

WVMR-FM Most Significant Issues 1st Quarter – January through March 2018

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 1/3, 1/22, 2/8, 2/13 (pipeline construction schedule), 3/14, and 3/23.

Court /Crime/Breaking News

Election Stories

On 3/30, we aired a story about changes for voter identification in West Virginia that residents will encounter when voting in the upcoming primary elections scheduled for May.

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 1/10, 1/25, 2/7, 2/22, 2/26, 2/28, 3/9, and 3/26.

We air occasional reports from the Superintendent of Pocahontas County schools Terrence Beam about events and other issues concerning the county schools. During this quarter, these stories aired on 2/21, and 3/20.

On 1/9, we aired a story about the improvement in math scores on standardized testing for Pocahontas County students. We did a follow up story on 1/12 about the students reading scores on the tests.

On 1/24, we aired a combined interview with Pocahontas school principals Philip Anderson and Rick Sharp, Principals at Marlinton Elementary and Green Bank Elementary-Middle schools respectively.

On 1/30, we aired an interview with Rebecca Spencer, Principal of Hillsboro Elementary school speaking about math and reading scores and community involvement.

On 2/1, we aired an interview with Dustin Lambert, Principal at Marlinton Middle school. Lambert spoke about the reduction of disciplinary issues at the school and of the other opportunities for education including the challenges of running a agricultural “high tunnel”, a successful SADD chapter and a new program “COPS” which stands for Catching Outstanding Productive Students” wherein students are issued tickets when they are caught being good.

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 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 1/10.

We have been airing a series of stories about a proposed natural gas pipeline that would travel through parts of Pocahontas and Highland Counties, on a path that would take the pipeline from the shale fields of northern West Virginia through Virginia with the terminus of the pipeline in western North Carolina. A change in the pipeline route during this quarter now also includes parts of Bath County. During this quarter, these stories covering events in all three counties ran on 1/4/18 (DEP public hearing), 1/18 (FERC decision regarding ACP), 1/22 (ACP Tree felling), 1/26 (WVDEP issues permit for ACP), 1/29 (Allegheny Blue Ridge Alliance monitoring group), and 3/12 (Mon forest closures for pipeline work).

During this quarter we aired reports from Cynthia Sandeno, the Marlinton/White Sulphur Springs District Ranger for the the Monongahela National Forest. These reports aired on 2/20 (2016 flood damage and repairs in progress), and 3/15 (prescribed burns).

Community

On 3/16, we aired a story about a scam in which a perpetrator pretends to be a court officer. They call potential victims and claim that because they didn’t show up for jury duty, they now owe a fine to the court. The warning about this scam was issued by the WV Attorney General’s office.

On 3/23, we aired a story about an elder abuse hotline set up by the WV Attorney General’s office in hopes of curbing this issue in West Virginia.

On 3/28, we aired a story about the annual meeting of the Pocahontas County Chamber of Commerce which included the Individual and Business Community Involvement awards.

People

Jobs and Development

On 2/1, we aired a story about some upcoming meetings for individuals wishing to procure contracts for cleanup in the Monongahela National Forest following the 2016 floods.

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 1/2/18, 1/9, 2/6, 2/21, 3/20, 3/27 and 3/29.

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 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, and 3/26.

This quarter we aired the arts feature Allegheny Arts & Culture Clutch and Gearbox, with its emphasis on local artists and events in the Allegheny highlands of the two Virginias. The Clutch features a calendar of upcoming arts events. The Gearbox focuses on a particular artist or group. During this quarter this feature aired on 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/25, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, and 3/30.

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

Pocahontas FFA Chapter – Ben	2/13 thru 6/30
Pocahontas FFA Chapter – Charity	2/13 thru 6/30
Pocahontas FFA Chapter – Arianya	2/13 thru 6/30
Pocahontas FFA Chapter – Savanna	2/13 thru 6/30
Pocahontas FFA Chapter – Noah	2/13 thru 6/30
WV Hunter Education Course	3/5 thru 4/6

Health and Human Resources

Monongahela Forest Summer Jobs	1/25 thru 1/30
American Heart Month – Heart Attack Risks	2/7 thru 2/28
American Heart Month – Warning Signs	2/7 thru 2/28
American Heart Month – Atypical Symptoms	2/7 thru 2/28
9-1-1 House Numbers	3/20 thru 4/30

Benefits and Fundraisers

Greenbrier Polar Plunge	2/20 thru 3/10
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Art, Culture, and Recreation

WVU Extension 100 Miles in 100 Days	3/22 thru 4/16
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