



WILDER EXCHANGE

September/October
2026

Dear Wilder Residents,

As summer turns to fall here in Wilder, I want to take a moment to recognize the incredible momentum our community continues to build together. Every project we advance, every improvement we celebrate, and every new opportunity that takes root in our city is the result of shared commitment. Your involvement — whether through volunteering, attending meetings, supporting local businesses, or simply staying informed — is the engine behind our progress.

Wilder's economic growth is more than a headline. It's new jobs, stronger local partnerships, and a future where families have more choices and more stability. The development we're seeing today lays the foundation for long-term success and reflects the pride and determination of the people who call Wilder home.

As we look ahead, I encourage every resident to make their voice heard by exercising the right to vote. Participating in our elections is one of the most meaningful ways to influence the direction of our community. Voting ensures that the values, priorities, and hopes of Wilder's residents guide the decisions that shape our shared future. Please confirm election details with trusted sources such as your local Board of Elections. Take the time to get to know your candidates by reading their bio's included in this newsletter. And remember to vote on 11/3/06 downstairs at the city building.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Wilder's growth and well-being. Together, we are building a community defined by collaboration, opportunity, and optimism.

Your friend and Mayor, Valerie

E-Mail Addresses

Mayor

Valerie Jones

vjones@wilderky.gov

City Administrator

Terry Vance

tvance@wilderky.gov

City Clerk

Juanita Schultz

jschultz@wilderky.gov

City Web Page

www.wilderky.gov

CITY SERVICE REFERENCE

NUMBERS

CITY BUILDING

859-581-8884

FIRE DEPT

859-431-1440

POLICE DEPT

859-581-8863

MAINTENANCE

859-581-8884

BESTWAY DISPOSAL

CALL CITY BUILDING

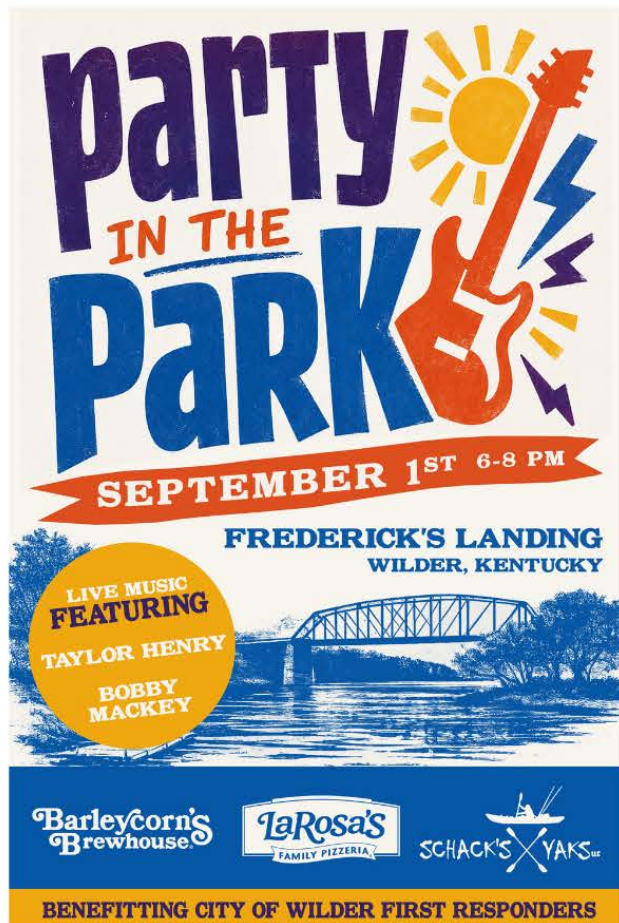
NORTHERN KY WATER

DISTRICT

859-578-9898

SANITATION DISTRICT

859-578-7450



"Seniors are Wilder"

SENIOR PICNIC

September 30, 2026

City Center Park

12:00

Wilder Residents only

*Non Wilder Residents must be
accompanied by a Wilder Resident
Please Call to reserve your spot at*

859-581-8884

**If you would like to be a vendor please call the
city.**

61st Annual

61ST ANNUAL FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

September 12, 2026

12:00 PM

Veterans Memorial Park

**Honoring Wilder Sergeant Ryan
Miller**

Light lunch to be served afterwards

A vertical poster for 'Trunk or Treat!'. The title is in large, bold, brown letters. Below it, in smaller brown letters, is 'A FREE Family Community Event'. To the right of this text is a small pumpkin icon. Below the event type is a calendar icon showing 'July 17' and the date 'October 24, 2026'. To the right of the date is a clock icon and the time '1:00 - 3:00 PM'. Below the time is the location 'City Building' and '520 Licking Pike'. Below the location is the text 'Costumes encouraged! Bring the whole family.' and 'Hot Dogs, Chips and Water Provided'. At the bottom, it says 'If you would like to participate in handing out candy please call the city building' followed by the phone number '859-581-8884'. The background is decorated with autumn leaves, pumpkins, and a car with a trunk full of candy.



As we welcome students back to school, I want to remind everyone of the new school bus laws that recently went into effect.

THE NEW RULE IS SIMPLE: STOP FOR SCHOOL & CHURCH BUSES, PERIOD.

Effective July 15, 2026, Kentucky drivers must stop for school and church buses displaying flashing red lights and a stop arm from either direction on all roads. Yes, that includes four-lane highways. The only exception is when the road has an elevated barrier or unpaved median separating traffic.

House Bill 7 now allows school districts to install cameras on buses to capture stop-arm violations.

When a violation is captured on camera, the vehicle's owner will receive a citation.

WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT ENFORCEMENT

If a driver passes a stopped school bus and we can't identify them, the vehicle's registered owner is presumed to be the driver and will be subject to penalties. We can enforce this presumption unless you can prove otherwise.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

When you see flashing red lights on a school bus, slow down and be prepared to stop.

Flashing yellow lights mean stop is coming; flashing red lights mean stop immediately.

Put your phone away while driving.

A few seconds of delay is worth a child's life.

Slow down. Stay alert. Watch for flashing lights. Help us keep our children safe.

Sincerely,
Chad Martin
Chief of Police

CITY OF WILDER'S
TOUCH A
TRUCK!

Children young and old can experience up close their favorite trucks and emergency vehicles.

July 17 **SEPTEMBER 26, 2026**
11:00AM – 2:00PM
BEHIND THE CITY BUILDING

FREE EVENT • KIDS OF ALL AGES WELCOME!

The poster features a dark blue background with a starry night sky. Various colorful trucks, including a yellow school bus, a blue fire truck, a red fire truck, and a yellow dump truck, are illustrated in a cartoonish style. The text is in bold, yellow and red fonts. A small clock icon is next to the time. A red balloon is at the bottom left.



It's that time of year again—our biggest fundraiser, the **Turkey Raffle**, is almost here! This year's event will be held on Friday, November 20, 2026, at 6:00pm. As in past years, 20 raffle tickets will be delivered to each household in the city. Participation is completely voluntary, and any unused or unwanted tickets can be returned to the firehouse. Proceeds from ticket sales and the raffle night will help cover unbudgeted expenses and provide food and supplies for our annual Breakfast with Santa.

If you're a business owner or would like to donate door prizes, please contact the firehouse for details. Donations may be tax deductible, so please keep this letter as your receipt.

To make a donation, reach out to Doug Neyman at 859-431-5884, email dneyman@wilderky.gov, or send your contribution to: Wilder Fire Department, 522 Licking Pike, Wilder KY 41071. Thank you for your continued support in making this year's Turkey Raffle a success!

Wilder Fire Department Annual Turkey Raffle



November 20, 2026 | 6 PM
522 Licking Pike

Food Fun and Games for the Entire Family.
Food Sponsored and Prepared by the Wilder
Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary

The Campbell County Historical & Genealogical Society
6th Annual Christmas Trees of Honor & Remembrance

Trees will be lit at Dusk every evening through January 6

We will once again light up the
Alexandria Courthouse Lawn
and
The Wilder, KY City Building Lawn
select site (Alexandria or Wilder) when ordering



Cost is \$85.00*

Order online* at www.cchgsky.org *online payment has a \$5.00 processing fee or
You may print order form and mail to
Campbell County Historical & Genealogical Society
8352 East Main St. Alexandria, KY 41001

Watch for decorating dates and further information on our Facebook page
(The Campbell County (Kentucky) Historical and Genealogical Society) and our
website cchgsky.org or contact:

Mark Thomas at mthomas3372@gmail.com

Tom & Sheila Everson at shay572@aol.com

Please contact Mark or Tom & Sheila with questions.

Deadline for Orders is September 30, 2026

Lighting Ceremony at Alexandria Sunday November 29, 5:30 pm

Courthouse and the CCH&GS offices open at 3:30

Lighting Ceremony at Wilder Monday November 30, 6:30

Open House in Wilder City Building following Tree Lighting

This is a Fundraiser for the CCH&GS. Special **Thanks** to the Campbell County Fiscal Court & the City of Wilder for supporting this project.

Online and printable order forms can
be found at www.cchgsky.org or they
can be picked up at the city building
520 Licking Pike

CITY OF WILDER ANNUAL YARD SALE

September 18th, 19th, 20th

No license is needed, all fees are waived.

Contact the city building if you wish to
be placed on the participation list. An ad
will be placed in the newspaper
indicating the participating streets
provided we are notified by September
15th.

859-581-8884

MEDICARE SEMINAR

September 30th

City Hall

520 Licking Pike

7:00 p.m.

Please call the city building if
you plan to attend

859-581-8884

The Importance of Ordinances to City Residents

1. Maintain Order and Safety
2. Address Local Needs
3. Promote Quality of Life
4. Protect Public Welfare
5. Provide Predictability and Fairness
6. Enable Community Participation

Ordinances Passed by the City of Wilder since last newsletter:

1. 26-0602 An Ordinance Amending the Personnel Policy by Updating and Revising the Pay Plan for the City of Wilder Kentucky.
2. 26-0603 An Ordinance Amending the Police Department Policy and Procedures Manual by Adding Policy #61 License Plate Readers per the Recommended Model Policy Proposed by the Kentucky League of Cities.

You will find the signed Ordinances on the city website at www.wilderky.gov

FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

BENTWOOD HILLS CULVERT COLLAPSE UPDATE

One of the city's largest capital expense projects is currently underway with the culvert replacement project on Bentwood Hills Drive.

The previous metal pipe, which the city engineer determined to be undersized during permitting with the Kentucky Division of Water, had corroded at the bottom and collapsed. The new concrete box culvert is significantly larger than the old 10-foot pipe, with the 12x14 foot sections weighing 25,000 pounds each being delivered three at a time. Eaton Asphalt and Maxim Crane are currently setting these pieces as the old pipe is removed. This work is being managed while maintaining water flow through the creek despite recent heavy rains.

We recognize this project is a major inconvenience, especially for the residents of the Bentwood Hills community. Now that the sanitation district sewer rebuild on Three Mile is complete except for restoration, access via the new entrance should be slightly easier.

We continue to work closely with Fisher to keep the detour route open. The road may be temporarily blocked at times, and we are monitoring it closely. If you encounter a blockage, please call non-emergency dispatch at (859) 292-3622 so police can clear the route and issue citations if necessary.

While the project timeline is weather-dependent, we hope to have it completed by early fall. This completion will also include repaving other areas on Bentwood Hills Drive.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me directly at tvance@wilderky.gov or 859-581-8884.



Dear Friends, and Neighbors,

Once again, I am asking for your vote and your support as I seek re-election to the Wilder City Council.

Two years ago, you gave me the opportunity to continue serving the community that I have been proud to call home my entire life. I am sincerely grateful for your confidence in me. Throughout my time on City Council, I have worked hard to represent you, listen to your concerns, and make decisions that I believe are in the best interest of the citizens of Wilder.

Public service has been a meaningful part of my life for many years. I have had the privilege of serving Wilder and our country in a variety of roles, including the fire service, the United States Army, law enforcement, and as an EMT. These experiences have shaped my approach to leadership and reinforced the importance of serving others, working together, and being accountable to the people I represent. I bring those same values to my service as a member of City Council.

Over the past two years, I have continued to focus on the issues that matter most to our residents. **I have supported keeping property taxes low, protecting public safety, encouraging responsible growth, and being a good steward of your hard-earned tax dollars.** I believe our city government should live within its means, spend responsibly, and always look for ways to provide the best possible services without placing an unnecessary financial burden on our residents.

As we look toward the future, I believe it is important to preserve the qualities that make Wilder such a wonderful place to live. Responsible development, maintaining our streets, supporting our police and fire departments, protecting our neighborhoods, and making sure we have the resources necessary to provide quality city services.

I am also grateful for the relationships I have developed with leaders throughout Northern Kentucky and at the county and state levels. I believe those relationships can help Wilder continue to move forward and bring opportunities and resources to our community.

After a lifetime of serving Wilder, I am asking for another opportunity to serve you, not because I take this position for granted, but because I genuinely care about our city and its future.

My commitment is simple: keep property taxes low, support public safety, encourage responsible growth, spend your tax dollars wisely, and work every day to make Wilder an even better place to live.

My wife, Trish, and I are proud to call Wilder home. We want our children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and future generations to have the same opportunity to enjoy this community that we have been fortunate enough to enjoy for so many years.

It has been an honor to serve you, and I would be humbled to have the opportunity to continue doing so.

I respectfully ask for your vote this November.

If you have any questions or would like to speak with me, please feel free to contact me at (859) 581-8884 or jproffitt@wilderky.gov.

Sincerely,

Jim Proffitt

Wilder City Councilmember



Hi Everyone!

Sandy Decker here, going for re-election for the 2027-2028 council term for the City of Wilder.

My blood drives continue to be a success saving hundreds of lives due to 3-4 drives a year. That's approximately 500 lives that have been benefited from your donations in the last two years.

We continue to improve our city's appearance with our maintenance workers taking care of the grounds, changing our flags to the seasons(holidays and military) and the splash park even when our crew was at a minimum.

Our entry signs to the city have been replaced, thanks to Crystal Cruze-Wagner and her husband Phil Wagner, and the flowers, thanks to Tami Vance. They did an awesome job!

I enjoy/love representing my city and would like to continue to do so.

Thank You for your time and hope to see you all soon!

Sincerely,

Sandy Ruschman-Decker



Greg Adams Biography

I am a lifelong Campbell County resident and have proudly called Wilder home since 1999. I am committed to preserving the strong sense of community, quality of life, and family-friendly atmosphere that make Wilder a great place to live.

For three decades, I served as IT Director for Huff Realty and HomeServices of Kentucky, where I led technology initiatives and supported business operations across the organization. Today, I serve as an IT Business Relationship Manager for HomeServices of America, helping align business objectives with strategic technology solutions that drive growth and efficiency.

I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and Information Systems Management from Northern Kentucky University and a Master of Business Administration from Xavier University. My education, combined with my professional experience, has provided me with a strong foundation in financial management, strategic planning, problem-solving, and organizational leadership.

I am a proud father of two children, Samuel and Kelsey, who are now in their early twenties. As a parent who raised my family in Wilder, I understand the importance of safe neighborhoods, strong city services, and responsible growth that protects our community while preparing for the future.

With deep roots in Campbell County and extensive business and leadership experience, I am dedicated to ensuring that Wilder remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Re-elect Robert Blankenship Wilder City Council



Hello everyone,

2026

I'm Robert (Bob) Blankenship and I'm about to complete my 24th year on Council for the City of Wilder. It has been my pleasure to represent the citizens of Wilder for all these years. I do not take this job lightly as there can be a lot of reading and work needed to prepare for a council meeting. Many of you may already know me, but for those who don't, here is some background information.

My wife, Joan, and I have lived on Langview Drive since December, 1971. Prior to our street's annexation by Wilder in 1993, I served on the Johns' Hill Road and Langview Drive civic associations. Our children, Matt and Jill, grew up here. Both are college graduates and are married with families of their own. We have 5 grandchildren (ages 11 – 23). While working full-time, I went to night school and earned a degree from NKU. My work has been in Information Systems where my greatest achievements were managing two different company's large-scale data center operations. In 2007 I took early-retirement from Convergys. Now, I also volunteer 1-2 days/week at St Joseph Church in Cold Spring.

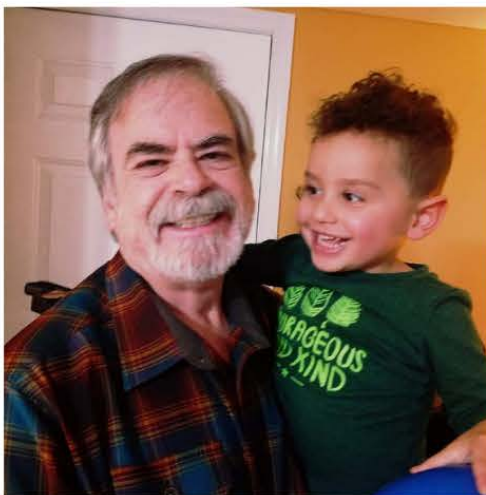
For the past 24 years, I have really enjoyed being a councilman for the city. I have seen our city evolve from being barely able to pay its bills to what we have now. We have a sufficient reserve to pay our bills and purchase equipment and/or services we need. Wilder is a vibrant city and we continue to grow with new businesses and homes. Our city tax rate is one of the lowest in the area. Plus, we don't have to pay an extra tax to fund fire/EMT services. Also, while other cities may charge homeowners extra for street repairs, the City of Wilder does not.

My goals for the upcoming term are to:

- Listen to resident's concerns and offer to assist with suggestions or bring their concerns to City Council's attention.
- Make sure we spend the city's money wisely.
- Be a diligent representative for those who use Johns Hill Rd. I am concerned about the road's condition and safety. I will continue to report problems.

I believe my involvement in the city, working relationship with the Mayor, Council members, administrative staff and past job experience will allow me to contribute to the continued success of the City of Wilder.

I want to continue serving the needs of Wilder's residents and would appreciate your vote on Tuesday, November 3. Thank you.



I have proudly called Wilder home since 2007, when I married my wife, Tammy. Together, we have a wonderfully large family: five children, 13 grandchildren—12 granddaughters and one grandson—and now three great-grandchildren. Yes, I know...I'm way too young to be a great-grandfather!

For me, life has always been about faith, family, and service.

I started working before I was even a teenager, first as a newspaper boy and later as a stock boy. Over the years, I've been a retail store manager, disc jockey, restaurant manager, and probably a few other things I've forgotten. Eventually, I decided what I wanted to be when I grew up and began a career in information technology that has now spanned 40 years.

During that career, I have worked in the manufacturing, government, and healthcare industries. Today, I work for an international agricultural company in disaster recovery and operational resilience—helping ensure that organizations are prepared when the unexpected happens. I hold degrees in Information Systems and Theology, and when I'm not working or serving the community, music remains an important part of my life. I was a vocal music major and enjoy playing guitar and piano.

Service to others is especially important to me. I am honored to serve on the Board of Directors of a foundation that provides scholarships to students from single-parent homes. Seeing young people receive an opportunity to pursue their education is one of the most rewarding parts of that service.

Since the 2024 election, I have also been both privileged and blessed to serve the residents of Wilder as a member of City Council. It has been a pleasure serving alongside Bob, Brad, Jim, Sandy, and Andy. They have given their time and talents to our community and are a credit to our city. While I will greatly miss serving with Brad and Andy as they have chosen not to seek reelection, I'm encouraged to see residents such as Greg and Luke willing to step forward and become more involved in their local government. Our community is stronger when its residents take an active role.

I hope that my years of business and technology experience have brought a useful perspective to City Council. More importantly, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and for the comments, questions, ideas, encouragement—and occasional disagreements—that residents have freely shared with me. Good local government requires listening to the people we represent.

It is also a privilege to work with Mayor Jones, Terry, Fire Chief Doug, Police Chief Chad, and their outstanding teams. And, of course, Juanita, Laurie, and Jane continue to be the glue that keeps everything together behind the scenes. Wilder is fortunate to have so many dedicated people working on behalf of our residents.

I would be honored to continue serving you on Wilder City Council. I appreciate your support and your vote on Election Day, and I always welcome your comments and input as we continue working together for the city we are proud to call home.



Over the past four years, I have had the distinct honor of leading Wilder through a period of steady growth, strengthened community partnerships, and renewed investment in local infrastructure. My administration has focused on practical, people-centered improvements—from enhancing all staff operations and compensation to supporting responsible economic development that expands opportunities for residents and businesses alike. Under my leadership, Wilder has seen increased engagement from community members, improved collaboration across county, state and other government agencies, and meaningful progress on long-term planning initiatives as noted in the city's annual report. These efforts reflect our shared commitment to: Sensible Growth, Economic Resiliency, Fiscal Conservatism and maintaining a Safe and Peaceful Community.

My approach to leadership is shaped by a strong educational foundation and years of hands-on experience in the private and public sectors. Although I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management, I am most proud of the Master's in City Government I earned in three years through the Kentucky League of Cities. I believe the latter has equipped me with the knowledge and analytical skills needed to navigate complex municipal challenges.

With a reputation for clear communication, human-resources experience, negotiation and problem-solving skills, and a commitment to transparency, I will continue to focus on strengthening Wilder's economic vitality, improving residents' quality of life, and ensuring that every voice in the community is heard. My leadership reflects a belief that progress happens when people work together—and that Wilder's future is brightest when shaped by the community it serves.

Wilder remains at the heart of every decision I make. Safe and Peaceful, the Wilder Way.

Your friend and Mayor, Valerie





Coffee & Talk

with Mayor Jones

Join us for a special event where you can enjoy casual, meaningful conversation with Mayor Jones. It's a great chance to ask questions or explore topics that matter to our community. Whether you're curious about city projects, policies, or just in the mood for a warm cup of coffee, this is the perfect occasion. Bring your questions on Monday September 21st, at 10:00 AM at the City Building.



Preparing for Tax Season

As summer comes to a close, we are getting ready for tax season. The 2026 tax bills will be issued at the beginning of October.

Important Reminders

- Bills are sent directly to the homeowner.
- If you have an escrow account, it is your responsibility to forward your bill to the escrow company once you receive it.
- Homeowners must ensure that their property tax is paid.

The deadline for the 2026 property tax payment is November 30, 2026. Any payments made after this date will be considered late and will incur penalties and interest accordingly.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the city building at **859-581-8884**.

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

1 st	Party in the Park	Fredericks Landing	6:00-8:00p.m
4 th	First Friday	Shop Local	
7 th	Last Day for Splash Pad		
12 th	Flag Raising	City Center Park	12:00p.m.
18 th , 19 th , 20 th	Annual Yard Sale		
21 st	Coffee and Talk	City Building	
26 th	Touch a Truck/City Gov For Kids	City Building	11:00-2:00
30 th	Senior Picnic	City Center Park	12:00p.m.
30 th	Medicare Seminar	Hall	7:00p.m.

October

	Halloween House Decorating Contest		
2 nd	First Friday	Shop Local	
24 th	Trunk or Treat	City Building	1:00-3:00

November

6 th	First Friday	Shop Local	
7 th	Card Making Craft/Class	Hall	
16 th	Coffee and Talk	City Building	10:00a.m.
20 th	Turkey Raffle	Fire House	

December

	Christmas House Decorating Contest		
4 th	First Friday	Shop Local	
7 th	Christmas Tree Lighting and Historical Society Tree Lighting	City Building	7:00p.m.
TBD	Breakfast with Santa	Fire House	10:00-12:00
16 th	Blood Drive	City Building Parking Lot	