

Tennessee CONNECTIONS

SUMMER 2024 | CUSTOMER FOCUSED  COMMUNITY DRIVEN

Lauderdale County Remembers Fallen Officers

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A memorial to
fallen officers
sits on the
courthouse lawn.
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Lauderdale County Cannery





Law enforcement officers from several agencies in Lauderdale County gathered last summer to dedicate a park in Halls in memory of Deputy Sheriff Kevan Ward.

Remembering Those Who Died in the Line of Duty

Lauderdale County Deputy Sheriffs Kevan Ward and Bobby Nolen were just doing their jobs when they gave a ride to an 82-year-old man whose car had broken down.

Unknown to the deputies, the man had a revolver hidden in his jacket. As they entered the city limits of Ripley, the man shot both deputies in the back of their heads, killing them.

Ward and Nolen, who died in 1990, are the last law enforcement officers in Lauderdale County to be killed in the line of duty.

Since 1873, at least 11 Lauderdale County law enforcement officers have been killed while doing their jobs.

They are honored on a memorial on the Lauderdale County Courthouse lawn. Each May, the community also honors them with a special ceremony. Additionally, citizens in Halls have named a park in Ward's memory.

Starting from the most recent deaths, the following list includes the names, departments and dates of death of the officers who have been killed.

- Lauderdale County Deputy Sheriff Bobby Joe Nolen, January 2, 1990.
- Lauderdale County Deputy Sheriff Kevan Maurice Ward, January 2, 1990.
- Lauderdale County Deputy Sheriff Charles William Monroe Gaines, January 24, 1942.



A memorial on the Lauderdale County Courthouse lawn lists many of the officers who died in the line of duty.

- Lauderdale County Deputy Sheriff Will Hudson Evans, October 15, 1935.
- Lauderdale County Deputy Sheriff Joseph Wyatt Lunsford, August 11, 1931.
- Lauderdale County Constable J.A. Yarbrough, March 18, 1917.
- Town Marshall Sylvester V. Dew, Henning Police Department, January 4, 1914.
- Lauderdale County Deputy Sheriff Henderson Safley, October 29, 1906.
- Lauderdale County Constable W. D. Turner, January 9, 1900.
- Lauderdale County Deputy Constable Marvin Durham, January 9, 1900.
- Lauderdale County Sheriff Simmons D. Alsobrook, November 1, 1873. ■

Some names sourced from odmp.org.

Just How Does a Thermostat Work?

Most of us maintain the central heating and cooling in our homes with a thermostat. Depending on your thermostat's age, it may be mechanical, digital or even smart.

Whatever its age, however, it uses some cool technology.

Most thermostats have two essential components—a thermometer and a switch. The thermometer is responsible for detecting the temperature in the room and relaying it to a switch, which turns the heating or cooling system on or off as needed to maintain the desired temperature.

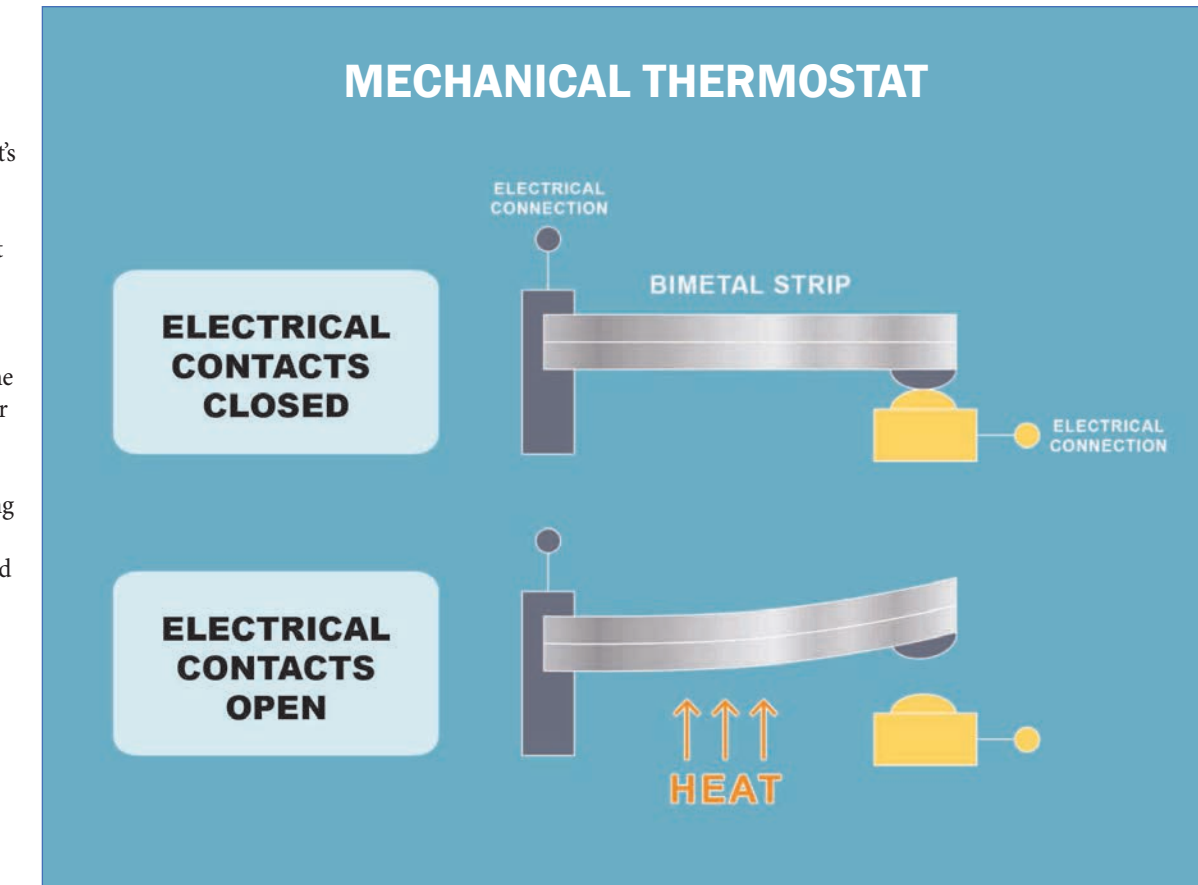
Mechanical

A mechanical thermostat (see diagram) is often found in older homes. A common mechanical thermostat has two pieces of different metals bonded together to form a bimetallic—or bimetal—strip.

The metals expand at different rates when heating, causing the strip to bend, since metal expands when warm and contracts when cool.

The motion of the metal determines whether the thermostat's electric circuit is open or closed, and in turn, whether the heat—or air conditioning—turns on or off.

The advantage of using a bimetallic strip is that it is accurate and can be finely calibrated to maintain a specific temperature. The disadvantage is that it takes a bit longer to react to a change in the room temperature.



Cutting Costs

If you turn down the heat 1 degree for eight hours a day, you can save about 1% of your heating costs. Turn it down 10 degrees to save about 10%. The same goes with your air conditioning. Turn the temperature up 10 degrees for eight hours a day to save about 10% on your bill.

Digital

Modern thermostats are usually digital and can do a few things a traditional, mechanical thermostat cannot.

One of their most useful features is programmable settings. For example, in the summer you can program a digital thermostat to automatically turn up the airconditioning around the time you usually get home from work.

A digital thermostat uses a simple device called a thermistor to measure temperature.

This is a resistor that experiences electrical resistance changes with temperature.

The microcontroller in a digital thermostat can measure the resistance and convert that number to an actual temperature reading.

Thermostats Get Smarter

As technology improves, so do thermostats. Talking thermostats allow you to control temperature with voice commands.

A telephone thermostat connects your heating and cooling system to your phone line. You simply call your property and enter a password on a touch-tone phone to access the controls.

Wi-Fi-based smart thermostats allow you to control your home's thermostat with your smartphone. Some are advanced enough to "learn" the settings you like at different times of the day and simply adjust the heating or cooling on their own. ■

Sources for this article include accessheating.com, howstuffworks.com and explainthatstuff.com.

Lauderdale County Cannery: 'A Wonderful Deal'

Johnny Roberts is still drinking the homemade tomato juice he and his wife, Norma, canned last summer at the Lauderdale County Cannery.

Carolyn Smith's family is still eating from the 40 quarts of purple hull peas, the 40 pints of salsa, 320 quarts of tomato juice, 100 quarts of whole tomatoes and the canned green tomatoes she put up at the cannery last year.

"The cannery is a wonderful deal," said Roberts, who canned 50 quarts of tomato juice. "The employees are the best help, and it was fun doing it. It's so much better than canning at home."

The Lauderdale County Cannery is open and free to any resident of Lauderdale County, said JC Dupree, director/extension agent III, Lauderdale County Extension Office, and manager of the cannery.

The cannery, which will open around July 10 this year, follows the tomato harvest season for its opening and closing dates, he said.

Its equipment includes a tomato juicer, pea sheller, cookers and steamers. Best of all, cannery operators Melinda Smith and Geraldine Wright are on hand to explain how to use the equipment and help as needed.

"It's a place where you can put up the produce from your garden," Dupree said. "All you have to do is show up with your produce and canning supplies."

The cannery at a glance:

- Proposed opening date: Wednesday, July 10.
- Proposed closing date: Wednesday, September 18.
- Hours: 7 a.m. to noon Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
- Address: 433 Commerce St.
- Bring your canning supplies and produce.
- No appointment necessary.
- Cannery is free and only open for Lauderdale County residents.
- For more information, call the Lauderdale UT/TSU Extension Office at 731-635-9551. The cannery does not have a phone.
- Homepage: Lauderdale.tennessee.edu.

Once it opens for the season, the cannery is open 7 a.m. to noon on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. It closes at noon because it has no air conditioning, and it gets hot in the summer weather. The cannery will close this year

around September 18.

Roberts buys his tomatoes from a local produce stand, while Smith grows her vegetables on her farm.

"I like my family to have real food from the garden," she said.

Along with other produce,

she plants 450 tomato plants.

The cannery opened around 1970 and has seen increased use in recent years.

"People realize they can save money by doing their own canning, and they don't have to clean their own kitchen," Dupree said.

Smith agrees. She made about 20 trips to the cannery last summer, often with her daughter, Stacy Crowder, and grandson, JB Cannon. Each time, she saved herself a cleanup in her own kitchen.

"Canning at home is a mess," she said. "We help them clean up at the cannery. It's wonderful. I love the cannery."

In fact, she's on a double mission, she said. The first is to talk up the cannery so that more people use it. The second?

"This summer, I'm going to be on a mission to can my spaghetti sauce, too." ■





ABOVE: The cannery is free and open to all residents of Lauderdale County. **RIGHT:** Alex Wilson stirs a vat of tomatoes. **BELOW:** Cannery Operator Melinda Smith shows a cannery visitor how to use a piece of equipment. PHOTOS COURTESY OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY CANNERY



Tomato Bread

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 cup fresh broccoli,
finely chopped | 1 teaspoon salt |
| ½ cup onion, finely
chopped | 1 box cornbread mix |
| 1 cup fresh tomatoes,
finely chopped and
drained | 3 eggs |
| | 6 ounces cottage
cheese |
| | 1 stick butter |

Preheat oven to 300 F. Add broccoli, onion and tomatoes to large bowl. Mix in all other ingredients except butter. Melt butter in 9-by-9 baking pan. Pour mixture into pan over melted butter. Bake for 40 minutes.

The bread freezes well.

Tomato Macaroni

- 1 quart whole tomatoes,
chopped
Medium onion, chopped
1 quart water
Salt and pepper, to taste
1 packet sweetener
1 package elbow macaroni

Add all ingredients to a large sauce pan. Cook slowly until the macaroni is done. This is a favorite of Carolyn Smith's family.



RIPLEY POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

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Staying informed is a great reason to give us all of the phone numbers in your household and to opt-in to our text messaging system. ■