

# WGTH PROBLEMS & PROGRAMS LIST

## FIRST QUARTER 2012

### JANUARY - MARCH

#### DRUG ABUSE EPIDEMIC

The drug abuse epidemic affects every person in our area. Even those that do not have someone in their home abusing drugs suffer from the crime that results from drug abuse. There is probably not one person in the WGTH listening area that does not have friends and/or relatives that have suffered heartache and financial strain due to drug and/or alcohol addiction. Now, there are new drugs invading our already troubled community.

Program: Special report/interview (recorded at a media briefing)

Date: January 27, 2012, at 10:04 a.m. and 7:09 p.m.

Guest: Dennis Lee, Commonwealth's Attorney for Tazewell County

Tazewell County Commonwealth's Attorney, Dennis Lee, called a media briefing in Tazewell, Virginia. The main topic of the briefing dealt with making the public aware of some new drug abuse threats. Several specific drugs were discussed in an interview with Lee, including "bath salts" that have recently shown up in our community.

"Bath salts" are particularly troublesome, because they look like their namesake and have been sold in stores as "legal" substances. Drug enforcement officials and the Commonwealth's Attorneys offices are attempting to remove them from sale in stores. However, there also appears to be a market on the internet.

Another topic of discussion, during the briefing and the interview, was the good progress being made by local drug task force officers and local prosecutors, along with other state and federal agencies. Many arrests have been made and several "king pins" have been put out of the distribution business.

Although positive actions have taken place, admission has been made that the epidemic remains. Pledges were made to continue to tenaciously pursue those distributing drugs in our area.

## HEALING AND RESTORATION FOR RUSSELL COUNTY

Neighboring Russell County, a part of the WGTH listening area, has been actively addressing its moral and spiritual issues for quite some time. Many of Russell County's citizens realize that drug abuse, spouse and child abuse, unwanted pregnancies, bullying, and other such offenses have become far too commonplace in Russell County. In order to battle the problems corporately, an organization called "We Care, Russell County" was formed.

**Program:** Interviews (long and short) regarding the upcoming "Russell County Day of Prayer" event and the organization "We Care, Russell County"

**Date:** March 20, 2012, 7:45 a.m. (short), 10:05 a.m. and 7:06 p.m. (long), plus additional recorded informational announcements promoting the prayer event broadcast throughout the days prior to March 25<sup>th</sup>

**Guest:** Russell County's Sheriff, Steve Dye

In an effort to draw together all those concerned for the well-being of Russell County, "We Care, Russell County" was organized. Meeting at least once a month, this group encourages those that have already fallen victim to addiction and are attempting to rehabilitate. Testimonials are made that give hope to suffering family members. "We Care" also encourages young people never to become drug abusers and to respect their bodies... guarding against poor decision-making that leads to premarital sexual relations and other immoral behavior. Suicide prevention would certainly include addressing the bullying issue. Other problems and preventions/solutions are discussed.

In addition to information regarding "We Care, Russell County," Sheriff Dye specifically invited listeners and their churches to participate in the "Russell County Day of Prayer" event scheduled to take place on Sunday, March 25, 2012. The purpose of the event is to seek the intervention of the Lord in the lives of Russell County citizens - both individually and corporately... particularly those struggling with major difficulties. In the experiences of Sheriff Dye, his deputies, and others involved with addictions and compulsions, divine intervention is the only truly successful and lasting answer.

## EMPLOYMENT/CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The economic difficulties facing our nation have affected every geographic region. Our particular community may have been slower to show signs of being affected than some, but the evidence is now abundant and undeniable. Unemployment has always been a problem in southwest Virginia, but current national economic conditions and anti-coal legislation have made the situation worse. Furthermore, career changes and the associated training necessary for those new careers have made employment opportunities increasingly complicated for those in the search.

**Program:** Interviews recorded on the first evening of a weekend career fair held at Richlands Middle School on March 9 and 10, 2012

**Date:** March 9, 2012 at 7:33 p.m.

**Guest:** Ninth District Congressman Morgan Griffith

**Date:** March 10, 2012 at 8:40 a.m.

**Guest:** Pam Necessary, career fair coordinator

Workforce One, the Virginia Employment Commission, additional employment agencies, along with federal representatives are working hard to provide those in their service areas with the knowledge of employment opportunities. Area career fairs are an efficient and effective way to match potential employers with potential employees. In a relaxed and casual setting, those seeking career or employment opportunities are able to canvass a variety of corporations, companies, organizations, and agencies to see if there is a probable fit. Most of the potential employers have applications on hand.

Congressman Griffith explained the timetable for the three area career fairs, this one being the second, and their purpose. He talked about the current jobless rates and the tough situations that many of his constituents were experiencing. He expressed his determination to remain loyal to the coal industry despite the massive resistance imposed by the current administration.

Pam Necessary gave an overview of the career fair and its possible benefits to those seeking employment. She also explained the workings of some of the area employment agencies and the many opportunities that are being offered for job and career training. Tips on resume writing, how to dress for interviews, what *not* to do during an interview, etc. were discussed.

Griffith and Necessary both invited listeners to Saturday's fair.

## STRENGTHENING AND PROTECTING FAMILIES

There never has been - nor will there ever be - any institution as precious as the family. Its preservation is critical to a civil society with well-adjusted, happy citizens. We have seen the horrific results of the demise of the traditional family structure. In not caring for families as we should have, we have undermined the very core of our society.

Program: "James Dobson's Family Commentary"

Dates: Mondays through Fridays at 5:05 p.m.

Guest: Dr. James Dobson, Christian psychologist, author, and speaker

In 1977, Dr. James Dobson had already recognized some disturbing trends in our culture that he knew would affect the institution of the family in a negative way. He decided to step out on faith and do what he could to help parents, children, couples, and individuals to develop and maintain their relationships with others in the best way possible. Dr. Dobson started a radio broadcast, "Focus on the Family," that is still being broadcast today; although, he is no longer associated with the program.

The paramount objectives of "James Dobson's Family Commentary" are to strengthen families and to protect the institutions of marriage and the family. Dr. Dobson has helped multitudes of couples restore and improve their marriages. Families have gone from dysfunctional to thriving as a result of following his Biblical wisdom regarding relationships... especially, our relationship with our Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Practical, sound advice and scientific research are often included with the subjects of discussion. Some of the many topics that have been featured include: sibling rivalry, discipline, autism, bullying, the loss of a loved one, and divorce. The concerns of people of all ages and demographics are addressed at some point in the mix.

Although he uses scientific research results on many occasions, Dr. Dobson does in his broadcast what he encourages others to do. He combines Biblical wisdom and teaching along with good, old-fashioned common sense. It works as well today as it has for all the centuries up to this time. When... in the course of human history... man has diverted from a family-friendly cultural path, the result has always been a corrupt society that eventually disintegrated. Let that not be said of us today.

## PROMOTING CHARACTER IN BOYS THROUGH SCOUTING

One of the most well-respected organizations for positively directing and influencing boys is the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Recognized internationally, the BSA has long been touted for the character-building that is emphasized in conjunction with the life skills that are taught.

Scouting may be even more needful in today's society for two reasons. First of all, boys without fathers in the home to model manhood for their sons will have men investing in their lives and demonstrating manliness. Secondly, the BSA encourages father/son time together that may have been overlooked due to busy schedules had it not been for preplanned and pre-prepared scouting events.

Program: Broadcast of the "Scout Promise" (as recited by boy scouts that came to WGTH on a tour)

Date: February 29, 2012 at 7:30 a.m.

Guests: Boy Scouts of America (local pack) and their leader, Mrs. Chris Blankenship

During a February 28<sup>th</sup> tour of the radio station and discussion about the many facets of communication, the local Boy Scouts recorded the "Scout Promise" and their individual names for broadcast the next morning.

The boys were completing their communication badge. WGTH has been privileged to give tours and answer questions in the past. This year, the questions were even more knowledgeable than in the past.

When playing the boys' pre-recorded "Scout Promise" for our listeners during morning drive the next morning, Ron Brown remarked how nice it was to have the boys at the station. Their participation was good, and their manners were excellent.

The "Scout Promise" is a testimonial in itself to the character-building benefits of scouting.

## SUPPORTING LOCAL EDUCATION

WGTH has always desired to be supportive of education, educators, and students... especially within our listening area. Teacher and student achievement recognition is very important in every locality. Those that educate the children and young adults of a community are training the future citizens, workforce, and potential leaders of that community. Those that eagerly receive the knowledge and skills imparted to them and work hard to achieve outstanding educational goals deserve credit for those achievements and the respect of their community.

Program: Informational announcements regarding the Richlands Rotary Club Radio Auction

Dates: February 27 - March 3, 2012 (various times throughout the day)

Guest: Dr. Tom Witten, member of the Richlands Rotary Club and promoter of the auction

Prior to the existence of WGTH, the Richlands Rotary Club held an auction on the local AM station in order to raise money for two of their most important contributions to the local educational community. When WGTH obtained that AM license, the station was privileged to continue to support the Richlands Rotary Club and the very deserving recipients of the club's acknowledgement.

The radio auction is an annual tradition that takes place on the first Saturday in the month of March. Although the auction is broadcast on the AM station only, the promotional announcements are aired on both stations.

The funds raised are used for two purposes. First of all, the Rotary Club hosts a very nice annual banquet of appreciation... acknowledging the educational contributions of all Richlands area public school teachers and administrators. Secondly, scholarships are awarded to two deserving Richlands High School students during the senior awards and mentioned at the graduation ceremonies.

Program: The Richlands Rotary Club Radio Auction

Date: March 3, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. till 3:30 p.m.

Guests: Various of the members of the Richlands Rotary Club

The Richlands Rotary Club Radio Auction is a very popular radio event on WGTH. Many regular listeners, as well as annual auction participants, mark their calendars for the first Saturday in March.

Local businesses contribute items or coupons for services to the Rotary Club. On the day of the auction, listeners call in with their bids until an item is finally sold. Highest bidders can either come by the station during the auction to redeem their items/coupons, or they are given information as to where and when their items/coupons can be picked up at a later date.

Various Richlands Rotary Club members work throughout the auction... while others work a shift. Several members take turns as the "auctioneer," and many voices are heard in the background answering the phones in order to accept bids. The day can be exhausting, but the efforts and time volunteered are always rewarded with a goodly amount of funds raised for two very worthwhile projects.