



General Manager's Report

idahoptv.org

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QUOTE

"I'm not sure whether you received my previous message or not explaining my mother's technical challenge of not receiving your station. Tonight at 7:00 she wanted to watch t.v; (doesn't like other stations) thought she would in faith try again channel 59. I wish you could have seen her face! You made her so happy! (I wanted to cry because she's done so much for me-I'm a very poor Pre-Med student and I don't have a lot of money to get her the things I'd like. THANK YOU WITH SUCH DEEP APPRECIATION FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART FOR FIXING THE RECEPTION!! IT MAY SOUND SIMPLE BUT IT MEANS SO MUCH TO HER.

BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL

----Angela" (November 12, 2005)

NOVEMBER 3 POWER OUTAGE IN BOISE AREA TAKES IDAHOPTV STATEWIDE OFF AIR

A four-and-a-half-hour power outage in Boise on Thursday evening, November 3, left the Idaho Public Television network operations center without electricity and unable to feed the signal to IdahoPTV's statewide systems throughout Idaho.

The 8:48 p.m. MT outage, caused by a transformer explosion and downed power line, began during the final minutes of a new live DIALOGUE program and continued through the concluding episode of RX FOR SURVIVAL, CHARLIE ROSE and BBC WORLD NEWS. The programs, where appropriate, were rescheduled the following week.

The power company had no explanation for the cause of the damaged transformer and downed power line. There was a light rainfall in the area at the time.

IdahoPTV does not have backup power at the Network Operation Center.

the buzz

For more Buzz, checkout idahoptv.org

-On November 1 and October 21, the House Commerce Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Commerce Committee respectfully, passed differing legislation calling for the end of analog broadcasting beginning in 2009. The House committee's bill called for an analog television cessation date of January 1, 2009 and the Senate bill called for April 7, 2009 (see news articles at end of report). Both bills now go to the full House and Senate for consideration.

As noted in previous GM Reports, a federal mandate for the cessation of analog television would have significant negative impact on a large number of viewers across our state. Idaho has one of the highest rates of over-the-air analog television viewership at approximately 39%. The rate is probably higher when viewers' second and third television sets in the household are calculated.

-On November 17, the Legislative Audit team concluded the annual audit of Idaho Public Television. The audit of all of IdahoPTV's finances is typically released to the public in early winter after review by the co-chairs of the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee of the Idaho Legislature.

-On Wednesday, November 30, I was invited to be a panel member for a live, nationally closed-circuit telecast "Partnership For A Nation of Learners: Community Collaboration Videoconference," hosted by journalist Ray Suarez, Senior Correspondent, The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer.

The videoconference, sponsored by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Institute of Library and Museum Services, was intended to generate partnerships between public broadcasters, libraries and museums.

I spoke about the MOMENTS IN TIME: LEWIS AND CLARK IN IDAHO partnership between the Idaho State Historical Society, the Governor's Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission and Idaho Public Television.

The other panelist included Tammie Kahn, Executive Director, the Children's Museum of Houston and James Welbourne, City Librarian, New Haven Free Public Library.

The videoconference was produced at WETA, Washington, D.C. and was transmitted to more than 100 sites around the country.

-The November edition of DIALOGUE FOR KIDS: PLANETS, broadcast live on November 15, garnered more than 480 call attempts from classes around Idaho.

-On November 28, IdahoPTV.org audio streamed the last of the State Employee Compensation Interim Committee hearings.

-If all goes to plan, IdahoPTV will begin pilot testing closed captioning of DIALOGUE beginning on Thursday, December 1. Closed captioning of all television programs will be required by the Federal Communications Commission beginning January 1, 2006. IdahoPTV has closed captioned all of our locally produced documentaries since 1991. The costs and technical challenges of captioning live television programs are significant but must be embraced by local television broadcasters after the turn of the new year. We'll keep you posted on our efforts.

IDAHOPTV RECOGNIZED

Marcia Franklin, has been nominated for a Boise State University Women's Center, "Woman Making History in Idaho" award. There will be an awards ceremony in late February 2006.

IDAHOPTV STAFF UPDATES AND TRANSITIONS

-It is my understanding that in later December, the spouse of producer/reporter/writer Joan Cartan-Hansen will file papers with the Federal Elections Commission, setting up a campaign committee for the US Congress.

After consultation with the PBS Editorial Standards and Practices Guidelines, the Idaho Attorney General's office and general managers of other state-licensed PBS broadcasters, I will review all current and future assignments that are within Joan Cartan-Hansen's professional capacity and ensure that only those that do not create a conflict of interest will be assigned to her.

It is the goal of Idaho Public Television to ensure the highest editorial standards and public confidence in the journalistic work that we provide. At the same time, as a public agency we are committed to protecting the rights of our all of our public employees. Joan Cartan-Hansen has been a dedicated professional for Idaho Public Television for over 17 years and has demonstrated the highest standards of journalistic integrity and professionalism. I am confident that our internal evaluation of work assignments will fully protect both the public's interest and our employees' rights.

-Michal Lloyd manages our Video Store, ancillary sales, and telemarketing functions.

IDAHOPTV SIGNALS UPDATE

On October 31, IdahoPTV's Sandpoint translator ceased operation for three days. Heavy snows and high winds caused a circuit breaker malfunction at the transmission site on Baldy Mountain above Sandpoint. Ironically, during the outage, we could see the equipment via remotely operated "webcam," but could not access the area because of heavy early snow. IdahoPTV technician Mike Cramblit finally got to the site and repaired the equipment via a ride on a locally owned SnowCat, on November 2.

IDAHOPTV REACHES OUT

-In December, the University of Idaho Canyon County Extension Office will hold a day long seminar for area farmers and will present and discuss OUTDOOR IDAHO: WAR OF THE WEEDS.

-On Wednesday, November 16, Marcia Franklin gave a speech to the Boise Committee on Foreign Relations on the "Environmental Politics in Iran."

-On Thursday, November 10, staff and community workers from Idaho's Headstart program convened at IdahoPTV's Telemedia Room to participate in a nationwide web conference.

-On October 24, 2005, Kris Freeland, IdahoPTV Outreach Director spoke to the Idaho Headstart Association about "The Social Code" and its educational goals. She discussed how the project focused in on the social/emotional development of children birth to five as a topic and our efforts to videotape all sorts of children and families across Idaho. She also discussed how to use the special features of the DVD we developed (the Spanish audio track on the broadcast program, subtitles and clips) and how to use the features of the companion web site.

-At the 3rd annual Kootenai County Educators' Conference on October 4th, 2005, Dr. George Canney, University of Idaho professor, distributed approximately 50 packets provided by Idaho Public Television to area educators to share with parents. These packets contained information on early literacy, recommended television viewing tips for young children, and ideas and activities to prepare children to enter school ready to learn.

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS

-Buy Idaho Event, State Capitol, Thursday, January 12

-IdahoPTV FY'06 Budget Request Presentation, Monday, January 30, 9:45am

-Idaho Cable TV Association Legislative Dinner, January 17

-Idaho State Broadcasters Association Legislative Dinner, January 24

-Digital Government Day, February 8, 9am-4pm, Idaho State Capitol

HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING 2005

—Aired Thursday, November 24, at 7:00 p.m. MT/PT

A 150-member community choir and 60-piece orchestra combined forces to perform holiday selections of music that celebrate family appreciation and patriotism for the Thanksgiving holiday. The concert was taped at the Velma Morrison Center for the Performing Arts on the Boise State University campus on Monday, November 21, 2005. Governor Dirk Kempthorne and First Lady Patricia Kempthorne provided narration during the event via an onstage projection screen.

NEW PICTURING IDAHO PROGRAM BEHOLDS OUR STATE'S BEAUTY

— Premiered Sunday, December 4, at 7:00 p.m. MT/PT



Photo by Jan Boles

Light, landscape and lens preserve Idaho moments for the rest of us when eight Idaho photographers take to the field.

Producer Jim Peck and director-videographer Alan Austin follow them up mountains, across valleys, along rivers and onto prairies to capture how and where they work for this new Idaho Public Television special.

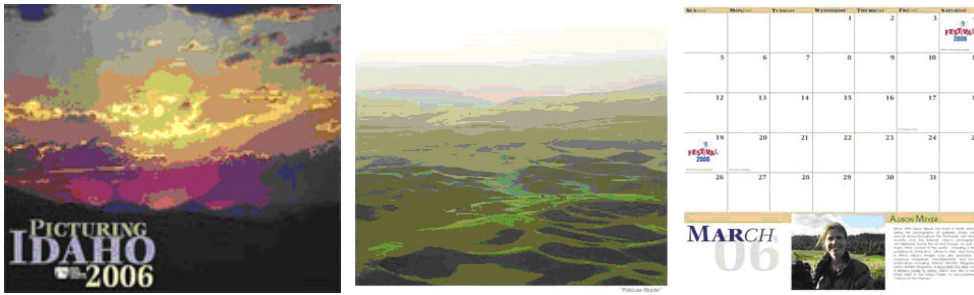
“The scenery and sense of wilderness never failed to awe us,” Peck says. “But mostly the appreciation for these magic locations came after we had regained our breath, stopped aching, patched our wounds, soothed our jangled nerves.”

The result is a film of rich Idaho locations throughout the state that conveys a sense of how and what these masters of light see in order to produce a masterpiece that may change the way others see the land around them.

Photographers featured include: Steve Bly, Boise; Jan Boles, Caldwell; Tim Buckley, Boise; Chad Case, Boise; Leland Howard, Shelley; Mark Lisk, Boise; David Marr, Boise; Alison Meyer, Worley; and Glenn Oakley, Boise.

Sponsor: The Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation

NEW 2006 PICTURING IDAHO CALENDAR, \$19.95



— Available at idahoptv.org or toll free at 877-224-7200

Have you seen Idaho?

Turning a professional lens to our state opens eyes in new ways. When you see Idaho through the eyes of a photographer it's like seeing it for the first time. This collection of images features Idaho through the months and across the miles. The photographers featured in this collection are profiled in Idaho Public Television's Picturing Idaho. It is a visual exploration of our magnificent state. As you journey through the coming months with this calendar you'll find a stunning look at Idaho on each page. Perhaps you'll want to head out yourself and find these views. Maybe you'll pick up a camera and try to capture some photographic magic. And just maybe you'll ask yourself, "Have I really seen Idaho?"

-Jim Peck Writer/Producer Picturing Idaho

NEW OUTDOOR IDAHO TRAVELS THE BORDERLANDS

— Aired Thursday, November 17 at 8:00/7:00 p.m. MT/PT

Sagebrush plains, wooded mountains and river canyons all await travelers in the "Borderlands," a new OUTDOOR IDAHO.

Producer John Crancer and videographer Chuck Cathcart traveled the little-seen territory that lies south of the Snake River, crossing and re-crossing the border. The area includes Salmon Falls dam and its reservoir, sculpted canyons, historic hot springs, open cattle country and wooded mountains with peaks reaching more than 10,000 feet. Recreational opportunities include climbing, hiking, horseback riding, fishing, rafting, kayaking, canoeing, four-wheeling and exploring by ATV. Residents include ranchers and cowboys, packers and guides, and people seeking back-country life.

"This is the true wild west," says Crancer. "It is the site of the nation's last gold rush (Jarbidge, Nevada) and home of one of the satellite camps of Kitty Wilkins, the Horse Queen of Idaho in the late 1800s (Murphy Hot Springs)."

Today, ranchers with the help of family members gather up cattle and drive them to the main ranch to brand the calves.

"Everybody on the ranch is involved, everybody in the family," says Shawn Weekes, lead cowboy for the Three Creek Ranch.

"We try to do things the old traditional way," says Kevin Chapin, ranch manager. "I was raised that way. I've got four generations of ranching in my blood and my dad and my uncle taught me how to do things the old way and a lot of times that's still the best."

At Murphy Hot Springs, Lowell Prunty readies the horses for a guided trip into the Jarbidge Wilderness in Nevada. "This is one of the least traveled wilderness areas so there is not a lot of traffic," Prunty says. "We get to meet people from all over the world, so I think that's the biggest joy of it. That and working with the horses and being in a family business."

The borderlands, whether home, workplace or recreational destination, contain unexpected treasure as documented by OUTDOOR IDAHO. The "Boarderlands" program also has a website located in the OUTDOOR IDAHO section of idahoptv.org.

IDAHO FIRST LADY PATRICIA KEMPTHORNE READ TO CHILDREN ON IDAHO PUBLIC TELEVISION

— Aired Friday, December 2 at 2:30/1:30 p.m. MT/PT

Idaho First Lady Patricia Kempthorne read to children statewide on Idaho Public Television. The event was part of Scholastic's annual nationwide READ FOR 2006 in partnership with the National Governors' Association.

Kempthorne joined governors' spouses across America, who were taking time to lead their states in a celebration of reading. She read three books for 2006 seconds, about half an hour. The books were: Pippin the Christmas Pig, by Jean Little, illustrated by Werner Zimmermann; Nobody Rides the Unicorn by Adrian Mitchell, illustrated by Stephen Lambert; and Zen Shorts, by Jon J. Muth.

The first lady was joined in the IdahoPTV studios by a second grade class and teacher Melissa Getto from Amity Elementary in Boise. Host Joan Cartan-Hansen, IdahoPTV producer, introduced the event.

The session is also available online for viewing on demand at idahoptv.org.

This is the Scholastic company's seventh annual celebration of reading that involves youngsters, teachers, parents and friends in classrooms, homes and elsewhere to share books and stories nationwide.

DECEMBER DIALOGUE CONVERSATIONS FROM THE SUN VALLEY WRITERS' CONFERENCE FEATURED

Since 1995, the Sun Valley Writers' Conference has brought together some of the nation's best-known writers, poets, filmmakers and philosophers to engage an audience in provocative and thoughtful conversations.

The event took place over three days in August on the grounds and rooms of the Sun Valley Lodge and Sun Valley Inn.

DIALOGUE host Marcia Franklin has been a regular attendee. In 2005, she interviewed five authors at the conference. As these programs are taped, there are no call-ins.



"I would like to be able to think that we can simply be storytellers, but in being storytellers we are almost inevitably changed into activists."

Aired Thursday, December 1, 2005

Thomas Keneally



Robert MacNeil

"I felt suddenly very defensive about this country, as one does about one's home, and my usual sort of ironic distance from a lot of American things . . . dissolved in me and I was very moved."

Airs Thursday, December 8 and Sunday, December 11, 2005



David Macaulay

"You need to develop sensitivity to the world around you so that you can have some control over it. Perhaps that's what I'm ultimately promoting here...to be in charge, a little bit, of life."

Airs Thursday, December 15 and Sunday, December 18, 2005



Firoozeh Dumas

"When we first came to America, everybody we encountered was so kind to us. It was overwhelming, and to me that is the true nature of Americans."

Airs Thursday, December 22 and Sunday, December 25, 2005



Thomas Cahill

"The loss of the Athenian empire, which was very gradual and surprising to the Athenians, reminds me of the situation that America is in right now. I think that we've gone foolishly and thoughtlessly into a needless war, as the Athenians did against the Spartans. They finally ended up losing, which Athens never thought possible."

Airs Thursday, December 29, 2005 and Sunday, January 1, 2006

DIALOGUE TALKED TO NOVELIST JANE SMILEY

— Aired Thursday, November 24 at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT

— Repeated Sunday, November 27 at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

Faced with a feeling of hopelessness after 9/11, Pulitzer-Prize-winning author Jane Smiley decided to take a new direction with her writing. The result is a new book, "Thirteen Ways of Looking at the Novel."

On this episode of Dialogue, host Joan Cartan-Hansen joined novelist Jane Smiley for a discussion about inspired writing, bad plots and what makes a good novel. Because this interview was taped, there were no call-in or email questions.

DIALOGUE CONSIDERED HOW TO SAVE "STUFF," FROM HEIRLOOMS TO KIDS' ARTWORK

- Aired Thursday, November 17 at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT
- Repeated Sunday, November 20 at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

The authors of *Saving Stuff* took calls from Idaho viewers about how to conserve family and personal treasures when they appeared on DIALOGUE.

DIALOGUE host Joan Cartan-Hansen was joined by Don Williams, senior conservator of the Smithsonian Institutions, and his co-author Louisa Jagar.

They discussed their book, which deals with many kinds of personal collections of items made from a variety of materials. They applied their expertise to consider the best ways to preserve papers, books, photographs, dishes, furniture, collectibles and more.

During the live call-in show on Thursday evening, Cartan-Hansen and her guests took calls from viewers on a toll-free line.

RETIRED GEN. WILLIAM NASH EVALUATED U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN IRAQ

- Aired Thursday, November 10, at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT
- Repeated Sunday, November 13, at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

A retired general, now with the Council on Foreign Relations, evaluated the U.S. involvement in Iraq, when he appeared on this episode of DIALOGUE.

During an interview with DIALOGUE host Marcia Franklin, Gen. William Nash, a 34-year veteran of the United States Army, talked about the lessons learned in Iraq. He currently heads up the Center for Preventive Action at the Council on Foreign Relations, a non-partisan and independent organization, which sponsors international meetings, task forces and a think tank.

Nash, who is a former commander in Bosnia and the first Gulf War, says he believes the U.S. should not have invaded Iraq without more international support. He also urges the government to invest more money in reconstruction efforts in failed states, so they are less likely to become breeding grounds for terrorists. Nash supports additional peacekeeping training for both the military and a new civilian corps that would help reconstruction efforts around the world.

Nash was a platoon leader in Vietnam and an armored brigade commander in Operation Desert Storm. He also was the commander of a multinational division of 25 thousand soldiers in Bosnia-Herzegovina and a civilian administrator for the United Nations in Kosovo.

Because the interview was pre-recorded, no calls were taken.

DIALOGUE FOR KIDS EXPLORES ARCHAEOLOGY AND KING TUT IN DECEMBER

— Airs Tuesday, December 13, at 2:00/1:00 p.m. MT/PT
(This show is scheduled a week earlier than our standard time so it will air during class time.)

Archaeology is a way of finding out about the past by looking at the things left behind. One of the most remarkable archaeological finds was the tomb of King Tutankhamun, more commonly known as King Tut. Scientists study the things found in King Tut's tomb to learn how ancient Egyptians once lived.

Explore some artifacts for yourself and find out more about archaeology on our Web site. BYU-Idaho professor David D. Peck will be available to answer student questions on the live television show and our Web site.

Students can e-mail their questions to dialogue4kids@idahoptv.org or they can FAX them in before the show at (208) 373-7245 or call in live during the program to (800) 973-9800.

DIALOGUE FOR KIDS LEARNS ABOUT SIMPLE MACHINES

— Airs Tuesday, January 17, at 2:00/1:00 p.m. MT/PT

A simple machine has few or no moving parts. Because of simple machines, humans have been able to create the wonders of the world, the pyramids, computers, even a jar of peanut butter. Simple machines include the lever, the inclined plane, the wedge, the pulley, the wheel and axel, and the screw. Combine these simple machines and you can create almost anything that makes work easier. This month's guest expert is John Gardner, Boise State University.

HOUSE COMMERCE COMMITTEE MOVES TO END ANALOG TV TRANSMISSION

Nov 1, 2005 2:21 PM, HD Technology Update e-newsletter

The House Committee on Energy and Commerce last week introduced legislation that sets Dec. 31, 2008, as the final day TV broadcasters will be permitted to transmit an analog television signal. The committee approved the legislation on a 33-17 vote.

"America goes all digital" on Jan. 1, 2009, said committee chairman Joe Barton (R-TX). The legislation clears the way for the government to auction off a portion of the 700MHz band for new digital wireless services and frees up 24MHz of spectrum that will be allocated for use by emergency first responders. The spectrum auction is expected to raise \$10 billion for the U.S. Treasury.

The House bill sets aside \$990 million to fund a digital-to-analog set-top box program to assist over-the-air viewers who continue to rely on their old sets for viewing.

The Commerce Department's National Telecommunication Information Administration (NTIA) will administer the program, which will send up to two converter box coupons to any consumer upon request. The coupons can be taken to local retailers for a \$40 discount on a converter box.

Other provisions of the legislation:

* The NTIA, broadcasters, cable operators, retailers and television manufacturers must engage in a consumer education campaign regarding the transition.

* The FCC is required to complete a series of proceedings necessary to assign broadcasters final digital channel assignments.

* All new televisions 13in or more are mandated to include a digital tuner by March 1, 2007. The FCC deadline for larger sets is earlier. Television sets without digital tuners already in commerce must have warning labels regarding their inability to receive digital television programming.

* Cable systems with a capacity greater than 550MHz are required to transmit a standard-definition version of a must-carry broadcast signal as well as an analog version of that signal for five years after the hard deadline. After five years, all cable systems must transmit whatever digital version of a station is sent to them by a broadcaster.

COMMERCE COMMITTEE SETS HARD DATE FOR END OF DIGITAL TRANSITION

Oct 21, 2005 8:00 AM
RF Update e-newsletter

The Senate Commerce Committee voted 19-3 to approve a measure that sets April 7, 2009, as the hard date for completion the transition from analog to digital television transmission.

The committee's reconciliation bill called the Digital Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 also set Jan. 28, 2008, as the start date for auctioning off spectrum recovered from television broadcasters. The Congressional Budget Office estimates the spectrum auction will raise \$10 billion.

The bill allocates \$3 billion from the auction proceeds to fund a digital-to-analog converter box subsidy program. Ted Stevens (R-AK) who chairs the committee and offered the bill with co-chairman Daniel Inouye (D-HI), told participants at the Free Enterprise Fund Symposium in Washington, DC, that the converter box program will provide for a \$10 consumer co-pay for device that costs about \$50.

The bill also set aside \$200 million from the auction proceeds to fund a program to transition Low Power TV stations and TV translators.

DTV multicast must carry was not addressed in the bill; however, the matter may be offered as an amendment on the Senate floor.