



WGNS Talk Radio
Broadcast Plaza
306 South Church Street
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Phone 615.893.5373

Your Good Neighbor Station since 1947

WGNS Community Ascertainment Report

Period: 4th quarter 2018 (October, November and December 2018)

Filed: January 5, 2019

1. **Public Forums:** This is an election year and WGNS schedules on-air forums with candidates who have opposition. Listeners are able to phone the broadcast and ask one question that can be answered by each candidate. Oct. 11, 2018 8 candidates (ones with opposition) addressed questions from the public in State House District 34, District 37, District 48 and District 49. Oct. 17, 2019 District 13 State Senate candidates had an on-air public forum.
2. **Judicial System:** The court dockets had been backing-up in the past, but changes and more judges placed on the bench are getting the system “more caught up”. They told about current cases before the courts as well as cold cases. On Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7, 2018, District Attorney General Jennings Jones, former DA Bill Whitesell, and ADA J. Paul Newman addressed news of the courts.
3. **Child Abuse:** On Oct. 9, 2018, representatives from the Child Advocacy Center told about the increasing number of cases involving abused juveniles. On Nov. 6, 2018, Juvenile Court Judge Donna Scott Davenport talked about the need for mentors and how BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS is helping.
4. **Agencies:** Murfreesboro Police Chief Michael Bowel addressed the increase in shootings on Nov. 6, 2018. Nov. 21, 2018 Sheriffs Office SRO's told how with so many “school shootings”, what is being done by local SRO's to reduce the risk of that horrific crime locally.
5. **City & County Government:** Oct. 10, 2018 and Dec. 12, 2018 Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland interacted with local residents who interacted about suggestions, concerns and other issues. On Oct. 30, and Nov. 14, 2018, 2018 Murfreesboro City Director Craig Tindall

told ways the “city” is making changes that are designed to make it easier for the public to get services from the “city”. They are in the process of a major restructuring of the administration.

6. **Landfill Issue:** The Walter Hill Landfill has an estimated remaining life of 5-8 years. On Oct. 31, 2018 County Mayor Bill Ketron gave news of upcoming visits to Arizona where Republic Waste has a massive recycling center that serves millions. Nov. 28, 2018 Assistant Deputy Steve Sandlin shared updates on chartering an airplane to San Jose to visit Republic’s composting program to reduce waste going to the landfill.

7. **Veterans:** Oct. 19, 2018 representatives from the Alvin C. York VA Medical Center took calls from the public about concerns and issues.

8. **Public Education:** On Oct. 23, 2018 Overall Creek Elementary Principal Don Bartch and Superintendent Dr. Linda Stevens told about learning opportunities for youth. On Nov. 10, 2018, Dr. Mark Byrnes shows new data on the importance of having a college degree.

9. **Pets:** Humane pet care and adoption. Oct. 26, 2019, Beesley Animal Foundation talks about the 2nd Annual Blessing of the Pets, as well as the importance of spaying and neutering pets. This program has been in effect for a decade, and they gave numbers of how the dog and cat over-population has decreased dramatically.

10. **FLU SEASON:** Oct. 9, 2019, Dr. David Bauman told about some of the issues dealing with the current flu season.

11. **DEMENTIA and SENIOR ISSUES:** The senior citizens demographic (age 60+) is fastest growing population in Rutherford County. On Nov. 13, 2018, guests from Mindful Care Adult Day Services shared statistics about this issue. On Dec. 19, 2018 E. T. Guice and Sheriff PIO Lisa Marchesoni updated the service offered by SCAN (Senior Citizens Awareness Network).

12. **BLOOD SUPPLY SHORTAGE:** With the holidays and colder than usual rainy weather, the local Red Cross blood supply has dropped to a critical shortage. Red Cross Director Kathy Ferrell was on Dec. 3, 2018 to talk of this critical need.

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