



# Learn to Grow



ISSUE 1

Wilson County FCE  
Connections

Jan 2026

# New Year New Faces

## President-Elect

Learn from the County President all duties and responsibilities of the office of president during their one-year term of office.

### **Genevieve Kilga**

She is a lifetime fan of all things Mickey Mouse, and has volunteered with Girl Scouts, the Wilson Co. Fair and Fiddlers Grove just to name a few. FCE is important to her because of the long-lasting friendships she has made and its support of the community.



## Membership Chair

Welcomes new members and orients them to FCE. Also maintains membership data.

### **Debbie Jennings**



She finds the most joy in the wonderful fellowship and the continuous opportunities to learn from fellow members. In her free time, Debbie enjoys camping and spending quality time with her family.

## Secretary

Keeps a record of board and county council meetings. Also serves as chair of the bylaws committee.

### **Avice Cummings**

FCE has given me another family. I enjoy meeting, working and crafting with them.



## Chaplain

Offers emotional and ethical support to the board and members of Wilson Co. FCE.

### **Frances Baker**

Serves on the Board of Directors for the Wilson Co. Fair and Fiddlers Grove. Enjoys time with her husband, daughter and granddaughters.



## Craft Club

Organizes the monthly craft club meetings.

### **Vee Wills**

I love my family, creating, and helping others. I enjoy service projects, teaching, learning, and crafting with friends of FCE, and the community.



## **This Month:**

- Jan 1st & 2nd, New Years
  - Extension Office Closed
- 7th, Craft Club
  - 9am
  - West Bldg.
- 12th, Board Meeting
  - 9am
  - School Exhibits Bldg.
- 19th, MLK Jr. Day
  - Extension Office Closed
- 22nd, Central Region Information Day
  - 9am
  - Rutherford Extension Office
  - SNOW DATE:
    - Jan 29th
- 26th, County Council Meeting
  - 9am
  - West Bldg.

**Don't forget to pick up your Leader Lesson from the Extension Office!**

MAKE SURE TO CALL DIANE AT THE FRONT OFFICE TO LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING!

615-444-9584

M-F 8:00AM-4:30PM

# Character Counts

2026 theme:  
“Respect”

Do you know a child currently in 4<sup>th</sup> grade or high school this year?

All entries must be postmarked no later than February 4<sup>th</sup> 2026

Contact County VP Trudy Papuchis at 615-417-1685 for more information.

## New UT-TSU Extension Printing Policy

Beginning January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the UT-TSU Extension Office will no longer provide free printing or copying services.

All print or copy requests will be invoiced to either you personally, your individual club, or to Wilson County FCE. Monthly Leader Lessons are excluded from this policy as it is an Extension provided curriculum.

## First Service Project of 2026

February 12th  
West Bldg. 9am

Come help make birthday cards for those living in long term care facilities. All supplies will be provided. Lunch will be potluck.



## 4-H Banquet Honors FCE members



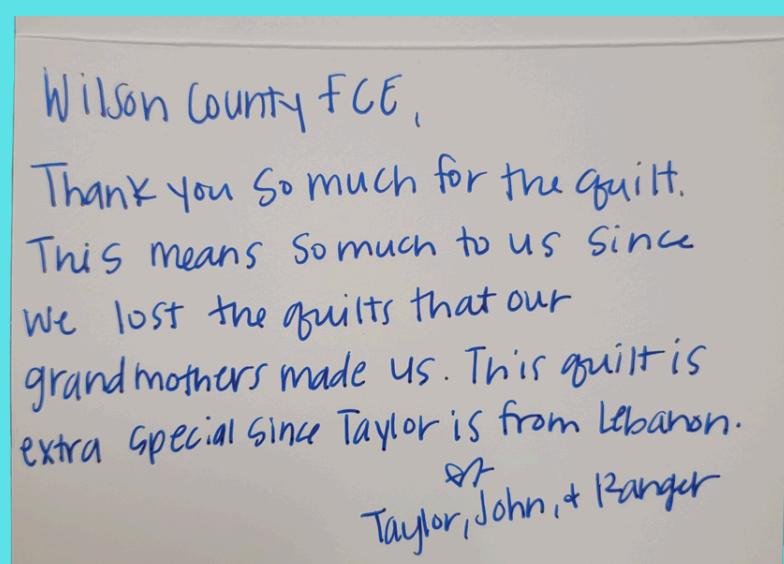
Carolyn Binkley and Carrie Shehane received recognition for their continuous work with 4-H members.



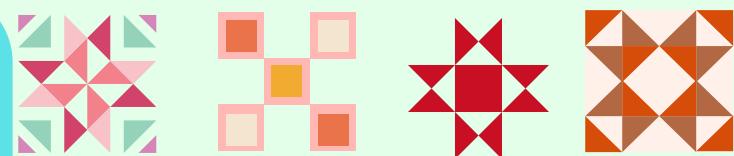
President Penny West asks you to join her in congratulating our members who won awards at the 4-H Banquet

# Disaster Quilt Thank You

The recipients of the West TN Disaster Quilt presented at the 2025 State Conference sent us a heartfelt thank you for their quilt.



**Your work makes a difference.**



## Leeville Christmas Party



The Leeville FCE club met on December 9<sup>th</sup> at Ann Bates home for their Christmas party. Everyone enjoyed a day of fun, food, and fellowship.

## Information Day!

If you plan to attend the Central Region Information Day on Jan. 22nd in Murfreesboro, you MUST contact Sami to Register.

### Don't forget about CVU's!



They are due in May and can be from volunteer work in 2023 to the present

## February Craft Day

### Amish Knot Impossible Box



Limit 10 per class  
(9am & 10:30am). All supplies provided.

\$5

Limit 6 students. All supplies provided. Cost is \$1 for the wooden needle.



Class schedule subject to change. For more information, please contact Vee Wills at 615-969-7018 or [veewillsdesigns@gmail.com](mailto:veewillsdesigns@gmail.com)

# January County Council

January 26, 2026 ~ 9am ~ West Building

## What's Due:

- 2025 Financial Summaries
- Heart of FCE Nominations
- 2025 Project Reports
- Spring FCL Applications

## What You'll Get:

- 2026 Yearbooks
- Central Region Planner
- New Handbook & Bylaws
- Important Information!

**ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

Coffee will be provided.

Potluck Lunch.

## Lebanon Senior Center Food Pantry

Our local senior center food pantry is bare again!

Please consider donating these food items to help the seniors in our community evade hunger!

### They need:

non-perishable single serve meals  
(microwaveable), nutritional snacks, cereal bars,  
PB crackers, single serve fruit cups, and 100% fruit  
juices.



## **2026 FAIR THEME & AG COMMODITY** **YEAR OF FORESTRY**



## **Local Events Near You!**

- January 10<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual TN Motorama, Fairground
- January 27<sup>th</sup>, Fair Board meeting, Made in TN building
- February 13th-14<sup>th</sup>, Southern Home & Garden Expo, Fairgrounds
- February 17<sup>th</sup>, Fair Board Meeting, Expo Bldg., South Hall
- February 20-23<sup>rd</sup>, Lollitots Consignment Sale, Made in TN bldg.

## Looking Ahead

### **February:**

4th - Craft Club, West Building  
12<sup>th</sup> - Service Project, West Building  
15th - Leadership Retreat Instructor Form DUE to Sarah Sharp  
27<sup>th</sup> - Best of the Best Nomination DUE to Penny West



### **March:**

4<sup>th</sup> - Craft Day, West Building, 9am  
15<sup>th</sup> - TAFCE Scholarship Applications DUE to Trudy Papuchis  
25<sup>th</sup> - Spring Luncheon, SET-UP  
26<sup>th</sup> - Spring Luncheon, 10am, E/W Bldgs.  
31<sup>st</sup> - Leadership Retreat Packet DUE to Sandra Poston

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development.  
University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.  
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.