

WVMR, WVMR-FM, WNMP, WDMT Most Significant Issues 1st Quarter – January through March 2011

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 1/5 (decision to conduct half of their meetings at night), 1/6 (Pocahontas Preservation website), 1/19 (Hotel-Motel tax allocation), 1/20 (Sheriffs' budget running low for overtime), 1/21 (PRO officer in county high school), 2/18 (Sheriffs overtime request approved), 2/21 (keeping pressure on Frontier Communications), 2/22 (community wellness center), 3/2 (county resident blasts county drug testing policy), 3/3 (Animal shelter problems), 3/16 (Mecks Green Bank deed), and 3/17 (Elk Headwaters Watershed presentation).

We air a live call-in show on the first Saturday of each month that allows listeners to ask questions of the County Commissioners. This quarter, "Commissioners Corner" aired on 1/12 and 2/5. It did not air in March due to the unavailability of the Commissioners and Maple Festival Coverage.

During this quarter we aired stories about the Marlinton Town Council meetings. These stories aired on 2/11 (storm sewer project) and 3/14 (flood control and law enforcement).

On 1/7, we aired a story about the possibility of creating a Lieutenant Governor position for the state of West Virginia. This story featured comments from Acting West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin.

On 1/11, we aired a story about the second test of the CodeRED system, an emergency notification system recently installed in Pocahontas County. County Emergency Services Director Melvin Martin says this test was a little successful than the first test, but that the system is still not working as well as it should.

On 1/12, we aired a story about residents' complaint of 'gang' behavior on the part a group of hunters in the Hillsboro area of the county. This came up during the January addition of Commissioners Corner.

On 2/14, we aired a story about the Pocahontas Sheriffs Auxiliary Force, a group of mostly volunteers who help with various events throughout the year. They are hoping to expand the range of services they offer and recruit more members.

On 3/7, we aired a report about the members named for the Pocahontas County Sheriffs Auxiliary Advisory Board. There are 15 members representing a wide variety of interests and areas of the county.

On 3/24, we aired a related story that included comments from the Sheriff, an Auxiliary member, and two of the members of the newly formed Advisory Board.

On 3/25, we aired a story about how the 2010 Census numbers could affect Pocahontas County's representation in the West Virginia Legislature after redistricting is completed.

On 3/31, we aired a story about a meeting of the Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority in which there was a discussion about the sometimes controversial Green Box fees.

On 3/31, we aired a story about the inaugural meeting of the Pocahontas County Sheriffs Auxiliary, Advisory Board. This board, made of up a group of local citizens will advise the Sheriffs Auxiliary force on projects and needs of the community.

Election Stories

On 2/10, we aired a story with the slate of candidates running for a position on the Marlinton Town Council.

Breaking News

On 1/5, we aired a story about an gas explosion at the Hermitage Motel in Bartow, WV, in northern Pocahontas County. The propane tank explosion damaged part of the motel and injured manager Darryl Wagner. The motel was slated to go on sale and the explosion remains under investigation by local authorities.

News Briefs

On 3/31, we aired a news brief about the Williams River Road being reopened in the Monongahela National Forest. It had been closed due to road repairs.

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 1/3 (PSD board chooses new engineer for the wastewater project), 1/4/11 (Snowshoe sewage ponds), 1/28 (PSD questions consultant bill), 2/24 (PSD attorney says don't pay consultant bill), 2/25 (Metals testing consultant), and 3/30 (Durbin water project update).

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 1/11 (Pocahontas Hidden Scholar program), 1/26 (Reduction in Force for five teaching positions), 1/27 (Mary Sue Burns' trip to the Galapagos), 2/15 (Hidden Promise Scholars from Pocahontas), 2/16 (mentoring for students), 3/2 (library svc at elem schools), 3/3 (Campbell – AFT leave), 3/16 (Community Ctr update), 3/17 (school technology needs), and 3/29 (Community meetings).

On 1/20, we aired a report about Pocahontas County students making the Deans' List for the fall semester at New River Community and Technical College.

On 1/20, we aired a story about the winners in the Pocahontas County Schools spelling bee. We also aired the spelling bee in its entirety on the following Saturday for parents or other who were unable to attend the event.

On 1/21, we aired a story about a Read Aloud training event at the Hillsboro Library. Read Aloud encourages parents and other volunteers to read to children to inspire a lifelong love of reading.

The One Room University Project is a partnership between the Pocahontas County Commission, City National Bank and New River Community and Technical College. It will allow students to take college level classes at a facility in Marlinton, thereby negating the need for Pocahontas residents to travel up an hour and a half to the

nearest bricks and mortar institution of higher learning. During this quarter, stories about this project aired on 1/24 (ORU Presentation to the Pocahontas Chamber of Commerce), 3/21 (space for classes at City National Bank), and 3/23 (interview with New River Greenbrier Campus Dean Roger Griffith).

On 1/25, we aired a report with the results of the annual Pocahontas County Math Field Day.

On 3/9, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Social Studies Fair that had 111 entries this year, a huge increase. The web version of the story also includes a full list of winners in each category.

On 3/18, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Free Libraries decision to continue to offer library services to elementary children in Marlinton and Hillsboro through the end of the school year. Due to a budget shortfall, those services were threatened with being cut off at the end of March.

On 3/22, we aired a story about two scholarships, one for a high school junior or senior, one for a college student, to the Pearl S. Buck Writers Workshop scheduled for June 2011. Students have until April 15th to submit an entry.

On 3/22, we aired a story about the first annual Pocahontas County's Got Talent competition. Based on the America's Got Talent contest, the event is a fundraiser for the Green Bank and Marlinton Middle school Spanish classes to fund their biennial trips to Costa Rica.

On 3/30, we aired a story about the winners of the regional social studies fair. Twenty kids from Pocahontas will compete at the West Virginia Social Studies competition in Charleston in April.

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 1/4/11, 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22 and 3/29.

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 2/14 (January), 2/14 (2010 Weather summary), and 3/24 (February).

We air periodic reports from the West Virginia University Extension office on topics of interest to our community. This quarter, these reports aired on 1/6, 1/20, 2/10, 2/11 and 3/4/11.

On 2/23, we aired a story about a group of Pocahontas residents who went to Charleston, WV to speak to state legislators about the need for more regulation on Marcellus Shale drilling.

On 3/11, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Water Resource Task Force and their ongoing efforts to gather data on water resources in the county. The ultimate goal is to provide a document that will be a guide for good water management in the county.

Community

We air periodic reports about meetings of the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. This quarter these reports aired on 1/31 (patient complaint), 2/1 (Finances getting better), 3/1 (finances), and 3/24 (finances back in the black after 6 years).

We air a weekly feature called Let's Dish which features recipes from our listeners. This quarter these features aired on 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23 and 3/30.

On 1/7, we aired a story about Camp Horseshoe, a camp in Parsons, WV that offers a camp experience for low income children. Scholarships for 10 to 20 Pocahontas kids are available this year.

On 1/10, we aired a story about the Walk A Mile In My Shoes campaign, a project sponsored by the Family Resource Network to collect shoes for boys and girls attending Camp Horseshoe this summer.

On 1/14, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Family Resource Network and their efforts to help low income families in the county.

On 1/17, we aired a story about opportunities to continue the idea of service to community beyond Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The story included several ideas for community service throughout the year.

On 2/10, we aired a story about a new Veterans Administration Clinic that recently opened near Lewisburg, WV.

On 2/28, we aired a story about the surprisingly high rates of child abuse and neglect in Pocahontas County. The rates are twice the state average and four times the national average.

People

On 2/4, we aired a story about Frank DeBerry, the temporary Chief Operating Officer for Snowshoe Mountain Resort following the departure of former COO Bill Rock.

On 3/3 and 3/4, we aired two follow up stories about DeBerry, who was named the new Chief Operating Officer of Snowshoe Mountain Resort on February 28th, 2011.

On 3/8, we aired a story about the Allegheny Mountain Radio Annual Dinner. During the dinner, one returning member and two new members were welcomed to the Pocahontas Communications Cooperative Corporation Board of Directors, the board that oversees AMR. Velma Waddell is the returning member; Jon Trees of Bath County and Elwood Groves of Pocahontas County are the new members.

On 3/15, we aired an interview with John Simmons, the new Director of the Pocahontas County Senior Centers.

On 3/18, we aired a story about Doug Smith, this year's winner of the Allegheny Mountain Radio STAR Award. Given each year, the award recognizes an outstanding volunteer who has gone above and beyond for the AMR stations. Doug Smith is a long standing DeeJay at WVLS in Monterey, VA.

Jobs and Development

On 1/18, we aired a story about the Route 39 Appalachian Waters Scenic Byway. A presentation about the Byway that spans five counties in Virginia and West Virginia was held at the Opera House in Marlinton.

On 2/8 and 2/9, we aired two stories about a meeting hosted by Frontier Communications at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss internet speeds and connectivity in Pocahontas County.

On 3/1, we aired a story about a community meeting in Green Bank to discuss moving a waste storage tank to a business location in the area. This is a highly controversial issue that evokes great passion on both sides of the issue.

On 3/10, we aired an interview with Pocahontas County Commission President David Fleming about the controversial storage tank issue in Green Bank.

On 3/28, we aired a new business profile of Kimble Funeral Home, a Pendleton County, WV based business that is expanding into Pocahontas County.

Arts and Culture

On 2/7, we aired a story about a Smithsonian exhibit coming to Pocahontas County in September 2011. This is one of only six locations for “The Way We Worked” exhibit in West Virginia.

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

Boyer Mennonite Church Snow Day Camp	1/12 thru 2/11
Pocahontas Libraries Nature Equip Rentals	2/2 thru 3/3
Earned Income Credit – 33 seconds	2/2 thru 4/14
Earned Income Credit – 56 seconds	2/2 thru 4/14
Social Security Direct Deposit	2/7 thru 2/28
Social Security Income Tax Deductions	2/7 thru 4/14
Social Security Pre Existing Conditions	2/7 thru 2/28
Social Security Replacement 1099	2/7 thru 2/28
New River CTC Photography Class	2/7 thru 3/8
Social Security Administration – Medicare Online	3/10 thru 4/10
Social Security Admin – Speeding Disability Claims	3/10 thru 4/10
CPB Cuts – Volunteers Scott and Nancy	3/14 thru 4/14
CPB Cuts – Volunteer Homer Hunter	3/15 thru 4/15
Gasland Documentary at Pocahontas Libraries	3/24 thru 3/31
CPB Cuts – Listener Bonnie Gifford	3/28 thru 4/28

Health and Human Resources

Stop Smoking – General	1/12 thru 2/11
Search & Rescue Training Event	3/28 thru 4/10

Benefits and Fundraisers

WVMR-FM Silent Auction	2/8 thru 2/18
WVMR-FM Open Mike Night Fundraiser	2/8 thru 2/27
Pocahontas 4-H Camp T-Shirt Sponsors	3/21 thru 4/1

Art, Culture, and Recreation

Travelin McCoureys At Carnegie Hall	2/2 thru 2/11
Opry Night At Pocahontas Opera House	2/3 thru 2/26
David Peterson At Pocahontas Opera House	3/3 thru 3/26

WV Jazz Orchestra At Pocahontas Opera House 3/24 thru 4/9