

# WGTH ISSUES & PROGRAMS

## THIRD QUARTER 2018

### JULY – SEPTEMBER

#### PROTECTING PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In the event of an emergency, people with special needs are at risk of not being able to care for themselves to a greater degree than the general public. Fires, floods, robberies, and other types of life-threatening circumstances could pose a very real danger to people with physical and other limitations. Especially in situations in which special needs individuals are alone, rescue efforts may require advance knowledge of the specific needs involved and the likely location of the individual within the structure.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 15, 2018 @ 9:30 a.m.

Duration: Approximately 10 minutes

Guests: Deputy Pat Belcher from the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office

Susan White from Clinch Valley Community Action

Deputy Pat Belcher from the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office and Susan White from Clinch Valley Community Action explained the need for and the workings of a relatively new program called Special Needs in Disasters (SNID). Deputy Belcher and Susan White strongly encouraged families and guardians of special needs individuals to provide detailed information about their loved one in case of an emergency or disaster. The information is entered into the 911 system and allows emergency personnel to see this vital information when the person with special needs is in a dangerous situation.

The information that is secured about a special needs individual is fairly comprehensive so that an emergency personnel worker would know of any medical conditions, medications, allergies, etc. This would be especially important if the person had to be evacuated and relocated. SNID could save many lives.

## RECOGNITION OF THE WORK FIRST RESPONDERS

Many people probably take for granted the work of first responders and may never realize how difficult it is to become certified. They, also, may not think about the danger involved in the work. Since first responders put themselves in potentially life-threatening situations on a frequent basis, they need to be recognized and appreciated by their communities.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 15, 2018 @ 9:50 a.m.

Duration: Approximately 7 minutes

Guest: Mr. Gordon Russ, longtime member of the Richlands Fire & Rescue Squad

Mr. Gordon Russ, a longtime member of the Richlands Fire and Rescue Squad, answered questions about what it takes to be a first responder. The question not only dealt with the requirements and training to be certified, but what kind of person makes a good first responder. Mr. Russ was humble, but forthright, about the fairly rigid physical requirements and the tough training necessary to pass certification tests. The aspect of willingness to serve your community even if it meant grave sacrifice was an obvious trait of a good first responder. Mr. Russ reminisced about some of the things he has experienced over the decades of his service in the squad. Appreciation was expressed on behalf of the community for all of the local first responders.

## ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND DEMENTIA

Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia have become so prevalent. Furthermore, the onset of such diseases has begun significantly earlier than in previous generations. The large number of people suffering from progressive memory loss has increased the demand for more assistance from the healthcare community. A great number of families and other caregivers need support groups and, ultimately, residential care for their loved ones.

Program: Broadcast of a prerecorded interview

Date and time: July 2, 2018 @ 2:06 p.m.

Duration: 4 minutes

Guest: Ryan Frazier, Resident Care Director at Commonwealth Senior Living

Ryan Frazier, LPN, is the Resident Care Director at Commonwealth Senior Living in Cedar Bluff, Virginia. During the interview, he explained that his job entails finding out the specific needs of the residents from their families and their residents' doctors and developing a plan for their care at Commonwealth Senior Living. Dealing with memory care issues is a common aspect of his job.

The focus of the interview was Alzheimer's disease with other types of dementia being mentioned. Mr. Frazier explained that, "Alzheimer's is a progressive brain disorder that slowly damages and, ultimately, destroys brain cells." He stated that there are roughly 5.2 million people in the United States over the age of 65 that suffer from Alzheimer's.

When asked about the warning signs, Mr. Frazier indicated that it is time to start noticing when a person begins to display signs of having difficulty performing the tasks that are a part of his or her daily routine. Examples given included: having trouble driving, not knowing where they are or how they got there, not remembering how to pay bills, and losing things that they used to keep orderly.

Mr. Frazier talked briefly about seven stages of Alzheimer's and what to expect in each. He indicated that onset is usually gradual and may not be noticed at all in the first stage. Memory lapses – especially short-term – occur in the second stage. By the third stage, noticeable differences in personality and memory are happening. In the fourth, there is a greater cognitive decline. People in the fifth stage are in need of daily assistance and there is profound decline in the sixth and seventh stages.

The caregivers, Mr. Frazier said, would benefit from a good support network. He spoke of the support group at Commonwealth and of some resource materials they offered including a "Caregiver's Tool Box." He, also, promoted an event that Commonwealth had coming up on July 24<sup>th</sup> that would answer questions that caregivers might have. Additionally, caregivers and family members would have an opportunity to take a "virtual tour" that would allow them to experience some of the feelings and frustrations of the Alzheimer's patient.

## PROTECTING ELDERLY CITIZENS FROM SENIOR ABUSE

It is an unconscionable reality that senior abuse occurs. Many older citizens have physical and/or other limitations that are often associated with aging. Whether the perpetrators are family members or those who are supposed to be caregivers, the abuse of seniors must be revealed and stopped.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 15, 2018 @ 9:22 a.m.

Duration: Approximately 8 minutes

Guest: Deputy Pat Belcher with the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office

Although her warmth and concern come across when you meet Deputy Pat Belcher, it is immediately evident that she has a protective passion for the well-being of senior citizens. Assisting seniors is one of Deputy Belcher's duties with the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office, and she takes it seriously. Sadly, she has to deal with senior abuse which can come in many forms. Examples include: allowing the elderly to become malnourished, stealing their medications, taking their belongings, and mismanaging their money. Whatever the abuse, Deputy Belcher wants to be made aware of the problem. She loves her seniors and will do everything in her power and that of her office to protect them.

#### UPDATE REGARDING THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Periodically, it is good to find out about current programs that the local sheriff's office has going on for the benefit of the county. Finding out what things to beware of is important as well. Community events make for great opportunities to discuss such matters with law enforcement personnel in a relaxed atmosphere.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 15, 2018 @ 9:43 a.m.

Duration: Approximately 6 minutes

Guests: Major Mike Shawver and Deputy Brian Triplett from the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office

Major Mike Shawver and Deputy Brian Triplett with the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office talked about some of the established and some newer programs that Sheriff Brian Hieatt and his law enforcement personnel have going on in Tazewell County. Some, like the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program have been around for decades.

Unfortunately, in the last several years, there have been numerous scams circulating throughout the county and beyond. Current scams to beware of were discussed in addition to the perpetual I.R.S. scam in which the caller claims that

back taxes must be paid and threatens the citizen with various punishments if they don't pay immediately. The advice given by Major Shawver and Deputy Triplett was to ignore such threats. Governmental and law enforcement agencies do not use telephone calls to demand payment. They, also, encouraged people who were uncomfortable after a threatening call to report it to the Sheriff's Office.

## CURRENT TRENDS IN PHARMACEUTICALS

Medications used to be pretty straightforward in most cases. Nowadays, there is the compounding of drugs, new drugs available, new flavors, and various modern ways of presenting medications. With all the changes in pharmaceuticals, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians have a lot more to learn.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 15, 2018 @ 11:09 a.m.

Duration: Approximately 7 minutes

Guests: Sara Hagy and Libby Keene from Specialty Care RX

There was a discussion with Sara Hagy, and later with Libby Keene, from Specialty Care RX regarding various specialized pharmaceutical services, including compounding, and how they work. Regarding trends, pet meds were discussed including favorite pet med flavors.

## PROMOTION OF AREA FESTIVALS

One of the most important responsibilities of the radio station is to promote area festivals and opportunities for wholesome family fun. Informing listeners and assisting in dispersing information on behalf of the organizers is key to optimal success for any event. From changes in parking and transportation to and from the festival to what musical groups are performing on what stage at what time, getting the information to the listeners is helpful to all participants.

Program: Infobits regarding the Cedar Buff Heritage Festival

Dates and times: September 7 – 15, 2018; morning drive/midday/afternoon drive

Duration: 2 minutes

Guest: Linda Singleton, president of the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association

Linda Singleton, president of the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association and chairperson of the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival Committee, recorded infobits to promote the festival. These audio invitations welcomed listeners to the festival and gave the most important specifics – date, times, locations, etc.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date and time: September 15, 2018 @ 9:11 a.m./1:20 pm

Duration: Approximately 11 minutes

Guests: Linda Singleton, Cedar Bluff Business & Professional Association

Jim McGlothlin, Town of Cedar Bluff Town Manager

Lee Dye, Mayor of the Town of Cedar Bluff

Thomas Lester, Member of the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors

Linda Singleton, president of the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association and chairperson for the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival Committee, along with Jim McGlothlin, Town Manager, and Mayor Lee Dye gave an overview of the festival activities, some information about the vendors, and what groups would be performing when and at which of the four stages.

Additionally, Linda Singleton brought to the listeners' attention that this year's festival was honoring Jim McGlothlin. Jim has been the Town Manager for many years, but will be retiring soon. Linda's highly complimentary comments indicated that Jim has served extremely well in that capacity and will be greatly missed. She touted his numerous achievements. During his tenure, Jim has overseen many improvements to the town including the focal area of the Cedar Bluff Town Square with its classic gazebo, benches, and brick walkways. He, also, worked on establishing several trails and picnic areas, including the Overlook Park. In addition to the normal town business, Jim took it upon himself to collect, preserve, and promote the history of Cedar Bluff. He has displayed historical portraits, memorabilia, and information in Cedar Bluff Town Hall and in several areas throughout the town.

Jim McGlothlin and Mayor Lee Dye shared some of the current projects going on in Cedar Bluff and a few that are being considered for the future. More walking trails and picnic spots have opened and will soon open.

In a brief comment made by Thomas Lester, member of the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors, he said that he was asked from folks all over Virginia how the little Town of Cedar Bluff is able to attract thousands of festival goers year after year.

## RECOGNITION OF VETERANS

Program: Infobits regarding the Cedar Buff Heritage Festival

Dates and times: September 7 – 14, 2018; morning drive/midday/afternoon drive

Duration: 2 minutes

Guest: Linda Singleton, president of the Cedar Bluff Business and Professional Association

Regarding the most important special feature of this year's Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival, Linda Singleton invited listeners to participate in the very special "Profiles of Honor" mobile exhibit that was set up on the lawn at Richlands High School in conjunction with the festival. Although the venue was in a different location, it was at a site where transportation shuttles were available to make parking easier for festival attendees.

It was truly a privilege to have the "Profiles of Honor" exhibit come to our community. The exhibit was created by the Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission to honor veterans having served in World War I and in World War II. During this very special opportunity, the people from the community were invited to contribute to the collection of memories and memorabilia by bringing letters and other materials to be scanned.

## GETTING TO KNOW THE STORIES BEHIND THE MUSIC

The genre that the radio station features most is Southern Gospel music. Whereas the music ministers in and of itself, a whole new depth of understanding and connections to the heart and soul follow an interview with the musicians themselves. The stories behind the lyrics make the songs so much more meaningful and allow a certain camaraderie between the singers and their fans.

Program: Live remote from Gospel Night at the Tazewell County Fair

Date: July 17, 2018 @ 4:47 p.m.

Duration: Approximately one hour

Guests: The Jubalaires, a very popular local quartet

Peg McKamey, member of The McKameys

Stan Wikle, Gospel music promoter

Jerry Foster, member of the Tazewell County Fair Committee

Gospel Night at the Tazewell County Fair is always a much-anticipated event for most of our radio listeners. Although many in attendance come to hear the music, most leave with more than they expected to receive. Everyone faces struggles in life – some more than others. Gospel music has a way of blessing people’s hearts even in the midst of the storms in their lives.

Interviews with Jim Ray, Darrell Cole, Benny McGhee, and Lonnie Perkins of the Jubalaires Quartet are always entertaining. There is always a good deal of humor, but there is a seriousness about sharing the Gospel in word and song that prevails. Why they choose the songs they sing is a great topic, and even more so when they have written songs. These music artists are wonderful singers, but even better at connecting to their fans. They always make time to talk and to pray with the people that come to them after their concerts. Many suffering hardships leave feeling a whole lot better.

Peg McKamey is one of the most beloved Southern gospel singers and it does not take long to figure out why when she is interviewed. Peg sincerely loves the Lord and loves people, and it shows. Peg is humble and down-to-earth. She does not call attention to herself, but seeks to minister to hurting people through the music that she and The McKameys sing. She and her family members have suffered many trials of their own, especially health issues. She has a wonderful way of connecting to her fans and encouraging them.

Stan Wikle, gospel music promoter, does a good job bringing in groups that resonate with the people in our area. He shared about upcoming concerts and some heart-warming stories about the artists.

Jerry Foster, member of the Tazewell County Fair Committee, is in charge of Gospel Night. Being a Southern Gospel music fan himself, Jerry is familiar with the groups that are popular with local folks. He, also, spoke of his concern to have artists who can do more than just sing. He choose singers with genuine love for people who can minister and connect.

## SUPPORTING LOCAL YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN POSITIVE ACTIVITIES

There are so many ways that young people can spend their time. Although sports-related activities abound in the local communities, there are only a limited number of activities that offer the development of other interests. Unfortunately, some youth choose to participate in excessive gaming or are addicted to social media. Others are drawn into harmful behavior because they do not take advantage of sports and of the other positive activities that are available to them. Youth and their parents need to be made aware of what is available and encouraged to participate in the positive activities.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 15, 2018 @ 10:38 a.m.

Duration: Approximately 6 minutes

Guest: Rod Cury, Richlands High School history teacher and sponsor of the Richlands High School History Club

Since Mr. Rod Cury started the History Club at Richlands High School several years ago, the club has had a fundraising booth at the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival in order to raise money for the club trips. Mr. Cury talked about the former History Club trips such as the one to New York City and last year's to Montpelier and Mount Vernon in Virginia. Although he was not at liberty to discuss the location of this year's trip prior to its approval, he indicated it would be another popular destination for the students.

Mr. Cury is a very popular teacher, because he loves to make history come alive and be relevant to his students. His discussion of the club and the benefits of the trips demonstrates his passion for his subject and his personal concern for the students. His own involvement in preserving local history, and his style of teaching in the high school, make the students realize that his enthusiasm is genuine.

Mr. Cury often brags on the behavior of his History Club students on the trips. Their conduct, he says, makes them good representatives of the school and the community. His expectations are high and the students do not disappoint him.

Program: Live remote from the Cedar Bluff Heritage Festival

Date: September 15, 2018 @ 10:20 a.m.

Duration: Approximately 15 minutes

Guest: Chris Blankenship, Cub Master and representative for the local Boy Scouts

Chris Blankenship, a community leader on many fronts, has been heavily involved in scouting for years. Most of her time has been spent with Cub Scouts, but she has been active with all ages of scouts through the Eagle rank. In her interview, Chris invited and encouraged all boys – and, now, girls – to participate. She talked about the girls who have joined, recently, and how well they fit in with the boys in the various dens and troops. Chris discussed some of the changes in the types of badges that can be earned – changes made to keep up with the times. She, also, discussed the personal benefits of scouting in the development of character and citizenship in the individual scout.