1st Quarter Public Affairs/Programming Reports

Jan- March 2018

"East Tennessee Now" is a public affairs program which airs Sunday mornings on Knoxville radio stations WJXB and WIMZ. On the program, we attempt to address problems and issues affecting the people of Knoxville and East Tennessee. Also discussed are possible solutions to these issues and problems. "East Tennessee Now" is about 30 minutes in length and airs at 5:30am on WIMZ , and at 6:30 on WJXB.

March 25 – Maryville, Alcoa and South Knoxville residents and others who use Alcoa Highway are dealing with a lot of construction as TDOT works on a widening project. We're catching up on that and other road projects underway. We'll find out how they are or will affect you with Mark Nagi, the Community Relations Officer at the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Also - Ready for a night out? InterFaith Health Clinic is hosting its annual Casino Royale night on Friday, April 13 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the fopundry with the goal of raising $100000 for its operations. The clinic's Missy Standifer runs down the night of fun and how it helps the working poor in East Tennessee get the health care they need.

March 18 – Many people in Knoxville and East Tennessee were affected by the 2016 Sevier County wildfires. Officials now have a new emergency alert system in place. Gatlinburg Fire Chief Greg Miller and

EMA Director Joe Ayers explain how the new system works and how residents need to sign up for the Code Red Alerts.

Also - The Restoration House in East Tennessee is expanding. They will be able to help more than 20 single moms (at one time,) and their kids get back on their feet. That's compared to eight previously. Marisa Lykins shares the success of this program since 2007 and how volunteers can help.

March 11 – Spring is almost here. The lake is a favorite place in the warmer months for East Tennesseans. Today, (March 11) folks can sign up for safe boating classes with the U.S. Coast Guard. It's the last day for the Downtown Knoxville Boat Show at the Knoxville Convention Center. Show organizer Ryan has all of the details.

March 4 – The opioid epidemic is affecting many people in East Tennessee. But, there is help and support. Celebrate Recovery North is one place where you can get help with many issues including depression. John Gargis at Fountain City United Methodist Church invites all to the group's upcoming "Party with a Purpose" fundraiser on March 23rd.

February 25 – Music Feeds! Maryville's Second Harvest Food Bank announces the concert line-up for this new series being held May-October at World's Fair Park Amphitheater. Aaron Snuckels, in charge of public relations says the proceeds will help feed programs thru the food bank in 18 counties in East Tennessee.

February 18 – Looking for a job? Anyone and everyone are encouraged to apply during the job fairs for Dollywood! They need to hire hundreds of people part time and full time for the summer months. We talk to

Wes Ramey about all of the perks staff get and what to bring to Sevier County High School during the fairs, set for Feb. 24 & March 1 from 9-3pm.

February 11- Maryville businesses as well as those from Knoxville are encouraged to participate as vendors at the annual Dogwood Arts House and Garden Show. Plenty of professional help for homeowners as well. Executive Director, Sherry Jenkins and Media Coordinator Shannon Herron run down all the details and explain how money from this show goes back into the community to help support other Dogwood Arts programs.

February 4 - February is the month of love! You can find your ultimate "soulmutt' on Superbowl Sunday, Feb. 4th during Puppy Speed dating at Crafty Bastard Brewery! Also, spend five minutes in puppy heaven on "The Cuddle Bus" to benefit Small Breed Rescue of East Tennessee. From 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Cuddling costs $5 and proceeds benefit the rescue. Rescue volunteer Missy Martin is here with the details.

This weekend is not only the Super Bowl, but also the Kibble Bowl that Knoxville Pays it Forward puts on. Kim Cantrell, the organizer, tells us all of the locations around East Tennessee where we can donate small bags of dog and cat food. These will then be given to elderly folks so they can afford to feed their pets. Some will also be donated to local rescues and shelters as well.

January 28 - Tuesday, January 30th, local veterans are invited to attend the annual Tennessee Veterans Business Association Business Expo and Job Fair. Steven Stilts and Katie Eastman, program ambassadors,

explain the benefits the vets will receive by attending. Also, the pros to being a member of the TVBA can be valuable. Keynote Dinner will be held 5:30-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29th at Crowne Plaza in Knoxville. The Business Expo and Veteran Job Fair will be held 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30th at Crowne Plaza in Knoxville.

January 21 – Maryville's Remote Area Medical gets ready for the 900th clinic. The non-profit group provides healthcare, including medical, dental and eye exams at no cost to thousands of needy people in East Tennessee. Founder, Stan Brock asks listeners for help with the medical clinic and donations. It's Wednesday, Jan. 31 through Sunday, Feb. 4, at Chilhowee Park.

January 14 - Beat the Winter Blues with this fabulous night at Stanley Greenhouse with music, food and beverages, and special discounts on plants. It's only minutes away for those in South Knoxville & Maryville. Sue Beverly of RMH explains how it benefits the Ronald McDonald House in keeping the lights on, food on the table for the occupants. This organization provides families a home away from home, at no cost, while their children are being treated for terminal illnesses. The event is Friday, February 2nd, 2018 from 5:30PM to 7:30PM in South Knoxville.

January 7 - The flu has turned deadly for three people in Tennessee this season. Denise Barker, a pharmacist with Kroger Pharmacies explains how the flu can affect you and how the flu shot can help you.