

WMMT Community Affairs Log
July-September 2016

The following programming was produced at WMMT, by station staff, except as noted.

July 5, 2016 - 1820

12 minutes

For the third story in WMMT's news magazine, *Mountain News & World Report*, WMMT reporter, Kelli Haywood, explores the ways in which the Letcher County Culture Hub is creating the environment for new opportunities among various partners throughout Letcher County, Kentucky. Creative placemaking is a newer way of organizing around the assets of a community and is a practice that intentionally leverages the power of the arts, culture, and creativity to serve a community's interest while driving a broader agenda for change, growth, and transformation in a way that also builds character and quality of place. Haywood visits the 15th annual Cowan Creek Mountain Music School at the Cowan Community Center to learn how their involvement in the culture hub has taken their work to a new level and increased the viability and positive exposure for their programming – even attracting outside tourists.

July 12, 2016 - 1800

60 minutes

In this episode of *Mountain Talk Monday*, get your dose of literary musings as we feature the 2016 Seedtime on the Cumberland's Southern Appalachian Writers' Cooperative Literary Reading. Hear writers from Letcher County, Kentucky and all over southern Appalachia read their work.

- The literary work featured in this episode was written with an adult audience in mind. Parental discretion advised.

July 20, 2016 - 1800

60 minutes

This episode of *Mountain Talk Monday* presents the overview of a public forum held by the Bevin administration on changes to Kentucky's Medicaid services. On June 22, 2016, Gov. Matt Bevin presented Kentucky HEALTH, a comprehensive plan to transform Kentucky's Medicaid program, which he says will empower individuals to improve their health and well-being while simultaneously ensuring Medicaid's long-term fiscal sustainability in the commonwealth. See the proposed changes here – <http://chfs.ky.gov/.../0/62216KentuckyHEALTHWaiverProposal.pdf> As a means of receiving public feedback, the administration held a series of public forums. WMMT reporter Mimi Pickering attended the forum in Hazard, Kentucky. Many Kentucky citizens are concerned that the proposed changes will be a drawback to the positive changes we've seen in coalfields, Kentucky and for those previously uninsured Kentuckians.

August 1, 2016 - 1800

10 minutes

The first segment of this edition highlights the reality that the region's problems with opioid drug addiction is having on our economy. WMMT's Kelli Haywood talks with several government officials on the state and national level, a manager of a local retail business, and a family doctor (internist) on what effects the issue is having on our workforce now and the possible problems we'll face in the future if we don't begin tackling the issue now. The Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, gives his thoughts on the issue and the solutions he feels will be viable for the region. Special thanks to Rich Kirby, for his help with this segment.

August 12, 2016 - 1630

5 minutes

Coal Report is a regular, weekly WMMT news segment featuring the most pertinent roundup of news from throughout the local, national, and international coal industry. This week's report features efforts from Kentucky and a dozen other state governments bringing a lawsuit to challenge the EPA's Clean Power Plan. WVPB's Kara Lofton reports on a federal agency announcing it will fund a million dollar review of current research on links between surface coal mining and human health risks. The Ohio Valley ReSource reporter Glynis Board reports on the demolition of a coal fired power plant in Ohio. And a brief relay of mining permits and acreage fees which are collected by the Department of Natural Resources. A portion of these funds are returned to coal producing counties and used as the local fiscal courts see fit.

August 18, 2016 - 1800

60 minutes

Art Matters with interim host John Haywood Floyd County native and Whitesburg artist, musician, and tattooer! For this episode, his guest is Timothy Sizemore of Floyd County who Haywood says is one of the best artists in eastern Kentucky. Sizemore teaches at the Big Sandy Community and Technical College in Prestonsburg and has had his art shown at Bloomingdale's and the Smithsonian among many other places.

September 13, 2016 - 1800

10 minutes

In this episode of *Mountain News & World Report*, we are honing in on those persons and projects which are rethinking the way we see our region and the way we engage in our communities as we make plans for our future. For our first story, we join former WMMT reporter and DJ Sylvia Ryerson (aka Sly Rye) on WNYC's nationally syndicated program *The Takeaway*. She and host John Hockenberry discussed her project Restorative Radio along with story contributor Michelle Hudson. The Restorative Radio project grew out of the weekly WMMT radio show "Calls from Home," where families and friends of those incarcerated in prisons around Central Appalachia use community radio as a means to reach out to their loved ones and bypass the very expensive and inconsistent methods provided to them by the system. Sylvia Ryerson worked with some of the families that call regularly to create radio postcards which aired on WMMT as Restorative Radio specials, and her work has gained national recognition.

September 27, 2016 - 1800

60 minutes

In this episode of *Mountain Talk Monday*, learn more about the EPIC Program – Enhancing Programs for IT Certification that is being offered through the KCTCS community colleges in our area! Guest host Mimi Pickering speaks with Tracie Davis, David Dixon, and students who are participating in or are graduates of the program.

September 30, 2016 - 1000

5 minutes

The Ohio Valley ReSource is a public media partnership covering the region's economic transition, and their feature stories air weekly on WMMT's *Morning Dispatch*. For this segment, reporter Becca Schimmel reports on the experience of being a refugee in the Ohio Valley region. The international refugee crisis caused by people fleeing the war-torn Middle East has been a high-profile issue in the presidential campaign. But beyond the heated political rhetoric, the work of finding new homes for asylum seekers continues at a dozen refugee resettlement areas in Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia.

And as new refugees arrive from Syria, those who have already made the transition to a new life in America are lending a hand.