

**WVMR, WVMR-FM, WNMP, WDMT Most Significant Issues  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – January Through March 2012**

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 1/4/12 (Pro officer in schools), 1/5 (Comm defends PSD actions), 1/10 (marcellus ballot question), 1/19 (hotel-motel tax allotments), 1/20 (Pearl Buck house weddings), 2/8 (contributions), 2/9 (new 911 mapping coordinator), 2/23 (Blair Campbell – no to Marcellus), 2/24 (need for additional deputies), 2/29 (deputy hires), 3/21 (meck land xfer), and 3/22 (Johnny's garage vehicle).

We air a live call-in show on the first Saturday of each month that allows listeners to ask questions of the County Commissioners. During this quarter, "Commissioners Corner" aired on 1/7. A story from this program concerning a Marcellus Shale county-wide survey aired on 1/14. Commissioners Corner did not air in February or March, due to the airing of "Assembly Conversations" from Virginia Public Radio.

During this quarter we aired stories about the Marlinton Town Council meetings. These stories aired on 1/10, 2/7 (no to Marcellus resolution), and 3/6.

During this quarter we aired stories about the Durbin Town Council meetings. These stories aired on 2/15, 2/22, and 3/14.

During this quarter we aired stories about the Hillsboro Town Council meetings. These stories aired on 3/21.

On 1/17, we aired a story about Magistrate Janet Kershner-Vanover defending Pocahontas Prosecuting Attorney Donna Meadows-Price. Price is accused of not carrying out the duties of her position and under review by the state lawyer disciplinary board.

On 1/24, we aired a story about the former operators of the county animal shelter and their lawsuit charging that the Pocahontas County Commission illegally granted the animal shelter contract to someone else whose operation doesn't meet the requirements as set forth by the Commission.

### **Election Stories**

On 1/30, we aired a report on the candidates who have filed to run for elected office in 2012 on the Pocahontas County ballot.

### **Breaking News**

On 1/3, we aired a story about a fire that destroyed the home of a county family. Fortunately the family was not home at the time of the fire.

On 3/7, we aired a story about a local African American pastor who was allegedly attacked by two men in camouflage as he prayed in his church. The men supposedly said 'we don't need your kind around here' during the attack. On 3/8 we followed with a report about the police investigation into the incident. On 3/9, we aired a story with reactions from some of the kids in a local middle school who have worked closely with the pastor and have voiced strong support for the Pastor.

On 3/12, we aired a story about an investigation of a former Pocahontas County Sheriff's deputy who is accused of misconduct.

### **News Briefs**

On 1/12, we aired a news brief about a scheduled power outage affecting customers in the Snowshoe and Marlinton areas. The outage was needed to make necessary repairs to damaged power lines.

On 1/31, we aired a news brief about scheduled prescribed burns that would affect parts of Pocahontas and Bath Counties.

On 3/8, we aired a news brief about the WV Health Dept's efforts to find someone who was thought to have picked up a wounded rabid raccoon. The health dept was notified by a witness that the person assisting the wounded animal may have been bitten and exposed to the rabies virus.

### **Slatyfork Sewer Plant**

One of the biggest issues on the minds of our listeners has been the controversial plan by the county to build a regional wastewater treatment system, with a treatment plant located at Slatyfork, to serve Snowshoe and surrounding areas, most of the current customers being Snowshoe customers. County officials have acknowledged the plant's

primary purpose is to allow for future growth of the tourism industry at and surrounding Snowshoe Mountain Resort. We have been covering this story for several years now.

### **Public Service District**

The Pocahontas Public Service District board meets regularly on the last Tuesday of each month. While their primary topic of discussion is often the Slatyfork Sewer plant, they also discuss issues concerning the water and sewer in the northern part of the county. This quarter, we aired stories on 1/9 (alternative sewer solutions), 2/1 (important dates), 2/8, 2/10 (sewage selection), 2/29, and 3/28.

### **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 1/12, 1/24 (Leslie Cain steps down to run for office), 1/25 (teacher learning institute), 2/7 (Giddings appointed to board), 2/14 (innovative way of teaching middle school math), 2/15 (Giddings sworn in), 3/1 (Girls on the Run), 3/2 (Farm to School program), 3/15 (food to school funding), and 3/27.

On 1/6, we aired a story about Green Bank Elementary Middle school Principal Melvin Lindsey being found safely in Harrisonburg, Va. Lindsey had been reported missing the day before when he did not show up for work as usual.

On 1/11, we aired a follow up story on GB Principal Melvin Lindsey. Accused of stealing school funds, Lindsey was brought back to Pocahontas County and was placed on home confinement by a Pocahontas County Magistrate.

On 1/18, we aired a story about a paramedic class being offered by New River Community and Technical College and the benefits of such training.

On 1/20, we aired the results of the Pocahontas County spelling bee.

On 1/26, we aired a story about Sara McClintic, a retired educator from Greenbrier County who has taken over as Principal at Green Bank Elementary Middle school for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year.

On 1/26, we aired a story about the annual Math Field Day and the winners in grades 4 through 9.

On 2/16, we aired a story about Vicky Terry being named the executive director over the Pocahontas County Free Libraries.

On 2/22, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Tourism Club, a new club formed at the high school to expose students to careers in the tourism industry, the largest industry in Pocahontas.

On 2/28, we aired a story about the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Youth and Government seminars held in Charleston, West Virginia at the capital. Students from Green Bank and Marlinton Middle schools attended the three day trip.

## **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 also aired a weekly feature called Town and Country Topics, in which a representative from the Virginia Cooperative Extension shared news about agriculture-related topics in the listening area. During this quarter, these reports aired on 1/3/12, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 3/1, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, and 3/27.

We air a monthly feature 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 1/4/12, 2/14, and 3/16.

On 2/14 we aired a story about animal welfare and control and how it is handled by Pocahontas County. This story is part of a series on animal control in Bath, Highland and Pocahontas County.

On 3/30, we aired a story about trout stocking in the Greenbrier River in Marlinton. The effort is sponsored by a group of Marlinton area businesses in hopes of bringing in more tourism business.

## **Community**

We air periodic reports about meetings of the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. This quarter these reports aired on 1/30 and 3/26.

We air a weekly feature called Let’s Dish which features recipes from our listeners. This quarter these features aired on 1/4/12, 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21 and 3/28.

On 1/23, we aired a story on the progress of the plan to create a wellness center in Green Bank. A tentative site near the elementary school has been chosen as an initial location until a more permanent site is selected.

On 2/2, we aired a story about Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit group based in Pendleton County, WV that is starting operations in Pocahontas County as well. We aired a second story about programs and volunteers working with this group on 2/3.

On 2/27, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Veterans Honor Corps and their program to place an American Flag in every school classroom in the county schools.

On 3/9, we aired a story about CASA [Court Appointed Special Advocates] and the important work that they do in helping abused or neglected children caught up in the circuit court system.

On 3/29, we aired a story about the results of an internet survey conducted by the radio station to get an idea of what Pocahontas residents think about the service. The story also included comments from a regional manager with the internet provider.

### **People**

On 1/6, we aired a story about West Virginia National Guardsman Jeffrey Price winning his third Meritorious Service Award. Price and his family reside in Pocahontas County.

### **Jobs and Development**

On 1/31, we aired a story about the Marlinton Community center project going back out to bid after initial bids came in considerably higher than expected.

On 2/2, we aired a new business profile of a new thrift shop that opened in Marlinton.

On 3/13, we aired a story about Green Bank businessman Jacob Meck and his bid to purchase 9 acres of land in Green Bank to expand his business.

On 3/16, we aired a profile of Joel Rosenthal and his wildlife sanctuary and rehabilitation operation.

On 3/30, we aired a story on the progress of a multi-million dollar community center to be built in Marlinton adjacent to a elementary school.

### **Arts and Culture**

We air a weekly feature called Visitors and Vacations, highlighting events and recreational opportunities in and around Pocahontas County. During this quarter, it aired on 1/2/12, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/27, 3/5/, 3/12, 3/19 and 3/26.

During this quarter, Greg Hayhurst, a senior at Fairmont State College worked with us as an intern in the news department to meet his internship requirement for graduation.

We aired several stories recorded and produced by Greg. They aired on 1/20 (CD release party for Shawn Owen), 1/27 (movie to be shot on location in Cass), 2/3 (Pocahontas County HS senior Erica Rebinski, who is pursuing a career in music), 2/10 (Pocahontas native and muralist Molly Must and her current projects), 2/17 (Child of God films in Pocahontas), 2/24 (Crooked Road – Part 1), and 3/2 (Crooked Road – Part 2).

On 3/20, we aired a story about a proposed Quilt Tour for Pocahontas similar to the one created in Monroe county and elsewhere.

## **Public Service Announcements**

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

### **Education and Children**

Snow Day Camp	1/6 thru 2/7
Grow Appalachia	1/17 thru 2/20
Pocahontas CVB Tourism Scholarship	1/27 thru 2/29
High Rocks Academy Creative Writing Workshop	2/1 thru 2/25
IRS Free File	2/3 thru 3/6
McClintic Library – Ancestry Computer Programs	2/6 thru 3/6
McClintic Library – Learning Express	2/6 thru 3/6
WV Kids First Program	2/23 thru 3/2
Hillsboro Library –Poetry Night	3/7 thru 3/17
Host An International Student	3/8 thru 4/15
McClintic Library – Foundation Center	3/12 thru 4/12
McClintic Library – Spring Info and Equip Rental	3/12 thru 4/12
WV Kids First Program - #2	3/19 thru 4/20
WVU Food Business Training	3/19 thru 4/16
Pocahontas Memorial Hosp Easter Egg Hunt	3/19 thru 3/31
Youth Forum – Anti Prescription-Drug Abuse	3/23 thru 4/23

### **Health and Human Resources**

Vince Gill – Don't Quit	1/6 thru 2/7
Women in Gov – Mental Health (43 sec)	1/6 thru 2/7
Women in Gov – Mental Health (60 sec)	1/6 thru 2/7
Diabetes Self Management Class	1/6 thru 2/6
Pocahontas Weather Observers Needed	1/9 thru 2/8
Camp Horseshoe Summer Positions	1/13 thru 2/14
Flu Vaccinations – general importance	1/24 thru 2/24
Womens Heart Attack Month Awareness	1/25 thru 2/29
Go Red For Womens Health	2/3 thru 3/6

**Benefits and Fundraisers**

Gesundheit Institute FR for Hillsboro Elem	1/27 thru 2/17
AMR Books and CD's For Sale	3/9 thru 4/21

**Art, Culture, and Recreation**

Pocahontas Opera House – Opry Night	2/7 thru 3/8
Pocahontas Opera House – Attack Theatre	2/7 thru 3/16
Pocahontas Opera House – Juanita Fireball	3/9 thru 4/14
Pocahontas Parks & Rec Square Dance/Wkshop	3/23 thru 4/23
Pocahontas Parks & Rec Soccer Registration	3/26 thru 3/30