

WDMT Most Significant Issues 4th Quarter – October through December 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 10/8, 10/21, 11/7, 11/21, 12/4, 12/19, and 12/31.

On 12/6 and 12/10, we aired a two-part story about the Pocahontas County Day Report Center.

Court /Crime/Breaking News

On 10/28 we aired a story about the Amber Alert issued for Isabel Hicks, a young teenager missing from northern Virginia.

On 11/5, we aired a story about a press release from the WV Attorney General's office about a possible technology scam targeting WV residents.

On 11/29 and 12/3 we aired updates on the Smoke Hole Fire and Dry Hollow fires in neighboring counties.

On 12/9, we aired a story about a possible Social Security Scam targeting WV residents.

Election Stories

News Briefs

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 10/10, 10/29 (LSIC at PCHS), 11/8 (LSIC at MMS), 12/11, and 12/23.

On 11/13, we aired a story about a special luncheon held at Hillsboro Elementary in celebration of Veterans Day. Students were asked to invite a Veteran of their choice to the lunch to honor their service.

On 11/19, we aired an interview with Pocahontas school Superintendent Terrance Beam and his comprehensive school plan proposal.

On 11/26, we aired a story about the Iceland Project. This project addresses the ways in which Iceland has tackled the opioid epidemic, particularly in keeping younger people from becoming addicts.

On 12/5, we aired a story about the annual school science fair held at the Green Bank Observatory.

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 10/14, 11/11, and 12/16.

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

Community

On 10/1 we aired a story about the opening of Camp Bartow, an historic site that played an integral part in a Civil War Battle near what is now the Virginia – West Virginia state border between Highland and Pocahontas counties.

People

On 10/16 and 10/17, we aired a two-part story about Laura Finch, along with her dog, doing a 19 day solo hike on the Allegheny Trail.

On 10/16, we aired an interview with county singer Kathy Mattea who will perform two sold-out performances at the Pocahontas Opera House in Marlinton.

On 12/18, we aired a story about a visit with US Representative Carol Miller at the Green Bank Observatory to meet with constituents and hear their concerns.

Jobs and Development

On 10/24 and 10/25, we aired a two-part interview with Tim Thomas about the return of the Mountain Transit Authority to Pocahontas. The MTA will provide public transportation to and from several far-flung areas of the county at a small cost to riders.

On 10/30, we aired an interview with Cara Rose, Executive Director of the Pocahontas Convention and Visitors Bureau about a new tourism initiative called Mountain Culture.

On 11/12, we aired a story about a US EDA grant given to the Pocahontas Public Service District for upgrades to that system.

On 11/15, we aired a story about a tourism conference held and Snowshoe Mountain Resort and hosted by the Pocahontas County CVB.

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 10/18 (Shutdown fears), 11/5 (city-county elections), 11/14 (Tree sitter help), 11/18 (African American Doctor radio in Virginia), 11/25 (2nd Amendment Sanctuary), 11/26 (VMFA Hopper exhibit), 12/13 (Grain network), and 12/24.

West Virginia Public Radio

We occasionally carry stories produced by West Virginia Public Broadcasting. During this quarter these stories aired on

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 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 11/18, 11/25, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, and 12/30.

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 10/4 (LOLA at POH), 10/11, 10/18 (IA – Bill Hefner), 10/25, 11/1 (Upriver at POH), 11/8, 11/15 (Upriver), 11/22, 12/6 (Joy to Lewisburg), 12/13, and 12/27 (NYE and First Day hikes).

On 10/1 we aired a story about events related to the Autumn Harvest festival in Marlinton.

On 11/6, we aired a story about the Pine Mountain Sessions, a performance of music and poetry based on works from the Pine Mountain school in Kentucky.

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

High Rocks Grow Appalachia

12/23 thru 1/10/20

Health and Human Resources

Volunteer DJ Workshops	11/19 thru 12/2
Pocahontas CVB Mountain Culture	11/22 thru 12/31
WV Welcome Training	11/22 thru 12/3

Benefits and Fundraisers

Disabled Veterans Transportation Help	12/31 thru 1/15/20
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Art, Culture, and Recreation