

Community Needs and Issues Addressed through the Programming of WQCH Radio

July 1, 2020

- 1) Local News – WQCH is the only daily source of local broadcast news in the South Walker County area. Local news airs four times daily, Monday through Friday and three times on Saturday. Content concentrates on news and community events. The station also maintains a website with local news and information for the public at WQCH.net.
- 2) Coverage of Georgia News – With LaFayette’s proximity to Chattanooga, most television and radio news available, centers on Tennessee. WQCH airs news from the Georgia News Network four times daily. This source helps our listeners keep up to date with the State Capital, including action of the General Assembly and Governor’s Office. The network also provides Georgia Sports reports for our listeners three times per day, Monday through Friday and twice on Saturday.
- 3) Local Weather Information – National Weather Service forecasts for Northwest Georgia are aired each hour 6 a.m. through 6 p.m. In addition, WQCH serves as a local “weather statistics” information source for LaFayette. The station also monitors NOAA Weather Radio on its EAS receiver for automatic weather warnings.
- 4) International News – News from the NBC Radio Network is aired Morning, Noon and Afternoon Drive hours to keep listeners informed of world events.
- 5) Public Service – WQCH airs public service announcements of local interest. Agencies served include the American Red Cross, Blood Assurance, The Georgia Department of Human Resources, Walker County Department of Family and Children Services, area Headstart Centers, the Cherokee Regional Libraries, Northwest Georgia Chapter of the Blind, Walker Transit, Walker County School System, LaFayette City Government and the Walker County Chamber of Commerce, to name a few. A free “lost and found” is also part of this service.
- 6) Job Opportunities – In an effort to locate work for the unemployed, WQCH airs employer’s job openings free, as a public service.
- 7) Senior Citizens – News and Public Service features run frequently for LaFayette Senior Neighbors, the Area Agency on Aging and the Walker County Senior Center in LaFayette. Information on local food,

transportation and health care services for the elderly population are at the core of this service.

- 8) Farm Community – A locally-produced program from the Walker County Extension Service is aired Monday through Saturday in the 6 a.m. hour. A Farm Markets report airs adjacent to that program. Events of the Walker County Young Farmers Chapter and Walker County 4-H are frequently publicized. WQCH recently received an award of appreciation from the Young Farmers Organization.
 - 9) Spiritual and Moral features – WQCH produces a daily Bible Devotional Program called “A Word for Your World”, which airs Monday through Friday. A local Church News feature, with free publicity on special events at area Churches, airs with the 7 a.m. News.
 - 10) Q-Country Classifieds is a ‘swap-shop’ service, free of charge for listeners - to buy, sell and trade items. It airs Mon-Sat.
 - 11) WQCH airs a weekly public affairs program produced by Georgia News Network each Sunday morning at 6 a.m. Called “Georgia Focus”, the 30 minute program spotlights issues of public interest to Georgia Citizens.
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Issues List LOCAL PSA and NEWS COVERAGE examples for April-June, 2020.

Walker County has drive-thru rabies clinics for pets
Georgia now testing all for COVID-19, with or without symptoms
Food Pantry open at Pleasant Hill Methodist
Seasonal burn-ban extended due to debris from recent storms
Walker County has an online small business recovery guide
Blood assurance call for donations
Georgia’s Presidential Primary moved to June 9th
Deadline for voter registration
Georgia extends all vehicle registration deadlines due to COVID-19
Care Mission Food Pantry is now operating a drive-thru pickup during COVID
Georgia restaurants re-open with restrictions
Ga Dept of Labor info for those laid-off during COVID
Local car parts manufacturer now making protective face shields
Local industries close for cleaning after COVID cases surface
LaFayette High has graduation by video
Masks required to advance-vote at Walker Courthouse
Medically fragile should stay at home... restrictions lifted for others
LaFayette Spring Festival cancelled
Fireworks only, this 4th of July - other activities cancelled
City pool opens with restrictions

Summer meals for kids - pickup twice each week
Georgia census efforts resume following COVID break

GEORGIA FOCUS WEEKLY PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS AIRED IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2020:

REFORM Alliance

Founded in 2019, the REFORM Alliance is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose mission is to dramatically reduce the number of people who are unjustly under the control of the criminal justice system. Jessica Jackson, Chief Advocacy Officer, Geoff Holtzman, Director of Communications and Simone Price, State Campaign Organizer, discuss their work in Georgia.

Best of Georgia Focus - Loran's Smith - Letter to Larry and other memories of Georgia's Legendary Announcer Larry Munson

Larry Munson was the legendary radio voice of the Georgia Bulldogs for 43 years. On game day Larry's right-hand man was sideline reporter Loran Smith who released a book about Munson called *A Letter to Larry and other memories of Georgia's Legendary Announcer Larry Munson*, in this program, originally broadcast in 2015, Loran talks about Larry and the book on this program.

Marsy's Law

Marsy's Law seeks to give crime victims meaningful and enforceable constitutional rights equal to the rights of the accused. Marsy's Law is named after Marsy Ann Nicholas, a beautiful, vibrant University of California Santa Barbara student, who was stalked and killed by her ex-boyfriend in 1983. It was passed in GA in 2018. Guests Rita Davis-Cannon, Director of Victim Services Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia and Kimya Motley, a Domestic Violence Survivor and Founder of Haven of Light International, discuss the law and issues surrounding it.

Plains, Georgia/ Jimmy Carter National Historic site

One can no longer see Georgia Washington's birthplace or William Henry Harrison's log cabin Plains, GA is different – when Jimmy Carter ran for and was elected President crowds flocked to the sleepy SW GA hamlet and today many of sites in Plains have been preserved by the National Park Service. Guests are Robert Buccellato, author of *Jimmy Carter in Plains* and Barbara Judy, Superintendent of the Jimmy Carter National Historic site in Plains.

Search & Rescue in Georgia

Allen Padgett and Bob Bolz with Southeast Search & Rescue Associates discuss the training and techniques utilized in locating lost persons throughout Georgia.

Abandoned Georgia

Traveling the state photographers Leland Kent and Jeff Hagerman showcase abandoned locations in their respective books, *Abandoned Georgia* and *Abandoned Atlanta*. Each chapter of these books capture the beauty of these abandoned places through stunning imagery accompanied by a detailed narrative.

Three Governors Controversy

The death of Georgia governor-elect Eugene Talmadge in late 1946 launched a constitutional crisis that ranks as one of the most unusual political events in U.S. history: the state had three active governors at once, each claiming that he was the true elected official. The first full-length examination of that episode is in the form of a book titled *The Three Governors Controversy: Skullduggery, Machinations, and the Decline of Georgia's Progressive Politics* authored by Charles Bullock, Professor of Political Science at UGA, Scott Buchanan, Associate Professor of

Political Science at The Citadel and Ronald Keith Gaddie, Chairman of the Department of Political Science at The University of Oklahoma. Charles Bullock is the guest.

Fisher House Foundation

Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military & veterans' families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital. These homes are located at military and VA medical centers around the world.

+2 Project – Stokes Nielson

Award-winning country artist Stokes Nielson, who grew up in Dougherty County, is leading a nationwide effort of recovered COVID-19 survivors who are donating their life-saving plasma to COVID-19 patients in critical care. Stokes discusses his +2 Project which works with community blood banks like Georgia's Blood Assurance and Atlanta Blood Services, to ensure COVID-19 survivors can safely and efficiently be empowered to donate their antibodies.

Micajah Clark Dyer

On this program recorded in Blairsville Sylvia Dyer Turnage, author of *Flying Off Rattlesnake Mountain: The Amazing Story of Pioneer Inventor-Aviator, Micajah Clark Dyer* tells the story of Clark Dyer who invented a Flying Machine and was one of the first, if not the first, person to fly.

Mission Dawgs

Mission Dawgs is an organization started last year with the mission of supporting much of the homeless population of Georgia by providing basic human needs like food, clothing and toiletries. They take to the streets every day to serve 100s of homeless people. This program goes on the streets of Atlanta with Kevin Weakley, founder of Mission Dawgs.

Cool Town

In Athens in the eighties, if you were young and willing to live without much money, anything seemed possible. Grace Elizabeth Hale experienced the Athens scene as a student, small-business owner, and band member. Blending personal recollection with a historian's eye, she reconstructs that period in Athens' history in the book *Cool Town: How Athens, Georgia, Launched Alternative Music and Changed American Culture*, and discusses it on the show.