WCHG Most Significant Issues 2nd Quarter – April Through June 2011

We aired national news broadcasts from NPR News at the top of each hour during our Morning Drive (6-10 a.m.) and Evening Drive (3-6 p.m.) as well as at the beginning and end of our Noon Hour Magazine (12 and 1 p.m.). At the bottom of each hour during the Morning and Evening Drive-times, we alternated airing state news reports from the Virginia News Network (VNN) and WV Metro News. VNN news also aired at 12:30, during Noon Hour Magazine, and WV Metro News aired at 12:55. These programs run Monday through Friday. We also carried NPR National News at Noon on Saturday and Sunday. Our local news stories aired after NPR News at the beginning of Noon Hour Magazine. They would then repeat at the top and bottom of each hour during the Evening Drive and the following day's Morning Drive. Here is a summary of the most significant issues covered in our local news this quarter.

County Government

We aired reports from each Bath County Board of Supervisors meeting, and we aired an agenda for each meeting the day before. Board of Supervisors reports this quarter aired on 4/13 (meals tax), 4/14 (county emp insurance), 4/18 (work session on taxes), 4/19 (disaster declaration after extremely heavy rains), 4/20 (shifting residents from Cedar Creek to Warm Springs district due to changes in 2010 Census numbers), 5/2 (approval of 2011-12 school budget), 5/11 (meals tax raised to 4%), 5/12 (approval of changes to emp insurance), 6/15 (setting new real estate tax), and 6/16 (searching for funding to restore assistant principal position at high school).

News Briefs

On 4/19, we aired a report about the state tax filing deadline being extended for those residents who suffered severe damage due to recent flooding from heavy rains. Affected residents were given an additional 30 days to file their state returns.

Agriculture and Environment

Each day, during Noon Hour Magazine, we aired a regionally-produced three-minute news magazine feature about topics related to agriculture. Agriculture is a major industry in our listening area, and being produced in the Shenandoah Valley, On the Farm Radio, is relevant to our listeners.

We air periodic reports from Patrick Sheridan, District Ranger for the Warm Springs District of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest. This quarter, these stories aired on 4/15 (changes coming to the National Forest), 4/22 (prescribed burns), 4/27 (George Washington National Forest plan to be released soon), 6/20 (forest plan released – seeking public comment), and 6/29 (coyote study).

On 5/30, we aired a report about the Bath Farmers market opening for the 2011 season.

On 6/6, we aired a story about a showing of the film "Queen of the Sun" a documentary about honeybees and colony collapse disorder.

On 6/22, we aired a story about a public meeting to discuss the decline of the deer population in Bath County.

Community

We run a periodic feature on the activities of the Bath County Senior Center. This quarter, these reports ran on 5/6 and 6/16.

On 4/6, we aired a story about Easter baskets being auctioned off in a silent auction to benefit the Bath Community Hospital Sunshine Fund – a fund that provides help for hospital employees facing hardship issues.

On 4/22, we aired a story about a new antenna for WCHG being installed on a new tower on Warm Springs Mountain. The previous tower with WCHG's antenna, and a good part of the Bath County emergency services antennas, collapsed in a powerful windstorm earlier in the year.

On 5/10, we aired a story about the second annual Senior Law Day – a day of workshops devoted to legal issues of concern to senior citizens. It's sponsored by the Allegheny, Bath and Highland County Bar Associations. Allegheny Mountain Radio attended and recorded the sessions which will be broadcast at a future date during our Saturday morning public affairs time slot.

On 5/16, we aired a story about Bath EMS Day, a day to celebrate and honor emergency service workers and volunteers in the county.

On 6/1, we aired a story about the new Bath County emergency services tower and certain changes it has meant for local first responders.

On 6/16, we aired a story about the 2011 Bath County Triathlon. On 6/21, we had a follow up story with comments from some of the participants.

Education and Children

We cover the meetings of the Bath Co School Board. During this quarter, these reports ran on 4/7 (current members stepping down), 5/11 (moving Millboro Elem Pre-K class to Valley Elem), 6/8 (Bath HS Principal Pete Pitard resigns), 6/9 (Millboro Kindergarten restored), and 6/24 (fiscal year close out mtg).

We air periodic reports from the Bath County Library. During this quarter, these reports aired on 4/12, 5/9, 6/17, and 6/27.

On 4/29, we aired a story about a Bath/Highland County anti tobacco program started by retired Bath County teacher Mary Adderton. The program works with kids in grades three through ten in both Bath and Highland counties.

On 5/20, we aired a story about the Bath County HS Destination Imagination team going to global competition.

On 6/2, we aired a story about a meeting of concerned citizens talking about discontinuing the Kindergarten classes at Millboro Elementary school and moving them to Valley Elementary school. The move could result in young children being on a bus for up to 2 hours a day. Many expressed a fear this would be just the first step in closing Millboro completely. Some parents threatened to pull their children from the Bath County school system if the classes were moved. The classes were restored to Millboro during the June school board meeting.

Jobs and Development

On 5/5, we aired a story about an upcoming workshop to teach area businesses how to capitalize on and better attract tourists to their establishments.

Arts and Culture

On 4/5, we aired a story about the Garth Newel Music Center in Hot Springs kicking off their music season with the popular "Arch Duke" weekend of classical music.

On 4/14, we aired a story about the Mountain Valley Players new play LOL: Laugh Out Loud.

On 4/25, we aired a story about the Mountain Valley Players holding auditions for anyone interested in being part of their July 4th program.

On 5/6, we aired a story about the young ladies recently crowned Miss and Jr. Miss Bath County.

On 5/25, we aired a story about the Garth Newel Music Center's annual Blues and Jazz Fest.

On 6/27, we aired a story about Garth Newel's new pianist and Co-Artistic director, Misuzu Tanaka.

On 6/30, we aired a story about the Mountain Valley Players July 4th program "Spirit of America".

Public Service Announcements

Below is a list of Public Service Announcements aired this quarter:

Education and Children

Bath Health Care Decisions Day	4/6 thru 4/13
Bath Social Security Meeting	4/6 thru 4/11
Dangers of Energy drinks	4/6 thru 4/17
Bath & Highland Anti Tobacco Program	4/14 thru 5/13
Bath Library Civil War Presentation	4/12 thru 4/17
Hot Springs Preservation Trust – Honeybee Movie	5/16 thru 6/16
Bath-Highland Senior Law Day	5/16 thru 5/23
Bath Bee Movie	5/18 thru 6/16
Bath Library Ebook Launch	6/24 thru 7/5

Health and Human Resources

Bath Tourism Workshop	4/24 thru 5/24
Bath Farmers Market Opening	5/18 thru 6/4
USDA IRS – Bath Farmers	6/10 thru 6/30
USDA Acreage – Bath Farmers	6/10 thur 6/30

Benefits and Fundraisers

Bath Golf Tourney	4/6 thru 4/24
Leukemia Society Golf Tournament	4/13 thru 4/17
WCHG Block Party Fundraiser	5/21 thru 6/4
WCHG Tower Raffle	6/24 thru 6/29
Bath Athletic Boosters – Softball Rings Fundraiser	6/24 thru 7/23

Art, Culture, and Recreation

Mountain Valley Players Community Auditons	4/22 thru 5/1
Mountain Valley Players – Photos Wanted	5/11 thru 5/21
Bath Declining Deer Population Meeting	5/20 thru 6/15
Bath Triathlon – Gen Info One	6/6 thru 6/17
Bath Triathlon – Gen Info Two	6/6 thru 6/17
Bath Triathlon – Road Closures	6/6 thru 6/17
Fellowship of Christian Athletes Basketball Camp	6/20 thru 6/26