WVMR,WVMR-FM, WNMP, WDMT Most Significant Issues 1st Quarter – January through March 2016

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 meeting of the Pocahontas County Commission and reported the agenda for each meeting the day before. County Commission reports this quarter aired on 1/6, 1/22, 2/8, 2/18, 2/24, 3/2, 3/22, and 3/23.

Court /Crime/Breaking News

Election Stories

News Briefs

On 1/11, we aired a news brief about a scheduled power outage for customers of Monongahela Power in Pocahontas.

Education

We aired reports from Board of Education meetings this quarter and aired agendas for each meeting the day of the meeting. Board of Education reports this quarter aired on 1/13, 2/3, 2/10, 2/25, 3/28, and 3/31.

During this quarter we aired an educational feature produced by students in the Spanish classes at Pocahontas County high school called La Esquina de Espanol or The Spanish Corner. The students use the feature to demonstrate conversational Spanish, vocabulary and information about locations and culture in Spanish speaking countries around the world. The feature is part of a segment called "Education Friday" and during this quarter this feature aired on 1/29, 2/5, 3/11, and 3/25.

During this quarter we aired features as part of a segment called "Education Friday". These features were all related to education in some way and aired on 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, and 3/18.

On 2/12, we aired an interview with Pocahontas County Schools Superintendent talking about events happening in the schools.

On 2/22, we aired an interview with Ron Hall, Director of Maintenance for Pocahontas County schools. As part of the interview, Hall outlined the repairs/upgrades needed at all five county schools.

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 also aired a weekly feature called Town and Country Topics, in which a representative from the Virginia Cooperative Extension shared news about agriculture-related topics in the listening area. During this quarter, these reports aired on 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, and 3/29.

We air a monthly feature by volunteer reporter Jason Bauserman, our "Bartow Weatherman". He has been collecting weather information for many years, and his reports are a review of the weather conditions for the previous month. This quarter his reports ran on 1/25 (Dec 2015), 2/10 (Jan 2016), and 2/26 (YIR for 2015).

On 3/30, we aired a story about Jason Bauserman being nominated for the Holm Award, which recognizes amateur weather observers who have kept and reported their observations to the National Weather Service for a prescribed period of time. Jason has been reporting his observations for over 25 years.

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 both Pocahontas and Highland Counties ran on 1/12, 1/22 (USFS rejects route), 2/11 (new route), 2/19, 2/22 (Bath homeowners), 2/23 (Dominion rep), 3/1and 3/4/16 (ABRA mtg), 3/16 and 3/17 (Dominion open house), 3/17 and 3/18 (Bath landowner), and 3/28 and 3/31 (Dominion conference call).

On 1/14, we aired a story about Grow Appalachia, a program that teaches local residents how to grow their own food successfully and for sale in the local farmers markets.

Community

On 1/19, we aired an interview with Sgt. Barlow of the West Virginia State Police on winter driving.

On 1/21, with severe weather being forecast for the listening area, we aired a story that offered tips on being prepared for winter weather.

On 3/1, we aired a story about Help4WV, a program to help those with mental health and substance abuse problems.

On 3/8, we aired a story about a new West Virginia law going into effect on May 26, 2016 that would allow residents of the state 21 and over to obtain a permit to carry a concealed weapon without a concealed carry license nor the handgun training required for the license.

On 3/9, we aired a story about services offered to senior citizens in Pocahontas County which has a large population of residents 60 years of age or older.

People

Virginia Public Radio

We have entered into an agreement with Virginia Public Radio to be able to rebroadcast stories produced by reporters who work for VPR. This gives AMR an additional source of well-produced state news. This quarter, these stories aired on 1/5, 1/8, 1/14, 1/15, 1/19, 1/29, 2/4, 3/10, and 3/18.

West Virginia Public Radio

We occasionally air stories produced by West Virginia Public Radio. Like the stories from VPR, these stories give AMR an additional source of well-produced state news. This quarter, these stories aired on

Jobs and Development

On 1/8, we aired a story on how the warmer and drier than normal weather has affected Snowshoe Mountain Resort, a major county employer during the winter months.

On 1/12, we aired an interview with Cara Rose, Executive Director of the Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Center on how the unusually warm weather was affecting tourism in general in Pocahontas.

On 3/21, we aired a story about the future of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank. The NRAO has been working on finding alternative sources of funding since 2012 when the National Science Foundation was advised to divest the facility from their portfolio. The NRAO is an important source of tourism dollars for Pocahontas county and provides for 150 to 200 jobs yearly.

Arts and Culture

During this quarter we began airing a new feature during Noon Hour Magazine on the Monday program, *Reel Discovery*, a movie review feature. This quarter the program aired on 1/4/16, 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, and 3/28.

On 1/25, we aired a story about the WV Winter Music Festival, a relatively new festival held in Lewisburg, WV that celebrates the music of the region.

On 1/26, 1/27, and 1/28 we aired a 3 part story about the Preserving Pocahontas historical society and their efforts to preserve the history of the county.

On 3/15, we aired a story about the WV Dance Company and their upcoming appearance at the Pocahontas Opera House venue.

On 3/29, we aired a story about the Pulitzer Prize board awarding \$35,000.00 to the West Virginia Humanities council to celebrate the legacy of Pearl S. Buck, born in the Pocahontas County town of Hillsboro, and to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Pulitzer Prizes, first awarded in 1916. With this grant, the council will host the Pearl S. Buck Living Gateway Conference this fall at West Virginia University in Morgantown.

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

High Rocks Grow Appalachia

I/8 thru 1/21
IRS Scams

February Teen Violence Awareness

Early Childhood Fair

Pocahontas Convention & Visitors Bureau

3/14 thru 4/1
Scholarship

Health and Human Resources

Benefits and Fundraisers

Meals on Wheels – Pocahontas Senior Centers 3/7 thru 3/31 AMR – Welcome to New Board Members 3/18 thru 4/22

Art, Culture, and Recreation