



THE COUNTY CONNECTION

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



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Chris Dowell, District 15**
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County Tourism
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A Word from Mayor Hutto...

2020 has been a year of many challenges. So far, each month this year has been filled with uncertainty and overwhelming changes for each of us. No one wants to face difficult challenges in their lives, but after facing them we learn how to be stronger and better prepared for times to come. During times such as these, I am grateful for the amazing people that make up our community. We are truly blessed to have healthcare facilities filled with healthcare workers who go above and beyond their daily tasks for those in need. I am thankful for Recover Wilson, our county's long-term recovery relief team, along with the hundreds of volunteers and agencies that came together to help our community. Many of these individuals do not want to be thanked, but they will be forever appreciated. I believe that Wilson County is a wonderful area because of the extraordinary people who live here.

Two things come to my mind that I will leave you with. The first is a song entitled "Make it Sweet" by Old Dominion, which the band sings "...Life is short, make it sweet." I hope that you take the time to listen to this song. The second is what the long-time principal of Walter J. Baird would say to his students every day as he closed his morning announcements: "Let's make it a great day, the choice is yours." I do believe that we can manage our thoughts each morning as we wake up. We can dwell on the negatives or concentrate on the positives. My hopes for you are that you make it a great day every day by focusing on the positives! Let us wake up each morning knowing that we have a purpose and go out and continue to make Wilson County the best place to be!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall Hutto".

Commissioner Spotlight: Chris Dowell District 15



Contact INFORMATION

816 Lovers LN
Lebanon TN 37087

Phone: +1 (615) 812-2972

Wilson County LANDFILL

WILL ACCEPT:

- Drywall
- Wood
- Blocks
- Sheetrock
- Brick
- Vegetation, treelimbs, 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

EDUCATIONAL GOALS FOR 2020 GRADUATES

Volunteer State Community College says that early reports and survey results show that many potential students are considering putting their education on-hold during the pandemic. Putting college on-hold can be detrimental to 2020 high school graduates, as they will lose their TN Promise award and will not receive free tuition when they choose to enroll. Vol State asks that students do not put their educational goals on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Vol State and other community colleges are well equipped to provide each student with a high-quality education regardless of the format. The pandemic has proven that it is vital now more than ever to have highly skilled workforce, especially in health care, science and research, technology, logistics, manufacturing, teaching, craftsman and trade skills, and agriculture. Encourage the class of 2020 and other prospective students to move ahead with their educational goals and help meet our in-demand workforce needs. Furthermore, for those individuals that have lost their employment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, TN Reconnect may be a method to assist in workforce re-entry. Consider institutions such as Vol State, Cumberland University, T.C.A.T., and other local colleges to continue your education.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
CLASS OF 2020!



WILSON COUNTY
GOVERNMENT
OFFICES WILL BE
CLOSED ON FRIDAY,
JULY 3RD IN
OBSERVANCE OF
INDEPENDENCE
DAY.



Spotlight on the Office of...

THE CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

The Wilson County Convention and Visitors Bureau, also known as the Tourism Department, will be our spotlight article for the month of June. The main objective of the Tourism Department is to promote Tourism and all the events and places located in Wilson County. With that said, the Tourism Department strives to increase the visitors and tourist presence in Wilson County. This office serves the citizens of Wilson County by lessening the budgetary burdens of Wilson County citizens by increasing hotel/motel tax revenues. The Tourism Department also spreads the word about the all the great things that Wilson County has to offer. "We remind our people that their backyard is a destination for many others, and to take pride and ownership in what we have in Wilson County," says Wilson County Tourism Director, Jason Johnson. Through the #PaintWilCo murals initiative and the formation of the Murals Committee, Wilson County is a certified county in the Tennessee ThreeStar Program. Murals located at the Expo Center, the Lebanon square, and Charlie Daniels Park are now completed. Future murals will soon be in the works! This process of beautification through art in Wilson County will follow the ThreeStar's mission to "Promote economic and community prosperity through collaboration to positively impact every Tennessean." The staff of the Tourism Department includes Jason Johnson, Tourism Director, Ashley Shores, Marketing Specialist, and Kaitlyn Vail, Administrative Assistant. The Tourism Director is not elected, but rather appointed with approval by the County Commission. The Tourism Department is continually looking for improvements and upgrades by staying up to date by consulting with other Convention and Visitors Bureaus. While times are uncertain, this office continues to focus on the increased marketing of Wilson County, future events, and tailoring the "virtual" front door of Wilson County Tourism—their website. To learn about all that Wilson County has to offer, check out visitWilCo.com, where attractions, shopping, activities, and more are listed on an easy to navigate site. Let us spread the word about all of the amazing things that Wilson County has to offer!



Pictured left to right: Jason Johnson, Tourism Director, Kaitlyn Vail, Administrative Assistant, Ashley Shores, Marketing Specialist

CONTACT

Wilson County
Court House
Offices

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



TAFCE

masks
of

LOVE

PROJECT



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



DO YOU SEW?



WANT TO HELP?

ABOUT THE PROJECT

This project was started by the Tennessee Association of Family and Community Education (TAFCE). The purpose of this project is to sew face masks for Tennessee healthcare workers. Our Facebook group shares reliable information and offers troubleshooting tips as well as connects volunteers to their specific county needs.

For more info, join our Facebook group or contact your local county Extension FCS agent.

<https://tiny.utk.edu/TAFCEmasksoflove>



To make a monetary donation, please visit

<https://tiny.utk.edu/MOL>

Under Direct my gift to:

- » A Specific Fund (I'd like to choose)
- » Education Programs
- » Select a Program: **Masks of Love**



Real. Life. Solutions.™

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES
UTEXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

BLUE RIBBON INITIATIVE

The Lebanon Wilson County, Mt. Juliet, and Watertown Chambers of Commerce are giving blue ribbons to small businesses in Wilson County that take Governor Lee's Tennessee Pledge. The Tennessee Pledge encourages best business practices for industries, along with continued social distancing. The goal of the Tennessee Pledge's plan is to help Tennesseans get back to work and aid our state's economy. The Pledge asks that employees of these small businesses and industries commit to protecting themselves, their co-workers, and their customers. The Plan also encourages Tennesseans to follow the CDC's recommended guidelines. The downloadable version of the Tennessee Pledge can be found at www.tn.gov. Blue ribbons will be displayed in the front windows of businesses who have taken the Tennessee Pledge. These blue ribbons will signify to customers that businesses are taking necessary precautions for employees, customers, and the community. Businesses who take the pledge do not have to be a member of the Chambers to receive a blue ribbon. To receive a blue ribbon after taking the Tennessee Pledge, contact your nearest Chamber of Commerce.



Pictured left to right: Melanie Minter, Lebanon/Wilson County Chamber of Commerce President, Randall Hutto, Wilson County Mayor, Mark Hinesley, Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce President, Becky Dundy, Watertown Chamber of Commerce President



Melanie Minter, Lebanon/Wilson County Chamber of Commerce President holds an example of the blue ribbons that will be given to businesses who take Governor Lee's Tennessee Pledge.

VIRTUAL CONNECT

#STRONGERTOGETHER #WILSONCOUNTSTRONG

Revised Date:

**Tuesday, June 16th
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**



Wilson County
Tennessee

**GUEST SPEAKER:
WILSON COUNTY MAYOR, RANDALL HUTTO**

TOPIC: Budget



Public interest RSVP to kristen@lebanonwilsonchamber.com



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

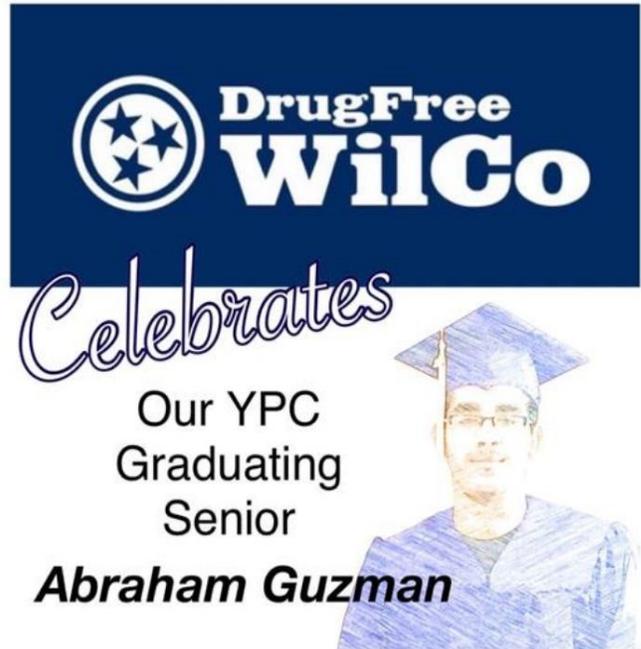
Spay/Neuter Clinic Open

The spay/neuter clinic will
be open for feral
cat spay/neuter. The JOY
Clinic is open for essential
veterinary services as well.
Text 615-281-0664 to make
an appointment.

DRUGFREE WILCO MEETING *submitted by Susan Shaw*

It's June, the county is re-opening and DrugFree WilCo is pleased to bring the coalition back together for a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, June 24 at 3:30.

Anyone who would like to get involved should email Susan Shaw shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov for an invitation. At the meetings, the coalition focuses on its mission to prevent and reduce drug misuse and addiction and to provide education, communication and awareness of resources in Wilson County. As COVID19 impacted our community, DrugFree WilCo focused on resources with a FaceBook Live session on April 29th, resource cards, and a link to resources at www.drugfreewilco.org. See the video on Facebook @drugfreewilco and come participate with the coalition and pick up resource cards. We also celebrate graduations! Congratulations to Abraham Guzman, member of YPC, Youth Prevention Coalition division of DrugFree WilCo! Contact Susan Shaw at 615-444-1383 for more information.



USDA PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) began accepting applications on May 26th from agricultural producers who suffered losses related to COVID-19 through the Farm Service Agency (FSA). The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) will provide up to \$16 billion in direct payments to deliver relief to America's farmers and ranchers impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Additionally, the USDA's Farmers to Families Food Box program is partnering with regional and local distributors, whose workforces have been significantly impacted by the closure of many restaurants, hotels, and other food service entities, to purchase \$3 billion in fresh produce, dairy, and meat and deliver boxes to Americans in need. A full list of eligible crops and more information regarding how you may qualify can be found on farmers.gov/cfap. Producers of all eligible commodities will apply through their local FSA office, and applications will be accepted through August 28, 2020. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information about the CFAP Program can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Furthermore, the USDA has authorized the Wilson County FSA Committee to accept applications for emergency farmland clean-up assistance to address damage caused to farmland from the tornado that occurred on April 25, 2020 and the May 3, 2020 straight-line winds. Applications may be filed at the local County FSA Office through June 18, 2020. Eligible producers will be able to make ECP applications to remove farmland debris and to restore fences used to enclose eligible livestock used for food and fiber. To learn if you are eligible for assistance and how to apply, call your local County FSA Office. Due to recent public health concerns, USDA Service Centers are engaging visitors by phone appointment only. You can call 615-444-1890, Ext. 2 to conduct business by phone and mail.

TN THREE-STAR PROGRAM *submitted by Susan Shaw*

Wilson County has been a longtime Certified member of the Tennessee ThreeStar Program which promotes community collaboration for identifying and working towards valuable goals. One of the goals was to "Beautify" the county and a Murals project was born last year, spearheaded by the Wilson County Visitor & Convention Bureau and a committee of community leaders with a passion for art. You may have seen the "Lebanon Postcard" mural which was unveiled last November on the square in Lebanon. The mural is a great place to go and take photos as you and your family are looking for things to do outdoors or go with your friends to the shops. The latest mural is the "Caboose" in Charlie Daniels Park in Mt. Juliet. Before it is officially unveiled, you can go check it out, take a selfie and post your photo with #PaintWilco on Facebook. The committee is always looking for artists for additional murals. Please contact Susan Shaw in the Mayor's office at 615-444-1383 if you would like to suggest an artist or sponsor a mural.



The "Lebanon Postcard" mural, which is located on the square in Lebanon, Tennessee.



The "Caboose" mural, which is located in Charlie Daniels Park, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee.

TEAM NEON HONORED FOR SERVING STUDENTS

While students have stayed home from school during the past months, the Lebanon Special School District saw to it that their students did not endure hunger. Lebanon Special School District's TEAM NEON served over 26,000 meals to students during March 16th throughout the end of April. On May 27th, the members of TEAM NEON were recognized for their remarkable hard work by Lebanon City Mayor Bernie Ash, LSSD Director of Schools Scott Benson, and Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto. Not only were the members of TEAM NEON recognized, but School Resource Officers Michael Randolph and Glenn Johnson were recognized as well for aiding the program. TEAM NEON continues to offer free food distributions to children 18 years old and younger. This food program will continue throughout the summer months on Mondays and Thursdays, with various hours and locations (see page 10). Wilson County Schools also offers a similar summer feeding program on Mondays and Thursdays (see page 11 for hours and locations.)



Members of TEAM NEON as they are recognized for their outstanding efforts.



Randall Hutto, Wilson County Mayor as he congratulated TEAM NEON for their incredible impact on the community.

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.

Respond over the phone or request a paper form by calling (844) 330-2020.

Be counted and help shape our future!





Lebanon Special School District
SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM

free GRAB AND GO **JUNE 1 THRU JULY 17**

Breakfast & Lunch

MEALS WILL BE PROVIDED, ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS, AT THESE SITES AND TIMES:

MONDAY & THURSDAY

MEALS SERVED ON MONDAY FOR MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
MEALS SERVED ON THURSDAY FOR THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY

TATER PEELER SITE
10:00-10:15 AM

SPRINGHILL TOWNHOMES
10:00-10:15 AM

PEYTON ROAD APARTMENTS
10:25-10:40 AM

BYARS DOWDY ELEMENTARY
10:30-11:15 AM

CASTLE HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY
10:30-11:30 AM

HEAD HOMES
10:30-10:45 AM

INMAN COURT
10:55-11:15 AM

WEATHERLY ESTATES
10:55-11:15 AM

UPTON HEIGHTS SITE
11:25-11:45 AM

ROLLINGWOOD SITE
11:35-11:50 AM

GREENTREE APARTMENTS
12:00-12:30 PM

**MEALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL CHILDREN, 18 OR YOUNGER
THE CHILD MUST BE PRESENT TO PICK UP FOOD**

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

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

Mondays & Thursdays

The Lebanon Special School District provides free breakfast and lunch to children ages 18 and under. The packaged meals will be available for pick-up Mondays and Thursdays. The program is open to all area children regardless of district affiliation. Children are encouraged to be present during meal pick-up

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

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)

A MESSAGE FROM RECOVER WILSON COUNTY

Recover Wilson County's Long Term Recovery Relief Team is here to walk alongside you or anyone you know affected by the storms on March 3, 2020. A Long Term Recovery Group is a cooperative body made up of representatives from faith-based, non-profit, government, business and other organizations working within a community to assist individuals and families as they recover from disaster in a holistic, sustainable and equitable way. You can go to recoverwilson.com to find available resources. We additionally, advise you will reach out to Tornado Recovery Connection who have hired caseworkers to work alongside our team. This ensures we are able to best assess needs survivors in the community may have now, or in the future. Please leave a message at 615-270-9255 and your call will be returned by a case manager from Tornado Recovery Connection. TRC will confidentially document your information and connect you with the Recover Wilson Team. Above all, our team seeks to ensure you know that you are not alone and we are here to serve each affected community member equally as we walk together towards recovery.



**TORNADO
RECOVERY
CONNECTION**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TN UMC

RECOVER
Wilson County

**UNMET NEEDS? NECESITAS AYUDA?
615-270-9255 ★ RECOVERWILSON.COM**

**WILSON COUNTY BLACK
HISTORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS**

2ND ANNUAL

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, JUNE 19 / 6:00PM

**CUMBERLAND UNIVERSITY
1 CUMBERLAND SQUARE**

**TICKETS: \$25- CAN BE PURCHASED
AT THE DOOR OR FROM MEMBERS
DINNER PROVIDED**

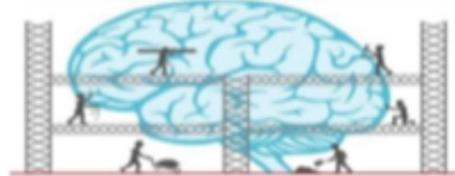
**GUEST SPEAKER,
MAYOR AC WHARTON**

**MORE INFO: PICKETTCHAPEL.ORG
615-444-9487**



The TCCY Regional Councils on Children and Youth
The National Association of Social Workers-TN Chapter
present a statewide Educational Event for 3.0 CEU's on

**BUILDING STRONG BRAINS
TENNESSEE**



ADDRESSING ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

With TN Commission on Children & Youth Guest Speakers
Jenn Drake-Croft, Director of Child Well Being
Melissa McGee, Council on Children's Mental Health Director

Tuesday, June 16, 2020, 12:30 – 3:30 CT, 1:30 – 4:30 ET
(Registration For June 16th Training Will Close June 12th at 12:30 pm)

Thursday, July 16, 2020, 12:30 - 3:30 CT, 1:30 – 4:30 ET
(Registration For July 16th Training Will Close July 13th at 12:30 pm)

VIA WebEx

(Link will be forwarded through Eventbrite)

Eventbrite Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tccy-regional-councils-on-children-and-youths-webex-bsb-trainings-tickets-106008285636>

UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBERS

844-224-5818 & 877-813-0950

Unemployment support website

lwdsupport.tn.gov

Way to go card numbers

855-462-5887 & 844-893-3121

What other resources might be available to me?

Check out TN 211 by dialing 2-1-1

or online at tn.211.mycommunitypt.com

for a variety of community resources for things like emotional, housing, or food resources.



DrugFree WilCo will host a Virtual coalition meeting on Facebook live on June 24, 2020.

Please watch Facebook for event details. All are welcome!



June is Dairy Month

Sending a special THANK YOU to our Wilson County dairy farmers for all that you do!

FEDERAL STIMULUS PAYMENTS UPDATE

It is important to be aware that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is sending many Economic Impact Payments as prepaid debit cards. Nearly 4 million people are being sent their Economic Impact Payments by prepaid debit card, instead of regular check. For those who do not receive their Economic Impact Payment by direct deposit, they will receive their payment by paper check, and, in a few cases, by debit card. These debit cards are arriving in plain envelopes from "Money Network Cardholder Services." The cards are marked as Visa debit cards and the back of the card has the logo for MetaBank. The debit cards can be used anywhere that Visa is accepted, including online and can also be used to withdraw cash from ATMs. For more information about these cards and possible fees, visit EIPcard.com. To activate an Economic Impact Payment card, citizens need to call 1-800-240-8100. During activation, they will be asked to input their card number, the last six digits of their social security number and the three-digit security code from the back of their card. Citizens could be asked to further validate their identity by providing a name and address or by answering identity verification questions. The IRS urges taxpayers to be on the lookout for scams related to the Economic Impact Payments. To use the new app or get information, taxpayers should visit IRS.gov. People should watch out for scams using email, phone calls or texts related to the payments. The IRS will not send unsolicited electronic communications asking people to open attachments, visit a website or share personal or financial information. Remember, go directly and solely to IRS.gov for official information. To learn more, visit EIPcard.com and view the IRS's press release on the EIP cards.

REBUILD AND RECOVER GRANT PROGRAM

Wilson County is fortunate enough to be able to apply for funds through the "Rebuild and Recover" program with Tennessee Housing Development Agency, to assist local communities to recover from weather related incidents. Rebuild and Recover grants may only be used to benefit low or very low-income households. The maximum per unit subsidy from the Rebuild and Recover grant is \$40,000.00. The application survey, income limits, and full explanation of how you may qualify can be found at wilsoncountyttn.gov. If you know of anyone affected by the storm, living in Wilson County, that meets the criteria, please have them print and fill out the survey, and return it by June 26, 2020. Please direct any questions about the Rebuild and Recover grant program to Jim Kidwell in the Wilson County Mayor's Office at (615)444-1383.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
JUNE 21, 2020

