

WVMR-FM Most Significant Issues July through September 2022

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 7/1 (PMH issues), 7/6 (road named for Dr. Sharp), 7/22 (gun safety), 8/4 (PMH renovation), 8/10 (courthouse security), 8/18, 8/19, 9/13, and 9/27 (Jail assessment).

Court /Crime/Breaking News

On 7/13, we aired a story about two recent but unrelated shootings that took place in the Marlinton and Buckeye areas of the county.

On 9/23, we aired a story about a fugitive who was recaptured after escaping a Highland County deputy during a transfer from Highland County to Augusta County.

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 7/28 (AC for schools), 8/24, 9/15 (life saving actions of students), and 9/20.

We air occasional interviews with the Pocahontas County Superintendent of Schools, Terrence Beam. It allows Mr. Beam to expand on topics important to the county students and their families. During this quarter, these stories aired on 8/2 (school schedule).

On 8/30, we aired a story about the Yew Mountain school, a program that includes outdoor learning in addition to traditional indoor curriculum.

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 7/12, 8/16, and 9/14.

During this quarter, we aired segments of a gardening journal produced by a volunteer Karen Cohen who is also a master gardener. These segments aired on 7/29, 8/5, 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, and 9/30.

On 8/23, we aired a story about the issuance of permits to gather Ginseng in West Virginia – how to get a permit and the limitations that apply to the gathering of the economically valuable plant.

On 9/12, we aired an interview with WVU Extension Agent Greg Hammons about dying trees in Pocahontas.

On 9/21 and 9/22, we aired a two part story about a proposal to list the Tricolored Bat as an endangered species due to the sharp decline in the population due to a fungal disease called White-Nose Syndrome.

Community

During this quarter we have periodically aired stories about events at the Seneca Rocks Discovery Center and campground and the nearby historic Sites Homestead. These stories aired on 7/6, 8/3, and 9/29.

On 7/14, we aired a story about 4 historical markers recently installed in the Town of Durbin in northern Pocahontas that detail the history of the former logging town.

On 7/19, we aired a story about the new Suicide Prevention Number, a three digit number that will eventually replace the longer 800 number, making it easier for people to reach someone in times of crisis.

On 7/27, we aired a story from the West Virginia News Service about the challenges of providing medical and mental health for the LBGTQ community in rural areas of the state.

On 9/6, we aired a story about the WV Navigator program receiving additional funding. The program counsels and works with state residents to determine the best health care plan for themselves and their families from the health care marketplace. This counseling is offered to any state resident free of charge.

On 9/9, we aired a story about Suicide Prevention week with advice and resources for both those feeling suicidal and family/friends who may be concerned that their loved ones are suicidal.

People

Jobs and Development

We air periodic reports from the meetings of the Pocahontas County Broadband Council. The council is made up of a broad cross-section of county residents seeking to improve broadband access in the county for all residents. During this quarter, we aired stories from the council meetings on 7/21 (Frontier communications), 8/9, 8/12 (project delays), and 9/21 (broadband community meeting).

On 7/5, we aired a new business profile of Greenbrier Bikes, a local mountain bike shop that rents and repairs mountain bikes for use in Pocahontas and Greenbrier Counties.

On 7/29, we aired a story about the groundbreaking ceremony for an expansion of Pocahontas Memorial Hospital to allow them to offer an expanding number of procedures and tests for local residents.

On 8/31, we aired a new business profile of Mountain State Cakes.

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 7/5 (bald eagles), 7/13, 7/19, 7/20 (teacher shortage), 7/26 (child care), 7/27 (High Bridge trail), 8/2 (hatching of Tomistomas, an alligator relative that is somewhat rare), 8/17 (Dopesick sequel), 8/29 (Spotted Lantern Fly threat), 9/6, and 9/7 (offshore wind farms).

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 7/4, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29, 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, and 9/26.

During this quarter we aired a feature called *Travelers in the Night*, about asteroids, comets and other interstellar phenomena. This feature aired on 7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25, 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, and 9/29.

This quarter we aired a feature called Recipe Roundup, featuring various recipes for all kinds of foods. This feature is produced entirely by AMR staff. During this quarter this feature aired on 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, and 7/22.

This quarter we aired a short arts calendar to inform listeners about arts and cultural events going on in our listening area. This calendar aired on 7/13, 7/20, 7/27, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24, and 8/31.

On 7/11 and 7/12, we aired a two-part story about the return the Ronceverte, WV Bluegrass Festival. Absent for many years, the festival celebrates the heritage of bluegrass music in the Allegheny Highlands and features many local musicians from our area.

On 7/20, we aired an interview with the Chatham Rabbits, a folk duo who will be appearing at the Pocahontas County Opera House venue.

On 8/5, we aired an interview with the band Dark Matters, scheduled to perform at the First Friday event at the Discovery Junction park in Marlinton.

On 8/8, we aired a story about an upcoming concert of new and emerging artists from the Garth Newel Music center. The concert was to be held in the auditorium of the Green Bank Observatory.

On 8/18, we aired a story about blues singer John Ellison appearing at the Pocahontas County Opera House.

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

School Bus – Don't Pass	8/22 – 10/1
School Bus – Safest Vehicle	8/22 – 10/1
School Bus – Bus Stop Passing Violation	8/22 – 10/1
School Bus – Safety Zone	8/22 – 10/1

Health and Human Resources

Benefits and Fundraisers

Art, Culture, and Recreation

Allegheny Mountain Radio App	5/25 – ongoing
Pocahontas Opera House Murder Mystery Theatre	9/20 – 10/17