

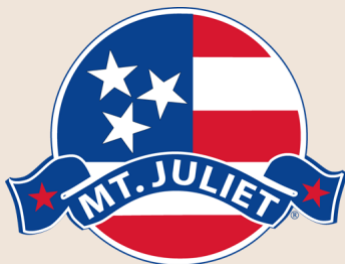
SEPTEMBER 2022
NEWSLETTER



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Mt. Juliet City Commissioner, District 4

We got to see Jupiter and some of its moons in the night sky last week, hope you did too. The last time Jupiter was this close to Earth was 1963. Other planets may be visible during October. October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month and National Fire Prevention Month. Get your screenings and check the batteries in your smoke alarms.

NEW BUSINESSES:

Barrel House Restaurant will be going in the Catch 22 building located at 3950 NMJRD. I do not have a timeline.

Truleigh Scrumptious is a locally-owned small café that will be based in the red brick building, to be known as Charlie's Place, located next to the railroad tracks on NMJRD. The targeted opening date is November 1st.

The Axe-Shack had its Grand Opening this weekend. They are located at 151 Adams Lane and will be open Thursday-Sunday each week.

Jimmy John's is coming back to MJ! They will be located, along with a new Mapco that will replace the current BP and McDonald's, at 126 NMJRD. I do not have a timeline.

O'Charlie's building still remains a mystery at this point.

UPCOMING

1) MJ Bark Park Survey: The MJ Parks Department is taking suggestions for new dog apparatus equipment for the newly expanded Bark Park on SE Springdale Drive. You may call the Parks Department within the next few days at 615-754-2552.

2) MJ Farmer's Market: The MJ Farmer's Market will remain open through the end of October, then it will close until spring. It is located at 1075 Charlie Daniels Pkwy., and their hours are Thursdays 1-6 pm, and Saturdays 7 am - 1 pm.

3) MJPD vs FDMJ (repeat): On Monday, October 3rd, the MJ Police Department and the MJ Fire Department will go head to head in the MJ First Responder Basketball Game Fundraiser at Mt. Juliet High School at 7 pm. VIP coaches for each team are head coaches from Belmont University. All proceeds from the game will go to the James Bess Foundation. For ticket information you may find it [here](#).

4) MJPD Chili Cook-off (repeat): For National Faith & Blue Weekend, MJPD is organizing a community Chili Cook-off & Open House in a collaborative effort to build stronger bridges

through fellowship. This free family-friendly event will take place on Saturday, October 8th from 11 am - 2 pm at MJPD Headquarters at 1019 Charlie Daniels Pkwy. There will be a kids' fun zone, as well as guided tours of the headquarters. Bring the family, join the contest, or just eat and enjoy. If you would like to participate in the chili cook-off contest, you can find more details and registration information by [clicking here](#). There is no entry fee.

5) Providence Pumpkin Bash (repeat): On Saturday, October 8th at 10 am, Providence Marketplace will host their free family-fun Providence Pumpkin Bash in Cinema Circle. The event will have pumpkin-themed activities, games and prizes, a DJ, a petting zoo, face painting, balloon artist, and more, including pumpkins. You are encouraged to bring a new or gently-used book to donate to Book'em to spread the love of reading to Nashville kids.

6) CraftFare Before Christmas: On Saturday, October 15th, CraftFare Before Christmas will be at the MJ Community Center in Charlie Daniels Park from 10 am - 4 pm. Over 100 vendors for fall, Halloween, and Christmas items, including food vendors. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the nonprofit Give a Little Christmas focused on making sure local children receive Christmas gifts.

7) Providence Pkwy. new turn lane: Providence Pkwy. on the west side of SMJRD between Walgreens and Regions Bank, will be getting a new EB left turn lane onto SMJRD heading north. This will require the removal of the median. Since it doesn't require right-of-way, construction should begin very soon. But first, Public Works will be making sure the signal heads with the existing pole and mast arm can be modified.

8) Early voting: Early voting begins on October 19th and ends on November 3rd. The deadline to register to vote in Wilson County is October 11th, for the General/City Election on November 8th. If you need to know your voting districts and/or would like to view a sample ballot, you can [click here](#).

9) Spaghetti Days: The MJ Senior Center will be having their annual Spaghetti Days Fundraiser on October 20th-21st. You can purchase tickets for \$14 at the center located at 2034 NMJRD.

10) October 20th Planning Commission, 6:30 pm:

- **Smartt property:** (SW Cook Road off Central Pike) Land Use Amendment, Annexation and Rezone for mixed-use development that would include (for sale) 213 townhomes and 180 single-family homes on 110 acres, currently in the county. You may view the proposed plan [here](#).
- **Lifestyle Communities (LC) MJ II plan submitted:** Land Use Amendment, Annexation and Rezone for a 60+-acre mixed-use/multifamily plan (655 units). This plan would include The Goat restaurant, townhomes and apartments. You may view the proposed plan [here](#). The location is 7800 Central Pike which is currently in the county.

11) Halloween in the Park (repeat): On Saturday, October 22nd in Charlie Daniels Park, MJ Parks & Recreation will hold its annual Halloween in the Park from 11 am - 3 pm. This is a free family event and there will be costume contests, hay rides, a petting zoo, inflatables, food trucks, vendor booths, and lots of free candy. For details on the costume contests and vendor registration, you can [click here](#).

12) Public work session: Public Works will hold a Public Work session regarding the Pleasant Grove Road widening and realignment on October 24th at 5:15 pm, prior to the BOC meeting.

13) Amendments to the TN Constitution (repeat): The MJ Board of Commissioners (BOC) recently passed a Resolution expressing support of four proposed Constitutional Amendments on the November 8th election ballot. You may read summaries of what these mean by [clicking here](#):

- Amendment 1: relative to the right to work.
- Amendment 2: exercise of the powers and duties of the Governor during disability.
- Amendment 3: prohibiting slavery and involuntary servitude.
- Amendment 4: relative to disqualifications of State legislature seats.

14) Christmas Across Mt. Juliet Contest: This year, the 3rd Annual Christmas/Holiday lights contest will have some changes. Only homeowners/businesses within the city limits will be eligible, and the new changes would require that all participants send in pictures and videos of the outside decorations. Registration will begin November 2nd and end December 2nd. All winners will be announced on December 9th.

15) BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee) (repeat/update):

- In September, the MJ BPAC was awarded a People of Streets award for the Most Walkable Bikeable Middle TN Project by Walk Bike Nashville.
- The BOC is in the process of restructuring the MJ BPAC.
- BPAC's last event of the year will be the Christmas Lights Walk on Monday, December 5th at 6 pm. All are welcome. More details to come.

16) Christmas Tree Lighting: The official lighting of the Christmas Tree will take place on December 9th at 6 pm, at the train station parking lot. This lighting ceremony is provided by Shiloh Baptist Church.

17) MJ Christmas Parade (repeat): This year, the MJ Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 10th at 11 am. The 2022 theme will be "A Golden Christmas." The route will be the same as last year, beginning at the baseball/softball fields on Lebanon Road, now known as Two Rivers Ford League. Registration will open November 1st.

UPDATES

1) New name for South Mt. Juliet City Park: The BOC recently approved a Resolution to rename the park **Will Sellers Park**, located at 151 SE Springdale Drive, in memory of Wilford Abbott Sellers. Will, who passed away earlier this year, served on the MJ Parks & Greenways Board, as well as many other boards and committees, including the MJ Board of Commissioners. A dedication will be announced soon.

2) FDMJ ISO Rating: If your insurance provider is asking for documented proof of FDMJ ISO 3 rating, you can [click here](#) for a copy. It possibly could save you some money on your homeowner's insurance policy.

3) Storm Water Utility work session: MJ Public Works held a public work session on September 12th, when they brought their Master Plan recommendation. If you would like to watch the video, you can [click here](#).

4) Temporary trail closure at Mundy Park (repeat/update): The Mundy Park TRAIL is temporarily closed until further notice due to construction of the new courts and detention pond upgrades. A notice will be sent out once it reopens.

5) Mt. Juliet Ambulance Service (EMS Services) (repeat/update): The BOC just approved the purchase of two used ambulances for the MJ EMS Department. We are still on the waiting list for three new ambulances, which one to two years away. It is hopeful to have the department operating by early 2023.

6) MJ City sales tax revenues: Revenues from city sales tax continue to stay above average by 8.1% over this time last year. Keep shopping local.

STATUS REPORT: PROJECTS/CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENTS

(Note: updated information since last month is in color.)

Mundy Park Improvements: Construction is nearing completion set for late-October for the new tennis and pickleball courts with extra parking. Look for announcements of the ribbon cutting soon. We will also have a triangle practice green for disc golf coming soon. For a plan visual you can [click here](#). Phase 2 will be an expansion of the playground. The walking trail remains closed, however, the upper portion will reopen once the courts are operational.

The detention pond in Mundy Park is underway by Public Works to improve flooding issues. This is in the wooded area behind the ball fields, and completion is expected in late fall.

South Bark Park: The South MJ City Park (Bark Park), located on SE Springdale Drive, has expanded the fence around the Bark Park, with a new water fountain. New dog apparatus to come.

Providence Central: Construction for BJ's Wholesale Club and Rooms to Go will begin very soon. For a plan visual of BJ's you can [click here](#). To see a plan visual of Rooms To Go you can [click here](#).

(NEW) Adams Lane: Construction for the new Adams Lane rerouting, including a second left turn lane, is estimated to be completed by early spring '23, depending on weather. The second turn lane will be at the intersection of Adams Lane/SMJRD (facing WB next to Waffle House).

Beckwith Road: Resurface work has begun and will likely be complete within a couple of weeks. This area of Beckwith Road is between I-40 and south to the four-way intersection at S. Rutland Road/Posey Hill Drive. Widening is on the city's radar, however, it is likely to happen sooner from potential future developments.

SMJRD widening: ROW plans are being finalized, with ROW acquisition anticipated to begin this fall/winter. Field work has begun for a survey, with ongoing environmental phase, design, and engineering. This TDOT project is 70% complete with preconstruction activity. The BOC approved a Resolution amending the initial agreement with TDOT to add ROW and construction, to be paid for by TDOT. ROW acquisition and utility relocation will take three years to complete.

I-40/Central Pike Interchange: TDOT phase is in surveying, environmental, and preliminary engineering. Project is 30% complete with preconstruction activity. It is expected to coincide with the Western Connector which is a five-year project.

Central Pike widening: This TDOT widening project to 5 lanes extends from SMJRD to Old Hickory Blvd., and currently TDOT is finalizing the transportation report. The planning document is underway. Project is 5% complete with preconstruction activity. The Providence Central development will be responsible for widening a portion of Central Pike at Providence Pkwy. when they get to that point.

FDMJ north firehall: Still under construction, however, it is hopeful they can take occupancy around the first of December. The location is next to Green Hill High School and is 90% complete with construction.

MJPD Expansion: Cost estimates for a new two-story building have not been discussed as of yet.

Cedar Creek Greenway Phase 1: Project is under construction and completion is expected sometime this fall, depending on weather. The 10-foot wide greenway will extend from Charlie Daniels Park to Golden Bear Gateway and connect to Park Glen and Tuscan Gardens and is 70% complete with construction. If you would like to see a map of where it will connect, including a Phase 2 grant the city/BPAC is applying for, you can [click here](#).

Town Center Trail Connector: This greenway extension will run along S. Greenhill Road from W. Wilson Blvd. to Town Center Trail on W. Division. Project is 5% complete with construction activity. This project will be constructed along with the S. Greenhill Road roundabout.

Town Center Trail Phase 3: Design for the 3rd Phase of the TCT has begun that will extend from S. Greenhill Road to Mt. Juliet Elementary School. The project was approved for a federal grant that covers 80% of design, ROW, and construction. Currently performing survey and data collection.

Hamilton-Denson Park: Construction of the fields nears completion at 90%. Final completion of the fields is expected by the end of October and grass seed will be planted. The drawing phase of the restrooms (Phase 2) is currently on hold due to the State matching grant protocol, which should be finalized soon. The fields and the restrooms hopefully will be ready by spring '23, with a Ribbon Cutting.

Lebanon Road sidewalks Phases 2 & 3: Currently, Phase 2 is finalizing construction bid documents and is 95% complete with preconstruction activity. Construction is expected to begin this fall/winter. This includes both sides of Lebanon Road from NMJRD to Park Glen, including a portion of Park Glen. Phase 3 will be between Nonaville Road and Green Hill High School and is 70% complete with preconstruction activity and in final design. Environmental (NEPA) was approved. Construction is expected in 2023.

Signal improvements: Traffic signals along MJRD between Central Pike and Division will be undergoing improvements. The project is 95% complete with preconstruction activity and is finalizing construction documents. Construction is expected to begin early winter, and will include installing fiber optic communication between each of the 13 signals that will connect to City Hall. The project will take about 18 months to complete.

Traffic signal on Providence Pkwy.: Construction has begun and is 20% complete. The signal poles have been installed and the mast arms will follow. Sidewalk improvements are part of the plan. This traffic signal on Providence Pkwy. will be located between Kroger and Providence Commons. Completion is scheduled during fall/winter.

Traffic signal at NMJRD/Curd Road: Design has been finalized. ROW acquisitions will follow. Coordination is underway with the federal post office on options to close their northern driveway and provide a new exit on Curd Road. Project is 95% complete with preconstruction activity, but has been paused due to potential redevelopment in this area.

Traffic signal on GBG and Volunteer Blvd.: This signal project on Golden Bear Gateway is 95% complete with preconstruction activity and in final design stage, awaiting final approval from TDOT to approve bid documents. Construction is set to begin this winter.

S. Greenhill Road roundabout: Tree clearing is complete. MTE will begin moving power poles, followed by telecom companies. Construction should begin around December/January. An estimated timeline would be 15-18 months (spring '24) to complete.

Old Lebanon Dirt Road widening: Currently in process of appraisals for ROW acquisition and utility coordination. Along with this project will be sewer expansion and flood mitigation. The City's sewer consultant is currently preparing design and drainage plans. Project is 75% complete with preconstruction activity.

Lebanon Road widening (Park Glen to GBG): Currently this TDOT project is finalizing environmental documents with TDOT. ROW plans are being developed, and project is 50% complete with preconstruction activity. Once the NEPA (environmental) is approved, the project will be eligible for ROW funding in next year's TDOT budget. TDOT did not approve any additional funding in their recent budget.

Pleasant Grove Road widening and realignment: Look for a public work session in the coming weeks/months to review design alternatives. This project was added to the GNRC's 2045 Regional Transportation Plan so that it may receive federal funding in the future. The widening will be a 4-lane median divided roadway from Old Pleasant Grove Road to Central Pike with multi-use paths on each side. In addition, the developer of Village at Pleasant Grove has agreed to improvements at Central Pike/Pleasant Grove Road. There will be a signal here as well.

Golden Bear Gateway widening: The widening on GBG between the Cedar Creek bridge and Palermo/Curd Road is 70% complete with preconstruction activity. Currently, ROW plans are being developed along with utility coordination. ROW acquisition is expected to begin this fall/winter.

E. Division Street widening: The BOC approved an updated agreement with TDOT for this project to include a 4-lane median divided roadway with multi-use paths on each side, from NMJRD to just east of GBG. The engineering scope and contract are being finalized. Development funding toward this project is at \$8M from Amazon and Project Jolene (GBG).

Western Connector: Beginning the design phase that will connect Central Pike (north of I-40) to Lebanon Road. Look for a public work session most likely in November.

Sewer upgrade projects: There are/will be maintenance and upgrade projects being performed on sewer lines around the city.

- Belinda City lateral lining project. They are working in different areas off of Belinda Pkwy. and project is 75% complete with construction.
- Cedar Creek Interceptor Sewer Upsizing project that will begin soon with a preconstruction meeting.
- Stoner Creek Interceptor Upsizing has now been approved for construction by the BOC.

Project note: If there is a project you are interested in and don't see it listed, you may contact me and I will get you the information, or you can find any of these and many others on the [Capital Projects Selector](#) or [Development Tracker](#) on the city website. To save you the time and effort, I provide a list of various updates for your convenience. The information listed above is reflected on the city website and is updated each month.

MJ BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

The next MJ BOC meeting will be Monday, October 24th at 6:30 pm at City Hall, and a public work session prior to the meeting at 5:15 pm regarding the Pleasant Grove widening.

NOTE: The public is welcome to come and speak and/or submit comments/questions to Sheila Lockett until 4 pm prior to the meeting at sluckett@mtjuliet-tn.gov. The meeting is also aired live on MJTV (Comcast channel 3 or TDS channel 6) and on the city's website as well as YouTube. **It is too early for the agenda; therefore, I do not have a list of what will be included at this time. I will send out a notice after the agenda comes out, which is the Wednesday prior to each meeting.**

If you have any questions, suggestions, ideas, comments, complaints, or just something to share, please let me know. If you would like to sign up for my monthly email newsletters, you will find the options to do so on my website. You can also send me your email address and I will add it to the newsletter/updates list.

It is an honor serving you and being your citizen advocate.

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