



MURFREESBORO SMYRNA  
**FM 101.9 & AM 1450 | FM 100.5**  
**WGNSRADIO.COM**

## Ascertainment Report

**Period: January, February, and March, 2023**

**Filed: April 1, 2023**

- 1. THE ARTS:** Local arts activities in the New Year with Center for the Arts Director Patience Long (1/4/22).
- 2. HOMELESS:** Murfreesboro continues to see dramatic increases in the homeless population. On Jan. 3, 2023, Scott interviews numerous homeless persons to help the community get a better awareness of this population's concerns, needs and prevalence of mental illness.
- 3. EMERGENCY RESPONDERS (fire, police, paramedics):** On Jan. 4, 2023 Murfreesboro Police Chief Michael Bowen gave the previous year's crime statistics and discussed efforts to reduce crime in the coming year. A focus on the duties of RCSO's SRO program on 1/18/2023. 2/1/2023 is about winter driving and the impact ice and snow have on safety issues.
- 4. WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COURTS:** District Attorney General Jennings Jones and ADA J. Paul Newman analyze the court dockets and interact with the public on cold cases and laws. (1/6/2023). 1/12/2023 Attorney Brandon Bass talks about what to do if you're in a vehicle crash. Attorney John Day talks about what to do if you are involved with a traffic crash with an 18-wheeler.
- 5. HEALTH ISSUES:** 1/9/2023 Dr. Craig McCabe spoke about new procedures in reducing the speed with which macular degeneration grows. 1/10/2023 Ascension St. Thomas CEO Gordon Ferguson and Westlawn Administrator Brittney Urso talk about Tennessee's first neighborhood hospital. Westlawn opens Monday week. 3-time cancer survivor Colon Sheets and physicians discuss how this 16-year-old is fighting the disease and keep a 3.0 grade average while doing it. 2/14/2023 Cardiologist Dr. Clemmons tells about a major expansion at Ascension St. Thomas that will dramatically increase the numbers and types of heart procedures that they can do. 2/23/2023 increases in cardiac issues for senior citizens and new programs being developed at the local hospital.
- 6. HISTORY (topic with largest following in county):** 1/2/2023 former State Rep. John Hood talked about the radio station's milestone 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As one of the station's early employees, he reminisced about the 40s on WGNS. 3/22/2023 historian Gloria Christy talks about the life of Uncle Dave Macon, the first Grand Ole Opry Superstar (from Rutherford County).
- 7. Tennessee's 113<sup>th</sup> General Assembly:** 1/13/2023 State Rep. Mike Sparks talks about issues that have come on the table during the first 4-days. Listener questions how parents can use state funds on private schools without dropping funding for public schools. 3/29/2023 County Mayor Joe Carr discusses the General Assembly's down vote of allowing counties to have a Development Tax.
- 8. SENIOR CITIZENS:** Senior care varies with each individual and an audience input segment helps the community to better understand how to stay fit and live healthier lives (3/31/2023).

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**9. EDUCATION:** Library's contents and services are changing dramatically. 2/21/2023

**10. MIDDLE POINT LANDFILL:** Probably the hottest topic in Rutherford County, especially on a windy day. Middle Point's General Manager Mike Classen tells what Republic is doing to reduce the issue. 2/22/2023 County Mayor Joe Carr feels the landfill is a health issue for area citizens, saying "If they knew how to fix the problem, they would have done so years ago." 2/27/2023 12-year old Blackman student in need of a kidney transplant. 3/6/2023 Alzheimer's Disease is on the increase and Rutherford County has one of the high case loads in Tennessee. 3/14/2023 obesity is on the increase locally and across the south. Dr. Stephen Rich interacts with the public on getting fit.

**11. CLIMBING OUT OF THE COVID PANDEMIC:** 1/20/2023 the impact of the pandemic on business, has resulted in one of the worst killers of business and the economy. Certified Financial Planner Jake Robinson tells about the Federal Government's EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT (ERC), a credit back from Small Business Administration This is available through April 25, 2023. 1/17/2023 Main Street's Executive Director Sarah Callender talks about special grants available to downtown businesses in the historic district.

**12. GARDENS and LAWNS:** 1/19/2023 Extension Agent Mitchell Mote talks about soil tests and planting trees and shrubs. Local master gardeners talk about their local training program (1/31/2023).

**13. SPORTS:** Murfreesboro Assistant City Manager Daren Gore updates the massive construction underway at the Siegel Soccer Park.

**14. AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY:** 1/16/2023 is MLK Day and local NAACP President David Settles and March Coordinator Shawn Brown tell about major changes in today's event. 3/27/2023 James Manning talks about Oakland Mansion's effort to track the history of slave families at Oakland. One thing they have done is ground penetrating radar in Section M at Evergreen Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Walker, Chief Operator  
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WGNS (AM)

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