

WGTH PROBLEMS & PROGRAMS LIST

THIRD QUARTER 2015

JULY – SEPTEMBER

VETERAN RECOGNITION

Although all veterans, active duty and reserve military personnel deserve special recognition, those that fought in the Vietnam War are among the most worthy. During their time of duty and upon their return, their contributions were disregarded by many who were – sometimes vehemently – in disagreement with United States involvement. Not only did their service in behalf of their country go without proper acknowledgment, but many were given an icy-cold reception, ridiculed and otherwise mistreated.

This kind of unconscionable behavior on the part of citizens toward their fellow countrymen who were willing to put themselves in harm's way can never be erased. However, these and other veterans can and should be venerated today by a grateful citizenry. Those who gave the supreme sacrifice cannot know how much they are now respected and admired for their courage and sacrifice, but their families can receive some closure and comfort by the honor their loved ones receive posthumously.

Note:

For more than two years, Linda Singleton (President of the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association and Chairperson for the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival) and Pete Vance (local veteran) have been making arrangements and working laboriously to obtain the privilege of the presence of the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall in our community. The plan has always been to have the Wall's visit in conjunction with the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival. Following the approval of the preferred dates, the execution of numerous details was necessary.

On several occasions during interviews, Linda acknowledged the phenomenal support rendered by the community businesses and individuals in the form of financial assistance, manpower/volunteers, food and motel rooms for the two men that accompany the Wall, planning of associated ceremonies, etc.

Programs: Coverage of the ceremonies surrounding the transport, arrival, and recognition of the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall

Date: September 16, 2015

Guests: Don Meadows, retired Marine and guest commentator

Jim Ray, organizer of the motorcycle entourage

Jim Singleton, volunteer

David Mills, Chief of Police for the Town of Cedar Bluff

Jim McGlothlin, Cedar Bluff Town Manager

Tracy Brooks, Lebanon High School senior that sang the National Anthem

Doug Allen, pastor of Worship Hymn Church that provided hotdog dinners to motorcyclists that accompanied the Wall to Richlands High School

Ruth Whitt, retired Marine from Lebanon, Virginia

WGTH featured live coverage of the motorcycles gathering and departing from the Claypool Hill Mall to travel 23 miles together to Lebanon, Virginia, to participate in a ceremony, to join with other bikers, and to bring the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall back to its temporary residence in the front yard of the Richlands High School.

The number of participants in the trek to Lebanon alone was amazing. It was estimated that around 300 bikers participated in the trip where they would join more bikers coming from upper east Tennessee and parts of Virginia to the west of Richlands/Cedar Bluff.

Several guests were featured in live reports from the location of the ceremony in Lebanon and reports broadcast from the front lawn of Richlands High School upon the arrival of the Wall that afternoon.

In between those two segments, a report was broadcast from a high hill overlooking the highway with a clear view of the motorcycle entourage and the trailer carrying the Wall. Commentator Meadows and WGTH's Edythe Brown were the observers and gave a description of the procession. Part of the purpose for this segment was to give listeners an ETA for the Wall's arrival in Cedar Bluff so that they would be poised to line the streets to welcome it with flags and salutes.

Program: WGTH morning news broadcasts @ 7:40 am & 8:40 am
News bytes from the previous day's ceremony at the motorcycle rally and veteran gathering in Lebanon, Virginia

Date: September 17, 2015

Guests: Jim Ray, organizer of the motorcycle entourage

Mike Wimmer, guest speaker for the motorcycle rally in Lebanon and representing the Grundy VFW Post 7360

The stirring prayer that Jim Ray had prayed the previous day was played at the 7:40 am newscast and an audio segment from Mike Wimmer's speech was played during the 8:40 am newscast. Both men honored the Lord for His protection and for military service personnel... particularly those that had served in combat and especially those that had given their lives in the line of duty.

Program: Live broadcast of the Opening Ceremony for the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall

Date: September 17, 2015

Guests: Jim Boyd, retired Marine and Master of Ceremonies

Pastor Jimmy Perkins, deliverer of the invocation

Mike Hickman, Commander of VFW Post 9640, Pledge of Allegiance and recognition of veterans and their families and the Wall's manager

The Richlands High School Band played the National Anthem

Linda Singleton, President of the Cedar Bluff Business & Professional Association and Chairman of the Heritage Festival Committee

The Jubalaires sang "God Bless the USA"

Rob Paylor talked about the Virginia War Memorial

James Edward Cassity, Major General, USMC, (Ret) was the guest speaker

Following the ceremony:

Darell Cantrell, whose brother's name is on the Wall, and his grandson, Cameron Davis, were interviewed.

A very moving and respectful opening ceremony was held on the Richlands High School lawn the evening after the Wall's arrival and setup. The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall was in the background for the ceremony. There were facts and figures given about the Wall itself, along with an explanation of volunteer services and how to look up friends' and loved ones' names that are on the Wall. One of the most sobering facts that kept recurring was the number of names on the Wall – more than 58,200. This Wall is about three fifths of the size of the static Wall in Washington, D.C.

There was a tremendous show of patriotism and honor to the United States military, their families, and the country, as well. A captivating fly-over by a T-28 (restored military training aircraft) was performed toward the end of the ceremony.

PROMOTION OF LOCAL EVENTS/FESTIVALS

One of the chief responsibilities of a small to medium market radio station is to serve the local community by informing them of area festivals and other events. This benefits the communities themselves and helps with attendance and any subsequent advancements in economic prosperity. Promotion is also important because community reputation and pride are associated with such events.

Promotional bits aired throughout the day for at least a portion of the week prior to a festival or event help with the dispersal of information, allow listeners to mark their calendars, help to avoid confusion with traffic control issues (especially when normal patterns are changed), give listeners an audio schedule of events/times/locations, and create excitement with the anticipation of the arrival date. This is especially true when the event is promoted with enthusiasm by announcer(s) that are often personally involved with what they are promoting.

Program: Fourth of July – Area celebrations – audio invitations/information

Dates: July 1 – 4 and (in some cases) 5, 2015 aired throughout the day

Guests: Charlotte Whitted, Executive Director of the Historic Crab Orchard Museum – Historic Crab Orchard Museum

Sam Whitted, active citizen/volunteer – Honaker

Edythe Brown – Lebanon

Lee Ann Billings, spokesperson for the town – Tazewell

Doug Roberts, member organizational committee – Jewell Ridge

Program: "2015 Summerfest" in conjunction with "Main Street Moments"

Dates: July 21 – 25, 2015 aired throughout the day

Guest: Pam Meade, Executive Director for the Tazewell Area Chamber of Commerce

Program: Tazewell County Fly In, Cruise In, and Open House

Dates: August 17 – 21, 2015

Guests: Jerry McReynolds, Manager of the Tazewell County Airport
Jim French, Assistant Manager of the Tazewell County Airport

Program: Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Dates: September 14 – 18, 2015

Guest: Linda Singleton, representing the Festival Committee and the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association

PRESERVATION OF HISTORY – LOCAL/GLOBAL

History is full of valuable lessons and keys to various cultures. What has happened in the past can often help to predict future events and their outcomes. Local history is of particular interest to most people. It contains information about the heritage involving the ancestry of many of the residents and gives more recent residents a look into the heritage attached to their current location.

Program: "2015 Summerfest" in conjunction with "Main Street Moments"
invitational and informational bits

Dates: July 21 – 25, 2015, aired throughout the day

Guest: Pam Meade, Executive Director of the Tazewell Area Chamber of Commerce

Pam Meade encouraged participation in "Historic Tazewell and Vicinity Bus Tours" and "Historic Main Street Walking Tours" to be guided by members of the Tazewell County Historical Society.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 19, 2015

Guest: Mike Abel, representative for the Tazewell County Historical Society

Mike Abel discussed various aspects of the Tazewell County Historical Society and its contributions to preserving local history through the promotion of recorded history in books, photographs, and other historic memorabilia. The society also promotes and participates in genealogical research. The members of the society desire to bring people together that are interested in local history, and they welcome new members. Furthermore, they want to promote tourism in the area with an emphasis on local historical sites.

Mike told listeners about the booth that the Tazewell County Historical Society had at the festival. He encouraged them to come by and look at the availability of books that feature local history. A number of local authors have done extensive research to preserve the history and heritage of Tazewell County and the surrounding region.

Guests: Rod Cury, teacher/sponsor of the Richlands High School History Club

Three student members of the History Club:

Luke Crabtree, Jordan Lester, and Sam Sanders

Rod Cury, Richlands High School history teacher and sponsor of the high school's History Club, participated in an interview with three of his club members. Luke Crabtree, Jordan Lester, and Sam Sanders joined Mr. Cury in discussing their passion for history and its importance to them, personally, and to society. The main topic of discussion, however, was the presence of the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall and its significance in the preservation of United States and world history.

Mr. Cury and several other Richlands High School teachers had taken advantage of the opportunity to take their students to view the Wall, since it was on display on the front lawn of Richlands High School. Other Tazewell County students and those from nearby school systems had to take "field trips" in order to view the Wall. It was estimated that more than four thousand students had viewed the Wall during the Thursday and Friday school days that it was present in Cedar Bluff. Luke, Jordan, and Sam each shared their impressions of the Wall, the privilege of its presence locally, and what they had learned of its historical significance.

PROACTIVE PROTECTION FOR GOOD HEALTH

Cold and flu season has already begun and many people are suffering from sinus trouble... some due to allergies from ragweed and the like. Public places are full of people coughing and sneezing. Maintaining good health is difficult at this time of year, but a proactive stance can really make a difference.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 19, 2015

Guest: Sarah Ramey, spokesperson for Clinch Valley Medical Center

Sarah Ramey, spokesperson for Clinch Valley Medical Center, told listeners what and where CVMC services were being offered during the festival. In addition to free flu shots, the hospital was offering numerous free health screenings. In the past, a significant number of individuals have benefitted greatly from health screenings. Some screenings have likely been lifesavers.

Sarah identified the people that are most “at risk” and should most definitely get the flu shot. She explained that, although the shots do not prevent all strains of the flu, prevention of the strains predicted to be the troublemakers this year will be included in the shot. The wisdom in receiving the shot was clear.

PROMOTING LOCAL AUTHORS

Writing is a very personalized talent and its appeal to others is a matter of personal taste and discretion, as well. Although preferences in topics and style vary, authors from the vicinity are likely to write about topics that would appeal to local readers. The writing style and vocabulary of local authors may, also, be preferred by a local audience.

Program: Live remote at the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 19, 2015

Guests: Ken Henderson, local author and illustrator

Connie Wohlford, local author

Ken Henderson is well-known among area authors for his writing, illustrating, and publishing. Connie Wohlford is a talented author, particularly focused on writing good quality children’s books. Both authors had a booth in which their books were for sale.

In an interview with Connie Wohlford, it became evident that much of her writing had to do with passing along Biblical values to children. Her writing began with books intended for her grandchildren. Her writing skills were so captivating that she was encouraged to publish. Now other children can benefit from her talents. The WGTH listenership would find the topics and style Connie has to offer to be very appealing.

Ken Henderson has been a guest in many interviews from various locations throughout the region. He not only writes well on topics of local interest, but he illustrates and prepares other authors' books for publication. He is often found promoting others' books as well as his own. This was true on the day of the festival as he was helping to promote Connie Wohlford's books as well as his own.

MINISTERING TO OTHER COUNTRIES AND CULTURES

Although the Appalachian Mountain region is often considered to be a generally impoverished area, the resources and services here are far more extensive and advanced than those in many foreign countries. Even many of those with low incomes in this area realize they have a moral obligation to help others in need. In the Appalachian region, missionaries seem to be the ones most likely to make known the needs of those in foreign countries and to deliver what they can to meet those needs. It is not unusual for missionaries to learn as much as possible about the culture in the country in which they serve and to pass that knowledge on to those with whom they speak in the United States.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 19, 2015

Guest: Greg Harmon, minister, evangelist and founder of Calvary Holiness Outreach Ministries (CHOM)

During an interview that originally began to be about the Harmons' business, the topic turned to focus on their missionary work in Peru. Pastor and Evangelist Greg Harmon and his wife, Denise, founded Calvary Holiness Outreach Ministries (CHOM) in 2006. Greg gave part of his testimony that led him to establish this ministry whose goal is "to reach the lost souls of Peru with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to minister to the needs of the Peruvian people." With numerous return trips and with more missionaries assisting them, they have been able to minister to more and more villages and provinces.

In addition to meeting the spiritual needs of the people through the preaching of the Gospel, CHOM has provided for the physical needs of the people in a variety of ways over the years. The acts of service in which they have participated include: serving healthy meals to very large groups of people, providing "soles for souls" (shoes for the poor), and constructing bathroom facilities and other structural needs for churches in the villages... to name a few. CHOM intends to continue this outreach as long as the Lord allows.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY ENTERTAINMENT

One of the benefits of a well-planned festival with carefully chosen entertainment is that it provides a family-friendly atmosphere in which to enjoy the community.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 19, 2015

Guests: Linda Singleton, representing the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival Committee and the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association

Jim McGlothlin, Town Manager for the Town of Cedar Bluff

Linda Singleton welcomed listeners to the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival and informed them of the day's events and where and when they would be. On behalf of the festival committee, she was truly able to say that the entertainment chosen was very appropriate for all ages. In fact, there were a number of "children's activities" in which adults could also participate. For example, there was a train that made a circuit around a portion of the festival area that both children and adults could ride and a petting zoo where adults were also welcome. Even the singing groups featured music with lyrics that were not offensive.

Jim McGlothlin welcomed listeners, as well. In addition to mentioning the activities of the festival and what families could do that day, he emphasized the family-friendly picnic and hiking locations throughout the community. The Town Square is fairly well-known, as is the Cedar Bluff Overlook Park and its hiking trail. There are two more recently developed locations that provide opportunities for families to enjoy the great out-of-doors. Jim also mentioned some of the historic places that families could enjoy as well.

Program: Live remote from the Tazewell County Fair

Date: August 5, 2015

Guests: Everett Cox, Tazewell County Fair Coordinator

Jerry Foster, member of the Tazewell County Fair Committee

Bethany White, Miss Tazewell County Fair

Everett Cox, Tazewell County Fair Coordinator, gave specifics about the regular activities associated with the fair and the special events. He talked of the Tazewell County Fair Association's desire to provide events and activities that families and individuals of all ages can enjoy. The Fair Committee has always seemed to take into account the appropriateness of the on-going activities and the special events that are brought in from outside the area. He gave a hospitable welcome to the listeners.

Jerry Foster, member of the Tazewell County Fair Committee, gave a hearty welcome to the listeners that would be attending that night's Gospel Night Concert featuring well-known and much-sought-after Gospel singer Jason Crabb. Jerry was the member in charge of the Gospel Music Night and was very excited about what the night would bring.

Bethany White, Miss Tazewell County Fair, discussed the pageant in which she received her crown, told a little about herself, and talked about her responsibilities as the reigning Miss Tazewell County Fair.

FOSTERING POSITIVE FAMILY VALUES

Happily married couples with well-adjusted, well-behaved children seem to be a rarity. Divorce, drugs, mental instability, and innumerable other problematic factors are undermining the structure of the family. Root causes for many of those factors are probably moral and character flaws such as selfishness, pride, out-of-control anger, bitterness, and entitlement. The family is in a critical state. Many families are actually in shambles.

Program: Live remote from the Tazewell County Fair

Date: August 5, 2015

Guest: Jason Crabb, Gospel music artist

Stan Wikle, Gospel music promoter

Stan Wikle, Gospel music promoter, talked about the blessing it was to have Jason Crabb as the featured artist during Gospel Night at the Tazewell County Fair. Jason is known to be a very transparent and down-to-earth kind of guy. He lives what he preaches and that genuine character shines through. Because he is so real, people really listen to what he has to say. In addition to his amazing voice, his ability to relate to people in a very compassionate manner makes him much loved.

In an interview prior to his concert at the Tazewell County Fair, Gospel music artist Jason Crabb discussed the beauty of a Christ-centered home where a husband and wife put the Lord first in their marriage and the father is the spiritual leader of his family. When the children see the love dad has for mom and the respect mom has for dad, they feel secure. They, also, have a solid model for love and respect that they can use to honor their parents and others. Furthermore, Godly discipline administered firmly, but lovingly, adds to that security. Treasured family time is carved out of busy schedules, and humor is an important ingredient in the home. Everyone wins with this Biblical plan and love abounds in the home.

Jason shared his own family's experiences growing up. Even though his father was not a model dad early on, everything changed when he surrendered his life to the Lord's leading. Their family had a testimony of how God can change people's lives and restore families. They desired to share this with others and used an exceptional musical ability as the tool. They, also, speak at their concerts. The Lord allowed the Crabb Family to minister together for many years. Now, the Crabb Family has branched off in different directions; but they are still using their talents to sing for the Lord and to minister to others.

Various aspects of Jason's musical career were discussed. He answered many questions about such things as: the song(s) people have responded to the most, his personal favorite song, the most interesting opportunities he has had in his career, etc. He, also, shared about his current releases and future plans.

RECOGNIZING AND PROMOTING LOCAL MUSIC ARTISTS

There is amazing talent in these hills. Music, especially involving strings of any kind, abounds in beautiful sounds. The Appalachian region is teeming with outstanding vocal ability, as well. To not highlight these abilities on a radio station would seem remiss.

Program: Live remote from the Tazewell County Fair

Date: August 5, 2015

Guest: Patricia (Trish) Smith, gospel music singer from nearby in West Virginia

Gospel music singer, Patricia (Trish) Smith, participated in an interview as she and her husband were going into the building to hear the Jason Crabb concert at the Tazewell County Fair. Trish is an excellent singer in her own right and has recorded with artists that have also coached her. She discussed her most recent and upcoming concerts and recordings. Her music and previous interviews have been well-received on WGTH. Trish lives near Princeton, West Virginia.

Program: Live remote from the Tazewell County Airport's Fly-In, Cruise-In, and Open House

Date: August 22, 2015

Guests: The Jubalaires, a very talented and popular local Gospel music quartet -

Jim Ray, Darrell Cole, Benny McGhee, and Tony Horn

After singing at the Fly-In, Cruise-In, and Open House, the popular local Gospel music quartet, the Jubalaires, took part in an interview. The group's members include: Jim Ray, Darrell Cole, Benny McGhee, and Tony Horn. Each answered questions having to do with the group's music writing and recording and their schedule. They also talked about their ministry and some special occurrences that have taken place during their singing engagements.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 19, 2015

Guest: Jeff Mathis, gifted instrumental and vocal artist & sound expert

Jeff Mathis is known as an outstanding sound expert. He is the "go to man" for setting up sound systems and, often, runs the board that controls the sound during area concerts and special events. Jeff is also an excellent instrumentalist... especially gifted in strings. His talent in strings and vocals has allowed him to sing in some special venues with some famous artists.

During the interview, Jeff discussed his interest in music from childhood through today. He told of some of the many interesting experiences he has enjoyed over the years... where and with whom he has had the opportunity to perform. His current endeavors and future plans were also part of the discussion. Jeff's contributions to the area in setting up sound systems in churches and schools, as well as, working with many local artists in choosing equipment and tweaking the sound were lauded.

PROVISION FOR RESCUE IN EMERGENCIES AND ROUGH TERRAIN

There are times when a police cruiser or similar emergency vehicle cannot reach its destination fast enough for a life-threatening situation. There are other times when a rescue by car, truck, or SUV may not be possible at all... in the case of mountainous terrain, rivers, no available access roads, etc. Specially trained Virginia State Troopers make up a Tactical Team that responds quickly, when needed, to perform search and potential rescue operations. They use a helicopter and descend to their destination(s) with the use of ropes when necessary.

Program: Live remote from the Tazewell County Airport's Fly-In, Cruise-In, and Open House

Date: August 22, 2015

Guests: The Virginia State Police Tactical Team (assigned to our region) –

Trooper McCoy

Trooper Robby Hamilton

Trooper Tim McNeace

Trooper Jeremy Stanley

During the Tazewell County Airport's Fly-In, Cruise-In, and Open House, the regional Virginia State Police Tactical Team gave demonstrations of the kind of rescue operation maneuvers they would likely use in a real life situation. Their helicopter pilot hovered over a part of the runway while the other troopers rappelled down ropes that dangled from the copter. Although the demonstration itself appeared daring, the normal situations are usually much more so because the terrain is rough or there are flood waters or there are other difficult circumstances.

Following the demonstration that was described on-the-air, the troopers were interviewed about the kinds of rescues in which they have been engaged as a tactical team. Each trooper answered a variety of questions about the length of time of their involvement, the specifics about their training, and some of the more interesting and/or dangerous rescues in which they have participated.

TAKING TO THE SKY OR FALLING FROM IT

When our Tazewell County Airport has put on airshows, they have been very popular events. Numerous area residents are enamored with all things aeronautical. Some locals enjoy going to the airport just to watch planes take off and land. The airplane and helicopter rides have been a great source of excitement for “kids” of all ages. The flight simulators have been excitement enough for those that want a thrill without having to leave the ground. Skydiving has been a source of captivating interest for many spectators. The excitement of flying has even produced some pilots from our area and, maybe, some skydivers, as well.

Program: Live remote from the Tazewell County Airport’s Fly-In, Cruise-In, and Open House

Date: August 22, 2015

Guests: Jerry McReynolds, Tazewell County Airport Manager

Wilma Simmons, representing the Tazewell County Airport Authority

Mike Vordo, skydiver

Gordon Bowers & Becky Luther, pilots of a T-28 used to train combat pilots

Jim MacLeay, powered parachutist

Each participant in the interviews at the Tazewell County Airport’s Fly-In, Cruise-In, and Open House shared information about their area of expertise in a very fluent and captivating manner. Jim and Wilma specialized in information about the airport, the day’s events, and welcomed listeners in general. The others answered questions about their performances, their interest in what they do, the training they had, and the thrills and the dangers involved.