

WGTH PROBLEMS & PROGRAMS LIST

FOURTH QUARTER 2016

OCTOBER – DECEMBER

RECOGNITION OF VETERANS

“All gave some. Some gave all.” The recognition of those who have served – or are currently serving – our country is more than a moral obligation. It is a privilege that we have as beneficiaries of the freedom they earned or preserved for us.

For many who served, there are unwelcome remnants from their combat duty. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), loss of hearing or sight, and loss of limbs are just a few of the reasons that a large percentage of veterans continue to suffer. Those who paid the ultimate price – loss of life – deserve honor and respect posthumously.

Program: Infobits regarding various local Veterans Day celebrations

Dates: October 31 – November 5, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guests: Janis White, Mayor of the Town of Richlands

Jan invited all area veterans to participate in a parade and a program to honor veterans. She, also, encouraged the public to line the streets during the parade and to wave flags to honor our local veterans.

Jason Lockard spoke for Southwest Virginia Community College

Jason announced the upcoming annual breakfast to honor veterans at Southwest Virginia Community College, He welcomed veterans and their families on behalf of the college and gave specifics: date, time, and location.

Dates: October 31 – November 6, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guest: Jerry McReynolds, spokesperson for the Town of Tazewell

Jerry presented a cordial audio invitation to local veterans to participate in Tazewell's parade and ceremony to honor veterans. He invited the public to come as well. Jerry gave specifics and mentioned two special features of the ceremony. There would be a T-28 flyover and Retired Admiral John C. Harvey was the scheduled speaker.

Dates: November 4 – November 11, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guests: Linda Singleton, spokesperson for the Town of Cedar Bluff

Valencia Angles, Tazewell County teacher

Valencia Angles shared about researching the names on the tombstones in an old cemetery close to the Richlands High School with her students. They discovered that a significant number of the people buried there were veterans. She and those in Cedar Bluff that have taken the lead in Veterans Day celebrations decided that it would be most appropriate to honor veterans there in the Jones Chapel Cemetery.

Linda Singleton, a community leader in Cedar Bluff, spoke on behalf of the town and invited veterans and others to join in the ceremony at the cemetery. She, also, gave the date and time of the event.

Dates: November 4 – November 11, 2016

April Trent spoke for the Honaker High School students that were responsible for the Veterans Day breakfast.

April welcomed veterans and their families to celebrate Veterans Day in Honaker on behalf of the Honaker High School students that sponsor the annual Veterans Day breakfast at the school. The date, time, and location were included.

HONORING THE LIFE OF A MUSIC LEGEND

The passing of bluegrass music legend, Dr. Ralph Stanley, was met with sorrow – not only by his family and close friends – but, also by his fellow musicians and his numerous fans. For decades, Ralph Stanley had written and sung music in a style he and his brother had created and developed. His great popularity and ability to play with other famous musicians in almost any venue at any time made him stand out as an Appalachian born and bred wonder. The fact that his birthplace is in this region further endeared him to local fans.

Program: Interview celebrating the life of Dr. Ralph Stanley and recognizing his tremendous contributions to the world of bluegrass music with an Appalachian flair.

Dates: October 27, 2016 at 2:15 pm

October 28, 2016 at 7:26 am (shorter version)

Guests: Nathan Stanley, musician and grandson of Ralph Stanley

Jeffrey McCracken, local music promoter

Nathan Stanley, Appalachian bluegrass singer following in the steps of his “Pawpaw” Ralph, participated in an interview about the life and very distinctive musical style of his beloved grandfather. Filled with interesting facts and anecdotes, the interview revealed the bond between Nathan and Ralph Stanley and their shared passion for bluegrass music. The interview was somewhat historical and somewhat biographical as Ralph’s career spanned decades.

Joining Nathan for the interview was local music promoter, Jeffrey McCracken. An insurance agent by day, Jeff enjoys bringing good quality bluegrass music to this area as a stand-alone concert or as a part of a local event. Both of them talked about an upcoming concert in which Nathan would be honoring Dr. Ralph Stanley – the man and his music.

HIGHLIGHTING THE VOCAL TALENT OF LOCAL STUDENTS

The students that sing in the various Richlands Middle School and Richlands High School choirs put in many hours of practice. They put on several concerts a year, but many in the community-at-large are not able to attend. Broadcasting the Christmas season's "Concert in the Square," in which they are the featured singers, allows more people to hear their performance.

Program: "Concert in the Square" broadcast live by remote

Date: December 19, 2016, from 6:03 pm – 7:04 pm

Guests: The Richlands Middle School and Richlands High School choirs

Terry Hall, music teacher and director of the various choirs

The annual "Concert in the Square" in the Town of Cedar Bluff featured various choirs from Richlands Middle School and Richlands High School. Families and friends of the singers and some from the community were in attendance. However, there were many that were unable to attend – especially the elderly and others who cannot be out in the cold for lengthy periods of time. Because the concert was broadcast on the radio, listeners could enjoy the singing from the comfort of their homes or wherever they were at the time. The broadcast is somewhat of a reward for the effort the students put into their performance.

Terry Hall, the music teacher for both schools and their director, played the keyboard for the students as they sang. Terry introduced the various choirs and the songs they would be singing. He introduced individuals with solo or duet parts. Terry spoke highly of his students in a post-performance interview and wished the listeners a blessed Merry Christmas.

BOOSTING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY THROUGH SHARED MEMORY-MAKING EVENTS

A community develops a closeness as they experience life together in a positive, memory-making way. Events, such as annual holiday celebrations, are a wonderful means of drawing together and enjoying a feeling of unity. Glad tidings from community leaders, also, foster a sense of close community.

Program: "Concert in the Square" broadcast live by remote

Date: December 19, 2016, from 6:03 pm – 7:04 pm

Guests: Jim McGlothlin, Cedar Bluff's Town Manager

Linda Singleton from the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association and Singleton's Funeral Service (event sponsors)

Cedar Bluff's annual "Concert in the Square" was held in the Town Square on Monday, December 19th. The event is held to celebrate the season as a community. The location is ideal for viewing the choirs as they sing, joining in the caroling at times, sipping cider or hot chocolate, and enjoying cookies that are provided by a local women's club. The beautifully decorated, large gazebo – complete with lighted Christmas tree – makes a lovely stage for the choirs.

During the broadcast of the concert, voices from the audience could be heard singing along. Interviews with Jim McGlothlin (Cedar Bluff's town manager) and Linda Singleton (event organizer and representative of the co-sponsors: Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association and Singleton Funeral Service) reflected the warmth and hospitality of the town and its leadership. Both Jim and Linda expressed a desire to enhance everyone's enjoyment of the Christmas season by having this special musical celebration. They are very pleased that there are a number of local individuals and families that have made the concert a traditional part of their Christmas celebration.

LOCAL ELECTION COVERAGE

Elections – whether they are national, state, or local – tend to bring with them interest and, oftentimes, intense passion. This year's presidential election was certainly no exception. Additionally, a congressional election and a couple of state constitutional amendments were on the ballot for the majority of listening area voters. Several mayoral and town council elections were also held.

Listeners can hear precinct-by-precinct returns from Tazewell, Buchanan, and Russell counties and from the towns (where applicable).

Program: WGTH Election Coverage

Dates: November 8, 2016, from 7:30 pm – 10:15 pm

November 9, 2016, at 6:30 am, 7:40 am, and 8:40 am

Election coverage was of particular interest this year with the 2016 Presidential Election, some hotly contested town council seats, and the Cedar Bluff town election in which there was an aggressive write-in campaign for mayor. Reports began at 7:30 pm (a half hour after the local polls closed) and continued half hourly until the completion of the final report at 10:15 pm that night. Reports contained coverage of the Presidential results and other key races on the national level, important Virginia returns in other locations, West Virginia returns that affected local listenership, and local election returns. The returns for Tazewell, Buchanan, and Russell counties were reported on a precinct-by-precinct basis with the cumulative votes tallied to that point. Three comprehensive reports were done the next morning at 6:30 am, 7:40 am, and 8:40 am, adjacent to news broadcasts.

PUBLIC AWARENESS OF LOCAL CELEBRATIONS/EVENTS

Broadcast and print media are the major sources for dispersing information about local events and celebrations. In most situations, radio gives much more comprehensive coverage than do the area TV stations. The reason for this is the TV stations are located in cities on the peripheries of the area where the towns are located. People depend on media to let them know about the upcoming events and area celebrations. General information and specific details help listeners to participate in the activities in the right place and at the right time.

Program: Infobits regarding the Honaker Christmas Parade

Dates: November 16 – 21, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guest: C. H. Wallace, Mayor of the Town of Honaker

C. H. Wallace, Honaker's mayor, invited listeners to attend the Honaker Christmas Parade. He mentioned the theme and the general information that people would need to know, such as date and time.

Program: Infobits regarding the Richlands Christmas Parade

Dates: November 30 – December 4, 2016, aired throughout the day

Guest: Janis White, Mayor of the Town of Richlands

Jan White, Richlands' mayor, welcomed listeners to come out for the Richlands Christmas Parade. In addition to general information, Jan told who the parade grand marshal would be – Kelli Quick, former Miss Virginia who was born and raised locally.

Program: Infobits regarding "A Frontier Christmas," an event taking place at the Historic Crab Orchard Museum in Tazewell, Virginia

Dates: November 29 – December 2, 2016, aired throughout the day

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

Charlotte recorded her extended invitation to “A Frontier Christmas” at the Historic Crab Orchard Museum with the traditional dulcimer music in the background in a radio dramatic fashion. As she provided general information, Charlotte shared the names of many of the individuals and families that would be providing entertainment and other services – in authentic garb and with genuine Frontier-style instruments.

ACCOLADES FOR A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BOUND FOOTBALL TEAM

It might be a stretch to dub Richlands as the Tuscaloosa of Southwest Virginia, but football is definitely a hot topic most of the year. Usually, people start asking each other if they are ready for football before baseball season gets fully underway. When a group of young men and their coaches can attract and entertain crowds that consist of a very large percentage of the local population week after week (sometimes, at locations of two or more hours away), they deserve recognition for their hard work and achievements.

Program: Pre-recorded interviews with two Richlands Football coaches

Dates: December 9, 2016, aired between 7 pm and 8 pm

December 10, 2016, aired between 3:30 pm and 4 pm

Guests: Richlands High School Football Head Coach, Greg Mance, and Jeff Tarter, veteran special teams coach for Richlands

The regular season for Richlands High School Football consists of ten games. However, the potential postseason of five games is known as “the second half” of the season. Although there is great time and preparation put into each game all season long, the five postseason games are the exceedingly much-anticipated crowd pleasers. Richlands, usually, goes at least several games into the postseason. The state title has been captured twice – in 1992 and in 2006. Three other times, prior to this year, Richlands has been the state runner-up.

2016 was a very good year for Richlands High School football. The regular season record was 9-1. Richlands worked hard to get to go to the state championship game. Head coach, Greg Mance, and special teams coach, Jeff Tarter, highlighted the accomplishments and amazing achievements of the 2016 team and the individuals that earned the privilege of making it to the final game of the season.