



Friday, August 18, 2017

There is a lot of buzz about the **Total Solar Eclipse** that will happen on Monday, 8/21/2017, but are you ready? **Vanderbilt's My Southern Health** posted this article about eye safety during the eclipse. Without proper protection, watching the eclipse can damage your retina. Your retina has no pain receptors, so will not be able to feel the damage being done. <http://www.mysouthernhealth.com/solar-eclipse-safety/> . Many outlying departments have purchased glasses so please talk to your supervisor about if your department has purchased the protective glasses. The **Human Resources Department** will have about 90 pairs of protective glasses to distribute. The glasses will be for City

**WATCH IT
LIVE
ON
FRANKLIN TV
AND
FACEBOOK**

Monday August, 21
12:30 pm

employees only, first come first serve and be given out right before the eclipse. We have reserved the top deck of the Second Avenue parking garage as an

employee viewing area where the glasses will be given out. Also, we will be streaming the eclipse LIVE courtesy of **Middle Tennessee State University** on **Franklin TV**, on our **Website** and the **Facebook** page if you cannot get out of the office!

There has been a lot in the news recently about **confederate monuments** after the tragic events in **Charlottesville, Virginia** and the deaths of Heather Heyer, a counter protestor, and two sheriff's officers who were monitoring the protests. We have heard a lot of feedback from citizens on both sides of the issue. Our focus as a City team is to keep our community safe and protect the rights of all. If you have concerns about the monument and safety within our community, please feel free to contact me. I am glad to discuss it. Below is a brief history and information about procedures.

Franklin Tennessee has a deep history and the civil war is part of who we are. As a community, we work very, very hard to make sure we know the full context in our community and our history. We try to tell the full story of the Civil War within Franklin's story and the horrible battle that was fought here on November 30, 1864. The statue of the Confederate soldier ("Chip") is owned by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The property is public property and the City of Franklin Street Department Maintenance Division cares for the property around the statue. The monument is listed on the national historic register and is part of a designated historic district.



The cannons are on permanent loan from the federal government. The cannon tubes are original bronze Federal Model 1841. This type of cannon was used by the Union army during the Civil War. If there were a



movement to remove the monument, the City's Board of Mayor and Aldermen would have to petition the Tennessee Historical Commission to waive the Tennessee Heritage Protection Act of 2016 (to be clear: there has *not* been a specific request by the Board). The Act adopted by the Tennessee General Assembly states no memorial regarding a historic conflict, historic entity, historic event, historic figure, or historic organization that is located on, public property, may

be removed, renamed, relocated, altered, rededicated, or otherwise disturbed or altered.

REMINDER OF MEDIA POLICY- It is important for the City of Franklin to provide timely, accurate, consistent information to the public. This is often achieved via news media, including newspapers, television, radio and online news services. **Overseeing this function is the responsibility of the City's Communications Office.** This media policy is provided to ensure the city communicates as effectively, consistently and accurately with the media as possible. Effective communication with the media also helps the city manage

emergencies and correct misconceptions. We understand that members of the technical and professional staff possess special skills and expertise in their respective fields. Communicating with the media, however, is also a skill that requires special training and experience and which benefits from adherence to established procedures. For this reason, whenever possible, the communications office is the primary point of contact for inquiries from the media. The communications staff may arrange for an interview with technical staff or serve as the department spokesperson, depending on the issue, but should always be informed of media calls **before** the city responds or provides information. Our communications staff is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to respond to media requests and to help you should you be designated as the spokesperson for an issue. **Please see the policy attached that was created in 2009 for more details.**

Members of the **Leadership Team** attended presentation skills training this week with **Mimi Bliss of Bliss Communications** who has trained some top companies across the country including Nissan North America, State of Tennessee, HCA Health Care and BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee. The top five tips for better speaking skills Mimi presented to the group include the following:

1. Choose words-eliminate minimizing words; and use “flag phrases” instead. For example, a minimizing word or phrase would be “I’ll just be quick,” ums, or apologizing to your audience. A flag phrase would be, “our focus,” “our next step,” “we recommend.”
2. The speech is about your audience, not you. Ask what is their perspective. It also takes the spotlight off of you.
3. Speak with confidence. When standing stand with feet solidly planted on the ground, when seated lean in.
4. Focus on stories, not process. People remember stories or examples.
5. Good visuals make you better, weak visuals make it harder (don’t read PowerPoint slides to your audience!).

Two books that Mimi recommended are ***Presence*** by Amy Cuddy and ***The Corner Office*** by Adam Bryant.

Did you know that you can contact IT support after hours by calling 615-550-6800. IT support will respond within 30 minutes of your call. From an internal line you can dial HELP (4357).

When you dial the support number, you will be prompted to



select the type of support needed:

Network & Communications Services (Option 1) provides support for the following items:

- Network communications
- Hardware
- Outlook / Email support
- Cisco IP phone system (desk phones) and voicemail
- Active Directory accounts (your main city account)
- Two-factor authentication login issues (Police RSA devices)
- 800MHz Radio
- Fiber Optics
- Physical Access (door card readers, gates, etc.)
- Video surveillance

Information Systems (Option 2) provides application support (except those identified as being supported by other teams)

- Infor
- Firehouse
- SharePoint (Inside the City)
- TRITECH Public Safety Software (including those still branded as VisionAIR)
- Human Resources and Payroll applications
- HelpStar / ServicePRO

REMINDER: Our **second annual City of Franklin Lip Sync Battle has a new date!** The date has been set for **September 27** so start working on your performance! See the information sheets attached. **NEW INFORMATION-GROUP TEAM WINS LUNCH FOR ENTIRE DEPARTMENT and the INDIVIDUAL PRIZE IS A \$50.00 gift card.** This year, we are going to add a new wrinkle to the lip sync event. **Yours truly (Eric Stuckey) will perform a lip sync to a song based on your vote. Your vote is through a contribution to United Way, \$1 = one vote. The four songs to vote on are:**

- 1. Let it Go - Frozen soundtrack**
- 2. Stayin Alive - The Bee Gees**
- 3. Ice, Ice Baby - Vanilla Ice**
- 4. Party in the USA - Miley Cyrus**

Keep an eye out in your department for your opportunity to vote (early and often!).

Thanks for *all* you do!

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CITY ADMINISTRATOR

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Website: www.franklintn.gov

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