

City has new transportation service

Ride Rover right over to campus—and around town

from Staff Reports

Students, faculty and staff who need to make a quick trip to the Public Square, keep a doctor's appointment or do a little shopping can keep their campus parking place and still run right over, thanks to Rover, Murfreesboro's new public transportation service.

The little lime-green buses with the cartoon dog on the sides and back zoom back and forth around much of the city's downtown, including the MTSU campus, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. All six routes originate at its Burton Street hub (near the county health and motor vehicle departments) and make their rounds every 30 minutes. Drivers are allowed to make unmarked stops directly on the routes and can be flagged down along the routes, officials said.

Rover serves the Memorial Boulevard, Highland Avenue, Northwest Broad Street, Old Fort Parkway, Mercury Boulevard and South Church Street corridors. Route guides and schedules can be picked up on any Rover bus and at Murfreesboro City Hall at 111 W. Vine St., one block off the Public Square.

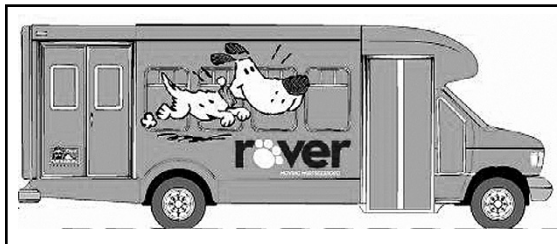
Adults can ride Rover for \$1. Students ages 6-16 and seniors ride for 50 cents, and children age 5 and under ride free. Books of tickets are available for

purchase at Murfreesboro City Hall. A regular book of 10 tickets is \$8, and a book of 10 student and/or senior tickets is \$4.

Rover's Highland and Mercury routes serve MTSU directly:

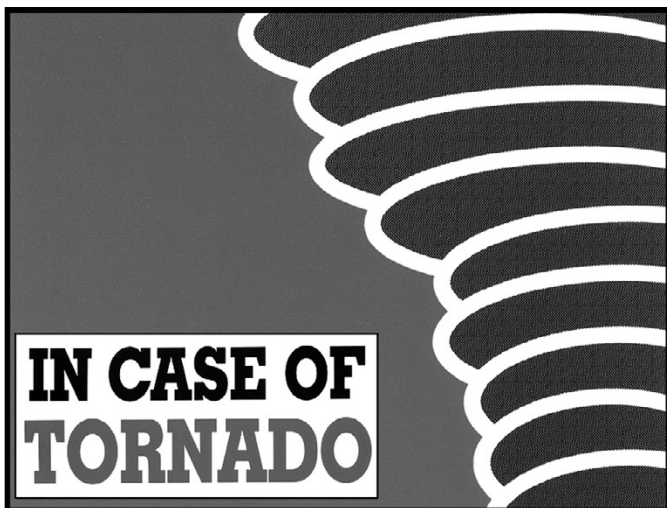
- The Highland Street route stops at the corner of Greenland Drive and New Lascassas Road to pick up passengers and head west onto Highland, looping past Clark Boulevard onto East Northfield and New Lascassas Road to the Greenland stop again.

- The Mercury Boulevard route stops at the corner of Middle Tennessee Boulevard and East Main to pick up MTSU passengers and continues out Main Street to Rutherford Boulevard to the Wal-Mart shopping area and back. It also heads back down Tennessee from MT Boulevard onto Bradyville Pike and loops through Hancock, Castle, Maney, College and Walnut streets to reach the Rover hub.



Rover routes down Memorial to the VA Medical Center, Northwest Broad to Stones River Plaza, Old Fort Parkway to Target and South Church to the Public Square all can be reached from the MTSU routes by a free transfer at the Burton Street hub, officials said.

For more information about Rover's routes, visit www.murfreesborotn.gov/government/rover/welcome.htm or call 615-21ROVER (615-217-6837).



If a tornado warning has been issued, take shelter in the building where you're currently located.

But don't wait until then to find out the safe places on campus.
Visit www.mtsu.edu/alert4u today!

Sun Belt

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ranked among the top five in the country. Sun Belt East Division rivals Middle Tennessee and WKU are expected to contend for the league championship.

"We are eagerly anticipating the national exposure two of our schools will receive on ESPN2 and ESPNU on Dec. 15," said Wright Waters, Sun Belt Conference commissioner. "It is an excellent opportunity for us to showcase two of our outstanding universities. ... The Sun Belt Conference is really excited about playing this unique basketball doubleheader on a national stage."

The games are home contests for Middle Tennessee and WKU, and Blue Raider basketball

coach Kermit Davis believes his team will be facing the preseason No. 1 team in America when it tips off against the Tigers.

"On top of fans being able to see two quality basketball games in the doubleheader, it will be great exposure for our team to play what I believe will be the preseason No. 1 team in America on national television," Davis said. "It's a great day for Sun Belt basketball to be on a national stage with two Top 5 programs in the country, and for Middle Tennessee to be associated with three really good programs in WKU,

Memphis and Tennessee, as well as three outstanding head coaches. It is going to be a fun night, and we believe we will set the record that night for the most people ever to see Middle Tennessee play a home basketball game."

WKU basketball coach Darrin Horn said the doubleheader is further evidence of the league's commitment to bolster its basketball product nationally.

"We are excited about being a part of a big-time college basketball event such as this doubleheader," said Horn. "I think it demonstrates both institutions' and the Sun Belt's Conference's commitment to

growing and being recognized as national players in college basketball."

Tickets for the event will be \$30 for lower-level seats and \$15 for upper-level seats. A ticket to the doubleheader will be included in Middle Tennessee's and WKU's season-ticket packages. Season-ticket holders will be given first priority.

For tickets, call 1-888-YES-MTSU, e-mail tickets@mtsu.edu or visit www.goblueraiders.com.

Learn more!
Watch the press conference at
www.goblueraiders.com
anytime!

Textbook

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garner "a few dollars" from the sale of each brand-new book.

As for used copies of *Lifespan* that are sold back to bookstores by students, there is no income to be made for textbook authors.

"When students sell their new book back at the end of the semester or quarter, from then on, the author and publisher get nothing, nada, zip," Belsky said. "Basically, with a book like mine costing \$80 new, the used book dealer is going to pocket about \$40, \$50 or \$60—or more—depending on how often the book is sold back and bought again for no investment of time or money, except sitting at that buy-back table.

"And worse yet," she said, "the professors' free books, the complimentary texts they are sent, can even be sold as 'new books,' if the professors choose to sell them, which gives textbook authors nothing and undercuts the publishers because the book is being sold as 'new' at a lower cost."

Although many don't see the hours and years that textbook authors, publishers and review committees devote to making academic texts concise and valuable to would-be learners in a given field, the motivation to undertake writing a textbook is usually rooted in a desire to make a difference, Belsky confirmed.

"I have been teaching developmental psychology to undergraduates for more than two decades—first at Lehman College, and for the past 11 years, here at MTSU," Belsky explained. "(And) I have been writing

books in developmental psychology almost continuously all this time ... and in my case, I do it because I have a desire to make a difference.

"My life's passion is to make students think more deeply, to look at the world in a new way, to influence minds and captivate hearts. But also, I'm a knowledge pack rat; I love to learn all I can about a field ... and I'm trying to make a real contribution to my field (of lifespan development)."

Textbook authors and publishers—along with a cast of editors, reference checkers, artists, reviewers and designers, among many other project contributors—join forces, Belsky said, often for years, on the same book project, to create what they hope will "look like a lovely work of art" while providing faculty and students with accompanying study guides, Web sites and other related materials to complement the book and its contents.

For Belsky, the suggestion from some that texts be "farmed out to writing committees to get rid of those so-called greedy publishers and authors" is unfathomable, as is the idea that a professor would instruct his or her students to merely "look this stuff up on the Internet; don't bother buying the book."

Such suggestions make sense, Belsky reasoned, "only if we want to lose the essence of what education is all about—enticing students to love to learn!"