



NEWS RELEASE

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Back to School, MED/MTEMC Merger, 2020 Census, and more ‘In the City’

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – As schools prepare to reopen this month, “In the City” sat down with Murfreesboro City Schools Interim Director Ralph Ringstaff to discuss distance learning and school safety measures. The August episode with Michael Linn White also features the merger of two electric utilities, the 2020 Census and Congestion Mitigation.

The August 2020 edition of CityTV’s ‘In the City,’ with Michael Linn White is available on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/w8wyOsg5DX8>.

The August 2020 edition of “In the City,” airing on CityTV throughout the month, features:

- Schools will function a lot differently this year. MCS Interim Director **Ralph Ringstaff** explains distance learning via Zoom and Google and traditional learning with safety measures.
- The merger of the two electric companies was finalized following approval from the TVA. Michael Linn White reports on the merger with MTE CEO **Chris Jones** and **P.D. Mynatt**, GM of the merged MED. Customers can use the “MyMTEMC APP” for bill paying. For more information, visit www.mtemc.com or call 877-777-9020 <https://youtu.be/ROBiJRLTScs>.
- The pandemic has proven challenging for the federal Census Bureau’s constitutional mandate. There’s still time to make sure Murfreesboro receives its proper share of federal funding. **Census Media Specialist June Iljana** stresses the importance of being counted for education, health services, roads and public safety. If you haven’t responded to www.2020census.gov or by calling 844-330-2020, you will be getting a knock on the door between now and the end of September <https://youtu.be/q00BxvhEils>.
- Did you know that the **Murfreesboro Water Resources** Department’s water treatment plant utilizes excess sediment and lime from water treatment by injecting it onto nearby MTSU farmland? The “slurry” treatment through land application helps benefit hay production. Learn more about the process and TDEC approval from **Joe Russell**, Assistant Manager for the Water Treatment Plant <https://youtu.be/pcDJCeK1b1Q>.

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- Are you looking for work? Do you enjoy working outdoors? You could start a career with the Murfreesboro Street Department. Hear from **City Street workers** about working for the Department. For more information, visit www.governmentjobs.com or www.careers.murfreesborotn or call 615-848-2553.
- The City is committed to maintaining smooth traffic flow. The **Congestion Mitigation Plan** is just one example. Project Coordinator **Kayla Walker** touts the benefits of the Robert Rose Drive Right Turn Lane Project, giving vehicles turning right onto Thompson Lane a dedicated turn lane. Mitigation often begins with feedback from residents then progresses to traffic studies and project design. In this case it also includes a new water line and tying into the water main, new light posts, and sidewalks. Project completion is expected in Fall 2020. <https://youtu.be/SbvmztluBZA>
- Many are taking the **Mayor's Conservation Challenge** to use less water and generate less pollution during the month of August. The Murfreesboro Water Resources Department has partnered with the Wyland Foundation to encourage residents to take the pledge. Go to www.mywaterpledge.com for more information Watch the PSA <https://youtu.be/9tWs9cyG03U>.
- City pool use is different with restrictions under the Covid-19 pandemic. Aquatics Assistant Program Coordinator **Cody Saffel** and Water Aerobics Instructor **Cynthia Shadrack** explain the activities that are permitted. For more information, visit www.murfreesboroparks.com or call 615-895-5040.
- Most Parks & Rec summer camps were cancelled this summer due to the global pandemic, but one camp offered is GuardSmart Camp. The Junior Lifeguard camp provides useful skills for a lifetime. Head Lifeguard **Jordan Gillum** explains how First Aid, CPR and water rescues are critical life skills. For more information, visit www.murfreesboroparks.com or call 615-895-5050.
- The Linebaugh Library is your place for superheroes and a **Free Comic Book Summer**, through Sept. 9. **Garrett Crowell**, Library Circulation Manager, showcases the free magazine packages and the #RCLSHeroHead2020 hashtag contest with prize drawings. For more information call 615-893-4131.

'In the City' is hosted by multimedia journalist Michael Linn White and produced by Steve Burris every month in the studios located at Murfreesboro City Hall.

The August 2020 episode is airing on CityTV throughout the month or anytime on YouTube and Facebook. The magazine show airs every day at 8:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m., and 10:30 p.m. on Channel 3. 'In the City' also airs on Comcast Xfinity Channels 3 and 1094, Channel 99 on AT&T Uverse, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, and Apple TV via Cablecast Screenweave app, and YouTube.

For all the latest City news, visit www.murfreesborotn.gov or watch the most recent newsbreaks and past episodes of "In the City" on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/cityofmurfreesboro> or <https://www.murfreesborotn.gov/videos>.

For City News online, visit www.Murfreesborotn.gov.

Photo caption:

1. Michael Linn White, host of CityTV's 'In the City,' August 2020.jpg.