

WVMR-FM Most Significant Issues October through December 2023

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 10/5 (county jail), 10/19, 11/2 (county landfill), 11/9 (metal detectors at courthouse), 11/21 (SKSRT match), 11/27 (EMS new hire), 12/7 (bonus pay for EMS), and 12/22 (opioid settlement funds).

During this quarter, we aired stories based on meetings of the Pocahontas Solid Waste Authority. These stories aired on 10/20 and 11/1.

Court /Crime/Breaking News

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 10/10 (AP classes), 11/7 (Family Advisory committee), 11/16 (HS Band invited to play at JMU), 12/11 (reading award nominations), and 12/27 (Youth Rept Center school).

We air periodic reports from Pocahontas County Superintendent of Schools Lynn Bostic. During this quarter, these reports aired on 12/13 (Third Grade Success Act).

On 10/11, we aired a story about the student-led marching band at the high school. The interview was done by the high school radio club.

On 12/14, we aired an interview with the new Pocahontas County Schools Director of Maintenance Duane Gibson about exactly what his new position entails.

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 10/10, 11/10, and 12/19.

During this quarter, we aired segments of a gardening journal called Nature’s Way produced by volunteer Karen Cohen who is a Master Gardener. These segments aired on 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, and 10/27.

We air periodic updates on activities in the Monogahela National Forest. During this quarter, we aired stories about the harvesting and transport of the 2023 “People’s Tree”, the Christmas tree that will be displayed on the west lawn of the White House during the holiday season. This year the tree was selected to come from the Monongahela National Forest. These stories aired on 11/3 and 11/10.

Community

On 10/4, we aired a story about the Green Bank Observatory receiving recognition from the American Physics Society for its contributions to the field of physics.

On 10/13, we aired a story about the 2023 Empty Bowls event, a local fundraiser for the Family Resource Center that serves low-income residents of the county.

On 11/7, we aired an interview with Dr. Paul Vandebout, the 2023 Jansky Lecture recipient about his long career in radio astronomy, including guiding the development of many of the most iconic radio telescopes in the world.

On 11/15, we aired an interview with Chelsea Faulknier, the new Executive Director of the Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bureau about upcoming winter events. As the home of Snowshoe Mtn Resort, winter activities are a huge economic driver for the county.

On 11/17, we began tracking and airing updates about a fire in the Monongahela National Forest near Watoga state park. We kept in contact with forest personnel for a few days, with updates for our listeners, until the fire was brought under control.

On 11/29, we aired a story about the annual Green Bank Observatory Turkey Trot 5K, 10K and Gobble Wobble races. The event is a fundraiser for the Pocahontas County High School track team and also provides for scholarships for PCHS students.

On 11/29, we aired a story about heating assistance provided to Pocahontas low income residents through the WV Dept of Health and Human Resources.

On 12/5, we aired a story about possible fraud scams for residents to look out for heading into the holiday season.

People

On 10/27, we aired an interview with Trenton Brock, a representative for HOBY or the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership group. Trenton is a student at Pocahontas County High School.

On 12/1, we aired an interview with Chris Evans, the new Pocahontas Trails Maintenance Coordinator. Pocahontas has a variety of trails throughout the county that cater to different types of recreation such as hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing.

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 10/25 (pole attachments) and 11/13 (SKSRT expansion).

On 11/24, we aired a story about USDA 2024 Fire Grants, available to local fire departments who wish to use the money to expand their fire fighting tool inventory.

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 12/15 (future of coal in VA), and 12/28 (theater wellness program).

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 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18 and 12/25.

During this quarter we aired a feature called *Travelers in the Night*, about asteroids, comets and other interstellar phenomena. This feature aired on 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28.

This quarter we began airing StoryCorps, a feature that tells the stories of people from across the country who share stories with loved ones. This feature aired during this quarter on 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29, 12/13, 12/20, and 12/27.

On 10/18, we aired an interview with Dom Flemons who will be appearing at the Opera House in Marlinton. Flemons is a founding member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops and an award-winning producer.

On 10/30 and 10/31, we aired a two-part interview with Mike Gillespie, a flutist who is scheduled to appear at the Opera House in Marlinton with his quartet.

Public Service Announcements

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

Education and Children

Virginia State Police Bath Co – Buckle Up	Ongoing
Virginia State Police Bath Co – Distracted Driving	Ongoing
CPB Funding Threats	7/20 - ongoing

Health and Human Resources

Warrior Radio Club – We Hear You (SAMSHA)	11/13 – 12/15
Warrior Radio Club – Drinking (SAMSHA)	11/13 – 12/15
Warrior Radio Club – Expectations (SAMSHA)	11/13 – 12/15
Warrior Radio Club – Speaking Out (SAMSHA)	11/13 – 12/15
Warrior Radio Club – Vaping (SAMSHA)	11/13 – 12/15

Benefits and Fundraisers

Art, Culture, and Recreation

Allegheny Mountain Radio App	Ongoing
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