utilize this time to complete renovations to the Ag Center facilities.

The stall doors are covered in a shrink wrap, similar to a car wrap, which was provided by Jewell Signs. Each restroom has different elements of agriculture incorporated into the upgrades, including sunflowers, corn, and Holstein spots. Three of the four restrooms located on the Ag Center grounds are now complete. Thank you to Kendra Stanford, Bubba Denson and Teresa Pyles for your amazing work, as well as Jewell Signs for providing supplies.



Pictured left to right: Kendra Stanford, Teresa Pyles



**JOSEPH'S STOREHOUSE
FOOD MINISTRY**

**FOOD
DISTRIBUTION**

**FOR ELDERLY AND
HANDICAPPED**

**APRIL 23 & 25
8:30 AM TO 11:30 AM
1960 SE TATER PEELER RD, LEBANON**

online registration available at
<https://www.loaejosephsstorehouse.org/faq>

Drive-Thru Food Services will continue

WILSON COUNTY SCHOOLS



BREAKFAST &
LUNCH PROGRAMS
AVAILABLE FOR:

**WILSON COUNTY SCHOOLS
&
LEBANON SPECIAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mondays & Thursdays

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Wilson County Schools will be providing meal packages for pick-up for children within the community 18 years or younger. Children must be present to pick up meals--parents cannot take meals without children present. Wilson County Schools will be providing 3 breakfasts and lunches on Mondays and 4 breakfasts and lunches on Thursdays for all families with children ages 18 years and younger.

These schools will have the "Drive Thru" services available at the following locations:

- Lebanon High School - Commons entrance side
- Gladeville Middle School - Northeast corner at back of building
- Springdale Elementary - Back side of building at Cafeteria
- Watertown Middle School - Front entrance steps
- Mt. Juliet High School

Lebanon Special School District

BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAM

The Lebanon Special School District provide free breakfast and lunch to children ages 18 and under. The packaged meals will be available for pick-up Monday through Friday. The program is open to all area children regardless of district affiliation. Children must be present to receive a meal.

Mobile Locations & Meal Service Times (Please look for district vehicles):

Springhill Townhomes 10:00-10:15
Weatherly Estates 10:55-11:15
Greentree Apartments 12:00-12:30
Head Homes 10:30-10:45
Upton Heights 11:25-11:45

Peyton Road Apartments 10:25-10:40
Rollingwood Apartments 11:35-11:50
Tater Peeler 10:00-10:15
Inman Court 10:55-11:15
Don Fox Park 10:45-12:00

Castle Heights Elementary 10:30-11:30 (Meals served from cafeteria loading area - look for signs)
Byars Dowdy Elementary 10:30-11:15 (Meals served at front entrance of school)