

# WGTH ISSUES & PROGRAMS LIST

## SECOND QUARTER 2018

### APRIL – JUNE

#### RECOGNITION OF FALLEN WARRIORS

Many quote the famous and solemn saying, “All gave some, but some gave all.” The sacrifice that so many men and women made for the protection of freedom and the lives of others is immense and worthy of our utmost honor and respect. Their precious lives and their honorable deaths must never be forgotten.

Program: Live remote broadcast from the Richlands Freedom Festival

Date: June 30, 2018

Time: 11:14 am – 11:39 am    Duration: 25 minutes

Guests: Ernie Lowe, representing the local Fallen Warriors chapter

James Lowe, a teen participant in the Fallen Warriors

The Richlands Freedom Festival presented the perfect opportunity for the local Fallen Warriors chapter to recognize men and women from Tazewell County and elsewhere who sacrificed their lives in combat situations. They, also, encouraged others to show their appreciation for all veterans. Recognition was manifested in several different ways.

For the second year, the Fallen Warriors prepared United States flags with specially engraved dog tags representing military veterans from this area. According to Ernie Lowe of the local chapter of the Fallen Warriors, the flags were put on display on the lawn in front of the Richlands Police Department for a while prior to the Freedom Festival.

A special ceremony took place in which the flags were presented to the veterans' families.

Another special event in this year's recognition of fallen warriors, Lowe reported, was the unveiling of the three special panels representing the fallen from Tazewell County. These attractive panels represent the first of a durable mobile wall that will travel to festivals and patriotic events in several counties in southwest Virginia and two neighboring counties in West Virginia. Lowe acknowledged the \$5,000 financial contribution from the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors that made the completion of the first portion of the wall possible. He explained that there were several meetings pending with other counties' governing bodies in which he would seek to encourage similar support. He emphasized the fact that the panels featured the names with raised lettering that allowed for visitors to use a piece of paper and rub over the name of their special veteran with a pencil as a memento to take home... just as is possible with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D. C.

Ernie Lowe explained the primary function of the local chapter is their Fallen Warriors Motorcycle Honor Guard. Their members consist of veterans and non-veterans who "share the same passion and enthusiasm for our Veterans and take pride in showing respect for such." Upon the request of the family of a deceased veteran, a motorcycle escort will be provided and appropriate flags will be attached to various participating motorcycles as they, respectfully, travel ahead of the deceased from the funeral to the burial.

An additional special aspect of this year's Freedom Festival was the presence of the POW flag as it traveled through the area as part of a fifty state tour. Lowe explained the significance of this honor and took time to give an audio tour of the corner of the lawn dedicated to the remembrance of the fallen. Several solemn displays were described including the special table set to represent and honor the missing soldier.

The significance of each item on the table and the chair that leaned against the table was described as were other displays.

James Lowe, Ernie's teenage son, shared his enthusiasm for the mission of the Fallen Warriors. In his desire to demonstrate his gratitude for those who sacrificed for our country, James participates in traveling and helping with the setup, take down, and maintenance of the displays of the walls and Fallen Warrior booths. He and his father talked about the patriotic T-shirts and other items the Fallen Warriors were selling to raise money for their projects. They, also, encouraged listeners to take a toy soldier from their chest of toy soldiers as a visual reminder to pray for our active duty military personnel and their families in their absence.

## HELP FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

Statistics regarding the frequency of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among those who have served our country in military service are staggering. Additionally, many cases go unreported because of the danger of discharge and/or the stigma attached to the disorder. Various sources estimate that an average of twenty or more soldiers a day commit suicide. The men and women who have put themselves in harm's way deserve the help they need to live their lives to the fullest.

Program: Live remote broadcast from the Richlands Freedom Festival

Date: June 30, 2018

Time: 11:14 am – 11:39 am    Duration: 25 minutes

Guest: B. J. Compton, Fallen Warrior member and dog trainer for the  
Southwest Virginia Service Dog Project

B. J. Compton, himself a veteran, explained the mission of the Southwest Virginia Service Dog Project. The project is designed to

provide service dogs to assist veterans with PTSD. Oftentimes, the cost of a therapeutic service dog is thousands of dollars. This enormous expense is prohibitive for many service personnel. Therefore, the use of animals from area shelters has proven beneficial to both the soldier and the dog.

Trustpoint Insurance in Richlands is the sponsor for the project. Fortunately, B. J. Compton is able to provide the necessary training for animals from local shelters to become companions and guardians of soldiers with PTSD. With the generous contributions from Trustpoint, more soldiers benefit from the project because of the affordability of the training done locally and at a phenomenally reduced rate.

The Southwest Virginia Service Dog Project works in conjunction with the Fallen Warriors to provide therapeutic service dogs to those who struggle with depression or suicidal thoughts. Contact information was provided by Compton.

## PROMOTION OF APPALACHIAN CULTURE AND FAITH

Tent revivals and traveling evangelists did not die when Billy Graham discontinued that method of evangelism. These methods of spreading the gospel are alive and well in much of the South and remain very popular in the Appalachian Mountains. In order to preserve this piece of Appalachian culture and evangelism, WGTH promotes tent revivals and evangelistic preaching in the listening area.

Program: Live interview and part of a documentary being filmed

Date: May 25, 2018

Time: 11:36 am – 12 noon    Duration: 24 minutes

Guest: Evangelist Steve Warren from Hendersonville, TN

Evangelist Steve Warren originally from Saltville, Virginia, participated in a live promotional interview with April Trent of WGTH as a TV crew filmed the episode. The documentary project was described on-the-air as the filming took place and Evangelist Warren fielded questions regarding his upbringing, his testimony of salvation, his work at WKGK (a Christian radio station in Saltville) years ago under the same general manager that runs WGTH, his history as a pastor/evangelist and gospel singer, and his upcoming tent revival in a nearby town in West Virginia.

Evangelist Warren's small town upbringing was not unlike that of many in the WGTH listening audience. Attending church at least three times a week is still commonplace in the rural areas and some of the cities in the Appalachian region. Church revivals and tent revivals are a part of everyday life for many church attendees in the mountains. Warren invited the listeners to come out to his tent revival to hear the Word of God preached.

(The documentary was filmed for future use by an A&E film crew.)

## PROMOTION OF LOCAL EVENTS

An integral part of WGTH's responsibility and privilege is to serve the communities in the listening area by promoting local events. In doing so, listeners become aware of these events and interest is aroused in the activities, musical performers, vendors, etc. Furthermore, the specific information including dates, times, locations, etc., is dispersed. The communities, sponsors, vendors, performers, and others involved in the entertainment portion of the events appreciate the publicity as it tends to help generate a more successful outcome.

Program: Infobits promoting the 37<sup>th</sup> Honaker Redbud Festival

Dates: April 16 – 21, 2018

Times: Throughout the day    Duration: Approximately two minutes

Guests: Activities listed below are associated with the Redbud Festival

Carolyn Puckett – Breakfast

Ann Taylor – Arts and Crafts and Homecoming Dinner

Jim Baldwin – Bird Walk

Jim Taylor – Car and Truck Show

Josh Barrett – Family Fun Day (Games & Entertainment) and  
Redbud Idol Show

Diane Fuller – Pet Show

C. H. Wallace – Poker Run Canoe Race

Carla Wallace – Pageants

Various Honaker Redbud Festival Committee members recorded infobits to be aired prior to the festival events they highlighted. Each of the guests gave detailed information about their event – day, time, and location included. The committee members warmly welcomed listeners to come out to the festival which began with the pageants on Friday night, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Most of the events were on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The festival concluded with the much-anticipated homecoming dinner and the canoe race on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## PREVENTATIVE HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR THE AGING

Health care is not truly affordable for many of the citizens of southwest Virginia. The costs associated with lab work and diagnostic screenings are repulsive to citizens who would like to have money for food, clothing, housing, and other necessities for themselves and their families. Because good health tends to decrease as age increases, health screenings become extremely important to senior citizens. These

assessments often reveal deficiencies in health or potentially serious problems that need to be addressed.

Program: Pre-recorded segments promoting senior health and the  
Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens (AASC) Spring Fling

Dates: May 9 – 19, 2018

Times: Throughout the weekdays    Duration: 2 1/2 - 3 minutes

Guests: Tammy Richardson, RN from Clinch Valley Medical Center

Leah Call, Director of Nutrition at Clinch Valley Medical Center

Regina Sayers, Executive Director of the AASC

The Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens (AASC) has an annual event known as the “Spring Fling” which is, basically, a health fair open to all senior citizens. The focus of the event is to provide the aging population of the area with preventative health screenings and assessments in a non-threatening and fun environment. The results of the cholesterol, blood sugar, blood pressure, pulmonary function, scoliosis, and other screenings will allow health providers to determine what, if any, further tests or assessments the seniors need to obtain in order to maintain or improve their health.

Tammy Richardson, a registered nurse at Clinch Valley Medical Center (CVMC), shared the list of screenings and assessments that would be available to participating seniors at the Spring Fling at the AASC on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. CVMC provides the screenings and assessments free of charge. Tammy encouraged seniors to come to the event and be checked. She went on to relate several instances in which she and others had been involved in health fairs in which potentially life-threatening issues had been discovered. The importance of exercise and good nutrition was discussed and specific suggestions were made for relatively easy lifestyle adjustments.

Leah Call, Director of Nutrition at CVMC, gave even more detailed nutrition information. The food pyramid was described and the importance of making healthy choices, such as drinking plenty of water, was emphasized. Keeping diabetes in check and monitoring other special dietary needs were discussed within the framework of lifestyle modification. Specific screenings were cited that would be available at the health fair to assist seniors in developing customized plans for their specific nutritional needs.

Regina Sayers, Executive Director of the Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens (AASC), gave an overview of the Spring Fling event and a brief summary of the many aspects of AASC. The resources and beneficial programs available to seniors through AASC are numerous. Regina talked about the nutritional and dietary programs, adult and child intergenerational day care, health and wellness checks, senior centers, etc. The availability of some of the programs offered was income based. Others were open to anyone. Seniors and their caregivers and/or guardians were encouraged to inquire regarding all the available resources and programs associated with AASC.

## ASSISTING SENIORS IN FINDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE AGING AND HEALTH CARE OPTIONS

As people age, needs arise that require they seek assistance from professionals and agencies that may be unfamiliar to them. Not knowing what is available can be problematic as well. Comparing services and costs can be difficult and confusing. It would be helpful if there was a place where all the resources and possible options could be viewed at the same time and the seniors had the opportunity to ask questions.



Program: Live remote broadcast from the Senior Health Fair

Date: June 29, 2018

Time: 9:11am – 10:00 am      Duration: 49 minutes

Guests and Businesses/Topics:

Sharon VanDyke – Health Fair Co-coordinator

Preferred Home Health Care

Mike Carter – Organizer, Home Nursing Company

Barry Alley – Clinch Valley Medical Center

Dede Richardson – Interim Health Care

Faith Hart – Medical Services of America, Inc. (MSA)

Sara Hagy – Specialty Care Rx

Sonja Dotson – Dogwood Crossing Senior Living &

Memory Care

Rena Matney – Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens

Katie Justus – Southwest Virginia Medical Reserve Corps

Allen Slagle – Senior Navigator (Virginia Navigator staff)

Susan White – Special Needs in Disasters (SNID)

Sharon VanDyke and Mike Carter invited people to come to the Senior Health Fair that was held in conjunction with the Richlands Freedom Festival. They gave general information regarding the fair and encouraged seniors to find out about what services and resources were available. They, also, encouraged individuals to put their names in for some very special drawings that were being held during the fair. Each individual representative promoted their business and/or area of expertise.

Most of the home health and hospice representatives shared similar information about their companies. There were some reps that shared some lesser known information. Sara Hagy spoke of the Specialty Care Rx Pharmacy's compounding of drugs for patients that needed that service – including furry patients. Renae Matney gave a long list of services and programs offered by the Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens (AASC). Allen Slagle explained how the Senior Navigator and Virginia Navigator websites benefit seniors and their caregivers... allowing them to see what is available without having to leave home. Susan White emphasized how vital it is for people that are responsible for folks with special needs to get information about their special friend or loved one into the police, fire, and rescue database in case of a disaster when time is of the essence.