



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: 2nd quarter 2018 (April, May, and June 2018)

Filed: July 2, 2018

1. **Political Forum:** 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. April 2, 2018 candidates for Circuit Court Clerk were Robin Eades Gentry and Incumbent Melissa Harrell. April 3, 2018 Candidates for the Circuit Court Judge were on the air. Incumbent Barry Tidwell and Nathan Nichols. April 5, 2018 the Register of Deeds candidates were incumbent Heather Dawbarn and Mimi Genet. April 9 2018 RC Sheriff candidates included Jim Tramel and incumbent Mike Fitzhugh. April 10, 2018 the RC County Mayor candidates Randy Allen, Tina Jones and Bill Ketron interacted. On June 4, 2018 Candidates for Rutherford County Sheriff returned for the Primary race with incumbent Mike Fitzhugh and independents Deric Haynes and Bill West. On June 12, 2018 the 7 candidates for Murfreesboro City Council took questions from the public. June 15, 2018 featured candidates for the 13th District State Senate position: Ernest Burgess and Dawn White. On June 22, 2018 the 5 candidates for Murfreesboro School Board answered questions.
2. **Black History:** April 16, 2018, Kent Syler told about how MTSU's Gore Research Center is offering an exhibit on the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
3. **Homeless:** The homeless population is growing in this community. On April 20, 2018 representatives from the Alvin C. York VA Medical Center told about local programs available for homeless veterans. This broadcast made it possible for the public to call and ask questions of the guests.
4. **Economy:** Measuring the public's opinion of this area's economy and how the public mindset has a powerful impact on what actually happens. On April 17, 2018 Dr. Ken Blake and Dr. Jason Reineke told how the MTSU Polls were taken. In addition, MTSU Director of MTSU's

Business and Economic Research Center Dr. Murat Arik covered the Comprehensive Wage and Benefit Survey of Midstate Manufacturers.

5. **City & County Government:** Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland interacted with local residents on issues that concern them on April 11, 2018. On May 9, 2018 and June 13, 2018, the mayor returned and updated the results of the search for a new city manager. In addition, updates on historic downtown improvements to dramatically increase the footprint of the business district by developing high rise combination business-residential high rises along with creating more entertainment and restaurant venues to be located along a boardwalk and water system planned for a decaying part of the business area.

6. **General Assembly:** The Tennessee General Assembly completed its work in April and on April 27, 2018, State Senator Bill Ketron along with Representatives Tim Rudd, Mike Sparks, Dr. Bryan Terry and Dawn White interacted with residents about their concerns and told of legislation that had been passed.

7. **Public Library:** The former Linebaugh Library system is changing and Director Rita Shacklett got input from residents via a phone in broadcast on April 17, May 15, and June 19, 2018. The system's name is changing to the Rutherford County Public Library System and Linebaugh Library will become the downtown branch. In addition, updates on the construction of the Technology Engagement Center on Minerva Drive are presented.

8. **Public Education:** On April 23, 2018 Murfreesboro City Schools Director Dr. Linda Gilbert interacted with residents about their goal of "teaching the whole child". Dr. Gilbert gave documented results showing how Murfreesboro and Rutherford County have some of the highest achieving schools in the state with Tennessee's top school being Central Magnet School here in Murfreesboro.

9. **Juvenile Courts:** On May 29, 2018 Judge Donna Scott Davenport and representatives from the Child Advocacy Center and Department of Children's Services interacted with residents who called the broadcast about identifying children on drugs and what can be done to turn the problem around the conversation also included a growing issue of Sex Trafficking.

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