

WDMT Most Significant Issues 1st Quarter – January through March 2019

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 1-3, 1-22, 2-7, 2-8, 2-21, 2-26 (Day Report Center), 3-6, and 3-28.

On 1-15 and 1-16 we aired a two part interview with Walt Helmick, recently elected to the Pocahontas County Commission. Helmick had served on the Commission early in his political career before going on to represent the county in the state senate for many years.

Court /Crime/Breaking News

On 3-21, we aired a story about the WV Attorney General suing the WV Catholic Diocese over allegations of sexual abuse.

Election Stories

News Briefs

Many prescribed burns for fuel reduction and habitat rehabilitation are scheduled during this time of year in our region. During this quarter we aired announcements about these burns on 2-28, and 3-1.

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 1-10, 1-31, 2-14, 2-15, 2-28, and 3-15.

We air periodic reports from the Pocahontas County Superintendent of Schools, Terrence Beam. During this quarter, these reports aired on 3-11.

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 features 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 1-7, 2-19, and 3-18.

We have been 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 1-25 (Allegheny Blue Ridge Alliance meeting), and 2-27 (4th Circuit court ACP denial).

On 1-15 and 1-16 we aired a two part story about the Pocahontas County Humane Society and the animal shelter.

Community

On 3-19 and 3-20, we aired a two part story about AMMAR or Appalachian Mountain Man Trailing and Rescue group in the county

On 3-26, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bureau college tourism scholarship.

People

On 3-25, we aired a story about the Frank Drake Lectureship at the Green Bank Observatory and its first recipient, radio host Ira Flatow who hosts the public radio program Science Friday.

Jobs and Development

On 1-9, we aired a story about the upcoming WV Maple Days, a two day event to highlight the production of maple syrup in West Virginia. There are two maple producers in Pocahontas who will be part of the state wide event.

On 1-31, we aired an interview with Cara Rose, Executive Director of the Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bureau about the growing importance of local Air B&B opportunities in Pocahontas County.

On 2-5, we aired a story about upcoming jobs that will be available soon related to the 2020 census.

On 3-13, we aired a story about a meeting hosted by the Centers for Disease Control in Linwood near Snowshoe about a proposal to build an underground mine testing area in the Mace area of the county.

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 1-2, 1-3 and 1-7 (different facets of wage theft), 1-8 (legislative initiatives), 2-1 (tobacco use age), 2-11 (tax deal), and 2-20 (generic drugs).

Arts and Culture

During this quarter we aired a movie review feature during Noon Hour Magazine on Monday's called *Reel Discovery*. This quarter the program aired on 1-7, 1-14, 1-21, 1-28, 2-4, 2-11, 2-18, 2-25, 3-4, 3-11, 3-18, and 3-25.

This quarter we aired the arts and culture feature Allegheny Mountain Showcase and Arts Calendar, with its emphasis on local artists and events in the Allegheny highlands of the two Virginias. The Arts Calendar features a calendar of upcoming arts events. The Showcase focuses on a particular artist, group and venue. During this quarter this feature aired on 1-4, 1-11, 1-18, 1-25, 2-1, 2-8, 2-15, 2-22, 3-1, 3-8, 3-15, 3-22, and 3-29.

On 3-12, we aired an interview with Roger Forman, an avid Wizard of Oz reader who will be giving a lecture on the series of Wizard books written by Frank L. Baum.

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

Pocahontas FFA – Bryson	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Noah	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Ariana	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Charity	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Mathias	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Jennalee	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Ben	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Jacob	2-15 thru 3-31
Pocahontas FFA – Kaitlyn	2-15 thru 3-31
Preschool Sign Up	3-15 thru 3-31

Health and Human Resources

IRS Scams	2-11 thru 4-15
Mon Forest Americorps Vista	3-12 thru 3-22

Benefits and Fundraisers

AMR Annual Meeting	2-17 thru 2-24
AMR Spring Fundraiser	3-27 thru 4-13

Art, Culture, and Recreation