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Federal Way's TV channel 21 takes it up a notch

FWTV is tired of being a ho-hum government access channel and it has big plans to get better and get watched. The first of many changes you'll notice on the City's television station (Channel 21 for Comcast subscribers) is an updated quarterly magazine show called "Connections" that highlights the people, places and events that make Federal Way unique.

"Connections" is a 30-minute program that features stories with heart. It replaces the video version of "City Update." The updated show has more energy and style while being both entertaining and informative.

"I'm excited to be part of 'Connections' because I believe it makes local government relevant to the viewer," says Natalie Rees, host of the show. "Any other TV channel is going to lump Federal Way together with the greater Seattle market. This is the only channel that is tailored just for our community."

The new show is just one of the changes that the City of Federal Way has planned for its TV channel. Recent upgrades to the system improved the picture quality, allowing the City to show more content and make the scheduling more flexible. In fact, the schedule now rotates daily instead of showing the same shows in the same time slots all week.

New shows debuting this month include "Jazz Cardio Strength Stretch," a workout program produced specifically for local access TV, and the "Vintage Vehicle Show," a Tacoma-produced program that takes viewers to America's best car shows, museums and private collections. Coming soon: the "Classical Arts Showcase," featuring the world's best examples of music, dance, theatre, and film, and "Words that Cook," an award-winning family literacy program.

You can still tune into FWTV for the City Council and School Board meetings—staples in government access TV—but the City is striving to create programming that connects you with the services paid for by your tax and rate dollars. View a current schedule, download archived programs or learn more about FWTV at www.cityoffederalway.com/tv21.

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