

WGTH PROBLEMS & PROGRAMS LIST

SECOND QUARTER 2016

APRIL – JUNE

BATTLING CANCER

Cancer research has made huge strides in the past couple of decades, yet the disease still claims the lives of so many of its victims. Aggressive recurrences have proven to be harsh, cruel, and often fatal. Though many researchers are on the frontlines trying to find cures for the various kinds of cancer, the research and the pharmaceuticals are costly.

Program: Live interview at the 2016 Tazewell County Relay for Life

Date: June 11, 2016 @ 6:40 p.m.

Guest: Amber Johnson, event coordinator

The 2016 Tazewell County Relay for Life took place at the Recreation Complex at Southwest Virginia Community College on Saturday, June 11th. The event coordinator, Amber Johnson, participated in a live interview that evening that included a recap of the activities already concluded and those that would follow. The entire Relay for Life went from 4 p.m. until midnight.

Amber Johnson explained the purpose of the Relay for Life... to help to raise money so that a cure for cancer may someday be found. This year's theme was: "May the Cure Be with You," and it was based on the currently popular *Star Wars* movie. Thirteen of the twenty Tazewell County relay teams that raised money for the event were present. The goal for this year is \$60,000 and can be raised through the month of August.

Amber was happy to report that more than 125 cancer survivors were there to participate in the survivor lap. This number far exceeded last year's and those in the past. There was, also, a caregiver lap and a survivor balloon release. Two very special, but bittersweet laps were taken to honor Mary Pruitt and Joel Meade. They had been committee members and former cancer survivors whose cancer had returned. Sadly, they both passed away in December.

FEEDING CHILDREN IN NEED

Two facts resurfaced and caught the public's attention in Tazewell County: 1) that many of the county's children go hungry at home and 2) that a significant number of parents cannot - or do not - pay for their student's school lunches. Delinquent lunch accounts force school officials to provide less expensive and smaller meals. Ultimately, officials are required to discontinue providing lunches to students with excessively delinquent accounts until their parents address the issue and make some attempt to pay or fill out paperwork for reduced or free lunches (if eligible).

This awareness came as a result of reports from school board members, administrators, teachers and students. A group of citizens joined forces to encourage the community to do something to help solve the problem.

Program: Infobit regarding the upcoming "In God We Trust" event

Dates: June 1 – 4, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guest: Robin Kinder, spokesperson for the event

Robin Kinder recorded an invitation for listeners to join in a fundraiser to help needy students by raising money to help Tazewell County Public Schools feed students that cannot or do not pay for their lunches. The concerned citizens obtained the use of Nuckolls Hall at the Tazewell County Fairgrounds from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 4th. Robin mentioned several of the activities offered during the event. The Sheriff's Office sponsored a 5K race in the morning. There were vendors throughout the day. A corn hole tournament was sponsored by the Town of Tazewell and the Town of Cedar Bluff Police Departments. The "Blessing of the Bikes" and face painting were among other featured activities.

LIFE PURPOSE COACHING

Many people find themselves unable to find purpose in their lives. It is difficult enough for some just to handle the pressures of life. Some become overwhelmed; others are victims of abuse or devastating loss. Whatever the cause of the difficulties, life purpose coaching can often help. Even a person with mild depression or low self-esteem can use the help and encouragement that a life purpose coach can offer.

Program: Interview with a life purpose coach that will be speaking at the "Woman of Valor" ladies' conference on April 9, 2016

Date: April 4, 2016 @ 7:05 p.m.

Guest: Pat Ferrell, life coach and inspirational presenter

Pat Ferrell is a life purpose coach who spoke at the “Woman of Valor” ladies’ conference on April 9, 2016. As an inspirational presenter, Pat works with women and, at times, seeks to energize workplace employees.

In the interview, Pat told of her need to make a difference in the lives of others. Her personal experiences and hardships from her past have led her to seek to help others find purpose in their lives and rejuvenation in their life journeys. Pat’s interview was very inspirational as she enthusiastically encouraged ladies to live their lives to the fullest and with purpose.

ENCOURAGING PROM-GOERS NOT TO DRINK AND DRIVE

Too often what should be the special occasions in students’ lives turn tragic. Sometimes, things happen that are unavoidable. However, many tragedies could be avoided by sound judgment and extra caution... things that are not usually first and foremost in the minds of teens going to proms.

Program: Interview regarding the 2016 Prom Promise at Richlands High School

Date: April 29, 2016 @ 5:05 p.m.

Guest: Rick Blevins, EMS and biology teacher and event supervisor/coordinator

On Friday, the day before prom every spring, the Richlands High School EMT classes prepare a dramatic mock multiple car crash scene and present a story line from the moments just after the crash through, sometimes, more than a decade later. The event is called “Prom Promise.” The students who are not participating in the drama sit in the stands at the football stadium to listen to the heart wrenching accounts of the “survivors” as they tell of their grief because of the “loss” of their loved one(s). Some portray a surviving date. Others act as parents or siblings.

The drama includes the actual arrival of local emergency personnel who consider the event to be worth their effort if it preserves the lives of the youth in the community. Even a med flight helicopter and its crew is usually involved in demonstrating the gravity of the potential situation. Additionally, there are judges and court dates for the offenders, funerals and graveyard scenes. Music is usually included and, sometimes, features original songs written by EMT students. Those that are observing are encouraged not to drink and drive and to use extra caution.

Rick Blevins has taught EMT and biology classes at Richlands High School for many years. In fact, he retired at the end of this school year. Rick poured his heart and soul into Prom Promise. Coordinating an event of this magnitude was not easy. One problem was that there was more than one EMT class. Additionally, all the local law enforcement and emergency personnel had to be contacted and the med flight helicopter crew. Although Rick's EMT students always had numerous responsibilities in planning the event and coordinating the various aspects, he oversaw it all.

During the interview, Rick recounted the planning involved and included most of the aforementioned information. He talked about several aspects of the 2016 Prom Promise that made it uniquely different from other years. More importantly, he talked about the importance of the Prom Promise message and raising teens' awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving at any time. He recalled some of the most difficult times in his life... one being the preaching of the funeral of one of his wrestlers who had died in an automobile accident. The impact of a split second of poor decision-making and its far reaching affects were emphasized.

PROMOTING AREA FESTIVALS AND OTHER EVENTS

One of the responsibilities of the radio station is to make listeners aware of area happenings. Participation in such activities is important for community pride and the success of the events in terms of reaching their desired goals in attendance, in economic projections, and otherwise.

Program: Infobits regarding the Honaker Redbud Festival

Dates: April 11 – 16, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guests: All of the following are Redbud Festival Committee members.

Cathy Ray – Pageants

Gaynelle Street – AWANA Breakfast

Jim Baldwin – Bird Walk

Carolyn Puckett – Arts & Crafts

C. H. Wallace – Family Fun Day & Canoe Race

Jim Taylor – Car & Truck Show

Kay Ball – Pet Show

Ann Taylor – Homecoming Dinner

Each committee member shared details about their specific event.

Program: Infobits regarding the Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens (AASC)

Spring Fling

Dates: May 12 – 21, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guest: Chase Meade-Patton, spokesperson for AASC

Chase Meade-Patton recorded an informational segment regarding the AASC's annual Spring Fling. Chase emphasized the free health clinics being offered by Clinch Valley Medical Center. She gave specifics about the entire event, including: the date, times, parking, activities, etc. She, also, warmly welcomed listeners to come and enjoy this family friendly event.

Program: Infobits regarding the 9th Annual Living History Rendezvous

at Historic Crab Orchard Museum

Dates: May 22 – 28, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guest: Charlotte Whitted, executive director of the Historic Crab Orchard Museum

Charlotte Whitted, executive director of the Historic Crab Orchard Museum in Tazewell, Virginia, did her usual outstanding job recording the invitational and informational segment for the Living History (aka Mountain Man) Rendezvous. Her chosen use of dulcimer music in the background makes the infobits extra appealing and interesting. She invited listeners to this educational event where participants wear period clothing and demonstrate craftsmanship and pioneer living using authentic tools, weaponry, foods and materials.

Program: Infobits regarding the Richlands Freedom Festival

Dates: June 21 – 25, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guest: Jan White, Mayor of the Town of Richlands

Mayor Jan White spoke on behalf of the Town of Richlands regarding the Richlands Freedom Festival activities that would take place on June 24th and 25th. There would be a historic display that would fill a large room in the business incubator. Historic figures, quilters, children's inflatables, vendors, live music, and fireworks would all be part of the celebration. Jan gave specific times and locations for all the activities.

CARING FOR THE AGING

Progress in medicine and improved diet and fitness awareness have assisted many senior citizens to live longer and more healthy lives. However, in the process of aging - whether healthy or not - there are new physical, mental, and even financially-based challenges. Seniors from all walks of life can have improved quality of life if they take advantage of various programs that are specifically designed to assist them to meet these challenges.

Program: Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens' Spring Fling

Date: May 21, 2016, from 9:05 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Guest: Brian Beck, Chief Financial Officer for AASC

Brian Beck (CFO) spoke on behalf of the Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens (AASC) at their annual Spring Fling. Brian and other employees at the agency worked very hard to put together a purposeful day of fun, information dispersal, and health checks. After giving an overview of the day's offerings – including the free health fair sponsored by Clinch Valley Medical Center – Brian talked about AASC's facilities, services, and plans for expansion.

Brian explained that AASC serves as a resource information center for the four county area – Tazewell, Russell, Buchanan, and Dickenson counties. He described some of the more than 30 programs and services they offer to assist seniors. Several of the services include: in-home care, meals delivered to the home, transportation, and companionship.

One very special and quite successful program that Brian emphasized was Generations Day Care. This program includes the blending of child day care with senior citizens. His own girls have enjoyed spending time with seniors and developing close relationships with grandparent-age folks. The mutual benefits have been amazing.

According to Brian, the agency is beginning to purchase mobile homes that are adjacent to or nearby the AASC site. The plan is to offer low cost, residential housing close to the center so that the seniors can be well-cared for easily while maintaining their independence. Expansion is needed in the main facility as well.

Program: AASC's Spring Fling

Date: May 21, 2016, from 9:30 a.m. till 11 a.m.

Guests: Other spokespersons and their topics are listed below.

Chase Meade-Patton did another overview and discussed more of AASC's services. She, also, detailed the children's activities for the day.

Tammy Richardson explained the free health clinic offerings from Clinch Valley Medical Center (CVMC).

Pat Barbour discussed the volunteer effort by CVMC workers.

Ashley Fuller discussed the latest developments in wound care.

Frances Meadows explained the respiratory testing being done.

Joel Horn detailed the services of Community Home Care Services.

Michael Vandyke explained the services of Clinch Independent Living Services.

Beverly Watkins discussed energy efficiency and several of the services of Clinch Valley Community Action.

Jordan Collins, from Convenience Driving School, shared safe driving tips for older citizens and advances in driving techniques that make driving safer for everyone.

Amanda Robinson explained the diaper and baby/infant clothing ministry she began at Cedar Bluff United Methodist Church.

Pam Meade, executive director of the Tazewell Area Chamber of Commerce, shared her experiences at the Spring Fling.

Sister Arms from Belfast Full Gospel Church told what their church was providing in the way of food.

Megan Brown was giving makeup advice to older citizens.

LEARNING LOCAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE

The knowledge of local history... how and why an area was settled, who the first settlers were and what their occupations were, how they lived, etc. helps community members and tourists to better appreciate the area and establishes a sense of pride in identifying with the associated heritage. Southwest Virginia is rich in its heritage and has much in the way of recorded history. Spreading the knowledge of that history is important and very interesting to citizens who take the time to learn.

Program: Live interview at the Richlands Freedom Festival

Date: June 25, 2016, from 1:05 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Guest: Gaynelle Thompson, local historian

There have been quite a few area citizens who have taken an interest in local history. For most of them, their heritage and local history are intertwined. Several have contributed or loaned pictures, newspaper articles, antique collectibles, etc. to the historical display in the large conference room in the business incubator in downtown Richlands. Once the memorabilia gets there, Gaynelle Thompson organizes it and displays everything in an eye-catching, orderly fashion.

Gaynelle is a local historian. She has quite a large collection of pictures, newspapers, and other memorabilia of her own that she displays at such events. Sometimes, people give her historical items in order to help her continue to develop the history of Richlands and the neighboring communities of Cedar Bluff and Jewell Ridge.

Gaynelle took our listeners on an audio tour of the history of Richlands as she moved around the room. She enlightened listeners about the all too brief glory days in the development of the town when investors planned to make Richlands the "Pittsburgh of the South." Shortly after building several nice hotels and other such edifices, investors got cold feet and left town. The town grew more gradually than was expected at first, but it was "rich" in its people and its resources. According to Gaynelle, coal and the railroad were the two most important resources in Richlands after its people.

With the railroad playing such an important role in the town and the region's development, Gaynelle gave an update on the "section house" that is being restored to preserve local railroad history and memorabilia. Excitement was shared regarding the recently completed free-standing wall mural depicting local railroad history and the people who were involved in the town at significant moments in its history. Local artist, Ellen Elmes, does a magnificent job researching her topic and learning a great deal about the people and the circumstances that have led up to what she has been commissioned to depict. The quality of her mural masterpieces are second to none. The countenances on the faces in her paintings reveal so much in themselves. The fact that it has been painted on a free-standing wall will allow it to be preserved should it ever need to be moved. It is truly a community treasure.

Program: Freedom Festival live remote

Date: June 25, 2016, from 1:30 p.m. till 3:00 p.m.

Guests: Other guests that participated in live interviews include:

Mayor Jan White talked about the festival's morning activities and those that had not yet taken place. She highlighted the live music entertainment and invited everyone to the night's fireworks display. She, also, talked about the importance of freedom and how thankful we should be for the country in which we live and, especially, our little part of it.

Debbie, Kim, and Crystal were "War Between the States" enactors from the "Ladies' Aid Society" at the festival's History Corner. They gave many new insights and amazing facts regarding women's participation in the War.

Cassie Elswick spoke on behalf of the Tazewell County Historical Society. She gave general information about the Society and had numerous different titled books for sale that contained historical information about local and regional towns, cities, and counties. Most of the books were written by local authors and represented countless hours of research.

Brannon, Peyton, and Rachel from Church Alive (formerly Drill Full Gospel Church) shared about their participation in a Youth Alive ministry that had just ended shortly before the interview.

LEARNING THROUGH LIVING HISTORY

Most people learn best when they have an opportunity to get an experience involving the use of a combination of visual, auditory, tactile and kinesthetic learning styles together. A “hands on” participatory experience can be very beneficial. Therefore, the opportunity to experience “living history” at a local museum is an optimal situation for learning and understanding the culture, the way of life as it was in a given time period, and the heritage established by the founding members of a community or locale.

Program: Live remote from the Living History Rendezvous @ Historic Crab Orchard Museum in Tazewell, Virginia

Date: May 28, 2016, from noon till 2 p.m.

Guests: The following guests were interviewed regarding their area(s) of expertise.

Joan Yates, Living History Event Coordinator, shared general information regarding the Rendezvous and its participants involved in living history demonstrations. Joan, also, discussed the importance of living history as an effective teaching tool.

Kimberly Thompson explained the methodology involved in doing laundry and brick oven baking. The carefully thought out sequencing of the items put into the oven in accordance with their necessary baking times and temperatures was fascinating.

Danny Stowers explained the importance of the blacksmith and of the practice of bartering with others in the community. The exchange of goods and services was key to community survival. He talked about the many things besides horseshoes that were fashioned out of metal by the blacksmith.

Dan Hagy shared a brief history lesson regarding his family’s involvement in Tazewell area pioneering and settling amidst unhappy Native Americans. He explained the use of the long rifles in those days, as well.

Jerry Vencill, an outstanding local storyteller, talked about his authentic pioneer clothing and the utensils and knife he carried. How each item was obtained and the explanation of its purpose(s) was very interesting.

Ellis Cole and his son, Zach, discussed pioneer living in tents and cooking.