

**WVMR, WVMR-FM, WNMP, WDMT Most Significant Issues  
2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter – April Through June 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 4/6 (Marcellus shale drilling), 4/8 (contribution request calendar), 4/21 (nominating Camp Allegheny to National Trust Preservation group), 4/22 (revised courthouse elevator project approved), 5/4 (questions about Sheriffs dept expenditures), 5/5 (courthouse security), 5/20 (contributions to civic groups), 5/26 (legal expert on Marcellus drilling), 6/8 (9-1-1 Director steps down), 6/23 (animal shelter contract), 6/24 (9-1-1 Director job description), 6/29 (Sandy Mallow gets animal control contract), and 6/30 (Commission says no to budget revision for Prosecuting Atty).

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 4/2 (a story from that show aired on 4/5), 5/14 (a story from that show aired on 5/16), and 6/4 (a story from that show aired on 6/6).

During this quarter we aired stories about the Marlinton Town Council meetings. These stories aired on 4/18 (town law enforcement), 5/13 (water leak on 2<sup>nd</sup> ave), and 6/10 (animal ordinance fails to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading).

On 4/6, we aired a report about indictments handed down by the Pocahontas County Grand Jury following their April session.

On 5/3, we aired a report on a meeting of the county Solid Waste Authority to set the Green Box fee for 2011-12. The board voted to keep the fee at the current rate of \$98.00 per year for everyone who owns property in the county. Many visitors who have infrequently visited camps in the county have sought to have their fees prorated according to how much time they spend in the county.

On 6/7, we aired a story about WV legislators visiting the county to get feedback on the redistricting process due to changes from the 2010 census.

### **Election Stories**

On 5/16, we aired the results of the West Virginia special primary election to choose the candidates for Governor for the October 4<sup>th</sup> special election. The election is to choose a candidate to fill the unexpired term of former Governor Joe Manchin.

On 5/30 and 5/31 we aired two stories from a meet the candidates forum held in Marlinton for the candidates in the Marlinton Town elections. On the 30<sup>th</sup>, we aired a story about the Mayoral candidates, and on the 31<sup>st</sup>, we aired a story about the candidates for Town Council.

On 6/15, we aired a story about the results of the Marlinton and Hillsboro town elections.

### **Breaking News**

On 5/10, we aired a report about a large drug raid conducted by the Pocahontas County Sheriffs dept and members of the US Forest Service. We aired a related story on 5/11 about the process that went into the planning of the raid.

On 6/30, we aired a story about a missing person search conducted in the Cranberry Wilderness in Pocahontas County. 56 year old Michael Camellitti was reported missing by his family on June 20<sup>th</sup>, but appears to have disappeared sometime between May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> during a hike in the wilderness area. A two day search by the West Virginia State Police and local rescuers failed to turn up any evidence of his whereabouts.

### **News Briefs**

On 6/20, we aired a brief about the two buses that will pick kids up and take them to the Green Bank Math and Science camps.

### **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 4/1 (contract with Potesta Eng for stream studies), 4/29 (Durbin water plant losses cut dramatically), 6/2 (update on Durbin water project), and 6/3 (PSD member wants to speed up planning on sewer project).

On 5/12, we aired a report about a ruling by the West Virginia Public Service Commission giving conditional approval for the Pocahontas Public Service District to go forward with a regional sewage treatment plan designed by engineer David Rigby. The PSD must get approval from the West Virginia Dept of Environmental Protection before moving forward with the preliminary engineering design.

## **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 4/14 (Chris Campbell's position with American Fed of Teachers), 4/20 (reading consultant), 5/18 (making schools energy efficient), 5/25 (forest money reauthorization), 6/8 (math instruction assistance), 6/14 (honoring retirees), and 6/15 (Option Pathway – alternative graduation program).

This quarter we aired reports from Pocahontas County School Superintendent CC Lester, speaking on a number of topics concerning the schools. These reports aired on 6/13.

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 6/17 and 6/20.

On 4/7, we aired a story about a fundraiser basketball game intended to raise funds to pay to put lights on a football field used by local county youth. We also aired a story about another fundraiser for the same group on 4/11.

On 4/12, we aired a story about local high school senior Logan Plumley who recently qualified for a scholarship from Associated Universities Inc., the group that helps fund the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank.

On 4/14, we aired an interview with Mary Kay Bond, the executive director of Read Aloud WV, a program to promote volunteers reading to kids in elementary school classes.

On 5/10, we aired a story about Camp Horseshoe, a West Virginia camp for kids from low income families. Pocahontas receives 10 to 20 scholarships for the camp which distributed through the county Family Resource Network.

On 5/24, we aired a story about an awards ceremony for kids in the third through twelfth grades recognized as “Super Scholars” – those students with an overall average of at least 93% in the core subjects, and not less than a “C” average in other subjects.

On 6/2, we aired a story about a Read Aloud WV event at Hillsboro Elementary School with author Brittany Cassidy. Read Aloud is a program in which volunteers read to school children in hopes of inspiring a love of reading in them.

On 6/9, we aired a story about the Green Bank school math and science camps. These are 2 week long camps offered in June following the end of the school year. They are only open to Green Bank students and home schooled students who participate in Green Bank activities. Program Director Anne Smith hopes to be able to offer the camp to other county students in the future.

## **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 4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, and 6/28.

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 5/3.

On 5/18, we aired a story on the first stakeholder meeting of the Pocahontas Water Resource Task Force. This meeting was with state agency representatives and business owners. Future meetings are planned to speak with landowners and others in the community as well.

## Community

We air periodic reports about meetings of the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. This quarter these reports aired on 5/4 (extending contract with MHHS), 5/24 (Lewis blasting administration for mismanagement), 6/1 (returning 50,000.00 grant), and 6/27 (hospital back in the black).

We air a weekly feature called Let's Dish which features recipes from our listeners. This quarter these features aired on 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, and 6/29.

On 4/7, we aired a story about a Search and Rescue event held at the Buckskin boys scout camp in the county. On 4/13, we aired a follow up story about the actual event and how it went.

On 4/12, we aired a story about the grand opening of a new Veterans Affairs health clinic in Lewisburg. The new clinic is much closer to home for many Pocahontas, Bath and Highland County veterans.

On 4/25, we aired an interview with immunization expert Dr. Larry Pickering about the importance of getting all children immunized, in conjunction with immunizations offered through the Pocahontas County Health Dept.

On 4/25 and 5/26 we aired a stories about a "barn raising" event to begin construction of a new library/community center in Durbin in the northern end of the county. This story sought to explain what the project is as well as serve as a call to volunteers to come out and help on the day of the event.

On 4/26, we aired a story about a golf tournament fundraiser for the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Foundation to help pay for upkeep and maintenance on the birthplace in Hillsboro, WV.

On 4/27, we aired a story about a Richmond, Virginia based group called Civil War Trails who are putting very colorful and detailed Civil War historic markers in Virginia and West Virginia. The group installed several markers in Pocahontas County, in Hillsboro, Huntersville, Bartow and at Camp Allegheny at the top of Allegheny Mountain near the border with Highland County.

On 4/28, we aired a story about the annual West Virginia Drug Take Back Day – part of a national program for people to turn in unwanted or expired prescription drugs to state police departments for proper disposal. This event was held on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

On 5/25 we aired a third story about the Durbin Barn Raising event in northern Pocahontas County. This story included comments from Durbin area volunteers on the day of the event, as well as comments from John Connor, Director of Development for Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity. That group has an agreement with the Durbin

library to use their facilities to house volunteers while working on projects in Pocahontas.

On 5/12, we aired a story about the annual Stamp Out Hunger drive by the US Postal Service. The goal for the Pocahontas County mail carriers was 2000 pounds this year.

On 5/13, we aired a story about a preliminary planning meeting for Frost Fest 2011, a new festival celebrating the Frost area of Pocahontas County.

On 5/19, we aired a story about the "Spring Fling" fundraiser to raise funds for the Pocahontas County food pantries.

On 5/27, we aired a story about two former residents of the county who are trying to raise funds to repave the Mountain View cemetery in Marlinton.

On 6/13, we aired a story about a community meeting to gauge support for building a community fitness and wellness center in Green Bank. The project is still in the beginning stages.

On 6/24, we aired a story about changes to the West Virginia Childrens Health Insurance Program (CHIP) that could mean that more children and teens will be eligible for health care coverage under the program.

On 6/28, we aired a story about a new skate park being constructed by a local resident to give local kids more options for activity in the summer. The builder pledges to make the skate park free to Pocahontas County kids.

## **People**

### **Jobs and Development**

On 4/4, we aired a story about Glades Building Supply being named the Business of the Year by the Pocahontas County Chamber of Commerce.

On 5/9, we aired an interview with Cara Rose, the new Executive Director of the Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bureau. This is a return to her old haunt, as she previously worked for the CVB approximately 14 years ago.

On 5/17, we aired a story about Cramer Lumber, a local wood processing plant that has had to cut staff and no longer cuts wood. The manager of the plant is hopeful that their sawmill will once again be put in use in the near future.

### **Arts and Culture**

On 4/15, we aired a story about a Bluegrass music fundraiser at the Opera House in Marlinton to benefit CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) and CYAC (Child and

Youth Advocacy Center). Both organizations work with children caught up in abusive or neglectful home situations.

On 4/19, we aired an interview with JT Arbogast, a former resident of Pocahontas who is coming back in the fall of 2011 to shoot a movie in the Cass area. The movie will be loosely based on memories of his grandmother who lived in Cass.

On 6/15, we aired a story about the annual Allegheny Echoes music workshops. This program brings participants from around the world to Pocahontas County each year to learn more about traditional instruments and Appalachian culture.

On 6/22, we aired a story about the Pocahontas County Artisans Coop seeking new artists for their new gallery in Marlinton. They have had a successful gallery in Green Bank for over a year.

### **Public Service Announcements**

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

#### **Education and Children**

Pocahontas Public Affairs Briefing-Environment	4/1 thru 4/14
FRN National Child Abuse Prevention	4/6 thru 4/29
Camp Horseshoe	5/5 thru 6/5
WV Fire Marshall – Grilling Safety Tips	6/17 thru 7/17

#### **Health and Human Resources**

WV Child Insurance Program – 40 sec	5/18 thru 6/18
WV Child Insurance Program – 60 sec	5/18 thru 6/18
USDA Insurance for WV Farmers	5/31 thru 6/14
Bonnies Bus Mammogram Screening	6/24 thru 6/19

#### **Benefits and Fundraisers**

CPB Cuts – David	4/4 thru 5/4
ALA Greenbrier Trail Bike Trek Fundraiser	4/6 thru 5/12
CYAC Bluegrass Fundraiser	4/13 thru 4/22
Durbin Library Barn Raising	4/18 thru 5/20
Pocahontas Coop Parish Spring Fling Fundraiser	4/20 thru 5/20
Mountain View Cemetery Project	5/10 thru 6/9

**Art, Culture, and Recreation**

Go Marlinton Community Yard Sale	4/6 thru 5/7
Hillbilly Gypsies At Opera House	4/6 thru 4/29
Marlboro String Quartet at Opera House	4/6 thru 4/17
C&O Railway Heritage Center	5/3 thru 5/14
Pocahontas Opera House – Veveritse Band	6/22 thru 7/16