

WGTH ISSUES & PROGRAMS

THIRD QUARTER

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2021

IMPORTANCE OF THE FATHER'S LEADERSHIP IN THE HOME

Studies have been done over the years that have shown that the presence of caring and concerned parents in the home is extremely important. Although there are many children in households with only one parent, or they rotate in spending time with their parents one-at-a-time, counselors and educators have seen the optimal outcome for well-adjusted and mentally and emotionally stable young adults occurs when they grow up in a home with a loving mother AND a loving father.

Program: Live remote at the Tazewell County Fair

Date/Time/Duration: August 24, 2021/during the 5 pm – 7 pm remote/
approximately 15 – 20 minutes each

Guests: Ray McGuinness, singer with The Good News Trio, and Jason Schuler, contractor and owner of Schuler's Heating, Air & Electrical... a sponsor of the remote highlighting the Gospel Music Night at the Tazewell County Fair

In separate interviews during the remote at the Gospel Music Night at the Tazewell County Fair, Ray McGuinness of The Good News Trio and Jason Schuler, an HVAC contractor and electrician, each spoke about their experiences with – and enjoyment of – fatherhood. Both men emphasized that, although they were in a partnership with their wives in parenting, part of their roles as fathers were distinctly different and important. Along with providing financial and physical security, they both considered oversight of their family's spiritual welfare – in the form of godly leadership in the home – to be vital... through Bible study and prayer, church attendance, and personal integrity.

RECOGNITION OF CHILDHOOD CANCER

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Cancer as a devastating disease is perceived as much more real when an individual knows someone suffering from the disease or, even worse, someone whose life has been taken by it. Nearly every community has one or more childhood cancer patients that become the center of community prayer and concern.

Program: Live interview during halftime at the Richlands versus Abingdon High School football game.

Date/Time/Duration: September 17, 2021/8:36 pm/3 minutes

Guests: Calliope and Ashley, two young ladies from the Abingdon Falcons Marching Band

During halftime at the Richlands versus Abingdon High School football game, Calliope and Ashley volunteered to be interviewed because of their familiarity and respect for Connor Bartz. (The Abingdon band director recommended these two young ladies for the interview because of their care and concern for Connor and the Bartz family and because of their physical proximity to Connor when he played in the band.) Connor passed away at his home in February 2019, after a two year battle with cancer.

Although Abingdon is nearly an hour away from Richlands, Connor's fight with cancer was well known to many in the Richlands area. Connor was an accomplished musician at Abingdon High School whose plight became the subject of many prayers in area churches and Christian groups. His father is a music teacher and band director at nearby Honaker High School. So many in the Richlands area were familiar with Connor's struggles through friendships with Mr. Bartz. Whereas, Connor was a high school student as opposed to a young child when his cancer was discovered, his youthfulness made his fellow students more aware of the potential brevity of life.

Calliope and Ashley spoke of the extraordinary talents, abilities, and perseverance that Connor had. They spoke of him as a friend, fellow band member, and as an exceptionally talented all-state percussionist. His bravery in living his life to the end, regardless of the outcome, was the main thrust of the girls' message. Calliope and Ashley considered themselves privileged to have been inspired by Connor.

One of the remarkable ways in which he showed his tenacity and generosity was his departing gift to his fellow band members... the inspiration for the marching band program that was used this year and features a Parisian theme. Apparently, the music of Paris was near and dear to him so he inspired this year's unusual band program used a year and a half after his untimely passing. His resourcefulness right to the end of his life amazed the girls and many that have knowledge of his story.

PRACTICAL HELP FOR MARRIAGES AND FAMILIES

Divorce, COVID-19, domestic violence, cyber-bullying, and the list goes on... there are so many issues attacking marriages and families. These attacks are brutal, but there is help available in most situations. Finding the right advice and options for dealing with issues that seem insurmountable is crucial for marital stability and family harmony.

Program: James Dobson Family Commentary (syndicated/prerecorded)

Dates/Time/Duration: Weekdays/5:08 – 5:10 pm/90 seconds

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

Dr. James Dobson has been a Christian leader and champion of traditional marriage and family values since the 1970's. As a researcher and psychologist, Dr. Dobson has talked to couples in distress and parents and children in multitudes of problematic situations. His advice comes from practical, commonsensical, Biblical wisdom. Many

thousands of listeners to his radio broadcasts and podcasts, along with those that have read his numerous books, benefit from the wisdom and advice he shares. James Dobson Family Commentary is a 90 second daily broadcast offering brief bits of sound advice about real life matters that are troubling real people. (WGTH airs the broadcast on weekdays in the afternoon drive time.)

A sample of the topics aired in July through September is listed:

September 29, 2021 – “Dates with Dad” – A father can have a positive influence on his daughter’s dating life by demonstrating what she should expect from a young man... as dad takes her out himself.

September 2, 2021 – “Helping School Kids Get Organized” – One of the biggest reasons for failure in school, according to Dr. Dobson’s discussions with teachers, is a student’s disorganization, including: assignments, homework, notebooks, and book bag. Helpful advice to correct the problem and to help them to get organized is given.

August 31, 2021 – “Words of Kindness” – The need for love, attention, and respect that youth have is expressed in very real terms. Bullying at school on top of disrespect from parents and thoughtless teachers can have a profoundly negative affect on young people. Kind words and demonstrations of love and respect can turn those feelings around.

August 30, 2021 – “Violent Television” – Leaving children in front of a television without careful boundaries, is like allowing a dangerous person to watch them in the home. Researchers have revealed that children that watch violence on television tend to exhibit aggressive behavior in later life. The more violent the television programs are, the more dangerously violent the behavior of the adolescent or adult that had observed them. Setting guidelines for appropriate television viewing could make a positive difference in the behavioral outcome of the child.

July 15, 2021 – “The Comparison Trap” – Wishing our spouse was more like someone else’s spouse is a dangerous and unfair practice. We get a

distorted view of what someone else is like when we only see them in public or on occasion. Everyone has their faults and failures. It would be best for marriage partners to do all they can to exalt their own spouse whenever possible. This practice can lead to marital happiness and contentment.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS' ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Communities take great pride in the achievements of their young people. Close knit towns are, especially, good at supporting their youth. A portion of those that grow up in a given area will, likely, become the next generation of leaders and professionals there. Their commitment to serve the community well as adults will increase when the community recognizes their accomplishments in childhood and adolescence.

Program: Live remote broadcast of the 2021 Richlands Homecoming Parade

Date/Time/Duration: September 30, 2021/6 pm/ 40 minutes

Announcers: Ron and Edythe Brown from WGTH

Program: Halftime coverage of the announcement of the Richlands Homecoming Court and the crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen

Date/Time/Duration: October 1, 2021/8:19 pm/6 minutes

Guests: Jeff Hurst, Homecoming festivities announcer; Ellie Butcher, 2021 Richlands Homecoming Queen; Seth Whitt, 2021 Richlands Homecoming King

In both the 2021 Richlands High School Homecoming Parade and in the announcement of the entire Homecoming Court and the crowning of the 2021 Homecoming King and Queen during halftime, outstanding students were recognized. In the parade, the Homecoming Court and

various other students and student organizations were acknowledged. During the halftime festivities, the students on the court and the numerous activities in which they participate were announced, as well.

Many area residents came out to watch the parade and support the young people that participated. Also, the Homecoming football game was well attended. It is not unusual for local folks – with no family members or close connections to the team – to come and watch the games.

In the announcements of the future plans of the Homecoming Court, several were pursuing careers that would likely bring them back after college graduation or keep them here throughout their professional training. It would be highly desirable for Richlands community youth to remain in the area... especially ones as highly motivated as the ones recognized during Homecoming.

SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC PROMOTION

The Southern Gospel music industry enjoys great popularity in Southwest Virginia and the surrounding region. Whether the music is broadcast on the radio or in live concerts, there is a significant number of people that are avid enthusiasts. However, it is more than the sound of the music or the artists that sing it. The message in the music is why most of the listeners have a yearning for it. Whether the message is for the purpose of salvation, encouragement, comfort, healing (mind, body, or soul), or whatever needs a person has, Southern Gospel music has the words in songs that can make it happen with the help of the Lord.

Promoting Southern Gospel music will ensure that its popularity will continue and, possibly, expand. This, in turn, will ensure those that produce it can continue and that sufficient income will be generated for others that depend, completely or partially, on the industry. Although some artists do pretty well financially, others live on relatively meager

amounts of money and view their singing as simply a ministry. In any case, those involved tend to be quite passionate about the message in the music. It is that message that people rely on for hope and encouragement to be there for them – in the music – when they need it.

Program: Live remote from the Tazewell County Fair

Date/Time/Duration: August 24, 2021/during the 5 pm – 7 pm remote/
approximately 10 – 20 minutes each

Guests: Jerry Foster, Board Member of the Tazewell County Fair
Committee

Stan Wikle, of Stan Wikle Gospel Music Promotions

Aaron Bostic, Virginia Farm Bureau Insurance Agent, sponsor of the
remote coverage of the Gospel Music Night at the Tazewell County Fair
and gospel singer with Servant's Heart Trio

Ray McGuinness, singer with the Good News Trio

Karen Peck Gooch, of Karen Peck and New River

The Gospel Music Night at the Tazewell County Fair is always a special night for WGTH listeners. That night, many listeners try to come; but the ones that hear the interviews are blessed, as well. All of those interviewed are extremely passionate about Southern Gospel music. Jerry Foster has been responsible for arranging to have the Gospel Music Night and has been influential in booking the groups that sing. Frequently, listeners and fair attendees express their gratitude that the fair includes Gospel music. It is a good size venue that allows for a significant gathering of people with a common passion. Jerry talked about the fair, in general, but highlighted the Gospel Music Night and the specific groups that were featured... Karen Peck and New River and the Good News Trio.

Stan Wikle, of Stan Wikle Gospel Music Promotions, has been asked to book the groups for the Tazewell County Fair for many of the years that the Gospel Music Night has been featured. Stan has great

knowledge of the industry and knows many of the artists, personally. In addition to talking about that night's groups, Stan always shares information about individuals and groups in Southern Gospel music... giving updates on such things as upcoming concerts, prayer requests for artists that are struggling with health issues, retiring artists and those up and coming, etc.

Aaron Bostic is an insurance agent for Virginia Farm Bureau. His office was one of the sponsors of the remote broadcast at the Gospel Music Night. Aaron is, also, a member of Servant's Heart Trio so Gospel music is near and dear to his heart. Sadly, Brother Sam Whited, the lead singer of the group, passed away in April. Sam was a very close friend of Aaron's and a great promoter of Southern Gospel music himself. Aaron had put together what amounted to a Gospel concert for the celebration of Brother Sam's life with many well-known singers in attendance. The funeral/Gospel music celebration for Brother Sam was a major part of the interview with Aaron Bostic.

Ray McGuinness of the Good News Trio introduced his group and talked about their history in Southern Gospel music. Although much of the interview focused on his personal life, the group's singing career and experiences over many years was discussed. One subject was how to maintain a spiritual life while being so busy with a fulltime job and numerous singing engagements.

Karen Peck Gooch, of Karen Peck and New River, talked a lot about traveling on the road with family, her major involvement in the industry, certain songs that have seemed to minister to people more than others and why, and her history in Gospel music. Karen's sweet and caring personality and her great sense of humor came out in her interview. Having sung with the Nelons for ten years and having gained the respect of her peers and fans alike, Karen has won many prestigious awards and was inducted into the Southern Gospel Music Hall of Fame. These topics were discussed with this Southern Gospel sweetheart.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF IMPORTANT EVENT INFORMATION

The celebrations of Independence Day, the Fourth of July, take various forms and are staggered throughout the area... not celebrated only on July 4th. Radio announcements have provided event information recorded by the various organizers or representatives. Each highlights their own crucial information and has the ability to add additional specifics regarding their celebratory event.

Event coordinators and committees for other events, such as the Town of Tazewell's annual "Main Street Moments," also depend on various media – including radio – to disperse information regarding their events.

Program/Times: Infobits recorded by event coordinators and played throughout the day at various times

Dates/Durations & Guests (listed below)

July 1 – 3, 2021/1 minute 59 seconds – Cindy Farmer, Executive Director of Historic Crab Orchard Museum and Pioneer Park, spoke on behalf of the museum's Independence Day Celebration held on Saturday, July 3rd. In addition to the hours and other specifics, Cindy talked about the special activities going on that day, including: live music performances, old-fashioned kids' games, a kids' craft trail, a colonial reenactment, costumed demonstrations throughout the Pioneer Park, and various food vendors.

July 1 – 3, 2021/30 seconds – Joyce Reed, Activities Coordinator for the Jewell Ridge Community Center, invited the listeners... especially those who had grown up in the Jewell Ridge community... to come to Jewell Ridge to celebrate on July 3rd. Joyce specified what groups would be singing and some interesting foods that vendors would be offering.

July 1 – 4, 2021/1 minute 6 seconds – Amanda Hoops, Executive Director of "Tazewell Today" (Community Development Director),

represented the Town of Tazewell, Virginia. Amanda explained that, last year, the celebration had been moved to the former Ramey/McCann (car lot) parking lot in order to allow for social distancing. The new location was so well received that the Town of Tazewell decided to have it there, again, this year. The celebration was set for July 4th, and would have food trucks, a special concert featuring a popular local group, free “stuff” for kids and, of course, fireworks.

July 19 – 24, 2021/1 minute plus – Amanda Hoops, Executive Director of “Tazewell Today” (Community Development Director), represented the Town of Tazewell and those involved in Tazewell Today (“the local initiative to revitalize the Tazewell Main Street community”). Amanda gave information regarding the town’s “Main Street Moments” festival, including entertainment options, vendors, and other specifics that would be helpful to event participants.