

## **WDMT Most Significant Issues 3rd Quarter – July through September 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 7/3, 7/19, 8/8, 8/23, 9/9, and 9/20.

On 9/11 we aired a story about a proposed change to the animal ordinance in the county to address dogs being kept chained up.

### **Court /Crime/Breaking News**

On 8/7 we aired a story about a West Virginia State Police officer being shot in the line of duty while attempting to arrest a suspect in central Pocahontas County. The suspect was killed. The officer was hospitalized for a time but is expected to make a full recovery.

### **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 7/15, 8/1, 8/2, 8/27, and 9/18.

### **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 8/16, and 9/30.

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 7/30 (rejection of fish and wildlife permit for the ACP).

On 7/2, we aired a story about the impacts of local flooding after a recent series of thunderstorms passing through the region produced very heavy and localized rainfall.

On 7/4, 7/9 and 7/11 we aired a three-part interview with WVU Extension Agent Greg Hammons speaking about a variety of agricultural topics of interest for WV farmers in our area.

On 8/28 we aired a story about an aerial distribution of rabies pellets. The pellets contain a vaccination medication and are intended to attract raccoons, skunks and other animals known for carrying the rabies virus in our area.

On 9/20 we aired a report about proposed prescribed burns that would affect parts of northern Pocahontas County.

## **Community**

On 8/13 we aired a story about the Veterans Upward Bound program offered through Concord University. The program aims to help Veterans gain access to higher education, training and counseling following their discharge from military service.

## **People**

### **Jobs and Development**

On 7/18, we aired a story about a Pocahontas couple who had recently had difficulty getting a hotel room in Greenbrier County. They were told that the hotel was reluctant to rent a room to someone within a certain distance of their home: Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties are adjacent to one another. Upon further investigation, the reasoning behind the reluctance was due to some guests using the rooms for illicit drug activity.

On 7/23 we aired a story concerning a meeting of the Mountain Transport Authority, a bus service that will provide transportation in Pocahontas county. On 7/24 we followed up with an interview with Sam Felton, the Mayor of Marlinton, where the MTA service would be based. On 9/25 we followed up with a story about the start up of the service and the routes that will be used.

On 7/30 we aired a story about Lucy's Groceries, a new full-service grocery store that opened in Marlinton.

On 7/31 we aired a story about the Green Bank Observatory remaining in an agreement with the National Science Foundation for limited funding from the NSF for the GBO. In 2012 the NSF had received a recommendation to divest the site completely from its portfolio.

On 8/14, we aired a story about Pocahontas County along with Snowshoe Mountain Resort being named an International Mountain Biking Association Ride Center. The designation opens the door for significant mountain biking development and the economic benefits that such a center can provide to the community.

On 8/21 we aired a story about internships being offered to work in a variety of positions in the Monongahela National Forest which covers a large part of Pocahontas County.

On 9/5 we aired a story about the International Mountain Biking Association World Cup Finale series at Snowshoe Mountain Resort in Pocahontas County. Snowshoe is the only resort in the US to be chosen to host an event in the international mountain biking series. On 9/17 we aired an update about the event and the economic benefit to the county.

On 9/23 we aired a story about an agreement between the Green Bank Observatory and the National Science Foundation for continued, limited NSF funding for the Pocahontas County observatory.

### **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 7/9 (General Assembly special session), 7/16, 7/19, 8/19, and 9/3 (Dominion Power earnings).

### **West Virginia Public Radio**

We occasionally carry stories produced by West Virginia Public Broadcasting. During this quarter these stories aired on 7/24 (Monster movie camp in Pocahontas), and 9/3 (ticket scalping).

### **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 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, and 9/30.

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 7/5, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30, 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, and 9/27.

### **Public Service Announcements**

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

#### **Education and Children**

School Bus – Don't Pass	8/15 thru 10/1
School Bus – Passing Violation	8/15 thru 10/1
School Bus – Safest Vehicle	8/15 thru 10/1

**Health and Human Resources**

Summer Propagation Issues

7/1 thru 9/30

**Benefits and Fundraisers**

**Art, Culture, and Recreation**