



WGNS Talk Radio
Broadcast Plaza
306 South Church Street
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
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Your Good Neighbor Station since 1947

WGNS Community Ascertainment Report

Period: 1st quarter 2017 (January, February, March 2017)

Filed: April 3, 2017

1. **Fire Safety** This is the time of the year that most home fires occur. Murfreesboro Fire Chief Mark Foulks interacted with residents on Jan. 2, 2017 about ways to make their homes more fire proof. He also told of plans to upgrade the city's already phenomenal ISO rating of 2 to a Class 1. Not only would that improve response time and save lives, it also reduces the cost of fire insurance for residences as well as businesses.
2. **Black History:** Local NAACP President Carolyn Cox tells about the MLK, Jr. Breakfast on January 14, 2017 at MTSU, but she looks ahead to tell about the honorees.
3. **Homeless:** The homeless population is growing in this community. On Jan. 16, 2017, Taylor Loyal shared how the Second Harvest Food Bank plans to better serve this section of the population.
4. **Child Abuse:** On Jan. 10, 2017 Juvenile Court Judge Donna Scott Davenport and Judge Keith Siskin tell about why "parental rights are terminated". On March 7, 2017 Judge Davenport and CASA Director Kassie Davis told about the children who are dependent or neglected due to the actions of their parents.
5. **City & County Government:** Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland interacted with local residents on issues that concern them on Jan. 11, Feb. 8, and March 8, 2017. Rutherford County Mayor Ernest Burgess answered concerns with residents on Jan. 25, Feb. 23, and March 29, 2017. State Senators (2) and State Representatives (4) talked with residents about what was being considered before the General Assembly. In addition, the public gave comments on the proposed legislation and shared their concerns. This was done Jan. 27, Feb.

24, and March 31, 2017. Newly elected Murfreesboro Vice Mayor Madelyn Scales-Harris shared her vision for improving the city on the Feb. 14, 2017 broadcast.

6. **Local History:** Feb. 20, 2017 featured Dr. Brenden Martin telling about renovations and preservations at Historic Bradley Academy. Not only was this the school of former President James K. Polk, it was Murfreesboro's first African-American school.

7. **Urological Issues:** Murfreesboro's drinking water has a high content of calcium, and statistics indicate this area has a higher incidence of urological issues. Urologists from St. Thomas Health interacted with the public on how to reduce your risks.

8. **Public Education:** On Jan. 23, 2017, Keith Cartwright and James Evans interact with the public on the demands brought about by the fastest growing school system in Tennessee. On March 14, 2017 HR Assistant Supt. Paula Barnes and Employee Specialist Leslie Duke tell how the County School System is growing so quickly that a special job fair is planned.

9. **Alzheimer's Disease:** On March 17, 2017 Dr. Tom Starline tells how people are living longer, and have more challenges with dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

10. **Premature Infants:** On March 22, 2017 the topic was infants being born prematurely is rapidly escalating. Physicians from Murfreesboro Medical Clinic and March of Dimes Somer Brown along with a mother of 3 premature children shared her story.

11. **Landfill Filling:** On March 29, 2017 Murfreesboro Mayor McFarland and County Mayor Burgess interacted with residents about the Walter Hill landfill nearing the end of its life. Alternative solutions were discussed.

12. **Historic Bottoms:** On March 27, 2017 City Manager Rob Lyons told the results of three public planning sessions in which residents enthusiastically gave ideas on expanding the downtown business footprint by adding a boutique hotel, multi-level business and residential structures, restaurants with music venues and more in the area once known at the Bottoms.

These topics were broadcast between 0810 and 0900 on the dates outlined above. The topics were developed through a process of checking local news stories, public input (phone calls, e-mails, daily "man on the street" interviews, opinion polls on the station's website, and other methods of getting public response on issues of importance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Walker
Chief Operator