

WCHG Most Significant Issues 3rd Quarter – July through September 2020

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 7/16, 8/14 (Noise ordinance), 8/25 (business lic requirement), 8/31 (Hemp ordinance), 9/11 (noise ordinance), and 9/16 (rezoning).

On 7/7, we aired a story about new Virginia state laws taking effect as of July 1st.

Court /Crime/Breaking News

Election Stories

On 9/1, we aired a story about the early voting process in Virginia ahead of the November general election.

Education and Children

We air periodic reports about the meetings of the Bath School Board. During this quarter these reports aired on 7/8 (school reopening guidelines), 7/24 (plans for upcoming school year), 8/6, and 9/8.

On 7/17, we aired a story about the choices being considered by the Virginia High School League for middle and high schools sports in Virginia schools in light of the pandemic.

On 7/22, we aired a story about the plans for the Bath County High School 2020 graduation ceremony.

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 began airing a series of stories about a proposed natural gas pipeline that would travel through parts of Pocahontas and Highland Counties, on a path that would take the pipeline from the shale fields of northern West Virginia through Virginia with the terminus of the pipeline in western North Carolina. A change in the pipeline route during this quarter now also includes parts of Bath County. During this quarter, these stories covering events in all three counties ran on 7/6 (Pipeline cancelled by Dominion and Duke Energy due to legal uncertainties concerning the project.)

We air periodic reports from the Warm Springs District Ranger for the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest. During this quarter these reports aired on

On 7/3, we aired a story about the 8th anniversary of the 2012 derecho storm that did a tremendous amount of damage in all three counties in our listening area.

On 8/20, we aired a story about a new phone application that can be used for contact tracing for the COVID-19 virus. The application is designed to notify users if they have been in contact with or in the vicinity of someone who has tested positive for the virus.

Community

On 7/14, we aired an interview with Amy Phillips with Bath Community Hospital about a COVID-19 testing event being planned for Bath County.

On 7/30, we aired a story about the Rebuild Virginia grant fund, a program to help small businesses and non-profits whose normal operations have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. On 9/25, we aired a story about the program being expanded and the new deadlines for businesses wishing to apply.

On 8/10, we aired an interview with Ann Warner, the owner of Camp Mont Shenandoah in Bath County about the adverse effects of the pandemic on summer camps such as this one.

On 8/26, we aired a story about the Town of Hot Springs as a candidate for best small tourist town in a contest sponsored by Blue Ridge Outdoors magazine. Local residents are encouraged to go to a website and cast their vote for Hot Springs to win this honor. On 9/3, we aired a story about Hot Springs being a finalist in the contest.

People

Jobs and Development

On 8/13, we aired a story about a moratorium on evictions issued by the Virginia Supreme Court at the request of Virginia Governor Ralph Northam.

Arts and Culture

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

Health and Human Resources

Circuit Court Restrictions

7/15 thru 9/30

Benefits and Fundraisers

Art, Culture, and Recreation

Summer Propagation Interference

7/21 thru 8/31