

**NEWS
RELEASE**

August 3, 2011

CITY OF PADUCAH, KY



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**New Episode of *City Profile* on Government 11
*City Profile, Emancipation Celebration***

PADUCAH, KY— “If we don’t know the history of America, we are destined to repeat the mistakes of history,” says former City Commissioner Robert Coleman. Coleman is the chairman of the W.C. Young Board of Directors, the group organizing the Emancipation Celebration events in Paducah. On this episode of *City Profile*, WKCTC Television Production Coordinator Tom Butler interviews Coleman about the history behind the August 8th Emancipation Celebration in Paducah and the events starting today to celebrate and commemorate the event. *City Profile* can be seen on Government 11, the governmental access channel of the City of Paducah, online at www.paducahky.gov, and the various social media outlets for the City of Paducah including Youtube and Facebook.

This *City Profile* begins with Coleman providing a history of the Emancipation Celebration in Paducah. Coleman says, “At the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865, word began to spread that the Civil War had come to an end, the north had prevailed, and slavery had ended. In 1865, methods of communication were slow compared to modern technology.” Coleman adds it is believed that word reached Paducah in August and that a date was selected to celebrate.

Coleman, who has researched the Civil War and the many decades following, says the transition period after the end of slavery was difficult. Coleman credits technology for bringing light to decades of discrimination. Coleman says, “One of the greatest technological events that happened to cause the nation to make changes, not only in terms of social conduct but other things in this nation, was the invention of television.”

Educating the public, especially the youth, about America’s history is one of the goals of the Emancipation Celebration in Paducah. Events begin today and are scheduled through August 8. Visit the City’s website, www.paducahky.gov for a list of all the events including the Emancipation Celebration Parade. The parade begins at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 6 at the intersection of Washington Street and Walter Jetton Boulevard. The parade ends at Robert Coleman Park.



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City Profile, Emancipation Celebration can be viewed on Government 11. It airs today at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday at 8:00 a.m.; Friday at 10:00 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.; and Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

Government 11 program information, videos, news releases, and schedules are available at www.paducahky.gov. For more information about *City Profile* and other Government 11 programming, call Tom Butler at 534-3208 or Pam Spencer, City of Paducah Public Information Officer, at 444-8669.

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